

# **Put**



## **Background**

**Put is an exceptionally popular English tavern game common among lower class people in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. It was first recorded in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and was mentioned in writings which date to the English Civil War. It is also described in *“The Compleat Gamester”*, by Charles Cotton (London, 1674) and in Francis Willughby's *“Book of Games”* (1660-72). It is similar to the Spanish card game of Truc, which is still played in parts of France and Spain.**

**It is a trick taking game that uses a standard 52 card deck (commonly called a French deck) and can be played by two, three, or four players.**

**The ranking of the cards is – 3 (highest)-2-A-K-Q-J-10-9-8-7-6-5-4 (lowest) and no suit is higher than any other.**

## **Dealing**

**Each player draws for deal – highest card wins. If there are two players, the dealer deals three cards to each player. If there are three players, the dealer deals four cards in a clockwise manner and if there are four players, the dealer deals five cards in a clockwise manner. As in most other games, the deal passes to the left after each play.**

## **Playing the trick**

**The non-dealer or the player to the dealer's left leads first. Any card may be led. Unlike other trick taking games, the other players can play any card they wish. They do NOT have to follow suit and there are no trump cards. The highest card played takes the trick. If the trick is tied, two threes or two kings, then the trick is considered to be a tie and all the cards in that trick are put aside and no one gets a point. The player who takes the trick, leads the next card. If the trick is tied, the same person who led that trick leads again.**

### **Winning the hand and receiving one point**

**For two players - only three tricks are played and the person who took the most tricks wins the hand and receives one point.**

**For three players – four tricks are played and the person who took the most of four tricks wins the hand and receives one point.**

**For four players – five tricks are played and the person who took the most of five tricks wins the hand and receives one point.**

**Trick and Tie – In the event that no one player has more tricks than all the other players due to putting tricks aside for ties, the hand is declared a tie and no points are awarded.**

### **I Put**

**Before the first trick is played, if one player says “I put” the opponent(s) have the choice of throwing in the cards and conceding the point to that player or continuing play. However, if they choose to continue play out the hand, the winner of that hand automatically wins the game.**

### **Winning**

**The winner is the first to score 5 points.**