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## George "Ras" Rasmussen - Tip #2

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At a recent cribbage tournament, I was privileged to participate in a discussion with two other players regarding the merits of the **K-6** and **Q-9** discard option to the opponent. One player liked the **K-6**, the other favored the **Q-9**. I should admit that my slight bias is for the **K-6**.

On returning home, I dug into the discarding records and discovered some interesting comparative data. Please note that I have recorded more than 1,000 discards on each of these options. The **K-6** at this point has a slightly lower overall average at 4.150 followed by the **Q-9** at 4.175. It should be recalled that only the **K-10** and a **K-9** offer discard choices which average less than 4.0.

When viewing these discards selections in broadly defined terms, they look much the same.

	7 or Fewer Points	8 or More Points
<b>K-6</b>	86.21%	13.79%
<b>Q-9</b>	88.40%	11.60%

When looking at these two discard options with greater focus, there are some distinct differences.

K-6

	0	1-2	3-7	8-11	12-15	16+
4.150 Avg	98	456	678	154	43*	0
1,428 Hands	6.9%	31.8%	47.5%	10.8%	3.0%	0.0%

\* includes three 14 cribs

Q-9

	0	1-2	3-7	8-11	12-15	16+
4.175 Avg	126	365	565	118	20**	0
1,194 Hands	10.6%	30.6%	47.3%	9.9%	1.7%	0.0%

\*\*No cribs over 12 points

The **Q-9** does very well on the ends of this scale. A zero crib is 65% more likely with the **Q-9** while the **K-6** is 175% more likely to tally 12-15 points. In addition, the **Q-9** average is continuing to decline at a more rapid rate than the **K-6**. It appears that an additional 1,000 samples of the **Q-9** will result in an average of approximately 4.087 with the **K-6** following at 4.115. These averages have not stabilized at present levels.

You can be sure that either discard selection is a very good one. It appears that I need to favor the **Q-9**. That's hard for me to do since the last three times I discarded a **Q-9**, the cribs were ten, ten and eleven.

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