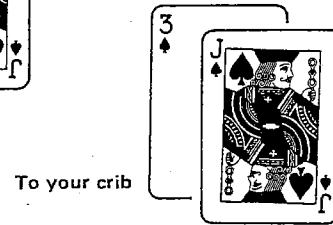
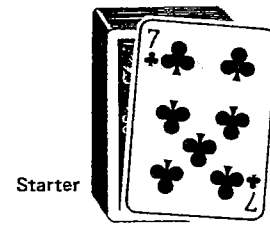
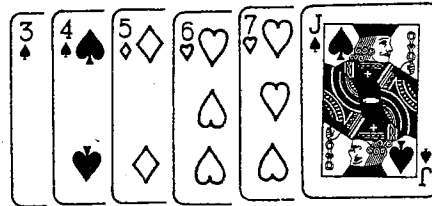


### Playing the "Twenty-Six Theory"

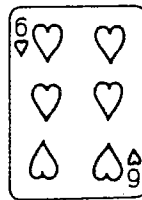
Deal one

As the dealer you are +9

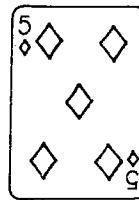
Your par is 7



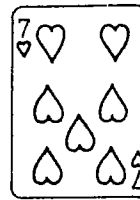
"Sixteen"



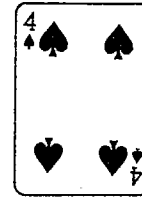
(score two)  
"Thirty-one"



"Seventeen"



(score one)  
"Twenty-six"



"Ten"



"Twenty-six"



"Ten"



"Twenty-two"

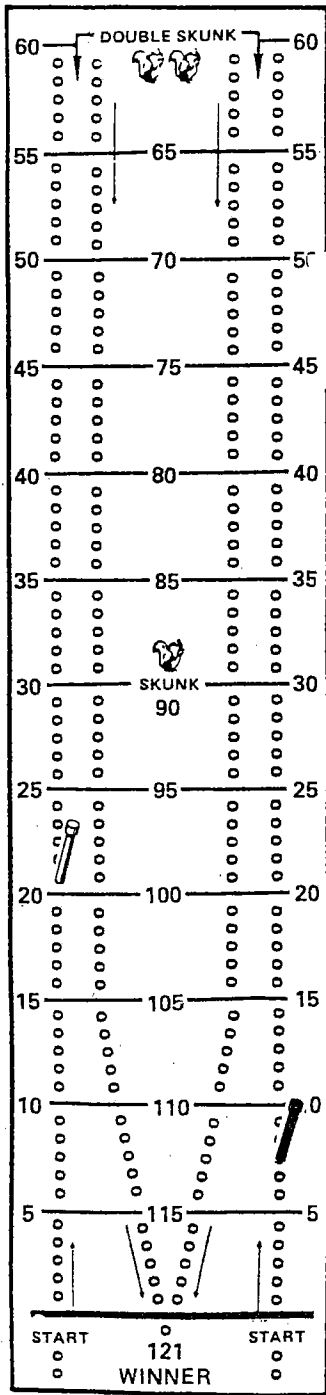
Summary: as the dealer your goal is to hold the non-dealer scoreless pegging. Do not destroy your hand in discarding to your crib, however, in an attempt to keep defensive pegging cards. But peg defensively! Hold Jake scoreless if at all possible. In the hand illustrated, playing a 6 of Jake's queen lead holds Jake scoreless. You have sacrificed two points in the process, but the

defensive trade is to the dealer's advantage (+9). Remember, Jake, as the non-dealer is -7 to par. You succeed in holding Jake scoreless pegging. Jake's score: 8 points (-9). Your crib contained 6 points and after deal one you stand at 21 (+14).

Deal one.

Your score: 21 (+14)

Jake's score: 8 (-9)

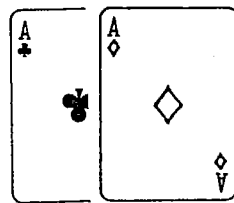
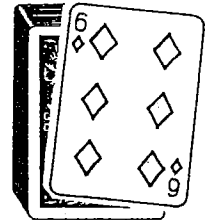
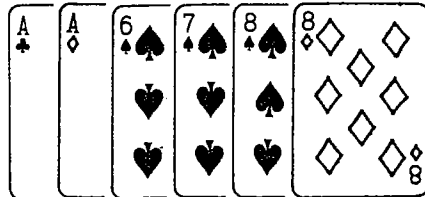


Deal two

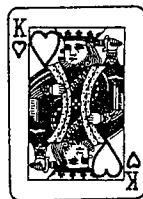
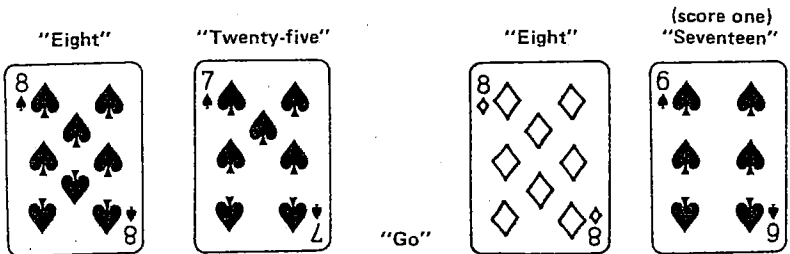
You are + 14

Jake is -9 and has the crib

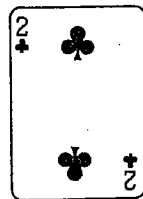
Your par is 17 (or 43 for an 8-deal game)



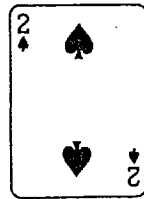
To Jake's crib



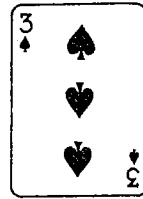
"Eighteen"



"Twenty-seven"



"Twenty-nine"  
(score three)



"Eleven"

Summary: cutting the starter 6 changes your strategy from defense to offense. You now have an excellent chance to "run for eight" (try to win in 8 deals). You peg only one point (despite your efforts to score) and stand at 42 (-1 for an 8-deal try, or a whopping +25 for a 10-deal game).

Jake totaled 9 points and stands at only 17 (-16). The advantage is obviously yours with the option to play either defense or offense, depending on how the cards fall on deal three.

Deal two.

Your score: 42 (-1 or +25).

Jake's score: 17 (-16).