

Italian superstar Benito Garozzo (b. 1927) won ten Team World Championships and three Team Olympiads. He developed his game after the war in Egypt. In 1957 he played a tournament in London with D'Alelio. He played in his first world championship in 1961 and from then on was unbeaten in World Championships for Teams (contesting the Bermuda Bowl) and Team Olympiads until 1976.

For a long time Garozzo and Forquet was an unbreakable rock in match play. Later he partnered Giorgio Belladonna and whenever Belladonna-Garozzo participated in one of the big events the only question was, 'Who'll be second?'

Garozzo had a jewelry business in Rome, with contacts in America. After retiring he moved to the USA and in 1994 became a US citizen.

Garozzo's **BOLS** tip is characteristic for him: Games may be quietly defended but slams must be attacked.

Heroic measures are rarely needed when leading against a game contract. The defenders can expect to get the lead again after the dummy has been exposed, and the early play offers further clues to what they should do.

Not so against slams. Unless two tricks can be cashed at once, the defense must strike a telling blow to develop the setting trick by the opening lead. Later is too late.

The one factor that works in favor of the defense is that declarer is rarely willing to risk immediate defeat if any alternative seems attractive. And sometimes such an alternative can be created by the lead itself.

For example, sitting West, you hold:

Board 17

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 9 5 2
♥ K 8 4
♦ J 5 3 2
♣ K J



Your opponents have bid to six diamonds as follows:

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♦
All pass			

In most ways your defensive prospects are poor. The ♣K-J look dead, underneath the rebid suit, the ♥K is unlikely to take a trick. But do not despair: you have one asset the dealer knows nothing about – your trump trick.

Lead the ♣J. The fact that you let him see that jack makes it even more likely that he will be able to establish the suit with no more than a single loser. In fact, the jack would be the right card from ♣K-J-x as well.

Attack!

by Benito Garozzo

The full deal:

	♠ A 8		
	♥ Q J 3		
	♦ 4		
	♣ A Q 10 8 6 3 2		
♠ Q 9 5 2		♠ J 10 7 6 3	
♥ K 8 4		♥ 9 7 6 5 2	
♦ J 5 3 2		♦ 8	
♣ K J		♣ 5 4	
	♠ K 4		
	♥ A 10		
	♦ A K Q 10 9 7 6		
	♣ 9 7		

Declarer knows that he can establish the clubs by giving up a trick to the ♣K, but why should he risk doing so when there is a danger of a ruff? He goes up with ♣A and, by the time he finds out he must lose a diamond, it is too late. On any other lead, he must make the contract.

BOLS TIP: Games may be quietly defended but slams must be attacked.