

Weekly Study Session





Exploitative Live Poker

Stop Trying to Beat GTO. Start Beating People.

Friday 10PM EST

- What Is Exploitative Poker?
- GTO asks:
- "What is theoretically correct?"
- Exploitative poker asks:
- "What mistake is THIS player making and how do I punish it?"
- **Live poker is often about maximizing value against players who:**
- Call too much
- Bluff too little
- Fold too much
- Chase draws incorrectly
- Overvalue weak hands



- **Why Live Poker Is Different**
- **Online:**
 - Balanced ranges
 - HUDs
 - Solvers
 - Aggressive regulars
- **Live:**
 - Limping
 - Calling stations
 - Emotional decisions
 - Poor bet sizing
 - Massive tells
 - The average live player is nowhere near GTO.



- Biggest Mistake Live Players Make
- Trying to "outplay" people.
- You don't need fancy bluffs.
- **You need:**
 - Bigger value bets
 - Thinner value bets
 - Less hero folding
 - Less bluffing against stations





- **Player Type #1**
- **The Calling Station**
- Characteristics:
- Hates folding
- Loves seeing rivers
- Calls with any pair
- Chases everything
- Adjustment:
-  Value bet relentlessly
-  Bluff less



Example

Board:

K♠ 8♦ 4♣ 7♥ 2♠

You hold:

AK

Villain calls everything.

Should you bet river?

YES.

And bet BIG.

Why?

Because they call with:

- KQ
- KJ
- KT
- 8x
- Pocket pairs

Value value value.

Two cards to come.



Player Type #2

The Nit

Characteristics:

- Folds too much
- Waits for premiums
- Rarely bluffs

Adjustment:

- ✓ Bluff more
- ✓ Steal blinds
- ✗ Pay off huge river bets





Player Type #3

The Spewy Gambler

Characteristics:

- Loves action
- Overbluffs
- Overvalues hands
- Always involved

Adjustment:

✓ Bluff catch wider

✗ Hero fold everything

Let them hang themselves





- Bet Sizing Tells
- Common Live Reads
- Tiny Bet:
- Often weak
- Wants a cheap showdown
- Huge Overbet:
- Polarized
- Very strong or bluff



Learn when to defend

- Live Poker Tell Discussion
- Do not treat tells as facts.
- **Treat them as clues.**
- Examples:
 - Suddenly quiet
 - Suddenly talkative
 - Protecting cards
 - Shaking hands
 - Quick check
 - Instant call
 - None are automatic.
 - ***All are information.***



• Population Tendencies

- Most Live Players:
- Bluff too little
- Call too much
- Defend blinds too little
- Overplay top pair
- Chase draws incorrectly





- \$1/\$3 Live
- Villain:
60-year-old regular
- K♣ 9♠ 7♦ 3♠ 2♥
- You hold:
- KQ
- Villain jams pot.
- What do you do?
- Call?
Fold?



- The Biggest Edge In Live Poker
- Not GTO.
- Observation.
- Pay attention:
- Showdowns
- Bet sizing
- Timing
- Emotional reactions
- The information is free.
- **Most players ignore it.**



"Poker is the hardest way to make an easy living" - Doyle Brunson

DCP Challenge For The Week

1. Identify a player leak.
2. Adjust
3. Did it work or did it not?



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