



Weekly Study Session





The Turn is the Highest EV Street

The turn is where:

Ranges become much narrower.

Stack-to-pot ratio (SPR) shrinks.

Mistakes become expensive.

Equity shifts dramatically.

Most recreational players think:

"Did I improve?"

Winning players think:

"Whose range improved?"



- Range Advantage Changes on the Turn
- Example
- **CO opens**
BB calls
- Flop:
A♠ 8♦ 4♣
- CO has range advantage.
- Turn:
K♠
- Who loves this card?

Answer: CO

Why?

CO has:

- AK
- AA
- KK
- AQ
- KQ

BB has fewer strong kings because many were folded preflop.

This is an excellent second barrel.

Concept

Good players barrel cards that improve their range, not just their hand.



Nut Advantage

Range advantage $\neq$ Nut advantage.

Example

Hero opens BTN

BB calls.

Flop:

J♣ 8♣ 3♦

Turn:

10♣

Who has more nut hands?

BB now has more:

- 97
- Q9
- Two pair
- Sets
- Flushes

Hero should become more cautious.

Ask yourself:

Who has the nuts more often?



- Barrel Because of Equity Shift

- Example

- Hero:
A♠5♠

- Flop:
K♦7♣2♥

- C-bet.

- Called.

- Turn:
4♠

Most players say:

"I still only have Ace high."

Good players see:

- **Nut flush draw**

- **Gutshot**

- **Blocker to nut flush**

- **Fold equity**

Equity went from roughly **12%** to **30–40%** against many one-pair hands.

Now the bluff becomes profitable!



Polarize Your Turn Betting

As pots grow...

Turn betting should become more polarized.

Bet:

- ✓ Strong value
- ✓ Strong draws

Check:

- ✓ Medium-strength hands

With two cards to come.



Example

Board:

Q♦ 8♠ 5♣ 3♥

Hero

AA

→ Bet

A♦ 4♦

→ Bet

QJ

→ Often check

88

→ Bet

JT

→ Usually check





The Biggest Leak:

Betting Hands That Want to Check

People bet hands because:

"I still have top pair."

Ask instead:

If called...

Am I happy?

If raised...

Can I continue?

If both answers are no...

Checking is often better!



Turn Cards That Change Everything

Four types:

Scare Cards

A K Q

Dynamic Cards

Flush completes

Straight completes

Brick Turns

2♦

5♣

Pairing Turns

Board pairs

Each requires a different strategy.

Bluff more in position.



Double Barrel Frequencies
On Turn

Don't ask:

Should I barrel?

Ask:

How often should I barrel?

Examples

Nut flush draw

Almost always

**Open-ended straight
draw**

Frequently

Ace-high with backdoor missed

Rarely

Middle pair

Usually check

Weak gutshot

Mostly give up

Good players think in frequencies.



•Stack Sizes Matter

•**100 BB cash**

•Can barrel aggressively.

•**35 BB tournament**

•Need stronger equity.

•**15 BB**

•Pot commitment begins.

•The shorter stacks become...

•The less room exists for fancy turn bluffs.



When Chip Bullying Fails

Hero

65BB

Button

7♣5♣

Small Blind

9BB

Hero raises.

SB jams.

Hero folds.

Problem?

You attacked someone who isn't folding much.

Short stacks are desperate.

Choose better targets.



Building a Turn Decision Tree

Every turn:

Step 1

Who has range advantage?

↓

Step 2

Who has nut advantage?

↓

Step 3

Did equity change?

Step 4

Value

Bluff

Check

↓

Step 5

River plan

Never click Bet without knowing Step 5.



Population Reads

Micro Stakes

People:

- ✓ Call flop too wide
- ✓ Fold turn too much on scare cards
- ✓ Under-bluff turn raises
- ✓ Overvalue one pair

Exploit:

Double barrel scare cards more.

Fold to turn check-raises more.

Value bet relentlessly.



The Professional Thought Process

Instead of asking:

"I picked up a flush draw."

Ask:

- ✓ Who owns this turn?
- ✓ Did my range improve?
- ✓ Did villain's range improve?
- ✓ Can worse call?
- ✓ Can better fold?
- ✓ What's my river plan?

If you answer all six...

You're thinking like a winning player.



"There is more to poker than life" - Tom McEvoy

