

Down The Block

GAME CATEGORY	Pass Card Game
NUMBER OF CARDS	8, with 4 passed
NUMBER OF BETTING ROUNDS	3
COMPLEXITY	Intermediate
DURATION	Short
WILD CARDS	None

Play Sequence

- _ Deal eight Down Cards to each player.
- _ Players pick up their cards, treating them as Hand Cards
- _ Betting round #1 (player left of the dealer leads the betting)
- _ All players select two cards to pass to the player to their left, and place those cards face down on the table. When all players are ready, all pass their two cards one player to the left. Players then pick up the cards passed to them and view their new 8-card hand.
- _ Betting round #2 (player left of the dealer leads the betting)
- _ All players select two cards to pass to the second player to their left, and place those cards face down on the table. When all players are ready, all pass their two cards two players to the left. Players then pick up the cards passed to them and view their new 8-card hand.
- _ Betting round #3 (player left of the dealer leads the betting)
- _ Players show their cards and the winner is determined (*unless high bettor has not been called, in which case he is the winner by default and does not have to show his cards*)

Comments: Passing to two different players and receiving Pass Cards from two different players provides a different twist in this game.



[297]



Game Dynamics: To decide which cards to keep and which to pass, I play this just like a Draw Card game, except that when I have more than one option regarding the cards I pass, I'll pass cards that are not complementary (no Pairs, avoid same suits, avoid side-by-side values as these help form Straights, etc.).

Typical Winning Hands (6 players): Look for Three-of-a-Kind to be the minimum value for the winning hand. Straights are O.K., and Flushes are pretty good. Don't feel too confident unless you have a Full House or better.

Variations

- _ Play with a Wild Card (e.g., "threes are wild")
- _ Pass to the right instead of to the left.

Bedlam

GAME CATEGORY	Pass Card Game
NUMBER OF CARDS	8, with 4 passed
NUMBER OF BETTING ROUNDS	3
COMPLEXITY	Intermediate
DURATION	Short
WILD CARDS	None

Game Parameters

This game is played with a High Low split-pot. It begins just like “7-Card, Pass Three” and combines additional concepts from a number of other games. Then, it adds a twist at the end with the potential for a “forced” replacement of one Hole Card.

