

Thunee

4 players

52 cards

Difficulty: Medium

Duration: Medium

Capture the most card points as a partnership.

SETUP

- 4 players in partnerships, 24 cards.
- Deal 4, name trump, deal 2 more.
- Jack of trump is highest card.

SCORING

- Trump Jack=30, Trump 9=20, Aces=11, 10s=10.
- Team with more points wins.

Tip: The Jack and Nine of trump are worth 50 combined. Protect or capture them.

ON YOUR TURN

- Follow suit if possible.
- Highest trump or led-suit card wins.
- Capture point cards.

Thunee is a South African trick-taking game popular in the Indian community. It uses only 24 cards and features a unique trump hierarchy where Jacks and Nines are the most powerful.

Objective

Score more points than the opposing team by capturing valuable cards in tricks.

Setup

1. **Players:** 4 players in two partnerships.
2. **Deck:** 24 cards (9, 10, J, Q, K, A of each suit from a standard deck).
3. **Deal:** Deal 4 cards to each player initially. After trump is decided, deal 2 more (6 total).

Gameplay

1. **Step 1:** After seeing initial 4 cards, the bidding team names a trump suit.
2. **Step 2:** 2 more cards are dealt to each player.
3. **Step 3:** Players must follow suit. Highest trump or highest card of led suit wins.
4. **Step 4:** The trump Jack is the highest card, followed by the trump 9, then Ace down to 10.

Scoring

- Jack of trump = 30, Nine of trump = 20, each Ace = 11, each 10 = 10, each King = 4, each Queen = 3.
- The team with more points wins the round.

Variations

- **Call Thunee:** The bidding team can call for a specific card from their partner.
- **Double Thunee:** Stakes are doubled on certain bids.

Tips and Strategies

- The Jack and Nine of trump are worth 50 points combined. Build your strategy around them.
- Lead strong trumps early to pull opponents' trump cards.
- Communicate through your card play to signal strength to your partner.

Tips & Strategy

Control the trump suit by leading the Jack and Nine early. Partnership communication through play is essential.

With only 24 cards, every play matters. Counting cards is easier and essential for competitive play.