

Laugh and Lie Down Cheat Sheet

(3-7 players, best with 5 or 6) (Standard 52 card deck)

Cards and Stakes

Number of Players	Number of cards dealt to each	Stakes wagered by dealer / players	Stakes won by last player left	Breakeven point
3	14	4 / 3	5	7 pairs
4	10	3 / 2	3	5 pairs
5	8	3 / 2	5	4 pairs
6	6	3 / 2	5	3 pairs
7	6	2 / 1	3	3 pairs

Terms

Pair: Two cards of the same rank.

Pair Royal: Three cards of the same rank (three of a kind).

Mournival: Four cards of the same rank (four of a kind).

Breakeven Point: Number of pairs needed to break even (owe nothing extra, but win nothing).

Playing the Game

Setup: Before beginning agree upon a stake. Find the number of players on the Cards and Stakes table. Choose a dealer for the first round. The dealer and each player then antes the number of stakes indicated. Note that the dealer always antes more than the other players.

Deal: Deal the indicated number of cards to each player. Place the remaining cards face up in the center of the table. Dealer gets any mournivals on the table.

Go around; in turn, do one of these:

Play from table: Take one or three cards of the same rank from the table and match them with one card from your hand. Place the two or four cards face up in front of you.

Play from hand: If you have a mournival in your hand you may play it in front of you. If you have a pair royal in your hand, you may play a pair from it (may need to show the third card). If you have a pair in your hand, and the other pair from that rank has been played already, you may play it in front of you.

Lie Down: If you can not play from the table or your hand, you must lie down. Place all the cards in your hand face up in the center of the table. Hold onto any pairs you made - they will be used in scoring at the end of the game.

Endgame and Scoring:

When only one player is left, the hand ends. The last player may not make any more pairs. The remaining cards in the final player's hand and any on the table go to the dealer. The last player out then gets the stakes from the pot indicated by the above table. Every player then pays or gains stakes from the pot based on the number of pairs they played. For every pair less than the breakeven point, pay one stake to the pot, for every pair greater than the break even point, take one stake from the pot. There should be no stakes remaining in the pot at the end of each hand.

Michel Wolffauer (based on Justin du Coeur reconstruction), December 10, 2009

Full version found at: <http://www.waks.org/game-hist/game-recon-laugh.html>