SHORT STACK STRATEGY
Handout

Basics
How to play before the flop
The kind of hands you can have
How to play after the flop
Basics

Your bankroll management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Limit</th>
<th>Amount you need in your bankroll</th>
<th>Amount to take to table</th>
<th>Buy more chips when you have less than</th>
<th>Leave the table when you have more than</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NL10 (0.05/0.10)</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NL20 (0.10/0.20)</td>
<td>$120</td>
<td>$4</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NL25 (0.15/0.25)</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>$3.75</td>
<td>$6.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NL50 (0.25/0.50)</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$7.50</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which position are you in?

- The dealer and the player to his right are in the late positions.
- The next three players (anti-clockwise from the late positions) are in the middle positions.
- The next three players (anti-clockwise from the middle positions) are in the early positions.
- The two players who post the Small and Big Blind are in the blinds.
How to play before the flop

The Starting Hands Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If no one has raised before you, you raise when ...</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You are in early position and have</td>
<td>JJ - AA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You are in middle position and have</td>
<td>99 - AA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AK, AQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You are in late position/blinds and have</td>
<td>77 - AA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AT, AJ, AQ, AK, KQ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If an opponent starts action, you go all-in ...</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When 1 raise was made before you and you have</td>
<td>JJ - AA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When 2 or more raises were made before you and</td>
<td>KK, AA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you have</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When a raise was made after you and you have</td>
<td>TT - AA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Re-steals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Re-steal with</th>
<th>88 - AA</th>
<th>AJ - AK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If an opponent re-steals, go all-in with</td>
<td>99 - AA</td>
<td>AJ - AK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How much should you raise?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If no one has raised before you</th>
<th>4 Big Blinds + 1 Big Blind for every player who has already entered the hand</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If someone raised before/after you</td>
<td>Go all-In</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When you or an opponent re-steals</td>
<td>Go all-In</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The kinds of hands can you have?

MIDDLE PAIR
You have a middle pair when your 2 cards form a pair (aka pocket pair), and there is only one card on the board (aka community cards) higher than your pair.

You have: \[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{J} \\
\text{J}
\end{array} \]  \quad \text{Flop:} \quad \begin{array}{c}
\text{4} \\
\text{8} \\
\text{K}
\end{array} \]

TOP PAIR
A top pair is made up of one of your starting hand cards and the highest community card.

You have: \[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{A} \\
\text{J}
\end{array} \]  \quad \text{Flop:} \quad \begin{array}{c}
\text{4} \\
\text{J} \\
\text{9}
\end{array} \]

OVERPAIR
An overpair is a pocket pair that is higher than all the community cards.

You have: \[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{A} \\
\text{A}
\end{array} \]  \quad \text{Flop:} \quad \begin{array}{c}
\text{4} \\
\text{J} \\
\text{9}
\end{array} \]

OESD
An OESD is made up of four cards in sequential order; a fifth card on either end of the sequence would complete the straight.

You have: \[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{Q} \\
\text{10}
\end{array} \]  \quad \text{Flop:} \quad \begin{array}{c}
\text{4} \\
\text{J} \\
\text{9}
\end{array} \]

FLUSH DRAW
A flush draw is made up of four cards of the same suit; a fifth card of that suit would complete the flush.

You have: \[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{A} \\
\text{J}
\end{array} \]  \quad \text{Flop:} \quad \begin{array}{c}
\text{4} \\
\text{5} \\
\text{9}
\end{array} \]
How to play after the flop?

If you raised before the flop

You play:
- Middle pairs, top pairs, overpairs, OESDs, flush draws and every better hand

How to play your hand:
- If no one has bet or raised, you bet approx. 2/3 of the pot.
- If someone has bet or raised before you, you go all-in.
- If you bet, and someone raises after you, you go all-in.
- If a bet or raise would cost you more than half your stack, go directly all-in.
- If one or more opponents only call your bet or raise on the flop, go all-in on the turn.

What if you didn’t hit?
- If the pot is twice as large as your stack at the start of a betting round, go all-in.
- If you raised before the flop and are only facing one opponent, always bet approx. 2/3 of the pot on the flop. This is a bluff. You will have to give up this bluff if your opponent does not fold.

If you didn’t raise before the flop

You play:
- Top pairs (with a jack or better kicker card), overpairs and every better hand.

How to play your hand:
- If no one has bet, you bet approx. 2/3 of the pot.
- If someone has bet, you go all-in.
- If you bet, and someone raises after you, you go all-in.
- If a bet or raise would cost you more than half your stack, go all-in.
- If one or more opponents just call your bet, go directly all-in on the turn.