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# The Raiser's Edge: Tournament-Poker Strategies For Today's Aggressive Game



## Synopsis

In the highly fluid and fast-changing tournament-poker universe, the dominant trend is toward looser and more aggressive (LAG) play, in which players move chips around at dizzying speeds. The Raiser's Edge shows you how to adapt to the current state of all stages of tournament play, analyzing how and why the LAG and hyper-LAG styles work, and instructing on how to apply—and defend against—them. The Raiser's Edge closely examines the many techniques used by the world's most successful players, including 3- and 4-betting, floating and squeezing, smooth-calling and min-raising, thin value betting, and the evolution of the metagame, along with equilibrium strategies based on starting hands and heads-up play. Even the ages and nationalities of your opponents are considered. There's also an extensive bonus chapter on reading tells, contributed by body-language expert Steve Van Aperen. Bertrand ElkYâ • Gropellier, one of the hottest tournament-poker players in the world, has teamed up with Lee Nelson and Tysen Streib, authors of the acclaimed advanced tournament strategy book Kill Everyone, and poker star Tony Dunst to pen this groundbreaking title. With tournament poker evolving at a furious pace, serious players need to be ahead of the curve. The Raiser's Edge conveys the powerful state-of-the-art tactics that will get you there fast.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I only know how to play tournament poker, but as the former regional director of Asia for PokerStars, setting up the biggest card room in Asia and having established most of the major tournaments in Asia, I know a lot about the set up the game and the wide range of players who are on the tournament circuit in both Asia and the Australia regions. I use to be able to follow along with the

hand analysis between pros about 3 years ago, but in the last year I realized that I have no idea what they are really talking about. The frequency in how players are 3 and 4 betting seem to be every single hand and I remember when this type of live playing style was considered to be a 'train wreck waiting to happen', but now the loose-aggressive player (LAG) and the hyper aggressive players player is the norm at these tournaments. The gap in tournament poker knowledge and understanding has increased dramatically because of the influence of these LAG players who are nearly all from the online tournament world. Which is in of itself a strange turn of events because back in 2002-2005, online players playing live were still considered a joke. By 2009 or so I think there was a general mutual respect due to players like Elky and Durrr in the public eye, but now in 2011, all live tournament players have been forced to adjust to these LAG and hyper LAG players and their styles. This book is a book that I've been waiting for that bridges the gap for live tournament players who do not play frequently online and can't understand where this type of play is coming from or for guys who learned how to play tournaments a few years back, this book will bring you up-to-date. I think I qualify on both accounts. A lot of the younger pros tell me that the old school pros can't follow what is going on in the game now.

Team Nelson has done it again! This time round, Lee, together with Tysen Streib, has joined forces with Bertrand Grospellier (who is currently one of the most successful tournament players around) and TonyDunst (another strong young pro) to teach us how to play the modern, ultra-aggressive game, or at least, to show us how it is done. It completes the trilogy Kill Phil, Kill Everyone, and now The Raiser's Edge, which will take anyone serious enough to improve his/her tournament play from apprentice, to journeyman, to master craftsman. It discusses the strategies and thought processes of these successful tournament pros. The authors discuss meta-game and image concepts that they employ to exploit weaker players and to defend themselves against the modern hyper-aggressive players. They dissect hand examples of lines that they take in relation to position, aggression, image and different tournament stages, from early through to final table. This includes a detailed discussion of heads-up play with an analysis of HU Equilibrium Solutions provided by the very thorough Tysen Streib. A particularly good section for relatively inexperienced players is the chapter on mid-stage (with antes) play. These players generally find themselves either short- or medium-stacked, and find it difficult to play with these stack sizes. However, where the book really excels, especially for experienced players, including pros, is the detailed discussion of the 3-betting and 4-betting prevalent in today's modern game. There is a fine line between being a good LAG and a maniac 'spazzing' chips. Not only do we get a perspective from successful pros who play this style

of game, but it is backed up by analytics provided by Tysen Streib.

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