



Frequently Asked Questions

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Seanchai Card Game

What if a dark card is face up in the Tableau in the opening deal? A player may choose to use the dark card as their action instead of pairing a card from their hand or flipping a new card. If so, the player gives the dark card to an opponent, then discards to end their turn.

What if a Shamrock card is face up in the Tableau in the opening deal? A player may choose to use the Shamrock card as their action instead of pairing a card from their hand or flipping a new card. If so, the player takes the Shamrock and places face up in their point field, then discards to end their turn.

What if a Wild card is face up in the Tableau in the opening deal? A player may pair the Wild card with a regular suited card from their hand or flip a card and pair with the wild card. It cannot be paired with another card that is face up on the tableau.

What do I do if I can't pair up a card from my hand with a card face up in the Tableau? Flip over a card from the pile so everyone can see. If you can pair with a card in your hand or a face up card in the Tableau, do so. If not, it stays face up. Discard and your turn is over.

What if I flip over a dark card? Use the dark card right away against another player. That is your action for that turn. Discard and your turn is over.

What if I flip over a Shamrock? Move the Shamrock to your point field. Flip another card and proceed.

What if I flip over a wild card? Pair the wild card with any regular suited card either in your hand or one that is face up on the Tableau. That is your action. Discard and your turn is over.

If I can, do I have to pair a card from my hand with a face up card or flipped card? No, the player always chooses if they make a pair or not.

Can I discard a suit that is already face up in the Tableau? Yes

Can I discard a wild card? Yes, but remember, unless you are going out, your opponent will be able to pair it with any regular suit card in their hand.

Can I discard a Shamrock? No, shamrocks can only be played as point cards in the point field.

How do I discard a Dark card? Choose an opponent to give the card to. If playing the basic game, it simply deals -10 points to the player. If playing the Dark Powers variation, choose which card the dark power will effect.

Can I discard a Dark card to the Tableau instead of against another player? No, dark cards may only be discarded by giving to an opponent.

Does the Tableau have to always stay at five cards? No, the Tableau will expand and compress throughout play.

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Can two cards of the same suit be face up in the Tableau? Yes, multiple cards of the same suit may be face up at the same time.

What does regular suit mean? A regular suit card is one of the main seven: Legends, Roles, Landscapes, Warfare, Religion, Treasure, and Stonework. The cards in these suits are paired together. Special suits are the Darks, which are only discards, and Shamrocks.

Can I pair Dark cards or Shamrocks? No, only regular suited cards may be paired. Dark cards are discards only. Shamrocks are happy free points!

Can I pair cards within my hand? No, cards can be paired in one of three ways: 1) matching one card from a player's hand with one card on the Tableau, 2) Matching a card from a player's hand with a flipped card, 3) matching a flipped card with a card from the Tableau

Can I pair more than one card of the same suit with a card on the tableau? No, only two cards can form a pair and only one card from a player's hand.

If I pair a card, can I continue to play? No, only one action per turn, unless the Shamrock variation is being played. In that case, instead of discarding to end your turn, place a Shamrock from your hand to your point field and a new card may be flipped over.

Can I get an extra turn by playing Shamrocks in the Shamrock variant? Yes and no. By playing Shamrocks a player may flip over a card with the potential to pair the newly flipped card with a face-up card from the Tableau or their hand. A player cannot use a Shamrock to pair a card from their hand with a card in the Tableau.

Can I use a Dark card against a card in a player's hand? No, dark cards can only be played against cards that have already been played in a player's point field.

Can I use a card that is in my point field to counter a dark card? No, only cards still in a player's hand can be used to counter a dark card special ability.

What happens to the cards left in my hand when another player goes out first? The value of each card is counted against your total points.

What if I have a dark card left in my hand when another player goes out first? Dark cards are always worth negative 10 points and are counted against the point total.

What if I have Shamrocks left in my hand when an opponent goes out? The points of the Shamrock (5) are counted against you.

Can more than five people play Seanchaí? Yes, just add in another deck and play teams.

How does team play work? Teammates sit across from each other with an opponent sitting in between. There is only one point field per team. Choose a teammate to manage the point field. (See team rules)

How do I know how many points a card receives? All points are in the upper left corner in Roman Numerals: II = 2 pts, V=5, X=10, XX=20