**🎴 Part 1 – Selecting the Combination to Play**

**Rules:**

1. **Avoid creating singletons**  
   Do **not** play a combination that leaves behind cards in your hand that will likely become unplayable (i.e., a card with no match in value or color).
2. **Prefer combinations that preserve groupings**  
   When multiple cards of the same color or value exist, prefer to play the **whole group**, unless it’s part of a better long-term strategy.
3. **Avoid playing prefixes of larger combinations**  
   E.g., if you hold 9❤️, 8❤️, 7❤️, don’t play 9❤️, 8❤️, as it would isolate 7❤️.
4. **Maximize value, but cautiously**  
   Among legal combinations that do not violate the above, pick the one with the **highest numeric value** on the mat.

**🃏 Part 2 – Selecting the Card to Keep**

**Rules:**

1. **Avoid future singletons**  
   Do not pick a card from the mat if it is:
   * A value that doesn’t match any card in hand.
   * A color that doesn’t match any card in hand.
2. **Prefer freeing hand singletons**  
   If your hand contains a card with no matching pair, prefer picking a card from the mat that **forms a pair** with it (same value or same color).
3. **Favor strategic buildup**  
   If no singletons exist or rule 2 is not applicable, pick the card that **enables the best potential future combination** with your hand (e.g., makes a pair or trio).

**🚫 Part 3 – Deciding to Skip**

**Rules:**

1. If **no legal combination** is possible that beats the current mat, skip.
2. If a legal move **only creates singletons or isolates cards**, and skipping would not significantly harm your game, consider skipping.