

Two over one – Session 3

You have opened 1H, LHO has passed, and partner has bid 2 clubs. *You remember what it means, correct?* Since you and partner know that you have game values, you may take your time bidding to game level (or slam level, if the follow up bidding suggests) at a leisurely pace. If you follow partner's second bid with another bid below game level --- no worries -- partner won't pass until game is reached. The same goes for you; don't you dare pass at a contract below game.

Here are some examples of your hand after partner responds to your 1H bid with 2C (spades first, then hearts, etc.):

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-------|---------|
| 1) 9 3 2 | K J 10 9 5 2 | A Q | K 7 |
| 2) A 4 | A K Q J 7 3 | 9 7 | K 5 4 |
| 3) Q J 10 | Q 8 6 5 4 | Q 8 6 | A K |
| 4) 3 2 | K 10 8 7 6 | K 6 | A K 5 4 |

What would be your response to partner's 2C in each case? Put your answer to the right of each example. And by the way, prior to doing that, note the LTC of each hand.

Repeating the six-card heart suit at the two level in the first hand doesn't necessarily tell partner that you have six hearts in this 2/1 bidding system, but it does tell partner that you have nothing better to bid at this point.

In the second hand, you should probably bid 3H, rather than taking your time bidding 2H. This shows a very solid heart suit because your jump in hearts was unnecessary in a game force situation.

Hand number three shows a balanced hand with stoppers in all suits, so give 2NT a try.

The last hand is an example of when you should show another suit; in this case, it is a nice suit. Sometimes you will show a nice 3-card suit, because you have nothing better to bid. Again, don't worry about bidding a nice 3-card suit; partner will not pass.

Partner's follow up bids are a topic for another session, but do what you think works best in today's practice hands, and --- what's that thing that Earl says??? Have _____!

A few more hands to consider. Your partner opens one spade and you hold one of the following hands. Your response?

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-------|-------|
| 1) K 10 2 | Q 9 4 3 | K J 5 | 4 3 2 |
| 2) K 10 2 | 9 8 4 3 | K J 5 | 6 4 3 |
| 3) K J 2 | Q J 4 3 | K J 5 | 5 4 2 |
| 4) K 10 2 | Q 10 3 2 | A J 5 | 4 3 2 |

Hand #1? _____

Hand #2? _____

Hand #3? _____

Hand #4? _____

OK, play some hands and have fun. Do not show your opponents any mercy. Sneer at them when you bid.