

WEAK TWO OPENING BIDS – PART THREE

By Queen Victoria's Sometimes Faithful Subject

When opening two diamonds, or two hearts, or two spades, you won't have many points. These bids are "weak," meaning around 6-10 high card points. These are also "interference bids," where your major goal is to make the lines of communication among your opponents more difficult; your secondary objective is to steal the contract at the two level. If your opponents wish to bid, they must start at the two level and sometimes the three level.

But if they pass! You might get set!!! Yikes!!!! Well, that's certainly possible, but something I rarely worry about. That's because the scoring system may be to their disadvantage if they compete. Should we talk about scoring sometime, or are you already experts?

OK, so your partner opens the bidding with 2 hearts. Partner's LHO opponent passes. You have this hand:

A Q 9 6 5 4 3 J 8 Q 10 7 6

____ What should you bid, if anything? Please select the correct choice below:

- A) 2 spades (show your other major, for sure).
- B) Pass; I'm no idiot, no matter what others in this room think about me.
- C) 2 NT, since I have the other three suits covered nicely.
- D) 3 hearts! Because I follow the "Law of Total Tricks."
- E) All of the above simultaneously to confuse the opponents.

Oops, you don't have that hand referred to above. That's RHO's hand, which you have been peeking in. This is YOUR HAND:

K J 10 J 9 A K 6 3 2 K J 3

____ What might you bid, if anything?

- A) 2NT, which is a "feature ask," requesting that partner bid a suit other than his/her trump suit, which might provide an entry to his/her hand, e.g. an ace or a king.
- B) 3 clubs, a "cue bid," letting partner know that you have just two hearts, and none higher than a jack.
- C) Four hearts, which should be easy to make.
- D) Four NT, or Blackwood, because the slam possibility should NOT BE IGNORED.
- E) 3 diamonds, because partner can preempt in a major with a four-card minor suit as well.