What does partner mean/What should I do?

reference: Larry Cohen article in May 2012 Bridge Bulletin and: www.nofearbridge.co.uk/acol/takeout\_doubles\_general.htm

Let Me Count The Ways

- \* If partner Poubles, what does s/he mean?
- \* Meaning depends on the auction!
- \* Partner's double could be: penalty, negative, take-out, support, balance of power, responsive, protection, ...
- \* There are too MANY kinds of doubles.

Penalty: The Original, Take-Out: The Most Common

- \* Auction: 1 \ -p-1 \ -p- 4 \ -Pbl
- \* This is penalty. Count on partner for a couple Aces (or well placed Kings) and a stack of \(\psi\_s\).
- \* Auction: 1 V-Pbl
- \* This is take-out. Partner wants you to bid. Count on partner to have an opening hand, short in \(\nabla s\), holding  $4 \ \times s$  with minor suit tolerance.

When Should I Make A Take-Out Pouble?

- \* You are short in opener's suit,
- \* AND You have 4 cards in all unbid majors, no obvious bid, so usually balanced,
- \* AND You have an opening hand in the 2nd seat, or values to compete in the balancing seat,
- \* OR You have 18+ HCPs, (double and bid new suit)
- \* Quiz: 1 \ -?
  - \* ♠AQXX ♥X ♦KTXX ♣QXXX
  - \* ♠Ax ♥KJx ♦KJxx ♣Jxxx
  - \* ♠KQx ♥xxx ♦AQJx ♣KTx
  - \* AAX VXXXXXX AAXX AAX

(classic take-out double)

(pass, you can balance later)

(don't like it, but double anyway)

(pass!!!)

How Do I Know It's Take-Out?

- \* "All doubles are take-out, we just leave them in when the auction gets higher." Remember Mel's Rule of 9.
- \* Guidelines: Partner's double is take-out if all of the following are true:
  - \* The opponent's bid is a part-score
  - \* You have not bid
  - \* The double is made at it's first opportunity

Examples

- \* All of the following are "take-out" doubles:
  - \* 1 \(\mathbf{P}\)-\(\mathbf{D}\)bl, or 2 \(\mathbf{P}\)-\(\mathbf{D}\)bl, or 3 \(\mathbf{P}\)-\(\mathbf{D}\)bl
  - \* 1 \ -1 \ -2 \ -pass-pass-Pbl
  - \* 1 \rightarrow-pass-INT-pass- pass-Pbl (\*special case\*)
  - \* 1 V-pass-2 V-pass- pass-Pbl
  - \* 1 V-1 A-Pbl, (called negative, by responder)
  - \* 1 V-2 -pass-pass-Pbl, (called protection, by opener)
  - \* 1 -pass-pass-Pbl, (called balancing, by 4th seat)
  - \* 1 -pass-2 -Pbl, (called pre-balancing, by 4th seat)

How Should I Respond To Partner's Take-Out Pouble?

- \* Auction: 1 V-Pbl-pass-?
- \* Pass: If you meet Mel's Rule of 9
  - \* You hold: Axx VAJTxx Tx Kxxx

(pass)

- \* Bid your cheapest 4 card suit when weak
  - **\*** You hold: ♠xx ♥xxxx ♦Txx ♣Kxxx

(bid 24)

- \* Skip bid with 8+ to 12- HCPs
  - \* You hold: AKJxx Vxxx Xxx KQxx

(bid 24)

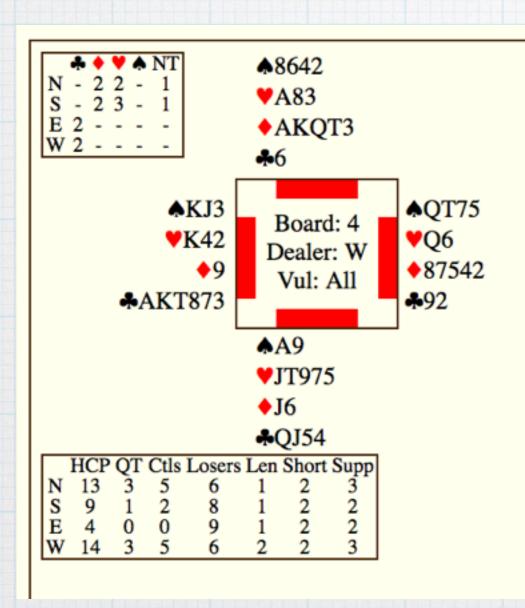
- \* Bid game or cue bid with an opening hand
  - \* You hold: ♠Kxxx ♥xxx ♦Kx ♣KQJx

(bid 4 4)

\* You hold: AKQx Qx Kxxx AQJxx

(bid 2 )

# Pouble Trouble Example, Friday 7/14 NKBC



RESULTS OF BOARD 4							
SECTION A				SCORES		MATCHPOINTS	
	1	Lead	Made	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
4♥	S	♣A	=	620		12.00	0.00
3 <b>∲</b> x	W	♦A	-2	500		11.00	1.00
2♥	S	♣A	=	110		10.00	2.00
3♣	W	♦A	-1	100		8.00	4.00
3♣	W	♦A	-1	100		8.00	4.00
3♣	W	♦A	-1	100		8.00	4.00
2 🔸	N	<b>♣</b> 9	=	90		6.00	6.00
2♣	W	♦A	=		90	4.50	7.50
2♣	W	♦A	=		90	4.50	7.50
2♥	S	♣A	-1		100	2.00	10.00
2♥	S	<b>♣</b> A	-1		100	2.00	10.00
3♥	S	♣A	-1		100	2.00	10.00
3♣	W	♦A	=		110	0.00	12.00

\* Preferred Auction: (1 -1)1 + (p)p (2-1)X(p)2