

Stamford Bridge Club

29th June 2016

Protective Bidding - Recap

Reminder

If we bid/make a call immediately following an opponent's bid we act in the

DIRECT SEAT

e.g. (1♣) 1♠



If, however, we bid **following two passes** we are doing so in the

PROTECTIVE SEAT

e.g. (1♣) P (Pass) 1♠



We call this the Protective Seat because we are **protecting our partner**. That protection comes about because, unless we have a big hand, partner is marked with values following the responder's pass.

Why do we need to protect partner with a weakish hand?

Because

The contract may belong to us

We may even have game available

By bidding we can push the opponents up to higher levels

We should not be afraid to bid with very light hands in the protective seat. As a guide we use a very important concept ...

The transferred king principle

This states that

In the protective seat we can be a king lighter when making a call than we would be in the direct seat

Having introduced the **principle of the transferred king** we have to make adjustment when responding to the protective overcall.

Mentally take away a king from your responding hand. With that “new” hand what response would you make to a **direct bid/call**? That’s the bid you now make.

In the protective seat ...

It's important to get into the auction and you'll be bolder/more flexible than in the direct seat. That means:

When bidding no trumps, your stopper(s) might not be robust

When overcalling at the 1level you might bid a 4card suit (hopefully of good quality)

Summary

The differences between the direct and protective seats are as follows:

<i>Type of bid</i>	<i>Direct Seat</i>	<i>Protective Seat</i>
1level o/call	5+suit, 8+	(4)5+suit, 5+
2level o/call	5+, 10+hcps	5+, 7+
Jump o/call	Weak 6cards, 5-9	Intermediate 6+, 12-15
Takeout X	11+	8+
1N	15-18	12-15
Hand too strong for o/call	X (19+)	X (16+)
Michaels	5/5	As Direct
Unusual 2N	5/5	- ditto -*

**but some play this as 19-21, balanced (with 16-18 balanced, start with X and bid a minimum number of no trumps)*

An Example

Dir: East
Vul: All

♠ J 10 9 7 4
♥ 9 7 4 2
♦ 5
♣ A K Q

Optimum
NS 1S

♠ 5 2
♥ Q J 5
♦ Q J 8 7
♣ J 9 8 5

WEST

NORTH

26

SOUTH

EAST

♠ K Q 8
♥ A K 8 6
♦ 10 9 2
♣ 10 7 6

7

10

12

11

♠ A 6 3
♥ 10 3
♦ A K 6 4 3
♣ 4 3 2

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	7	8	7	9	8
S	7	8	7	9	8
E	6	5	6	4	5
W	6	5	6	4	5

**Auction : (1N) Pass (Pass) 2♣*
 (Pass) 2♦* (Pass) 2♠ ...**

2♣ was Landy (both majors) and 2♦ asked for longer major. South could try for game ... but don't punish partner for his enterprise.

How did 2/3♠ fare?

<i>Board No 26 Both Vul Dealer East</i>									
<i>Deal: D200</i>									
<i>NS</i>	<i>EW</i>	<i>Bid</i>	<i>By</i>	<i>Ld</i>	<i>Tks</i>	<i>+Sc</i>	<i>-Sc</i>	<i>+</i>	<i>-</i>
1	3	2♣	S	♦Q	8	110		1	-1
2	5	3♣	N	♦10	10	170		2.8	-2.8
3	7	2♦	N	♥K	8	90		0.4	-0.4
4	9	2♣	N	♣6	10	170		2.8	-2.8
5	1	2♣	N	♥A	9	140		2	-2
6	2	1NT	E	♦4	8		120	-5.1	5.1
7	4	1NT	E	♦A	7		90	-4.3	4.3
8	6	1NT	E	♦4	7		90	-4.3	4.3
9	8	2♣	N	♥A	10	170		2.8	-2.8
10	10	2♣	S	♣5	9	140		2	-2

Those Easts allowed to play in 1N scored well.
It paid to protect.

Remember

When in the pass out seat (perhaps having passed earlier) it might be appropriate to act positively

By acting you may buy the contract cheaply (or reach game); alternatively you may force the opponents up a level

Get more active – give it a try. It's worth a lot of points but **don't hang partner for having done something good by driving the bidding too high**

Next week (Wednesday, 6th July)

Competitive Bidding