

Defence To A Weak 2♥ or 2♠

A weak 2♥ or 2♠ is a 5-9 hcp, or 6-10 hcp hand with a six-card suit. The defence to one of these openings is quite similar to bidding over an opening 1♥ or 1♠. You should have a strong hand of opening points or more to compete over a weak two in just the same way as you should have a strong hand to bid over a three-level pre-empt.

Bidding scheme over 2♥ by the opposition

- Dbl – Take-out. Usually promising 12+pts, short length in hearts and four spades
- 2♠ - A minimum opening hand (12-15pts) with five/six spades
- 2NT – 16 to 18 pts balanced (with a stop in hearts).
- 3♣/♦ - A good opening hand (13-16pts) with a likely six-card club/diamond suit
- 3♠ – A strong hand with five or six spades and c15-18 pts
- 3NT – 19+pts and a stop in hearts

Bidding scheme over 2♠ by the opposition

- Dbl – Take-out. Usually promising 12+pts, short length in spades and four hearts
- 2NT – 16 to 18 pts balanced (with a stop in spades).
- 3♣/♦ - A good opening hand (13-16pts) with a likely six-card club/diamond suit
- 3♥ – A good opening hand (13-16pts) with five or six hearts
- 3NT – 19+pts and a stop in spades

N.B. bids in the ‘protective position i.e. 2♥/♠ - P – P - ? can be a little weaker than when bidding directly over the weak two.

Bidding over a Benji 2♣ or 2♦ opener

Both of these bids show very strong hands - 2♣ is an eight playing trick hand in an unspecified suit (or big and balanced) and 2♦ is a game-forcing hand. Therefore it is unlikely that you will want to compete in the auction against them other than an overcall to suggest a lead for partner or a potential sacrifice. Dbl over 2♣ or 2♦ indicates the suit just bid i.e. clubs and diamonds respectively.