

## HIGH – LOW ???

		AK73	Pass		
		6	Pass		
		Q1093			
		9743			
Q105				J862	DEALER – 1 Club
98732	1 Heart			AKJ4	4 Hearts
J4	Pass			A5	
A52				KQJ	
		94			
		Q105	Pass		
		K8762	Pass		
		1086			

Partner leads the A of spades (A from AK). What spade do you play and why?

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		Q6	Pass		
		A10983	4 Spades		
		A1052			
		62			
32	DEALER - Pass			J94	Pass
K754	Pass			Q2	Pass
J8	Pass			Q963	
A10975				K843	
		AK10875			
		J6	2 Spades		
		K74	Pass		
		QJ			

One of the main reasons for preempting (using a Weak Two) is to keep the opponents out of the bidding. If it goes 3 passes to you, the way to keep the opponents out of the bidding is to PASS. For this reason, very few players use 2-bids to show preemptive hands in the passout seat. Whenever the bidding goes Pass-Pass-Pass to you, and you have a 6-10 Pt. hand, you should pass rather than open “a can of worms” and allow the opponents into the auction. After 3 passes, most people play:

A. An opening bid of 2D, 2H or 2S shows a 6 card suit with an opening bid 12-15 HCP Over 2S, it’s clear for North to raise to 4S with excellent spade support (Q6), 2 Aces, 10 HCP The 2S bid describes the hand perfectly and it’s more difficult for the opponents to come in.

A Double  
AK93 Pass  
AJ1052  
K84

KQ10953  
5 DEALER 2 Spades  
987 Pass  
J107

J8764  
QJ7 4 Spades  
K3 Pass  
963

2  
108642 5 Hearts  
Q64  
AQ52

4 Spades doubled would have gone down 2 or even 3 for +300 or +500, but 5 hearts makes (+620) even though hearts break 3 – 1 and NS have a heart loser, and also the KD, finesse is offside. The danger in bidding 5 hearts is that N may bid 6 hearts with 19 HCP and the singleton A spades. He shouldn't because he should understand that South is under pressure because of the opponent's strong interference. North should pass over 5 hearts.

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After any preemptive opening bid, a subsequent double by the partner of the preemptive bidder is a penalty double. Partner opens 2 Spades, right hand opponent overcalls 3 Hearts, double by you is penalty.

Even if you play with the same partner all the time, there's a good chance your methods have evolved over time. Just as you check your smoke alarm at home, check your convention card agreements with partner on a regular basis.

Jumps to game by the describer are NOT shut out bids, they convey points.  
Jumps to game by the decider ARE shut out bids.

You and your partner should have agreements about your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seat preempts. You should be disciplined with preempts when partner hasn't yet had a chance to bid, because otherwise you cause more trouble for PARTNER than the OPPONENTS. I'm a great believer in making light preempts in 3<sup>rd</sup> seat, in other words when partner is a passed hand. If you don't have an opener and partner hasn't shown one, then the hand belongs to the opponents; PREEMPTING WILL MAKE THEIR BIDDING MORE DIFFICULT. occasionally things will go wrong for the preemptor, but look at all the good results which light 3<sup>rd</sup> seat preempts brought you.