

Bid Bold



But Behave!

You are Dealer, Vulnerable against non-Vul. What do you open with this hand?

♠ 8 7
♥ K 5
♦ 6 2
♣ K 10 7 5 4 3 2

If you opted for Pass, then would you do the same if you were non-vulnerable against Vulnerable?

If you still Pass, what if you weren't Dealer but were in third position after two Passes?

Vulnerability & Position

- With a debateable pre-emptive opener you should particularly be aware of the vulnerability and position in the bidding.
- Vulnerable (especially vulnerable v non-vul) be very cautious.
- Non-Vul v Vul is your greatest friend for pre-empts.
- And third position in the bidding gives you flexibility because you know partner doesn't have opening points. Plus your left hand opponent is likely to have an opening hand.
- All that said – probably still best to pass with the hand on the previous slide. But if the Club suit were Spades then opening at favourable vulnerability would be more tempting....

Third in Hand

NORTH

♠ A 5
♥ K Q J 7 5 3
♦ 8
♣ 10 9 5 3

N	E	S	W
-	-	Pass	Pass
?			

**You are Non-vul and
E-W are Vulnerable**

In third position you can take some liberties. Partner has Passed so your pre-empts can be on a little more than your normal range. And with kind vulnerability opening at the three level with a good six card suit is reasonably safe. If behind in a match I'd even be tempted to open 4 ♥ with this hand!

Losing Trick Count - Overview

Count the losers

♠ K J 10 4 3 2 losers

♥ A 8 7 4 2 2 losers

♦ 2 1 loser

♣ 9 7 2 losers

$2 + 2 + 1 + 2 = \underline{7 \text{ loser hand}}$

- Use with distributional hands
- When a fit has been found.
- Each suit has a maximum of three losers
- A, K or Q then deduct from three.
- Eg A Q x x x has one loser
- Eg A K Q x has no losers

Typically a minimum opening hand has 7 losers.

With our hand above you have 7 losers but lack the points for an opener.

But if partner were to open (say) 1♣

You say 1♠ *Responding in the higher of two five card suits*

Now if partner should raise you to 2♠

Then you have found a fit and apply the value of 7 losers to your hand – raise to 4♠

North

♠ K J 10 4 3 2 losers

♥ A 8 7 4 2 losers

♦ 4 3 2 loser

♣ 9 7 2 losers

2 + 2 + 2 + 2 = 8 loser hand

N	E	S	W
-	-	1C	Pass
1S	Pass	2S	Pass
3S			

Here you have an 8 loser hand (one less than a 7 loser minimum opening hand – so raise one level less – i.e. an invitational raise to 3♠)

Or alternatively trial bid in one of the red suits....

A Deal from Real Life!

Hand below from Kyle Bridge Club – 10th March this year.
North deals and Passes – what do you say?

East

♠ J 9 3 2
♥ A J 9 8 6 5 3
♦ 10
♣ J

**Nobody
Vulnerable**

Every pair at Kyle opened 3♥ Or a weak 2♥

See the next slide for the full deal....

		NORTH		
		♠ 10 6 4		
		♥ K 4		
		♦ Q J 9 7 6		
		♣ 9 7 2		
	WEST		EAST	
♠	A K 7 5		♠	J 9 3 2
♥	7		♥	A J 9 8 6 5 3
♦	A K 4		♦	10
♣	A Q 8 6 3		♣	J

SOUTH

♠ Q 8

♥ Q 10 2

♦ 8 5 3 2

♣ K T 5 4

The bidding
could go ..

N	E	S	W
Pass	Pass	Pass	1C
Pass	1H	Pass	2S
Pass	4S (or higher!)		

East Passes because she holds a four card Major.
Now East-West find their Spade fit.
12 tricks are available in Spades – 11 in Hearts

*How many losers
does East have?*

You are non-vul playing against vulnerable opponents. Partner opens 3♣ and right hand opponent passes. Do you speak?

♠ 9 6 3 2
♥ A 10 6 3
♦ 3
♣ Q 9 8 6

A pre-emptive raise to 5♣ Would give your left hand opponent something to think about.

If you want to be sneaky, how about muddying the water and saying 3NT !

The Power of **Six with a fit**

NORTH
♠ K J 9 6 5 3
♥ 10 8
♦ A J 9
♣ K J

N	E	S	W
1S	Pass	2S	2H
?			

If you open 1 of a major holding a six card suit and partner raises to 2 – then you should consider raising to 4 whether you are maximum or minimum!

Six with a fit

	WEST	NORTH		EAST		
♠	7	♠ K J 9 6 5 3		♠ 10 8		
♥	A Q 9 6 4 2	♥ 10 8		♥ K J 5		
♦	K 10 8 7	♦ A J 9		♦ Q 4		
♣	9 5	♣ K J		♣ A Q 10 7 3 2		
		Declarer SOUTH				
		♠ A Q 4 2	N	E	S	W
		♥ 7 3	1S	Pass	2S	2H
		♦ 6 5 3 2	?			
		♣ 8 6 4				

As an example, here South is minimum for the raise to 2♠ and East-West can make 11 tricks in Hearts.

Six with a fit

		NORTH				EAST			
		♠	K J 9 6 5 3			♠	Q 8		
		♥	10 8			♥	J 7 5		
		♦	A J 9			♦	Q 4		
		♣	K J			♣	A 10 9 7 3 2		
		Declarer SOUTH							
		♠	A 10 4 2			N	E	S	W
		♥	A 3			1S	Pass	2S	2H
		♦	6 5 3 2			?			
		♣	8 6 4						

Here South is maximum for the raise to 2♠

And 10 tricks can be made. *How do you play the ♦ suit?*

Six with a fit - Overcall ...

NORTH
♠ K Q 8 6 4 2
♥ 10 8
♦ 9 6
♣ A 10 3

Dealer West

**E-W are Vul and
N-S Non-Vul**

N	E	S	W
-	-	-	1D
1S	2H	2S	3H
?			

I suggest you bid a confident 4♠ at this point!

Suppose you compete to just 3♠ then the opponents are likely to go to 4♥ and what do you do then? Bid 4♠ !

By bidding to 4 directly the opponents are unsure if you're bidding to make 4 or as an advance sacrifice.

How high

NORTH
♠ Q 7 5 3 2
♥ 7 5
♦ K Q 10 3
♣ 4 2

Dealer South

**Nobody
vulnerable**

N	E	S	W
-	-	1S	Pass
?			

You may see a theme here! Bid 4 ♠ directly

So.... How do you bid with a hand in the range of 13-15 points?

Delayed Game Raise

NORTH
♠ Q 7 5 3
♥ Q 5
♦ K Q 10 3 2
♣ A 2

Dealer South

**Nobody
vulnerable**

N	E	S	W
-	-	1S	Pass
2D			

With a hand where you are good enough for a direct raise to 4 of a major – then start by bidding another suit, planning to say 4♠ on the next round. This way you can differentiate between a value raise and a raise based on shape with few points. This is termed a “Delayed game raise”.



Any other questions that occur to you later please email me through the ABU contact.