

# Weak Two Bids

Preemptive Bidding - Chapter 23  
Beginning Bridge using 2 over 1

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# Agenda:

- Questions & discussion
- What do you need to open a Weak 2 bid?
- How to respond to partner's Weak 2 bid?
- Bid, discuss and play hands

# What are Weak Two Bids?



- Weak Two Opening bids are called **preemptive** bids. They show a weak hand and...
  - **6-card suit** and 5 - 11 HCP with two or more honor cards in the bid suit.
  - Two of the top 3 honors - ex. **AQJ**xxx or **AK**xxxx or **KQ**xxxx
  - Three of the top 5 honors - ex. **AQT**xxx or **AJT**xxx or **KQT**xxx
- Weak Two Bid examples: 2♦, 2♥ & 2♠
- Why not 2♣??

# Why are Weak Two bids effective?

- Weak Two bids are generally considered “defensive” or “obstructive”
- It takes away bidding room from your Opponents - a good thing!

# Do's & Don'ts for Weak Two Bids

- Do's

- When bidding in 1st or 2nd position, stick more closely to the guidelines. **Don't lie to your partner!**
  - HCP range (5 - 11)
  - Suggested Honor Card values (2 of the top 3 honors or 3 of the top 5 honors)
- Be a little more aggressive when in 3rd seat **IF** 1st and 2nd seats have passed
- Be cognizant of your vulnerability (not vulnerable, consider being more aggressive)
- If the preemptive bid is an **overcall** - then your preemptive bid should be at least two levels higher (a jump overcall). Ex. RHO bids 1 . You bid 2 .
- You are showing that you do not have an opening hand - otherwise you can double or just make a simple overcall.

# Do's & Don'ts for Weak Two Bids

- **Don'ts**
  - If you have a void or a 4 card major, bidding Weak Two bids is not usually recommended.
    - Although we are counting HCP only, a void strengthens the hand and perhaps you should be bidding something else.
    - If your 4 card major is 4 low level cards, it is probably OK to bid a Weak 2.
  - If you are in 4th seat, don't bid a Weak Two. If you do, you're telling your partner that you expect to make the contract.
  - Don't preempt if opponent has already preempted.

# What if you have 6 cards in a suit and 12 HCP?

- Bid your suit at the one level. If not, consider passing.
- If you're an **Overcaller**, bid your suit.



Examples:





# What would you bid as the Opener?

1. ♠ 6 5  
♥ A Q J 8 7 3  
♦ J 9 4  
♣ 8 3 (8 HCP)

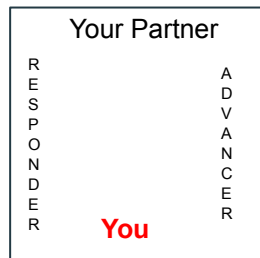
2 Hearts

2. ♠ 5  
♥ 7 6  
♦ A J 10 8 7 4  
♣ Q 9 6 3 (7 HCP)

2 Diamonds

3. ♠ Q 8 7 6 5 2  
♥ K J 8 3  
♦ Q 9  
♣ 2 (8 HCP)

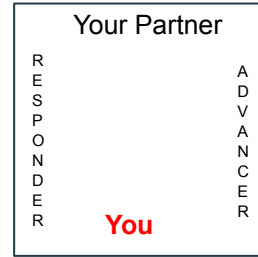
Pass



# What would you bid as the Opener?

1. ♠ AKJ 873  
♥ 4  
♦ Q94  
♣ 862 (10 HCP)

Bid 2♠



Opener

# Responding to a Weak Two bid

- Four responses
  - Pass
  - Raise in your partner's suit
  - Bid a new suit (**forcing**)
  - Bid 2 NT asking for a feature (**forcing**)

# Responding to a Weak 2 bid

- **PASS** when your RHO passes and you have ...
  - Less than 3 card support
  - Less than 13 HCP
- **Raise** Partner's suit with support. Primary consideration - total number of trump between you and your partner.
  - TNT (Total Number of **Trumps** = Total Number of potential **Tricks**)
  - ***Bid to a number of tricks equal to the number of trumps you and your partner hold in a competitive auction.***
- General guidelines for **furthering a preempt** when competition is also bidding
  - With 6 - 9 points and **3 trump**: **Bid 3**
  - With 6 - 9 points and **4 trump**: **Bid 4**
  - With 6 - 9 points and **5 trump**: **Bid at least 4, maybe 5 in a minor**
- **Opener is expected to pass after these raises!**

# Responding to a Weak 2 bid

- **Responder bids a new suit.** This is “**Forcing**” for one round of bidding.
  - Should have a very good 5 card suit or a 6 card suit
  - Responder usually will have 15 or more points
  - Example: 2♥, Pass, 2♠. Pass, ????
  - **Opener must bid again.**
    - If Opener has a minimum hand and little or no support for Responder’s hand, rebid original suit. (2♥, Pass, 2♠, Pass, 3♥)
    - If Opener has support for Responder’s hand (3 trump cards), raise Responder’s suit (2♥, Pass, 2♠, Pass, 3♠)
    - If Opener has the high end of the Weak Two bid but no support for Responder’s suit, bid NT. (2♥, Pass, 2♠, Pass, 2 NT)

# Responding to a Weak 2 bid

- Responder bids 2 NT (**this is an artificial bid**)
  - Responder does not have a good 5 or 6 card suit, but has 15+ points. Responder should bid 2 NT, suggesting Responder is interested in game and is requesting more information from the Weak 2 Opener
    - Is Opener on the low side or the high side of the opening?
    - Does Opener have a **“feature” that allows for transportation to Opener’s hand?**

# What is a “Feature”?

- Feature: usually A or Kx and sometimes even Qxx. In other words....**a suit stopper in a suit other than the Weak Two bid suit.**
  - If **Opener** is on the high side of the bid (9 or 11 points) **and has a side suit “stopper or feature”**, bid the suit with the feature
  - Example:
    - Opener’s hand: bids 2 ♦ - 9 HCP  
♠ 10  
♥ x x  
♦ A Q 10 x x x  
♣ K x x x
    - Responder’s hand: bids 2 NT - 15 HCP  
♠ A Q x x  
♥ A Q x x  
♦ K x  
♣ x x x
    - Responder does not have a good 5 or 6 card suit
    - Opener will bid 3 ♣ to show the K ♣ stopper
    - Responder will likely choose to bid 3 NT
  - If Opener is on the low side of the bid (6 or 7 points), Opener will rebid their suit. Ex: (2♦, Pass, 2 NT, Pass, 3♦)

# What would you bid as the Responder?

## Responder's hand

1. ♠ x x  
♥ A x x x  
♦ Q x x x  
♣ Q x x (8 HCP)

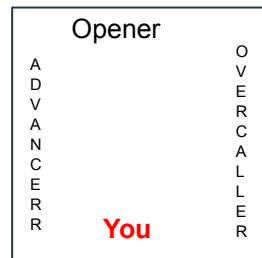
Pass

2. ♠ J  
♥ K x x x  
♦ K x x x  
♣ K Q x x (12 HCP)

Pass

3. ♠ Q x x  
♥ A K J x  
♦ x x  
♣ K Q x x (15 HCP)

4 ♠



Responder

Opener - 2 ♠ - 8 HCP

♠ A K 10 x x x  
♥ x x  
♦ J 10 x  
♣ x x

Overcaller - PASS



# What would you bid as the Responder?

## Responder's hand

- ♠ A Q x x
  - ♥ A Q x x
  - ♦ K x
  - ♣ x x x (15 HCP)

2 NT (asking for a feature) - Opener rebids 3 ♣,  
Resp rebids 3 NT

## Responder's hand

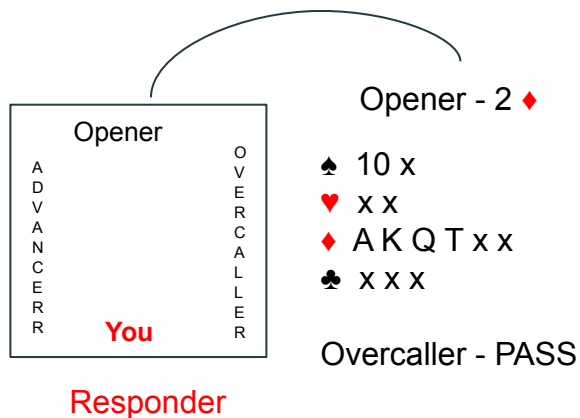
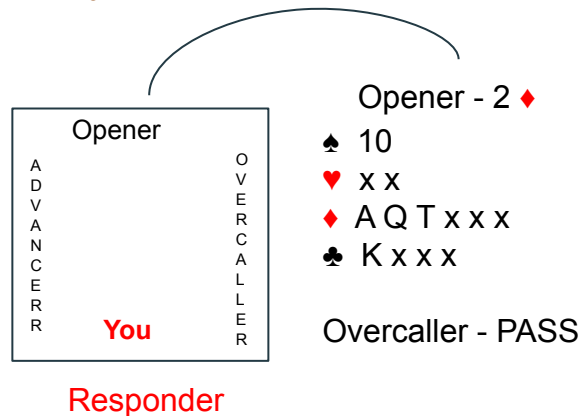
- ♠ K J 7
  - ♥ A K Q 7 6
  - ♦ 3
  - ♣ A 7 5 4 (17 HCP)

2 NT (asking for a feature - A ♠ or K ♣)

**If yes, Responder rebids 3 NT**

**If no, Opener rebids the Weak 2 bid suit.**

**Responder passes.**

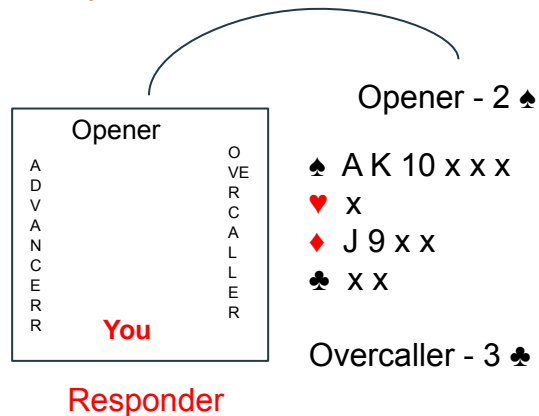


# What would you bid as the Responder?

## Responder's hand

1. ♠ Q 9 7 2  
♥ 9 3  
♦ K T 7 5 2  
♣ 6 3 (5 HCP)

4 ♠ - raise quickly to stop opponents from finding their contract



# Weak 2 Bid Summary- Quick Reference Guide

## Requirements:

- 6 cards in Diamonds, Hearts or Spades (never Clubs)
- A good suit with 2 of the top 3 honors or 3 of the top 5 honors
- 5 - 11 HCP
- Generally, no decent outside 4 card major suit
- Bid Weak 2 in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd seat....rarely in the 4th seat
- No other Preemptive bids have been made by any of the bidders

## Responder's Options:

- With 3 card support, raise one level. Not forcing.
- With 4+ card support, jump raise. Not forcing.
- With 15+ points, bid a new suit. **Forcing**. Preempter should support with 3+ card support or rebid Preempter's suit.
- With 15+ points after a Weak 2 bid, respond 2 NT asking Preempter for a feature. If Preempter has 9 - 11 points and a stopper in a suit other than the Weak 2 suit, bid that suit. If not, rebid Preempter's suit.