



B2 L08 Stayman COMMENTARY

<p> ♠ Q 10 4 ♥ Q 7 ♦ A 8 4 3 ♣ A 10 6 5 ♠ K 7 3 ♠ J 8 2 ♥ 9 8 3 ♥ K 10 5 4 ♦ J 10 7 ♦ K 5 2 ♣ Q J 9 2 ♣ K 8 4 ♠ A 9 6 5 ♥ A J 6 2 ♦ Q 9 6 ♣ 7 3 </p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px; width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		12		7	10	11		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	3	2	3	2	S	2	3	2	3	2	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 1: Dealer North: Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1NT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2♦</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Pass</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2NT</td> </tr> </table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>Opener has 12 HCP and a balanced hand. Responder has 11 HCP and four cards in both hearts and spades and so uses Stayman for a game try. Opener has less than four cards in both majors and so gives the negative response. Responder then re-bids NT as there is no major suit fit. Responder cannot be certain of game, and so bids NT at the invitational 2 level. Opener declines the invitation to game by passing.</p>	West	North	East	South		1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT	B2 L08 Stayman
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<p> ♠ AQ54 ♥ Q9 ♦ 9754 ♣ A103 ♠ J63 ♠ 108 ♥ J10642 ♥ K875 ♦ AQ6 ♦ K108 ♣ 76 ♣ J984 ♠ K972 ♥ A3 ♦ J32 ♣ KQ52 </p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	HCP		12		8	7	13		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	3	-	3	2	S	2	2	-	3	2	E	-	-	1	-	-	W	-	-	1	-	-	<p>Board 3: Dealer South: EW vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♠</td> </tr> </table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>Opener has 13 HCP and a balanced hand. Responder has 12 HCP and four cards in spades and so uses Stayman for a game try. Opener has four cards in spades and so bids spades at the two level. With 12 HCP, responder invites game with a bid of 3. With a good looking 13, opener bids the game. This bidding is not wrong, and more often than not the game will be there. But this time the cards don't sit well for declarer and it should be one down.</p>	West	North	East	South				1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	B2 L08 Stayman
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<p> ♠ 9842 ♥ J8 ♦ J43 ♣ A1065 ♠ K53 ♠ AJ ♥ A753 ♥ Q1092 ♦ A97 ♦ Q1085 ♣ Q74 ♣ KJ2 ♠ Q1076 ♥ K64 ♦ K62 ♣ 983 </p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		6		13	13	8		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	3	4	4	2	3	W	3	4	4	2	2	<p>Board 4: Dealer West: All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>Opener has 13HCP and a balanced hand. Responder has 13 HCP and four cards in hearts and so uses Stayman for a game try. Opener has four cards in hearts and so bids hearts at the two level. Responder then bids game with 13 HCP. This time the cards behave and it should make.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass	B2 L08 Stayman				
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<p> ♠ AJ97 ♥ QJ53 ♦ K85 ♣ 106 ♠ 864 ♠ Q102 ♥ A984 ♥ K2 ♦ J3 ♦ Q1064 ♣ Q972 ♣ J843 ♠ K53 ♥ 1076 ♦ A972 ♣ AK5 </p> <table border="1" data-bbox="209 741 331 949"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">HCP</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>11</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="368 741 612 949"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>♣</th> <th>♦</th> <th>♥</th> <th>♠</th> <th>NT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>N</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	HCP			11			7	8		14			Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	3	3	3	3	S	-	3	3	3	3	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-	<p>Board 5: Dealer North: NS vulnerable</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="639 300 1197 528"> <thead> <tr> <th>West</th> <th>North</th> <th>East</th> <th>South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>Opener has 14 HCP and a balanced hand. Responder has 11 HCP and four cards in both hearts and spades and so uses Stayman for a game try. Opener has less than four cards in both majors and so gives the negative response. Responder then re-bids NT as there is no major suit fit. Responder cannot be certain of game, and so bids NT at the invitational 2 level. With 14 HCP Opener accepts the invitation to game by bidding 3NT.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	B2 L08 Stayman
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<p> ♠ J8542 ♥ QJ62 ♦ 6 ♣ K42 ♠ 10963 ♠ AK ♥ 83 ♥ 975 ♦ A10832 ♦ KJ54 ♣ A9 ♣ 10765 ♠ Q7 ♥ AK104 ♦ Q97 ♣ QJ83 </p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		7		8	11	14		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	1	-	3	-	-	S	1	-	3	-	-	E	-	4	-	-	2	W	-	4	-	-	2	<p>Board 7: Dealer South: All vulnerable</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>An unusual case where you can use Stayman even though there's no game on. South opens 1NT. With 7 HCP North knows there's no game. But he has five spades and four hearts. A weak take out into spades will skip the chance that partner has four hearts. So North enquires with Stayman. Partner shows four hearts and North passes to keep it low. If partner had shown 4 spades, North would have passed. What if partner denied four of either major? North bids 2♠ showing a weak hand with five spades (and four hearts) a "delayed" weak take out. Opener must recognise this sequence and pass.</p>	West	North	East	South				1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	All Pass				B2 L08 Stayman
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<p> ♠ 97 ♥ 9752 ♦ KQJ105 ♣ A3 ♠ A854 ♠ KQ63 ♥ K83 ♥ A106 ♦ A642 ♦ 93 ♣ K5 ♣ Q1096 ♠ J102 ♥ QJ4 ♦ 87 ♣ J8742 </p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="2">HCP</th></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><th colspan="6">Makeable contracts</th></tr> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr> </table>	HCP		10		14	11	5		Makeable contracts							♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	2	2	1	4	2	W	2	2	1	4	2	<p>Board 8: Dealer West: Love all</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">West</th> <th style="width: 25%;">North</th> <th style="width: 25%;">East</th> <th style="width: 25%;">South</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♠</td> <td colspan="3">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>Opener has 14 HCP and a balanced hand. Responder has 11 HCP and four cards in spades and so uses Stayman for a game try. Opener has four cards in spades and so bids spades at the two level. Responder then makes an invitational bid of three. With maximum points Responder raised to game in spades.</p>	West	North	East	South	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass			B2 L08 Stayman
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