

## Raising partner after the opposition doubles

The normal raises after the following auction are simple:

1♥ – (P) - ?

2♥ = 5-9 points with 4-card support (or 9 loser hand)

3♥ = 10-11 points with 4-card support (or 8 loser hand)

But when the opposition compete with a takeout double in 2<sup>nd</sup> position the situation changes dramatically:

1♥ – (X) - ?

We now have extra bids available:

- Redouble (see below)
- 2NT (well we were never going to use a natural 2NT bid were we! Not much better than a Gerber bid over one of a suit opening)

We also need to make it awkward for the Opposition to compete so when we have a fit (we have 4-card support) we need to pre-empt as high as possible; therefore, our range of responses become:

1♥ – (X) - ?

XX = 9+ HCPs and a defensive hand

2♥ = <5 HCPs but having 4-card support

3♥ = a normal 2♥ bid

2NT\* = a good raise to at least 3♥ (minimum of a normal 3♥ bid)

### Redoubles

After 1♥ – (X) – XX

It is best to play this as 9+ HCPs with only a maximum of 2-card support for partner's suit.

Why is this?

A redouble is a statement to partner that the Redoubler is in charge on hands where a penalty may be taken from the opposition. I say mostly because:

There appears to be no fit so far, and that our side probably has most HCPs. Subsequent doubles by the Redoubler are for penalty. Of course, Opener may have opened on a distributional hand and will want to describe his hand further by bidding another suit.