

Weak 2's - by Ed L'Heureux

1		Dlr: N Vul: None	
♠ 102 ♥ AK1094 ♦ 987 ♣ AQ8		♠ J63 ♥ 83 ♦ AK105 ♣ K742	
♠ KQ ♥ QJ72 ♦ QJ42 ♣ J95		♠ A98754 ♥ 65 ♦ 63 ♣ 1063	
13			
12	11		
4			
		♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT N - - 1 2 - S - - 1 2 - E - 2 - - 1 W 1 2 - - 1	

N E S W
 1H P 2S and 3 passes

Key point: 2S bid by South is weak, not strong.

Bidding: After partner opens, a jump into a new suit by responder shows a weak hand (0-5 points) with a 6 card suit. Responder would bid 1S with 6+ points.

Lead: QH or QD. Q from QJ is a good lead.

Play: Diagram shows 2S can make, but most players will be down 1, losing 2S, 2D & 2C. If opponent leads QH, promising JH, you can capture QH at trick 1 and finesse towards TH to make extra heart tricks. But you must pull trump first so that East does not trump your good hearts.

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2		Dlr: E Vul: N-S	
♠ K75 ♥ Q73 ♦ K64 ♣ QJ63		♠ 86 ♥ K62 ♦ Q109853 ♣ 85	
♠ AJ43 ♥ A1095 ♦ A72 ♣ K9		♠ Q1092 ♥ J84 ♦ J ♣ A10742	
11			
16	5		
8			
		♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT N 2 - - - - S 2 - - - - E - 3 2 1 2 W - 3 2 1 2	

N E S W
 2D P 2NT
 P 3D and 3 passes

Key point: If minimum, rebid your 6 card suit.

Bidding: 2D by East shows 5-11 pts & 6 diamonds. 2NT by West shows 16+ pts, asks if opener is min (5-8) or max (9-11). 3D by East says min. The end. (16+9 would be enough to try 3NT. 16+8 is not.)

Lead: AC or 2C rate near bottom of the list. 2S, low from something in a long suit, looks OK. 4H, low from something, also looks OK.

Play: Losers: 1S, 1H, 2D, 2C = 6 total. JD falls when you lead 3D toward AD, eliminating 1 D loser. Lead 5C toward KC to lose only 1 C. Makes 3D.

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3		♠ A109854 ♥ 108 ♦ K4 ♣ 543	Dlr: S Vul: E-W																														
♠ K6 ♥ J93 ♦ AQ1076 ♣ K107		♠ Q3 ♥ K752 ♦ J983 ♣ A62																															
7 13 10 10	♠ J72 ♥ AQ64 ♦ 52 ♣ QJ98		<table><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>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	1	-	-	3	-	S	1	-	-	3	-	E	-	3	1	-	-	W	-	2	1	-	-
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E	-	3	1	-	-																												
W	-	2	1	-	-																												

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
		P	1D
2S	3D	3S	and 3 passes

Key point: Jump overcall is a preempt.

Bidding: Jump to 2S by North shows 6 spades, less than 8 points, not enough to bid 1S. East with 10 pts & 4 card support has enough to raise to 3D. South knows about 9 card fit, can raise to 3S. West might raise to 4D as a sacrifice thinking 3S will make.

Lead: 3D, lead partner's suit.

Play: Losers: 1-2S, 0-1H, 1-2D, 2-3C = 4-8 total. Looks bleak, but today is your lucky day. Spades split 2-2. Lead 8H towards QH. Lead 2D towards KD. Lead low club towards QJ8 twice. Lose 1S, 0H, 1D, 2C = 4 total, making 3S. Next time: down 1-2.

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4	♠ 873	Dir: W																															
	♥ AK1094	Vul: Both																															
	♦ K2																																
	♣ K96																																
	♠ KQJ1052	♠ 94																															
♥ J8	♥ Q73																																
♦ 106	♦ A9875																																
♣ Q85	♣ A72																																
13	♠ A6	<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	3	1	3	-	2	S	2	1	3	-	2	E	-	-	-	1	-	W	-	-	-	2	-
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S	2			1	3	-	2																										
E	-	-	-	1	-																												
W	-	-	-	2	-																												
9 10	♥ 652																																
8	♦ QJ43																																
	♣ J1043																																

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
			2S
	P?/3H?		and 3 passes

Bidding: 2S by West shows good 6 card spade suit & 9-11 pts (vulnerable). North has a nice hand and would like to bid, but is now guessing at the 3 level. Having to guess is not good. Some days things work out, some days not.

Lead: Against 2S, lead AH. Against 3H, lead 9S, high-low from doubleton in partner's suit.

Play: In 2S: losers = 1S, 2H, 1D, 2C = 6. If opps lead AH, you can set up QH as 8th trick (pitching a diamond or club). If opps lead 6C, let it ride to QC for the 8th trick. In 3H: losers = 2S, 1H, 1D, 2C = 6. Need J-Q-K-A of clubs on one trick to lose only 1C. Ruff a spade before pulling trump. Then make 3H.

Weak 2's - by Ed L'Heureux

5	♠ KQT852	Dlr: N Vul: N-S
	♥ J8	
	♦ K65	
	♣ 76	
♠ J3	♠ A7	
♥ AT74	♥ KQ32	
♦ AT	♦ QJ83	
♣ KT952	♣ QJ4	
9	♠ 964	
	♥ 965	
12	♦ 9742	
15	♣ A83	
4		

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	-	-	1	-
S	-	-	-	1	-
E	4	3	4	-	1
W	4	3	4	-	1

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
2S	X	3S	4H
P	P	P	

Key point: Weak responder raises to 3 with 3 trump, raises to 4 with 4 trump.

Bidding: North opens 2S. East has the points & the right shape to make a T/O double. South raises to 3S with 3 card support. West with an opening hand as well bids game in the expected 4-4 heart fit.

Lead: KS. K from KQ is a great lead.

Play: Losers: 1S, 1D, 1C = 3. Makes 4H.

Weak 2's - by Ed L'Heureux

6		♠ 74 ♥ JT87 ♦ K843 ♣ KT9	Dlr: E Vul: E-W																															
♠ Q963 ♥ 953 ♦ AQ97 ♣ Q8		♠ KJT852 ♥ A2 ♦ J ♣ 5432																																
7 10 9 14	♠ A ♥ KQ64 ♦ T652 ♣ AJ76	<table><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>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td></tr></table>				♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	3	4	-	-	S	2	3	4	-	-	E	-	-	-	3	-	W	-	-	-	3	-
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N	2	3	4	-	-																													
S	2	3	4	-	-																													
E	-	-	-	3	-																													
W	-	-	-	3	-																													

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
	2S	X	4S
P	P	P	

Key point: Weak responder raises to 3 with 3 trump, raises to 4 with 4 trump.

Bidding: East opens 2S. South has 14 HCP & right shape for T/O X. West raises to 4S with 4 card support. North not strong enough to bid at 5 level.

Lead: KH. K from KQ is a great lead.

Play: Should lose 1S, 1H, 2C for down 1. (You can ruff the last 2 clubs in dummy after opponents have no more trump.) Consolation: N/S could have made 4H if you let them play there.

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7		Dlr: S Vul: Both	
♠ 74 ♥ KT74 ♦ Q4 ♣ A8762		♠ AKT962 ♥ QJ5 ♦ 3 ♣ J94	
♠ Q83 ♥ 86 ♦ AT9862 ♣ K3		♠ J5 ♥ A932 ♦ KJ75 ♣ QT5	
9		♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT N 2 - 1 - - S 2 - 1 - - E - 1 - 3 1 W - 1 - 3 2	
9	11		
11			

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
		P	2D
P	2S	P	3S

Key point: New suit by responder is forcing.
Raise with support; rebid own suit without.

Bidding: West 2D shows 6 D & 9-11 points (vul). East has singleton diamond & nice spade suit, wants to try spades instead of diamonds. West happy to oblige. East knows: not enough points for game.

Lead: Textbooks say: not unsupported Ace or low from unsupported Ace. Could lead 5C, low from something. In hindsight, QC would work out well.

Play: Losers 3H + 3C = 6 total. Must ruff a club & ruff a heart before pulling trump to make this. Opponents: when you see declarer eliminating dummy's short suits, lead a trump when you get in.

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8		Dlr: W Vul: None	
♠ 42 ♥ KJ2 ♦ QJ10962 ♣ Q8		♠ 1093 ♥ 843 ♦ K43 ♣ KJ95	
♠ AJ76 ♥ Q765 ♦ 87 ♣ 1074		♠ KQ85 ♥ A109 ♦ A5 ♣ A632	
9		♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT N 2 4 2 1 3 S 2 4 2 1 3 E - - - - - W - - - - -	
7	7		
17			

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
			P
2D	P	2NT	P
3H	P	3NT	and 3 passes

Key point: When max, bid outside A or K.

Bidding: North 2D shows 6 D & 5-11 pts. South with 16+ bids 2NT to ask if North is min or max. North answers 3H: max with A or K of hearts.

Lead: 6S, 4th best from longest & strongest suit.

Play: A spade lead gives you 1 S trick. With 5 D, 2H & 1C, this makes 9 total. Drive out the KD and run your 9 tricks. Opponents will cash 3 spade tricks after winning KD. But you will make 3NT.

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<div>9</div> <div><div><div>♠ J965</div><div>♥ 1042</div><div>♦ QJ4</div><div>♣ K84</div></div><div><div>9</div><div>78</div><div>16</div></div></div>	<div><div>♠ 107</div><div>♥ AKQ975</div><div>♦ 85</div><div>♣ 965</div></div>	<div><div>Dlr: N</div><div>Vul: E-W</div></div>																														
	<div><div>♠ A42</div><div>♥ J3</div><div>♦ 10732</div><div>♣ QJ102</div></div>																															
	<div><div>♠ KQ83</div><div>♥ 86</div><div>♦ AK96</div><div>♣ A73</div></div>																															
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		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																										
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E	-	-	-	-	-																											
W	-	-	-	-	-																											

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
2H	P	2NT	P
3NT	P	4H	and 3 passes

Key point: Max opener with AKQxxx bids 3NT.

Bidding: North NonVul 2H shows 5-11 points. South 2NT shows 16+ points and asks whether North is max. North 3NT shows max with AKQ in hearts. South corrects to 4H to play in 8 card major.

Lead: QC, top of touching honors, is great lead.

Play: Likely losers are 1S + 2C = 3 total. This should be an easy 4H contract. Pull opponent trumps, drive out AS, cash your winners.

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<div>10</div>	♠ AQ65	Dlr: E																															
	♥ 964	Vul: Both																															
	♦ Q97																																
	♣ Q92																																
♠ K843	♠ 92																																
♥ QJ108	♥ A753																																
♦ A8	♦ 54																																
♣ K105	♣ A7643																																
10	♠ J107	<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	3	-	2	1	S	-	3	-	2	1	E	2	-	2	-	-	W	2	-	2	-	-
	♣			♦	♥	♠	NT																										
N	-			3	-	2	1																										
S	-			3	-	2	1																										
E	2	-	2	-	-																												
W	2	-	2	-	-																												
13	♥ K2																																
8	♦ KJ10632																																
9	♣ J8																																

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
	P	2D	X
3D	P?/3H?	and 3 passes	

Key point: Weak responder raises to 3 with 3 trump, raises to 4 with 4 trump.

Bidding: South Vul 2D shows 6 D & 9-11 pts. West has enough for T/O X. North should raise to 3D. East would have an easy 2H bid, but must now guess whether to compete at the 3 level.

Lead: In 3D, lead QH, top of touching honors. In 3H, lead JS, top of touching honors. Leading suit headed by KJ not advisable, even if partner raised.

Play: N/S can make 3D by repeated finesses against KS after pulling trump. E/W cannot make 3H.

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11		♠ AJ9653 ♥ 76 ♦ 75 ♣ J43	Dlr: S Vul: None																														
♠ 102 ♥ Q54 ♦ A963 ♣ A962		♠ KQ4 ♥ A10982 ♦ KQ8 ♣ 85																															
6 10 14 10	♠ 87 ♥ KJ3 ♦ J1042 ♣ KQ107		<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr></table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	-	1	-	S	-	-	-	1	-	E	2	3	4	-	2	W	1	3	4	-	2
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																												
N	-	-	-	1	-																												
S	-	-	-	1	-																												
E	2	3	4	-	2																												
W	1	3	4	-	2																												

12	♠ 97	Dir: W																															
	♥ K1074	Vul: N-S																															
	♦ 84																																
	♣ AQ762																																
♠ 3	♠ AQ10862																																
♥ 865	♥ J2																																
♦ AJ10962	♦ Q73																																
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S	3			-	3	-	-																										
E	-	3	-	1	-																												
W	-	3	-	1	-																												
8 10	♥ AQ93																																
13	♦ K5																																
	♣ 1085																																

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
		P	P

2S P?/3H? And 3 passes

Key point: Preempts can be very weak in 3rd seat.

Bidding: After 2 passes, North opens 2S in 3rd seat. East in 4th seat has 14 points but must guess whether or not to enter the bidding at the 3 level. With this deal, E/W can make 4H. On some other deal, they cannot make 2H. N/S are fairly safe with a long suit.

Lead: KD against 2 spades. KC against 3/4 hearts.

Play: N/S lose 2S+1H+2D+1C=6 total, down 1. The play is straightforward. E/W have a hard time in 4H: Must lead towards QH to lose only 1H. Must ruff or overruff third spade to lose only 1S. Also lose 1C.

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
			2D

P 2S P 3D and 3 passes

Key point: New suit by responder is forcing.
Raise with support; rebid own suit without.

Bidding: West opens 2D. East has diamond support, but suggests the higher scoring spade contract. West denies spade support by bidding diamonds again. South in 4th seat with best hand is shut out.

Lead: Only bad choices. Leading away from K and away from AQ are bad. Leading opponent suit is bad. Lead 9S, through East rather than toward West.

Play: Losers = 3H,1D,3C = 7. You must ruff a heart & a club before pulling trump to make 3D (unless opening lead gives you a trick). Must also lead dummy's last diamond towards JD to trap KD.