

## WEAK TWO BIDS

A weak 2 bid is a good six card suit with 5-11 HCPs. Sometimes a 5 or 7 card suit can be opened as a weak 2 bid. A preemptive bid, it should be disciplined in second seat, so as to avoid preempting partner. More leeway is given nonvul vs. vul and especially in 3<sup>rd</sup> seat. Avoid opening a weak two with 4 cards in a (or the other) major.

A 2NT response is forcing, (even over interference). It asks opener to bid a feature (an ace or king) in a new suit, if holding a feature and a maximum (8+ HCPs). Opener shows the feature by bidding the suit. Otherwise, with a maximum and no feature, the bid is 3 NT, or 3 of the opening suit if holding a minimum. A raise in the opening suit is to play (RONF) and is not forcing. 3NT is also to play (responder could possibly have a strong 6 or 7 card minor).

If responder bids a new suit, it is forcing, showing at least a 5 card suit, and opener should support that suit (if a major) with 3 small or possibly with a doubleton honor. With no support for the new suit, opener should bid 3 of the opening suit with a minimum, or 3 NT or another suit with a maximum.

In which seats should we open the following hands

1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> ??

- (1) ♠K7 ♥94 ♦KQJ1085 ♣865
- (2) ♠AQ9862 ♥Q752 ♦J105
- (3) ♠A7 ♥KJ7432 ♦K96 ♣63
- (4) ♠KQJ965 ♥9 ♦9654 ♣74
- (5) ♠K73 ♥KQJ106 ♦J1042 ♣7
- (6) ♠109 ♥872 ♦QJ10865 ♣K9

### Bids by Responder

Assume neither side is vulnerable and partner has opened 2 spades in 1<sup>st</sup> seat, and your right hand opponent has passed. What should you bid with these hands??

- (1) ♠A6 ♥KJ65 ♦A96 ♣K942
- (2) ♠A105 ♥853 ♦A8643 ♣64
- (3) ♠6 ♥KJ5 ♦KQ84 ♣KQ654
- (4) ♠K63 ♥93 ♦AKJ75 ♣A52
- (5) ♠9 ♥7 ♦AKJ643 ♣AK1086
- (6) ♠7 ♥K9 ♦K76 ♣AKQ10843
- (7) ♠KJ86 ♥97 ♦109752 ♣83

## K

## OPENING 2 CLUBS

An opening 2 club bid is one of 2 basic types of hands: (1) strong and balanced with 22+ HCPs or (2) strong unbalanced hands with at least 9 tricks and 17 HCPs.

## I.

## Strong Balanced Hands.

♠ A J 8 ♥ A K 9 4 ♦ K Q 6 ♣ A Q 8. Open this hand 2 Clubs and rebid 2 NT.

With a balanced 24 to 26 HCPs, bid 3 NT.

With a balanced 27 to 29 HCPs, bid 2 Clubs and rebid 3 NT

## II.

## Strong Unbalanced Hands.

## (1) One suited hands:

(a) ♠ A K Q J 6 3 ♥ A K 8 ♦ A 9 3 ♣ 7. Open 2 Clubs

(b) ♠ A 4 ♥ A K Q J 8 7 4 2 ♦ 8 ♣ 6 3. Open 4 Hearts (not enough HCPs)

(c) ♠ 6 ♥ A J 7 ♦ A K Q 9 8 7 3 ♣ A 5. Open 1 or 5 Diamonds. Minors need 10 tricks.

## (2) Two suited hands:

(a) ♠ A K J 10 5 ♥ A K 10 7 6 ♦ A 9 4. Open 2 Clubs (with both majors and shape)

(b) ♠ A 5 ♥ A K J 6 4 3 ♦ 4 ♣ A K 10 4. Open 2 Clubs. You have 9 tricks.

(c) ♠ K Q ♥ K J 7 4 2 ♦ A K J 6 3 ♣ A. Open 1 Heart. Wasted spade values and weak hearts.

## III.

## RESPONSES

2 Diamonds is the normal response to a 2 club opening. It's a "waiting" bid. Responder bids 2 hearts, 2 spades, or 3 clubs or 3 diamonds with a 5 card suit (2 of the 3 top honors?) and 8 or more HCPs. These are game forcing bids, as is 2 NT, which shows a balanced 8+ HCPs. (Maybe bid 2 diamonds?)

If opener bids 2 NT after a 2 diamond response, the same Stayman and Jacoby bids are used by the responder just like when opener opens 2 NT. 4 clubs by responder is Gerber and 4NT is quantitative (9+ HCPs).

If opener rebids 2 of a major or 3 of a minor after a 2 diamond response, it's forcing to 3 of the major and 4 of the minor.

2 clubs - 2 diamonds, 2 hearts - 2 spades, 3 hearts is not forcing.