

# Negative Double Trouble

By Henry Jackson

# Negative Double Quiz

- 1C – 1H – X – How many spades does Responder promise?
- 1D – 1H – 1S – How many spades does Responder promise?
- 1C – 1D – X – How many spades does Responder promise? Hearts?
- 1C – 1D – 1H – How many spades does Responder promise?

# What Should North Bid?

♠ K Q 8 6  
♥ K Q J 5  
♦ Q 8 6  
♣ 7 5

*West*

*North*

*East*

*South*

1 ♦

Pass

|

Dbl

?

Pass

1 ♣

1 ♥

# What Are South's Chances?

South Deals ♠ K Q 8 6  
 None Vul ♥ K Q J 5  
 ♦ Q 8 6  
 ♣ 7 5



13 ♠ A 4  
 13 ♥ 8 6 2  
 ♦ 9 4 3 2  
 ♣ A K Q 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♣
1 ♦	Dbl	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

# After West Leads A, K and 3<sup>rd</sup> Diamond?

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ K Q 8 6  
♥ K Q J 5  
♦ Q 8 6  
♣ 7 5

♠ 10 9 3  
♥ 4 3  
♦ A K J 7 5  
♣ J 4 3



♠ J 7 5 2  
♥ A 10 9 7  
♦ 10  
♣ 10 9 8 6

13  
9 5  
13

♠ A 4  
♥ 8 6 2  
♦ 9 4 3 2  
♣ A K Q 2

*West*

*North*

*East*

*South*

1 ♦  
Pass  
Pass

Dbl  
4 ♥

Pass  
Pass

1 ♣  
1 ♥  
Pass

# What Went Wrong?

- Despite holding an opening hand and four trumps in support, Responder must consider the possibility of Opener having to bid with only three trumps.
- If Opener has four cards in Overcaller's suit without a real stopper, he may be unable to bid 1NT or rebid his minor.

# A Tip From Yauheni Siutsau

After 1C – 1D – X or 1minor – 1H – X, Opener may be forced to bid a three card major.

Opener (conventionally) can bid 1 of major to show only three cards and bid 2 of major to show four cards. The jump does not imply greater strength.

Discuss this treatment with Partner before using it.

# A Tip From Peg Ammon

When Opener rebids 1H or 1S after a negative double, and Responder wants to show more than a minimum, Responder should bid 1NT instead of raising the major.

If Opener has bid a 4-card major and trusts Responder to have 4 in that major (negative double), Opener should rebid his 4-card major.

If instead, he has bid a 3-card major because of weak length in Overcaller's suit, NT should be a safer contract.