

Common Sense Bidding II

Common Sense Bidding is the First
Step Toward Becoming Expert

For the Following 3 Hands

- You are South, with favorable vulnerability.

♠ K 10 3 2 ♥ K Q 8 5 3 ♦ K 4 ♣ A 10

North	East	South	West
----	----	1 ♥	pass
1nt	pass	??	

- 2nt – not good, the hand is too weak.
- 2 ♠ -- not good, a reverse is forcing on partner and you are not nearly strong enough for that bid.
- Pass is plausible, but at least a slight underbid.
- The common sense bidder, thinks of these things in advance and opens 1nt, rather than 1 ♥ .

♠ 2 ♥ Q 8 5 3 ♦ K J 10 9 8 4 ♣ 6 2

North East South West

---- ---- ??

- If you think opening a preempt with a 4-card major is heresy, you are thinking pass.
- If you are a religious follower of the rules for preempts, you might go with 2 ♦ .
- Common sense bidders know the basic guidelines and the rare times when to violate them. Open 3 ♦ . Here's the reasoning:
 - Note the texture of your diamond suit.
 - Favorable vulnerability.
 - Both opponents are unpassed.
 - 6-4 distribution.
 - The opponents almost surely have a spade fit.

♠ Q 6 3 2 ♥ K J 3 ♦ K 8 4 ♣ K Q J

North East South West

---- ---- ??

- Would you open this hand 1nt?
- If so, you're not looking beyond the surface.
- This hand is not worth a 1nt opening bid.
 - No aces.
 - 4-3-3-3 distribution.
 - Too many quacks.
- Open the bidding with 1 ♣ .

On the Following Hands

- You are South, with both sides vulnerable.
- Your RHO has passed.

♠ A 2 ♥ Q 10 6 5 3 ♦ A 9 6 5 4 ♣ 7

North East South West
---- pass ??

- Would you open this hand?
- Makes the rule of 20.
- Has two quick tricks.
- Open with 1 ♥ .

♠ Q 7 6 4 2 ♥ K J 5 3 ♦ J 5 ♣ K Q

North East South West

---- pass ??

- Would you open this hand?
- It has 12 points and makes the rule of 20, but 1 quick tricks.
- 2 kings and 4 quacks is worth a 1 point deduction.
- A weak 5-card suit.
- Definitely not worth an opening bid.
- Your bid is **Pass**.

♠ A Q 10 9 6 5 ♥ 6 3 ♦ A 10 9 4 ♣ 8

North East South West

---- pass ??

- Would you open this hand?
- It is another rule of 20 hand.
- Note the texture of the spade suit.
- A fairly good 4-card side suit.
- Your bid is **1 ♠**.

On the Following Hands:

- you are South
- With equal vulnerability

♠ 6 5 ♥ A Q 10 8 ♦ A Q J 9 4 ♣ 8 6

North	East	South	West
----	-----	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♠	pass	??	

- Don't even think about bidding 2 ♥ .
- With 13 points, the hand is not good enough to reverse.
- We should really try to avoid rebidding a 5-card suit.
- But here no other bid makes sense.
- Your bid **2 ♦** .

♠ A 5 ♥ A K 10 8 ♦ A Q J 9 4 ♣ 8 6

North	East	South	West
----	-----	1 ♦	pass
1 ♠	pass	??	

- With this hand you have 18 points.
- Strong enough for a reverse. .
- Your bid **2 ♥** .
- A reverse is forcing on partner for at least one round of bidding.

♠ A 5 3 ♥ J 8 ♦ A Q 9 5 4 3 ♣ K 6

North	East	South	West
----	-----	1 ♦	pass
1 ♥	pass	2 ♦	pass
3 ♥	pass	??	

- With 2 points for your 6-card suit, your hand counts 16.
- Partner's jump rebid shows a strong opening count and a 6-card suit.
- **4nt** accepts hearts as the trump suit and asks for key cards.
- With adequate controls you will bid 6 ♥ .

♠ A 5 3 ♥ J 8 7 2 ♦ A Q 9 4 ♣ J 6

North	East	South	West
----	-----	1 ♦	pass
1 ♥	pass	2 ♥	pass
3 ♥	pass	??	

- Partner's 3 ♥ bid is invitational. Shows 11 or 12 points.
- Your hand is a minimum opening bid. It counts 13 points in support of hearts.
- If you accept the invitation, you are stretching your values.
- **Pass** is probably your best bid.

♠ A J 10 5 3 ♥ J 8 4 ♦ K 9 4 ♣ 9 6

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	pass	1 ♠	pass
1 nt	pass	2 ♣ *	pass *nmf
2nt	pass	??	

- Partner's 1nt rebid shows 12 to 14 points.
- Her 2 nt shows no more than 2 spades, and 14 or a good 13 points.
- With your 10 points, still not enough for game.
- **Pass** is your bid.

♠ 5 3 ♥ Q 8 4 ♦ A Q 9 4 ♣ A 9 6 3

North	East	South	West
----	----	1 ♦	pass
1 ♠	pass	1nt	pass
2 ♣ *	pass	2 ♥	pass *nmf
2 nt	pass	??	

- Partner's 2 nt is not an invitation.
- Partner knows your hand and has placed the contract where it should be.
- **Pass** is your bid.

♠ K Q 7 5 3 ♥ Q 4 ♦ A 9 7 4 ♣ 6 3

North East South West

2 ♣ Pass ??

- You have enough points to bid 2 ♠ .
- If partner's suit is hearts, which is likely, your spade bid will make for an awkward situation.
- It will be better to bid 2 ♦ and show your spade suit after partner shows his suit.

♠ 7 5 3 ♥ Q 4 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 ♣ Q 6 3

North	East	South	West
-----	1 ♥	pass	pass
dble	pass	2 ♦	pass
2nt	pass	??	

- What does Partner have?
- Partner would overcall 1nt with 11-14 points..
- When partner doubles, then bids no trump from the reopening seat, he shows a solid 1nt overcall.
- Your bid is: **3 nt.**