

How to Leave Your Partner Hanging



You Raise Partner Then Push On

Imagine you are East.

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠
3 ♥	P	P	

Will 3 ♠ leave your partner hanging?

What kind of hand do you need to bid three spades?

What Kind of Hand Do You Need To Bid On

- In order to bid on, your hand needs three criteria.
 1. At least 4 trump – 9 trump total between you and your partner (most important)
 2. Good distribution – not 4-3-3-3
 3. No wasted values in the opponent's suit.

Would You Bid Three Spades With:

♠ K 4 2

♥ K J 4

♦ Q 8 6 5 4

♣ J 3



♠ K 6 4 2

♥ Q 8 4

♦ 6 5 4

♣ A J 3



Would You Bid Three Spades With:

♠ J 8 4 2

♥ 10 5 3

♦ 7

♣ A J 10 7 3

Yes

Partner Balances Then You Bid On

- When the opponents choose to stop at a low partscore, it is often necessary to balance.
 - To compete for a partscore of your own.
 - To push the opponents higher where they might be defeated.
 - This involves a bit of risk.

Balancing Auctions

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	pass	pass	dbld

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	pass	2 ♥	pass
Pass	dbld		

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	pass	pass	1nt

Partner's Balancing Bid

- When partner balances:
 - She may be doing so with values somewhat below what the bid might be in the direct seat.
 - Partner is bidding your values.

♠ J 8 6 4 2

♥ 10 5

♦ K 9 7

♣ A J 10

South West North East

1♥ p 2♥ p

p 2♠ p p

3♥ p P ??

Should You Bid 3 ♠?

♠ 9 7 3
♥ 5 2
♦ A Q 3 2
♣ K 8 7 3

♠ K Q 7 3
♥ Q 8
♦ Q 9 4 3
♣ A 8 5



Should You Bid 3 ♠?

♠ A 9 7 3

♥ 2

♦ Q 9 6 3 2

♣ A 7 3

Yes

You Make a Takeout Double Then Raise with Minimum Values

- It is good bridge to double with good distribution and 11 or 12 points.
- It is poor bridge to raise when partner bids one of your 4-card suits at the minimum level.
 - Once you make a takeout double and partner bid, you are done unless you have extra values.
- The rule is: **Do not rebid your values.**

Consider This Bidding

You are North

West	North	East	South
1♥	Dble	P	1♠
2♥	P	P	2♠
P	P	3♥	P
P	??		

North's Hand

♠ K 10 7 3

♥ 9 3

♦ A J 8 2

♣ A J 7

♠ K Q 7 3

♥ 9 3

♦ A K 8 2

♣ A J 7

Yes



Consider This Bidding

You are South

West	North	East	South
1♥	Dble	P	1♠
2♥	P	P	2♠
P	P	3♥	??

South's Hand

♠ A 8 5 4

♥ 10 7 2

♦ Q 5

♣ Q 8 6 3

♠ A 9 8 5 3

♥ 2

♦ A 5

♣ 10 9 8 6

Yes



Consider This Bidding

You are North

West

North

East

South

1♥

2♥

P

2♠

3♥

North's Hand

♠ A K 8 5 4

♥ 7 2

♦ 5

♣ K 10 8 6 3

♠ A K 9 8 5 3

♥

♦ A 5

♣ A K 9 8 6

Yes

