Responding to Partner's Weak Two Opening Bid

Partnership Understandings

- Having 13 points is not enough to make a game try, unless you have a strong fit and excellent distribution.

  - You should have 16 or 17 to make a game try.

- You don't need points to support partner. Use the law.

Partnership Understandings

- With an invitational hand bid two no trump. Openers will clarify whether their hand is minimum or maximum.
  - With a minimum hand (5-8 points) opener will rebid the opening suit.
  - With a max. hand (9-11 points) opener will show and outside feature (an ace or king).
  - With a ace, king, queen suit opener will rebid 3 no trump.

Partnership Understandings

- New suits are forcing for one round. This is standard, but make sure you and partner agree.
  - With 3 or more cards in responder's suit, opener will show support.
  - Without support, opener will rebid the opening suit.
- Lets take a look at some examples.

13 points

Opener 2 ♥

Opener
♠ 2
♥ K Q 9 7 3 2
♦ Q 10 5
♣ 10 4 3

Responder
♠ K J 10 3
♥ J 5
♦ A 9 4
♣ A 9 5 2

- Pass with this hand. Responder has 13 points but very little chance of making a game.
- On a bad day this hand won't even make two hearts.

Use the Law

Opener 2 ♥

Opener
♠ 2
♥ K Q 9 7 3 2
♦ Q 10 5
♣ 10 4 3

Responder
♠ 8 7 3
♥ A 8 5
♦ J 9 4 3 2
♣ 5 2

Bid 3 ♥ you have 9 hearts between you and partner, you can safely b id to the 9 trick leve Not an invitation. I

Use the Law

Opener 2 ♥

Opener
♠ 2
♥ K Q 9 7 3 2
♦ Q 10 5
♣ 10 4 3

Responder
♠ 8 7 3
♥ A 8 5 4
♦ J 9 4 3 2
♣ 5

Bid 4 ♥ you have 10 hearts between you and partner, you can safely bid to the 10 trick level

Bid the Game to Make

Opener

♠ 2

♥ K Q 9 7 3 2

♦ Q 10 5

♣ 10 4 3

Opener 2 ♥

Responder

♠ A K J 3

♥ J 10 5

♦ A K 9 3 2

♣ 5

- Bid 4 ♥ you have 9 hearts, but this time you think you belong in game. The opponents wont know the difference until your hand comes down.
- The law does not apply when you have points for game or slam.

New Suit Bids are Forcing

Opener

♠ 2
♥ K Q 9 7 3 2
♦ J 9 5
♣ 10 4 3

Opener 2 ♥

Responder

♠ A K J 5
♥ 4
♦ A K Q 10 3 2
♣ K 5

- Bid 3 ♦ be sure you and partner know that new suits are forcing.
- If partner bids 4 ♦, you will give 5 ♦ a try if partner rebids hearts you'll bid 4 ♦ and partner will pass. .

You Open 2 ♦, Partner Bids 2 NT. What is Your Correct Rebid?

Example 1

♠ K 7 2

♥ 2

♦ Q J 10 9 5 3

♣ 10 4 3

Bid 3 ♦. You have an outside feature, but this is a minimum hand (6 points). Don't overbid your values.

You Open 2 ♦, Partner Bids 2 NT. What is Your Correct Rebid?

Example 2

♠ 7 2

♥ 4 2

♦ K Q J 10 9 5

♣ K 4 3

Bid 3 ♣. You have an outside feature and a maximum hand (9 points). Show partner your values.

You Open 2 ♦, Partner Bids 2 NT. What is Your Correct Rebid?

Example 3

♠ 7 2

♥ 4 2

♦ A K Q 10 9 5

♣ 7 4 3

Bid 3 nt. You must show you'r A, K, Q. suit.

You Open 2 ♠, Partner Bids 2 NT. What is Your Correct Rebid?

Example 3
♠ K Q J 10 7 2
♥ 4 2
♦ Q J 5
♣ 7 4

<u>Bid 3nt</u>. When you have a max hand, a very good suit but no feature.
If partner is trying to get to 3nt or 4 spades, you hand should not be a disappointment.

Partner has Opened 2 ♠. What is your Correct Bid?

Example 4
♠ 3 2
♥ K Q J
♦ A K J 10
♣ A Q J 4

Bid 3nt. You might make 4 ♠ as well, but thins hand will make as many no trump as spades.

Partner has Opened 2 ♠. What is your Correct Bid?

Example 4

♠ J

♥ A Q J 5

♦ A K J 10

♣ J 7 6 4

<u>Bid 2nt</u>. You intend to try for 3 nt, if partner shows a club feature. Otherwise, you'll play 3 ♠.

Partner has Opened 2 ♠. What is your Correct Bid?

Example 5
♠ J 7
♥ A Q J 5
♦ A K J 10
♣ Q J 6

Bid 4 ♠. With your jack – small support, you expect partner to be able to handle the spade suit.
No point in bidding two no trump here. You will go to 4 ♠ no matter what parrtner says.

Partner has Opened 2 ♠. What is your Correct Bid?

Example 6
♠ K 10
♥ A J 5 4
♦ Q 4 2
♣ A K 8 7

Bid 2 nt. This is borderline, but you will give 4 ♠ a try if partner can show a diamond feature. .

Partner has Opened 2 ♦. What is your Correct Bid?

Example 6
♠ 10 4 3
♥ A K10 9 5 4
♦ 6
♣ 8 7 3

Pass. 2 ♥ is probably a better place to play this hand, if the opponents are going to let you play it, but remember you cannot stop at two hearts. New suits are forcing, so partner will bid again.

A Final Point to Remember

- When partner opens a weak 2 bid and you make a bid, you must have an idea of where you want to go with the hand.

- Consider partner's possible responses, before you make a bid.