

# Bidding Judgement: Part 1



What Should You Be Thinking About

# What We Will Do Today

- I will give you a hand, then we will talk about how it should be bid.
- There will always be more than one option.
- Most important, I will try to tell you what you should be thinking about.

# Partner Opens 1 ♣, RHO Passes

Hand 1

♠ 7

♥ 8 6 4 3

♦ Q J 10 9 4 2

♣ 9 4

- This is a clear preempt hand...
- The opponents, for sure, have a spade fit.
- Bid 2 ♦, unless that is conventional for your system.
- If 2 ♦ is in your system, you should bid 3 ♦.
- Take note of your good suit.

# Partner Opens 1 ♣, RHO Passes

Hand 2

♠ 7 5 3

♥ Q 6 4 3

♦ A J 10 4 2

♣ K

- Your bid here is not completely clear.
- You might want to bid your nice diamond suit.
- Unless partner shows extra values, you will bid only once.
- It is probably best to bid your heart suit.

# Partner Opens 1 ♣, RHO Passes

Hand 3

♠ 5 3

♥ K Q 4 3

♦ A K 10 4 2

♣ A 8

- With this hand, you plan to bid until you reach game and perhaps even slam.
- Six diamonds might be your best contract.
- The way to think about the difference between hand 2 and hand 3 is this:
  - With good hands, bid naturally, longest suit first.
  - With weak hands, bid most important suit first.

# Partner Opens 1 ♣, RHO Passes

Hand 4

♠ A Q

♥ K J 9

♦ J 9 6 4 2

♣ Q 9 5

- With 13 to 15 balanced points, responder can jump to 3nt over partner's 1 level opening bid.
- Often that bid uses up too much bidding space and discourages partner from going further.
- Nevertheless, with:
  - 13-15 balanced points
  - No interest in slam
  - A need for your hand to be declarer
- You should make that bid.
- With this hand bid 3nt.

# Partner Opens 1 ♣, RHO Passes

Hand 5

♠ A 2

♥ A 7

♦ A 10 9 4 2

♣ K 9 5 3

- With this hand, you could bid 3nt.
- But it would be the wrong bid.
- Your hand is not really balanced.
- You have a fit with partner's clubs.
- There's at least some chance that 6 clubs or 6 diamond would be your best contract.
- Bid 1 ♦ and listen carefully to partner's rebid.

# Partner Opens 1 ♣, RHO Passes

Hand 6

♠ J 8 2

♥ 7 6 2

♦ A Q 9

♣ 9 7 5 3

- With this hand you probably wish partner had not opened the bidding.
- If you play inverted minors, you have no club bid.
- You cannot bid a major and no trump with this hand is not good.
- Best to “punt” with 1 diamond.
- You plan to pass any rebid partner makes, except a jump-shift.



# Partner Opens 1 , RHO Passes



Hand 7

♠ K J

♥ Q J 9

♦ Q 9 5 2

♣ J 7 5 3

- If you play inverted minors, this hand is too weak for 2 .
- You don't have enough diamonds to bid 3 .
- You have 10 balanced points. 1 nt shows 6-10.
- That is the perfect bid for this hand.

# Partner Opens 1 , RHO Passes

Hand 8

♠ A K 7 4

♥ 3 2

♦ A Q 4

♣ K Q 7 6

- If you had just a 13 or 14 points with a hand like this, you would just bid 1 ♠.
- Here you have 18 points. There is a really good chance you have a slam.
- Bid 2 ♣, then look for a spade fit if you have one.
- Unless partner opened a real dog, you expect to end up at six something.

# Partner Opens 1 , RHO Passes




Hand 9

 4

 Q 9 7 2

 K J 7 6 4 3

 7 6

- You might want to bid 1  to learn if you have a heart fit.
- Look at this hand. You know the opponents have at least 8 spades, probably more.
- If you bid 1 , they will find their spade fit.
- Unless partner has a massive hand, your side does not have game,
- Bid 4 . Let them find their spade fit at the 4-level.

# Partner Opens 1 , RHO Passes



Hand 10

 4

 Q J 10 9 7 5 2

 6 4 3

 7 6

- Once again, you know the opponents have a spade fit,
- This hand is too good a preempt to simply make a weak jump shift to 2 .
- You have only 3 points, but your heart suit is solid in the middle.
- Even vulnerable, you should bid 3 .

# Partner Opens 1 , RHO Passes




Hand 11

♠ 10 7 5 4 2

♥ A Q J 8 6

♦ 3

♣ 7 6

- Most hands with 5-5 in the majors, you will bid the higher suit first, then the second suit.
- Most of the time that is a sound plan.
- With only 7 points, you don't have the strength to bid both suits.
- Bid 1 .
- If partner makes a minimum level bid (1nt, 2 , or 2 ) you will rebid hearts.

# Partner Opens 1 , RHO Bids 1

Hand 12

 10 4 2

 K 10 8 7

 A 7 3

 7 6 2

- Pass, you do not have the right distribution for a negative double.
- If your LHO also passes, partner will reopen.
- If partner reopens with a double, you will bid hearts.
- Otherwise, you will pass partner's reopening bid, unless it is a forcing bid.

# Partner Opens 1 , RHO Bids 1



Hand 13

 10 4

 K 10 8 7

 A 9 7 3

 7 6 2

- Double.
- If partner bids hearts, you will pass.
- If partner bids 2 , you will correct to 2 .

# Partner Opens 1 , RHO Bids 1

Hand 14

 7 4 3 2

 A K 8 7

 A 9

 Q 8 2

- First, RHO probably does not have very much.
- This is a very difficult situation.
- Should you make a negative double with this hand?
- If you double and partner rebids clubs, what will you do?
- Most player will probably try a negative double.



# Final Thought

- We've been considering bidding judgment.
- When you make a judgment, there's always a chance it will turn out badly.
- Before you make any bid, you should give a thought to partner's likely responses.
- This is particularly true when responding to partner's opening bid.
- When you use a negative double, you must have some idea of where the hand is going.