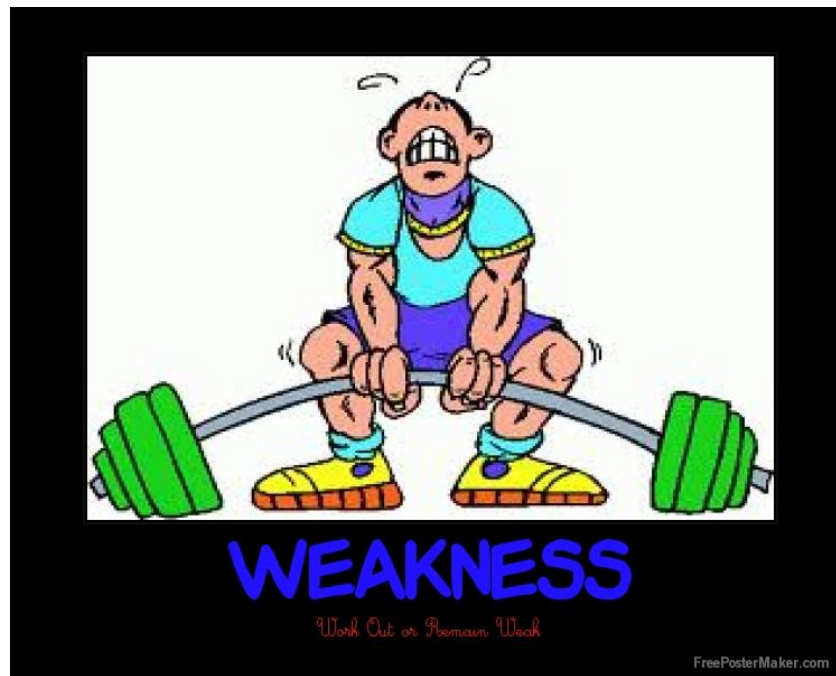


Weak Jump Shifts



Properly Used

Once Jump Shifts Were Strong

- In the early days of contract bridge, a jump to a new suit, following partner's opening bid, showed:
 - A strong hand
 - A good suit
 - A hand with slam potential.
- Modern bridge players know that this hand comes up so seldom that it is better to use the jump shift to show a weak hand.

Jump Shifts Show A Very Weak Hand

- Following partner's opening bid of 1 ♣, 1 ♦, 1 ♥, a jump to the two level shows a hand of 3 to 7 hcps, with a six card suit.
- If the jump shift is made to the 3 level, the suit must be seven cards or longer.
- There's a bit of overlap here, but generally a weak jump shift is made with a hand that would be too weak to open with a weak two bid.

Example Weak Jump Shift Hands

Partner	RHO	You
1 ♥	pass	2 ♠

Hand 1

♠ K 9 7 5 4 3

♥ 3

♦ 10 7 2

♣ 7 5 2

Example Weak Jump Shift Hands

Partner	RHO	You
1 ♥	pass	3 ♦

Hand 2

♠ K 3

♥ 3

♦ Q J 9 6 7 3 2

♣ 8 5 2

Example Weak Jump Shift Hands

Partner	RHO	You
1 ♣	pass	2 ♥

Hand 3

♠ 6 5 3

♥ Q J 10 7 4 2

♦ 8 6

♣ 5 2

Example Weak Jump Shift Hands

Partner	RHO	You
1 ♥	pass	2 ♥

Hand 4

♠ K J 7 5 4 3

♥ 9 7 3 2

♦ 2

♣ 9 2

No weak
jump shift
here-too
many hearts

What if Your Hand is a Little Stronger?

- If you have a slightly stronger hand, you can show this by bidding your suit and rebidding it.
- The bidding will look like this”:

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
1 ♥	pass	1 ♠	pass
1nt	pass	2 ♠	

Example Slightly Stronger Hand

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
1 ♥	pass	1 ♠	pass
2 ♣	pass	2 ♠	

Hand 5




♠ A K J 7 5 4

♥ 9 7

♦ 2

♣ J 9 5 2

Example Slightly Stronger Hand

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
1 	pass	1 	pass
1nt	pass	2 	

Hand 6

 7 4 2

 K Q J 7 3 2

 2

 K 9 2

Opening Bidder's Rebid?

- Most of the time the opening bidder will pass after a weak jump shift.
- Remembering that your partner is showing a very weak hand, with some holdings you might bid again.
 - With a strong hand and a good minor suit, you might try no trump.
 - With a strong hand and support for partner's suit, you might raise partner's bid.
 - With a strong suit of your own and a singleton or void in partner's suit, you might rebid you own suit.

Opener's Rebid Example 1

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
1 ♥	pass	2 ♠	pass
3 ♠	pass	pass	

Opener

♠ A 4 2

♥ A K 8 7 2

♦ A J 5

♣ Q 6

Responder

♠ Q 9 7 6 5 2

♥ 5

♦ 9 4 3

♣ J 9 2

Opener's Rebid Example 2

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
1 ♥	pass	2 ♠	pass
3 ♠	pass	4 ♠	

Opener

♠ A 4 2

♥ A K 8 7 2

♦ A J 5

♣ Q 6

Responder

♠ K Q 7 6 5 2

♥ 5

♦ 10 4 3

♣ J 9 2

Opener's Rebid Example 3

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
1 ♦	pass	2 ♥	pass
3nt	pass	pass	

Opener

♠ A J 10 2

♥ 4

♦ A K J 10 7 5

♣ A K

Responder




♠ 5 2

♥ A J 9 8 5 3

♦ 9 4 3

♣ 10 9

Opener's Rebid Example 4

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
1 	pass	2 	pass
3 	pass	pass	

Opener

 A 7 2

 4

 A K J 10 7 5 2

 A 3

Responder

 5 4 2

 K J 9 8 5 3





 9

 J 9 7

What if Opener Bids a New Suit?

- A new suit by the opener shows a powerhouse two suiter and is forcing on the responder.
- Responder must take a choice of opener's suits.

Opener's Rebid Example 5

Partner	RHO	You	LHO
1 	pass	2 	pass
3 	pass	3 	

Opener

 2



 A K J 10 7 5

 K Q J 10 6 3

Responder

 5 4 2

 K J 9 8 5 3

 9 4 2

 5

What if Opponents Interfere?

- If your RHO makes a takeout double, do weak jump shifts still apply?
- Yes, but do remember...
 - When RHOs make a takeout double, they are showing strength in all the suits except the one bid by your partner.
 - That includes the one in which you plan to make a jump shift.

When a Opponent Overcalls

- Most pairs keep weak jump shifts on over an overcall.
- You must be careful, because the bidding can get high very quickly.
- Say partner opens 1 ♠,
- You intended to make a weak jump to 3 ♣
- But your RHO interferes with 2 ♥.
- You will have to bid 4 ♣ to jump shift.

When Opponents Overcall Ex.1

Partner

1 

RHO

1 

You

2 

Opener

 A J 2

 4 2

 A Q J 10

 K 8 3 2

Responder

 K Q 9 6 5 2

 3

 9 7 5

 10 9 7

When Opponents Overcall Ex.2

Partner

1 ♥

RHO

1 ♠

You

3 ♣

Opener

♠ A Q 2

♥ A Q 9 7 2

♦ J 10 4

♣ 3 2

Responder

♠ 2

♥ 5 3

♦ 9 7 5

♣ A J 10 9 7 5 4

Final Thoughts

1. If you play Bergen raises, you must be careful because 1 ♥ or 1 ♠ by the opener, with 3 ♣ or 3 ♦ by the responder shows a limit raise in the major suit.
 - a) You do not want one bid that might have two different meanings.
2. Do not confuse the weak jump shift, with a weak jump overcall.
3. Do remember a jump shift by opener is a strong bid.