Rule of Nine

REOPENING DOUBLES--WHEN TO PASS-WHEN NOT TO

Sequence-Example:	West	North	East	South
				18
	2Н	P	P	?
When to Reopen With a	Double?:			
(1) You (S	South) op	ened the	bidding	
(2) LHO	either ove	ercalls or	preemp	ts
(3) Partne	er passes			
(4) Oppor	ient pass	es		
Question- Why Did Part	ner (Nort	th) Pass?:		
(1) Had noth	ning to sa	y, or		
(2) Was lying	in wait t	o make a	penalty	double but couldn't because a direct double would be a negative
double				, and the second
Answer- Which of the Tv	vo Reaso	ns is Mor	e Likely	?:
(1) If you hol	d only on	e or two	cards in	the opponent's suit- presume partner is lying in wait
(2) If you hold three or more cards in the opponent's suit partner is less likely to have a trump stack and probably passed because of being broke				
Rules for Reopening:				
(1) Reopen double.	with a do	ouble whe	n holdir	ng one or two cards in the opponent's suit-even if your hand is not perfect for takeout
(2) Pass with 3 or more cards in the oppenent's suit-unless you have substantial extra values. Odds are that your partner passed because of being broke.				
YOUR RESPONDING F	PARTNE	R'S RESI	PONSIB	ILITY AND THE RULE OF NINE
Your reopening double i	is for tak	eout and	your pai	rtner may either:
(1) Bid his/	her best	suit,		
(2) Raise th	he suit yo	u bid firs	t, or	
(3) Pass for penalty. If the decision is between bid or pass				
the Rule	e of Nine	* may be	helpful.	

Rule of Nine (whether responding partner bids or passes):

Partner adds (a) the level of the contract, plus

- (b) the number of cards held in the opponent's suit and
- (c) the number of honors held in the opponent's suit (10 is an honor).

If the sum is nine or more, partner passes for penalty. If the sum is eight or less partner should bid.

Example:

Level of contract is two and partner holds AQxxx of the opponent's suit. Thus, the level of the contract 2 plus the number of cards 5 and the number of honors 2 total 9. In this case, partner should pass. If the opponent's suit held were AQxx, the total would be 8 and a bid is appropriate.

In the above cases if the level of the contract was 3 a pass in both situations would be appropriate.

REOPENING DOUBLES

QUIZ

AUCTION WITH YOU AS OPENER

<u>You</u>	<u>LHO</u>	<u>Partner</u>	<u>RHO</u>
1H	2D	Pass	Pass
9			

Examples of Your Hands:

<u>s</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>C</u>
1. K75	AK842	9	A763
2. 86	AK765	7	AQ865
3. K974	AK872	Q86	6
4. K73	AK9865	None	J1092

Solutions:

- 1. Double. You have a good defense and support for the unbid suits. Partner is likely to have values so you must protect partner's right to double or bid.
- 2. Double. If partner bids 2H or 3C you're OK. If partner bids 2S, you bid 3C. If partner passes he/she may have a trump stack.
- ${\bf 3.\ Pass.\ You\ have\ 3D\ and\ not\ enough\ extra\ values\ to\ bid.\ Partner\ may\ be\ broke.}$
- 4. Bid 2H. Doubling with a void is risky. Even though your partner has some diamonds you have too little to contribute to a defense of the hand.

AUCTION WITH YOU AS RESPONDER

RHO	<u>YOU</u>	<u>LHO</u>
2D	Pass	Pass
Pass	?	
	2D	2D Pass

Examples of Your Hands:

<u>s</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>C</u>
5. J54	8	KJ1062	A843
6. J53	84	K765	Q963
7. J6	82	K92	J87643

Solutions:

- 5. Pass. You weren't in the position to make a negative double. You satisfy the Rule of Nine.
- 6. Bid 2H. You're too weak to pass. Protect your partner's double. You don't satisfy the Rule of Nine.
- 7. Bid 3C. You're too weak to pass. Protect your partner's double. You don't satisfy the Rule of Nine