

Lesson 8 Three Level Pre-empts

Most of you will have a fair idea of what a three level pre-empt requirements are.

***A good seven card suit that fails to meet the rule of 20***

A good suit would be one headed by the AK or three of the top 5 cards if vulnerable. Slightly weaker if not vulnerable

What you may not have considered is “When holding a good 7 card suit should you NOT pre-empt?

Do not pre-empt if:-

***You have the potential for more than 2 defensive tricks.***

***You hold a good 4 card major.***

Your partner needs to know that they are on their own if they change the suit.

In raising the level of the pre-empted suit the pre-empter’s partner need tricks rather than points. The pre-empter expects to go 2 off so with 2 certain tricks pass. But with 3 certain tricks you can raise 3H or S to 4.

You are often faced with the problem of whether to raise to 3NT. Bear in mind that your dummy will only have entries in the pre-empted suit so you may need three of that suit to bring it in.

Finally consider your position at the table. If you are the opening bidder pre-empt as above. If it has gone Pass Pass there is only the opposition to pre-empt so you can bid on a much weaker suit. In second position never weaken the suit because you are making it harder for your partner and only 1 opponent.

Last week’s quiz.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1NT | X | 1NT | X | Pass | 2NT | 3NT | 2C Stayman | 2H | Pass |

What would you open the bidding with the following hands.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| S | 6 3 | K Q 10 9 7 6 4 | 2 | 6 3 |
| H | 7 | 3 2 | 5 4 | 7 |
| D | 6 4 3 | 7 4 3 | A 9 2 | K Q 10 9 7 6 3 2  |
| C | K Q J 10 7 6 5  | 7 | K J 8 5 4 3 2 | 6 4 |

Your partner has opened the bidding 3D the opposition have remained silent. What do you did on the following hands:-

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| S | A 10 9 3 | A J 9 | A K  | K Q J 10 9 6 |
| H | K 7 5 3 | K 10 3  | 6 2  | A 4 |
| D | 5  | 6 3 2 | 4 3 2  |  |
| C | K Q 7 2  | K Q 2 | A 10 7 5 3 2  | Q J 10 9 8 |