

## TIP OF THE WEEK: PESKY PREEMPTS

### What should you be thinking about?

(Source: Steve Wood)

- You can't preempt over a preempt.
- Avoid guessing.
- The player who strains to bid is the one who is short in the Opponents' suit.

(2S) P (P) ?

You: x KT97xx Q52 AQx

Why should you bid? The opener holds 6 spades and his partner didn't raise his suit. You only hold a singleton spade. Why didn't your partner bid? She might have several spades, a full opening bid, and not enough cards in the other suits for a Takeout Double.

- The decision about whether to bid is not primarily about HCP - it's more about shape and logic in the situation.
- Be careful about making off-shape Takeout Doubles without 3-cards in all unbid suits. You must have a good reason to double and a plan for what to do if partner bids your short suit.

### Mike Lawrence's Guideline: Rule of 7

"The **Rule of Seven**," tells you that you are entitled to wish for **seven ordinary points** in your partner's hand. Add your values to what partner rates to have and make a decision about bidding. This rule doesn't guarantee you'll make your contract. If partner has nothing, you will go down.

You need 22-23 points, counting shape to play at the <b>2-level</b>
You need 23 -24 points, counting shape to play at the <b>3-level</b>
You need 24 - 26 points, counting shape to play at the <b>4-level</b>

(2S) ?

You hold: Kxx A9xxx KJ8 xx ———> Bid: Pass!

23 points are required to bid at the 3-level

A **jump overcall** tells partner that you can make game if they hold 7 useful points. It promises a good hand and good suit. The **Rule of 7 doesn't** apply over **jump overcalls**.

(2D) ?

You: AK KQJ872 3 KJ92 ———> Bid: 3H

Click, on the following links to read additional information on bidding after Pesky Preempts ...

kwbridge.com › preempts

Bidding over opponent's preempts - Karen's Bridge Library

[“Bidding Over 3 or 4-level Preempts,” with Robert Todd](#)

[https://www.nvba.org/novices/Robert\\_Todd/\(091\)+Bidding+Over+3+and+4+level+preempts.pdf](https://www.nvba.org/novices/Robert_Todd/(091)+Bidding+Over+3+and+4+level+preempts.pdf)

[Larry Cohen's article of bidding after Opponents' Preempt](#)  
<https://www.larryco.com/bridge-articles/versus-opponents-preempts>

## Visual and Auditory Learners

Joan Butts



<https://youtu.be/CPzzoKAo2pk>

## Bajir and Graeme



<https://youtu.be/rAwYgJhX1M4>

## Bajir and Graeme

A screenshot of a bridge hand interface. The interface shows a hand with the following cards: J♠, 9♠, 6♠, A♥, 6♥, 4♥, A♣, Q♣, T♣, 9♣, 5♣, A♦, 4♦. The bidding options are 7NT, X, Pass, 3NT, and 4♣. The interface also shows the names of the players: Bajir and Graeme. The background features a cartoon illustration of three figures in a landscape. The text "Hand 4, Vul All" is displayed above the bidding options. The "Pass" option is highlighted in red. The "sky bridge club" logo is in the top left, and "Learn Bridge Online" is in the top right.

<https://youtu.be/mZLqZ9cOWPE>

Peter Hollands



<https://youtu.be/AK8PwUonS28>

Marty Bergen



<https://youtu.be/R27ICAclTil>

If your partner makes a Takeout Double or Overcalls, you should view a 7-point hand as being expected.

**(2H) 2S (P) ?**

<b>Pass</b>	0 - 7 points
<b>Single Raise</b>	8 - 10 points and 3+ card support
<b>Cuebid opponents' suit</b>	Strong raise, GF
<b>Bid a new suit</b>	5+ card suit (F by partnership agreement)
<b>Jump in another suit</b>	(2H) 2S (P) 4C/D/H Splinter (4 card support and singleton in bid suit)

If RHO raises his partner's suit...

**(2H) 2S (3H) X = Responsive Double**

**10+ points, 2 or fewer cards in partner's suit and length in unbid suits**

**Tips to Avoid**

- . When you have a 5-card major opposite a 3C/D preempt, the odds are poor of finding a 5-3 fit
- . Over a Weak 2, a balanced hand of 12-14 points is unlikely to provide a game, particularly when it is loaded with Q's and J's