

BEGINNERS' LESSONS

Welcome

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Lesson Nine

Pre-emptive Openings



Rules up until NOW

- 1NT opening – 12-14 points
- 1-suit openings – 12-19 points



BUT sometimes we have less than 12 points but still have some desire to get into the bidding ... when????

**You have a LONG suit of our own
i.e. 6 or more cards in the suit**



Normal Opening



Open 1♦

12 – 19 HCP



Can I open with this hand ?



6-10 HCP

BUT STILL **Open 2♦** worth bidding on



OPENING BIDS at the 2-level (Pre-emptive bid or Weak 2)

- 2♦ ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a **GOOD 6**-card diamond suit
- 2♥ ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a **GOOD 6**-card heart suit
- 2♠ ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a **GOOD 6**-card spade suit

A **GOOD** suit is a suit with 2+ honours in the suit


Once you have opened with a pre-empt you will **RARELY** bid again
... you have **JUST** one shot

**These bids are DISRUPTIVE ... we want
to make it hard for the opposition to bid !**



OPENING BIDS at the 2-level **Pre-emptive bid or Weak 2)**

- **2♦** ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a **GOOD 6-card** diamond suit
- **2♥** ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a **GOOD 6-card** heart suit
- **2♠** ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a **GOOD 6-card** spade suit

NOTE: 2♣ is not used as a weak bid 

The **2♣** opener is a **SPECIAL** bid showing a **STRONG** hand (more on that next lesson)

These bids are DISRUPTIVE ... we want to make it hard for the opposition to bid !



Pre-emptive Opening at the 2-level



Open 2♠

6-10 points
GOOD 6-card suit



Pre-emptive Opening at the 2-level



PASS

6-10 points

BAD 6-card suit



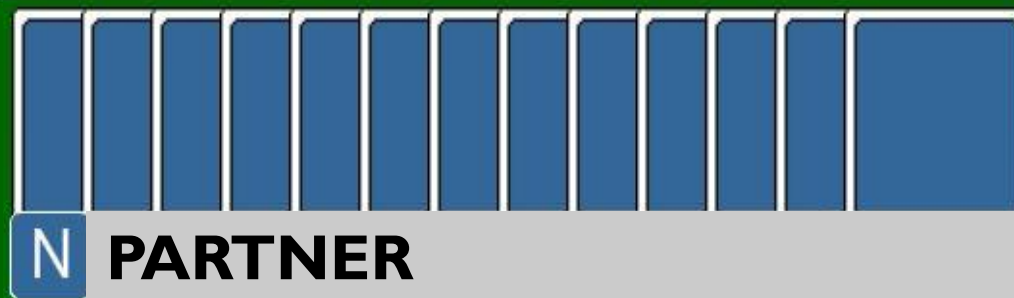
Responses to 2-level Pre-emptive Opening

- **PASS** \Rightarrow **0 – 13 points, 0-3 card support**
- 3-level raise \Rightarrow 14-15 points, 2+ card support
- GAME \Rightarrow 16+ points, 2+ card support
- **GAME** \Rightarrow **0+ points, 4+ card support**
- NEW SUIT \Rightarrow 16+ points, 6+ card suit of own

2-level opening bids are **DISRUPTIVE** and are designed to make it hard for the opposition
Respond **ONLY** if you think there is a chance of reaching game or you have a 10+ card fit



Pre-empt's Weak 2

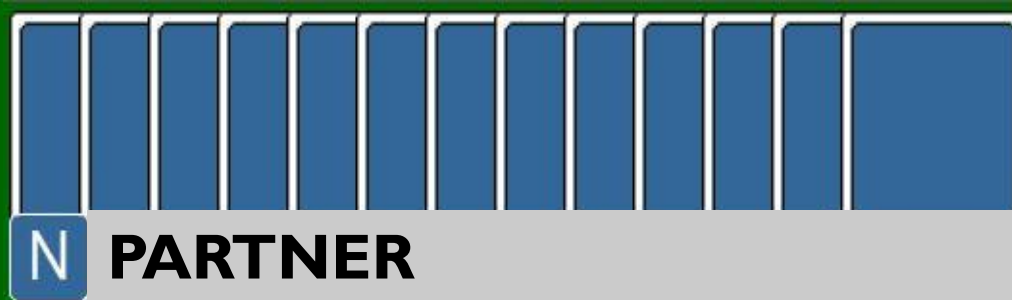


| W | N | E | S |
|---|----|------|------|
| | 2♦ | Pass | Pass |

Less than 14 points
Now very hard for
West to bid !



**Pre-
empts
Weak 2**



| W | N | E | S |
|------------------------|----|------|----|
| | 2♠ | Pass | 3♠ |
| 14-15 points | | | |
| We have a FIT | | | |
| Invite partner to GAME | | | |



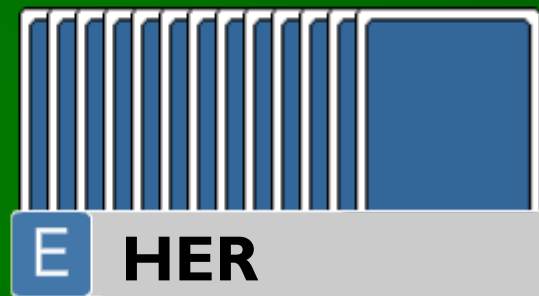
Pre-empt Weak 2

What does West do?
PASS?
 5 Hearts?
 Double?
 They have to **GUESS**



W HIM

| W | N | E | S |
|---|----|-----|----|
| | 2♠ | Dbl | 4♠ |
| Put West to the guess We have a 10-card FIT Bid to GAME | | | |



E HER

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|---|----|---|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|
| K | 6 | 4 | 3 | 10 | 8 | 2 | 10 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 10 | 4 |
| ♠ | ♠ | ♠ | ♠ | ♥ | ♥ | ♥ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♦ | ♦ |
| S YOU | | | | | | | | | | | | |





OPENING BIDS at the 3-level (Pre-emptive bid)

- 3♣ ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a GOOD 7-card club suit
- 3♦ ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a GOOD 7-card diamond suit
- 3♥ ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a GOOD 7-card heart suit
- 3♠ ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a GOOD 7-card spade suit

A GOOD suit is a suit with 2+ honours in the suit

Once you have opened with a pre-empt you will **RARELY** bid again ... you have JUST one shot

These bids are DISRUPTIVE ... we want to make it hard for the opposition to bid !



Responses to 3-level Pre-emptive Opening

- **PASS** \Rightarrow 0 – 14 points, 0-2 card support
- **GAME** \Rightarrow 15+ points, 1+ card support
- **GAME** \Rightarrow 0+ points, 3+ card support
- **NEW SUIT** \Rightarrow 16+ points, 6+ card suit of own

3-level opening bids are **DISRUPTIVE** and are designed to make it hard for the opposition
Respond **ONLY** if you think there is a chance of reaching game or you have a 10+ card fit





OPENING BIDS at the 4-level (Pre-emptive bid)

- 4♥ ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a GOOD 8-card heart suit
- 4♠ ⇒ 6 – 10 points with a GOOD 8-card spade suit

A GOOD suit is a suit with 2+ honours in the suit
**You may also choose to open at the 4-level with
a good 8-card minor**

**These bids are DISRUPTIVE ... we want
to make it hard for the opposition**



WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THE OPPOSITION MAKES THESE WEAK BIDS?

The same rules apply for the Takeout Double

... you show at least 3 cards in
the unbid suits and 12+ HCP

JUST be mindful that you may
need a slightly better point count



WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THE OPPOSITION MAKES THESE WEAK BIDS?

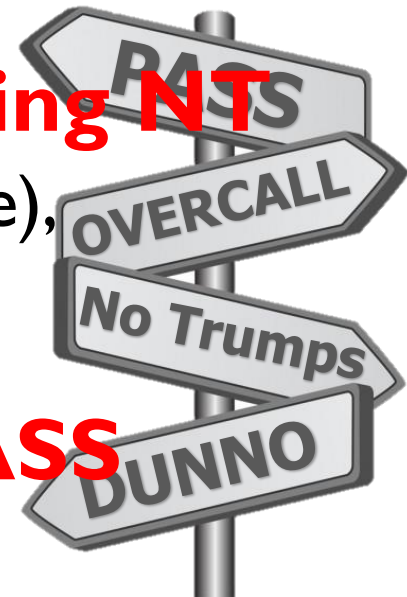
The same rules apply for overcalls

- ... you show a good 5+ suit with
at least two honours
- ... you need 12+ HCP (2 or 3-level)

The same rules apply for overcalling NT

- ... you show 16-18 HCP (may have more),
balanced with a stopper

The same rules apply for a PASS



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any questions please ask

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