

Board 9	♠ KJ875		
Dealer N	♥ 2		
EW Vul	♦ 93		
	♣ AJ1085		
	♠ A	♠ 109642	
	♥ AJ105	♥ 74	
	♦ KJ1074	♦ 86	
	♣ KQ3	♣ 9764	
	♠ Q3		
	♥ KQ9863		
	♦ AQ52		
	♣ 2		
		NT	♠ ♥ ♦ ♣
		N	7 8 7 6 7
		S	7 8 7 6 8
		E	6 5 6 6 5
		W	6 5 6 6 5
Par +110 1♠+1 NS			

This was an interesting hand for a number of reasons.

I started by investigating the first call on the North hand.

There were 21 tables playing and this is the result of my research:

Pass - 11
 2♠ - 9
 1♣ - 1

It is a good hand for those people that play a Multi 2♦ and can open 2♠ showing a 5 card suit with a 4+ minor. The fact that less than half the field opened 2♠ surely means that less than half the field have that option. Something I find surprising.

I was also surprised at a few of the tables where North did open 2♠, but yet South with Q3 of support in the trump suit managed to hog the contract in hearts. Yes, they were hogs, although I would obviously never call them Hideous Hogs.

Perhaps they believed their partner was a rabbit. As you can make more tricks in spades than hearts, I am sure they were Rueful Rabbits.

With two good suits I would not want to stay silent if I was playing with someone who only played natural weak twos. I would rather get involved either by opening 2♠ to show a 6 card suit or by upgrading my hand 1 point to open at the 1 level.

Most people play that they open 1 of a suit with 10 points if they have 5-5 shape. Which is the better hand?

♠ KJ875 ♥ 2 ♦ 93 ♣ AJ1085 or ♠ KJ432 ♥ 2 ♦ J3 ♣ AJ742

I prefer the first one, so I have no qualms about a 1 point upgrade to open it.

My choice with 5-5 in the blacks is to open 1♠, but not everyone agrees with me.

<https://www.haroldschogger.com/Debate1cor1s.pdf>

A whole page by an expert explaining why 1♣ is the correct with 5-5 in the blacks. Another page from an expert saying 1♠ is correct. That gives you a balanced view.