

Competing by Steve Moese Tue 2/11

West
♠ A1073
♥ AKQ86
♦ 106
♣ 106

Sitting West you hear Partner and South pass. Opening 1♥ is clear. North bids 2♣ and partner passes. South bids 2♦. What do you instincts tell you? What do you do?

East **South** **West** **North**

P P 1♥ 2♣
P 2♦ ???

Our hand is 13 HCP. We can't count shortness yet,

because we do not have a fit with partner. We have 6 losers (2 each in ♠, ♦, & ♣). Our options are: Pass, 2♠, 2♥, 3♥.

We can dismiss both 2♠ and 3♥ immediately – these bids show much stronger hands (by an Ace minimum) than we have here. 3♥ promises 6+ cards, too.

That leaves us with Pass and 2♥. Pass is consistent with 13 HCP. Double would show a hand like: ♠ A1073 ♥ AKQ86 ♦ 10 ♣ J106, not too much different from our hand.

So the question becomes how aggressive do we want to be? We are vulnerable, they are not. This suggest we not stretch much. Double is aggressive, pass is not.

East **South** **West** **North**
P P 1♥ 2♣
P 2♦ P P
2♥ P P 3♦
P P ??

After your Pass you find you have another decision, this time over 3♦. Do you bid or pass?

This one is not close.

Partner's 1st pass limits their raise to 5 Support Points. Their pass over 3♦ all but guarantees they have only 3-card ♥ support. At best we have 18 HCP and an 8-card

Bd 6	Scores		MPs	
	NS	EW	NS	EW
3♦ S	130		3	0
5♦ S		50	2	1
5♦ x S		100	1	2
4♠ W		620	0	3
3♦ S	130		2	0
5♦ S		50	0.5	1.5
5♦ S		50	0.5	1.5

trump fit. Since we are Vulnerable, bidding further is extremely risky. This is a clear pass.

3♦ making 4 was top board for North. What happened?

EW were too conservative!!

2/11 - Future Master Leaders

1st OA: Liz Lin & Fay Otto (60%)
2nd QA: Robert Roark & Sharon Koster (56.3%)



Bring your Questions, Hands, Ideas. Let's learn together!
Tues Eve 6:30 PM Sharp!

CBA Newcomer Games – Play Often!

Mon 7 PM	Tue 11 AM	Tue 7 PM	Fri 11 AM	Sat 10-12 AM
		Let's Talk BRIDGE 6:30 PM	Free Lesson 10:30 AM	Supervised Play

Events at the Cincinnati Bridge Center

February is **Junior Fund Month** - special games with extra points. Don't miss **Friday 2/14 Lecture** & the **Friday NLM** & Open games @ 11 AM. Need a partner, call Kay 631-8070

Area Tournaments

Louisville, KY Sectional	Feb 14-16
February STaC – CBC	Feb 17-23
South Charleston WV Sectional	Feb 28-Mar 2
Indianapolis, IN Regional	Mar 3-9
ACBL Tournaments http://tournaments.acbl.org/display.php	

Board 6

East ♠ J
♥ J 7 2
Deals ♦ Q 9 4 2
E-W Vul ♣ A K Q 7 5

♠ A 10 7 3 ♠ K 9 6 4 2
♥ A K Q 8 6 ♥ 9 5 3
♦ 10 6 ♦ 7
♣ 10 6 ♣ J 9 8 4

EW 4♠; 3♥;
4♦; 2♣

♠ Q 8 5
♥ 10 4
♦ A K J 8 5 3
♣ 3 2

A Double of 2♦ would have worked better than Pass. This would have emboldened East to bid ♠.

Likewise a 2♣ bid in place of the delayed 2♥ raise by East would embolden West. 2♠ on a weak

hand would because East has 7 Support Points for West and can return to ♥ with relative safety. Making 4 requires picking up the ♠ suit for no loss. There is insufficient information in the bidding to know whether to play North or South for the singleton Honor. We don't try to get to games like these. Instead we should be happy to get to 3♥ or 3♠. Both East and West had opportunities to better describe the playing strength based on their distribution.

Newcomer News – by Mike “Keeping Fun On My Convention Card” Purcell 513 702 4007

This Saturday 10am will be a free player appreciation session in conjunction with the 8:30 New to Duplicate Event (NTD). The NTD event is for folks currently coming Saturdays and new folks who want to learn more about duplicate. Please invite your friends who may have an interest. See our flyer on the website for more details. A light breakfast will be served so if you are interested in attending, please register with me by email at mikpur@cinci.rr.com or by phone at 513 702-4007. If you are not planning to come to the 8:30 event but still want to play at 10 you do NOT need to register, just show up as usual.

Here is the schedule for the next few Saturdays:

Feb 15 - Mike Purcell and Pat Hoffman (plus New to Duplicate Event at 8:30)

Feb 22 – Judy Ruehl and Bob Fisk (Feb STAC)

This week we look at one of the advantages of 2/1 bidding for reaching slam. Enjoy.

Board 15 ♠ K Q 5
 South Deals ♥ K Q 6 3
 N-S Vul ♦ A Q 7 5
 ♣ 8 4

♠ 7 4 2	N	♠ 6 3
♥ 4	W	♥ 9 8 7 5
♦ K 10 6 4 2	E	♦ J 9 8 3
♣ Q J 7 2	S	♣ K 9 3

♠ A J 10 9 8
 ♥ A J 10 2
 ♦ —
 ♣ A 10 6 5

NS 6N; 6♣;
 6♥; 3♣; 1♦

Board 15 (Tuesday 2/11)

Standard American Bidding – South has 14 HCP, 5 spades and will open 1♠. North has support for spades and 17 support points (16 HCP plus one for the doubleton). North knows they need to get to at least game but will need something extra from partner to reach slam (32+ support points). North first bid should be 2♦ looking to raise spades later. South is not excited about partner bidding into their void and will rebid 2♥ hoping to find a fit there. North has 4 hearts and likes their hand but will likely settle for game in 4♥ playing a 4-4 fit versus a 5-3 fit. North should not bid 3♥ which is invitational to game and can be passed. After 4♥ by North, South with a void in partner’s first bid suit and no idea there is a spade fit too will pass.

2/1 Bidding – South still opens 1♠ and North bids 2♦. The difference is that this sequence is game forcing in 2/1 bidding so North-South can bid out their shape and look for slam without fear of being passed short of game.

South will rebid 2♥ as before but North can respond 3♥.

Here 3♥ cannot be invitational to game since in 2/1 we are already committed to game. If North had a minimum they could go immediately to 4♥, so 3♥ is actually showing extra values and interest in slam. In hearts South has at least 17 support points (14 HCP plus 3 for the void) and strong slam interest. They can cue bid first round control above 3♥; in this case bidding 3♠ showing the ♠A and eventually bid 4NT (Blackwood or Roman Keycard) to ask for keycards given the strength of their hand. One way or the other they should arrive at 6♥.

Play of the Hand – Declarer (South) has 3 club losers but one can go on the ♦A and another can be ruffed to make 6♥ or 1430. Make sure to give up a club and ruff one before drawing all the trump or you will not make your contract.

Post Mortem – One of the strengths of 2/1 bidding is the ability to explore for slam short of game as in this example.

	Scores		MPs	
Bd 15	NS	EW	NS	EW
6♥ S	1430	2.5	0.5	
6♥ S	1430	2.5	0.5	
4♠ S	650	1	2	
6♠ S	100	0	3	
6♥ N	1460	2	0	
4♠ S	650	1	1	
6♠ S	100	0	2	

Looking to improve your game? If you have an Intel Computer we highly recommend the free software offered by the ACBL and developed by Mr. Fred Gitelman. Check it out at: <https://web.acbl.org/LearnToPlayBridge/>