

Newsletter

Ask Dwight for August 18, 2019

Hello Dwight,

We had a problem getting to the correct contact as E/W on Hand # 19 on Tuesday night, August 13.

Is there any way that E/W can find a contract in hearts? At one table E/W did bid to 3 hearts, and the analysis says 5 hearts makes.

Thanks, as always,
A. Bidder

A hand analysis diagram for board 19. It shows four players: North, West, East, and South. North's hand is ♠ A 8, ♥ 4 3, ♦ Q J 7 6 3, ♣ Q 9 5 3. West's hand is ♠ 9 5, ♥ A K 6 5 2, ♦ A 10 9 4 2, ♣ 10. East's hand is ♠ K J 10 7 3 2, ♥ Q 10 8 7, ♦ 5, ♣ J 8. South's hand is ♠ Q 6 4, ♥ J 9, ♦ K 8, ♣ A K 7 6 4 2. To the right of South's hand is a box labeled 'HCPs' containing a 3x3 grid with values 9, 11, 7, and 13. Below the diagram is the text 'Tuesday eve, August 13, board 19'.

Hello A Bidder,

First, I will give you my recommended auction followed by explanations of the calls made.

Auction:

1C 2NT* P 4H
P P P

On the back side of your [convention card](#) there is a section called **No Trump Overcalls**. In that section, there is a **Jump to 2NT** line with 2 boxes to be checked off (or not). The second of those boxes is **2 Lowest**.

NOTRUMP OVERCALLS	
Direct: _____ to _____	Systems on <input type="checkbox"/>
Conv. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Balancing: _____ to _____	
Jump to 2NT: Minors <input type="checkbox"/>	2 Lowest <input type="checkbox"/>
Conv. <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
DEFENSE VS NOTRUMP	

That treatment of a jump to 2NT perfectly describes the strength and shape of the West hand. It shows a strong playing hand in both diamonds and hearts, the 2 lowest unbid suits. Generally, the bid of 2NT shows approximately the strength of an opening bid (seldom more) with exactly 5 cards in the 2 suits described by bidding 2NT.

After West shows 10 red cards by bidding 2NT, East should jump to game in hearts. West is known to hold only 3 black cards (2,1 or 1,2 in clubs and spades) and so there are very few losers possible. It is true that West may not have such good red suit values but, if not, it is highly probable that N/S can easily make either 3 or 4 clubs in which case going down one is still most likely to be a good score. It would be wise to discuss with your partner the requirements required to make this unusual 2NT bid. It should not be misused!

This is a hand where it *must* be used to describe the West hand adequately when South opens the bidding with 1 club.

I will be happy to answer any further questions you might have.

db