

Correct the Bidding Error(s) - 8

- 1 -

A North
 A75432
 A7
 7 N S
 AQJ5 1S 2S
 3C 3S
 P
South
 K98
 96
 Q8632
 K94

B North
 93
 KT97
 KJ53 N S
 AJ9 1D 2D
 P
South
 7
 A864
 A9762
 542

C North
 A73
 64
 KT652 N S
 AQ3 1D 1S
 1-NT 2H
 2-NT P
South
 KT986
 AJ98
 97
 76

D North
 A73
 64
 KT652 N S
 AQ3 1D 1S
 1-NT 3H
 P
South
 KJT98
 AJ98
 A7
 76

E North
 AKJ62
 A732
 T9 N S
 86 1S 2C
 2H 3C
 3-NT P
South
 93
 Q9
 J85
 AKQ743

F North
 KQ6
 AT
 AQ862 N S
 982 1-NT "2H"
 2S 4H
 P
South
 AJT95
 KQ532
 4
 K3

G North
 A873
 AK763
 Q3 N S
 92 1H 1-NT
 P
South
 9542
 54
 K62
 A865

H North
 862
 A7
 AKT9 N S
 K865 1D 1H
 1-NT 2S
 P
South
 QT93
 KQ92
 Q85
 43

I North
 6
 AQT873
 K62 N S
 985 2H 2S
 P
South
 AQJT95

 9743
 432

Answers

- 2 -

A) *After you, as Responder, support Opener at the 2-Level in the Major suit first called by Opener, a bid of a new suit at the 3-Level by Opener is a “Long-Suit Game Try,” sometimes referred to as a “Help-Suit Game Try.” It seeks a game-level contract if you, as Responder, hold support for Opener in the new, second suit bid by Opener. If Responder has support for Opener in that second suit, Responder is asked to jump to game in the original suit bid. Absent support in that second suit, Responder must sign-off at the 3-Level in the agreed-upon Major.*

Here, South should bid **4S**! Opener is interested in a Spade Game contract and is seeking help in his/her second long suit (Clubs). Since South holds help in the Club suit, he/she should accept the invitation, jumping to game in Spades. If South’s King of Clubs were, alternatively, the King of Diamonds, South would reject the invitation, and sign off at **3S**.

In this example the bidding should have proceeded:

1S – 2S – 3C – 4S – Pass

B) *As Responder to Partner’s opening bid of one-of-a-suit, Responder must, along with Opener, adhere to the “Up-the-Ladder” Principle by never by-passing any 4-card suit at the 1-Level. This is particularly important when playing the American Standard 5-card Major bidding system. To not do so is to risk the possibility of missing a Major suit “Golden Fit,” should one be present.*

South, here, should bid **1H**, in order to search for a fit in his/her 4-card Major! South, here, must temporarily abandon initial support for Opener’s Diamond suit and respond **1H** as his/her first response!

Absent Heart support from Opener, Responder can always have a fallback position of supporting Diamonds at his/her next call. South, holding minimum values, “*Passes*” North’s Heart support.

The bidding here would, therefore, proceed as follows:

1D – 1H – 2H – Pass

C) *When Partner opens one of either Minor suit and Responder holds minimum HCP values with specifically 5-Spades and 4-Hearts, or 5-Spades and 5-Hearts, Responder’s first response must be 1S, intending to re-bid 2H should Opener respond 1-NT.*

This is the only time when a new suit by Responder is not forcing.

The bidding, in this instance, should proceed as follows:

1D – P – 1S – P

1-NT – P – 2H – P

2S – P – P – P

In this instance, North should realize that South’s re-bid of **2H** is not forcing, and should simply choose to correct to **2S**, which South will then, happily, “*Pass*.”

D) *Unlike C) above, If Responder’s hand holds game values, with 5-Spades and 4- or 5-Hearts, Responder must jump to 3H after first responding 1S. Such a sequence is forcing.*

In this instance, North, realizing that South’s jump to **3H** is forcing, with a 5-5 or 5-4 distribution, North, here, would accept the game force and would select a final call of **4S**.

1D – P – 1S – P

1-NT – P – 3H – P

4S – P – P – P

E) *A response of a new Minor suit at the 2-level by Responder to Partner's opening call of one-of-a-Major shows a 5-card suit and 10 or more HCP's in standard bidding practices, and 12 or more in the two-over-one bidding system. In both cases, however, it is important to note that even in the two-over-one game forcing system, a repeat of the Minor suit following Opener's initial re-bid is not forcing to game, and can be "Passed," assuming Opener holds minimum values.*

In this auction, South has shown minimum HCP's, a 6-card Club suit, lack of support for either of Opener's suits, and the lack of a stopper in the forth, as-yet-un-bid suit, making a final No-Trump contract unfeasible from Responder's singular perspective. This bidding sequence can be passed by Opener and even in a two-over-one game forcing system, removes the force to game.

In this example, North, holding minimum values, should "*Pass*" Responders re-bid of **3C**.

F) *Holding game values opposite Partner's No-Trump opening, Responder, holding 5-5 in the Majors, should first transfer to Spades and then jump to 4H asking Opener to choose the final game-level, Major suit contract.*

Opener, with an evenly distributed hand, can hold no more than one doubleton, and so a 5-3 or 5-4 Major suit "**Golden Fit**" will usually be present. In this example Opener must correct to **4S**, as the bidding should have proceeded:

1NT – "2H" – 2S – 4H – 4S - Pass

G) *Never refrain from bidding a weak Major suit ("Up the Ladder") at the 1-Level either as Opener, or as Responder to Opener. A good guide for Responder is to reply 1-NT only as a last resort. There are two reasons: (1) The correct contract may be in his/her weak 4-card suit, and (2) If No Trump is the correct final spot, it is often better for Opener, holding the better hand with the greater number of HCP's to be the Declarer rather than the Responder since the lead will be coming into, not through the weaker hand..*

The weak hand should never snatch a possible No Trump contract from the stronger hand.

In this hand, South's first response should be **1S** ("**Up-the-Ladder**"), not **1-NT**.

1H – 1S – 2S – Pass

H) *A Responder requires opening count in order to be able to "Reverse," because a "Reverse" by Responder is forcing to game.*

South, here, should not re-bid **2S** as North has already denied 4-pieces of the Spade suit with his/her re-bid of **1-NT**, and South's HCP's does not justify a forcing-to-game "**Reverse.**" Assuming, however, that South did have the necessary HCP's to make a "**Reverse,**" as is shown here, North would be obliged to keep the bidding open until a game-level contract had been reached, and, therefore, could not have "*Passed.*" The bidding, here, should have proceeded as follows:

1D – 1H – 1NT – Pass

I) *Never preempt over a preempt, either as a Responder or as an Overcaller, and a new suit, by a Responder to any preempt, short of a game-level contract ("to play,"), is forcing for 1-round.*

*Remember: A "Raise is the Only Non Force!" ("**RONF**")*

In this auction, South should not be preempting, not-with-standing that he/she holds no Hearts, but assuming South did have the necessary HCP's (15+) to force Partner to bid, North should not "**Pass.**"

Both Partners, here, have miss-bid!