

Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Bob Short & Jan	59%	2 <sup>nd</sup>	John & Kenneth	56%
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	Bill & Mike	60%	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Paul Scully & Alan Hill	59%
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>		cancelled do to power cut.				

**Bidding Quiz**

**Standard American is assumed unless otherwise stated.**

<b>Hand A</b>	<b>Hand B</b>	With Hand A RHO opens 2♥. What do you bid?
♠ AKQ1073	♠ J	With Hand B you open 1♣ and LHO doubles. Partner redoubles and RHO bids 1♠. What do you bid?
♥ Q8	♥ K5	
♦ 10875	♦ AK97	
♣ Q	♣ Q108762	
<b>Hand C</b>	<b>Hand D</b>	With Hand C LHO opens 1♠ and this is passed to you. What do you bid?
♠ 973	♠ Q83	With Hand D RHO opens 1♣, what do you bid?
♥ AK62	♥ QJ2	
♦ -	♦ J32	
♣ AKJ1074	♣ AK53	

**Bidding Sequences Quiz**

All of these sequences occurred at the club this week.

<b>E</b>	1♣	dbl			Dbl is take-out. But typically what shape? Does it promise an opening hand?
<b>F</b>	1♣	dbl	redbl		What is the redouble?
<b>G</b>	1♣	dbl	redbl	1♠	What is this pass by opener? Is it forcing?
	pass				
<b>H</b>	1♣	pass	1♠	pass	What is 3♦?
	2NT	pass	3♦		
<b>J</b>	1♣	pass	1♠	pass	What is 4♦?
	2NT	pass	4♦		

## Double and bid shows a big hand – part 1

Board 8 from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>

This North apparently doubles ‘to show an opening hand’. This philosophy went out in the stone age; you will get too high if you do this, especially at the two level. If you double and then bid a different suit over partner’s response, that shows a very big hand.

Dealer: ♠ AKQ1073  
West ♥ Q8  
Love all ♦ 10875  
♣ Q

♠ 82	N	♠ J64
♥ A107643	W E	♥ 52
♦ AQ2	S	♦ KJ94
♣ 85		♣ A974

♠ 95  
♥ KJ9  
♦ 63  
♣ KJ10632

### Table A

West	North(A)	East	South
2♥ (1)	dbl (2)	pass	3♣
pass	3♠	pass	pass (3)
pass			

### Table B

West	North(A)	East	South
2♥	2♠ (2)	all pass	

- Table A: (1) Perhaps a trifle strong for a weak 2♥, but quite acceptable.  
(2) What did you bid with this North hand A in this week’s quiz? Double is terrible! You are up at the two level and if you make a take-out double then partner will bid 3♣ 90% of the time and then a 3♠ bid by you is a gross overbid of the hand.  
(3) I would bid 3NT, but then I expect my partner to have something remotely resembling his bid.

Table B: (2) Obvious, and clearly the only sensible bid, promising about 11-17 points.

And what happened? Two North’s stopped in 2♠; two others bid 3♠ going one down for a fully deserved shared bottom.

The bottom lines: -

- A one-level overcall is 7-17 points.
- A two-level overcall is 11-17 points (and thus promises an opening hand).
- You should only double and then bid if your hand is too strong to overcall, i.e. 17+ pts.
- **Do Not** double to ‘to show an opening hand’. A take-out double is short in the suit opened and playable in the other three suits unless **very** strong.

**Double and bid shows a big hand – part 2**

Board 13 from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>

Do not double with a two-suited hand, but overcall.

Dealer: ♠ AKQJ862

North ♥ 954

Both vul ♦ AQJ

♣ -

♠ 973

N

♠ 1054

♥ AK62 W E

♥ QJ7

♦ - S

♦ K108754

♣ AKJ1074

♣ 6

♠ -

♥ 1083

♦ 9632

♣ Q98532

West(C) North East South

- 1♠ pass pass

dbl (1) 2♠ 3♦ (2) pass

4♣ (3) pass pass pass

- (1) What did you bid with this West hand C in this week's quiz? It's much the same as the previous page – if you double then partner will doubtless bid your short suit and you will get in a mess if the opponents push the bidding up. The best bid here is probably 3♣.
- (2) With a decent 6 card suit East made a free bid – very reasonable.
- (3) And West is in the predicted mess.

And what happened? 4♣ went three down for a clear bottom.

The bottom lines: -

- You should only double and then bid if your hand is too strong to overcall, i.e. 17+ pts.
- **Do Not** double to with two-suited hands – simply overcall the longest suit.

## Do not bid when partner redoubles

Board 10 from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>

When you open, LHO doubles and partner redoubles – look for the penalty.

Dealer:	♠ A7652				
East	♥ A10973	West(D)	North	East	South(B)
Both vul	♦ Q85	-	-	pass	1♣
	♣ -	dbl (1)	redbl (2)	1♠ (3)	2♣ (4)
		2♠ (5)	dbl	all pass	
♠ Q83	N	♠ K1094			
♥ QJ2	W E	♥ 864			
♦ J32	S	♦ 1064			
♣ AK53		♣ J94			
	♠ J				
	♥ K5				
	♦ AK97				
	♣ Q108762				

- (1) What did you bid with this West hand D in this week's quiz? Do not double with flat hands. A take-out double is just that – take-out and so playable in the other 3 suits; to double 1♣ with just 3 cards in all of the other 3 suits really is a poor bid.
- (2) 9+ points and usually a mis-fit for partner. Looking for the penalty.
- (3) East could pass (I would) but he decided to bid his 4-card major; reasonable I suppose.
- (4) What did you bid with this South hand B in this week's quiz. Pass is 'automatic' here. It is a forcing pass and if partner cannot double 1♠ for penalties then he will bid. What I think of this bid is unprintable; it would be a candidate for the worst bid of the year if it were not for ...
- (5) ... this incredible bid! South has let E-W off the hook (1100 penalty) but West decided to give it back with three hundred more by bidding yet again with this flat garbage. Since ♣'s is his best suit he should be very happy defending! Presumably West (and South) simply do not understand the basics of the re-double at (2).

And what happened? 1400 away on a partscore deal!

The bottom lines: -

- Do not double with a flat 13 count.
- Do not double and bid again with a flat 13 count.
- If RHO has been kind enough to rescue you, shut up with a flat 13 count.
- If RHO opens, you double and LHO redoubles then he usually has you by the short and curlies. If you subsequently make an unforced bid then expect to go for 1400!

## Just 3 deals

There are just 3 deal in this week's news sheet (because no bridge on Friday) and they all happen do be about the same thing: - **do not double with unsuitable hands:** -

- A take-out double should be short in the suit bid.
- Do not double to 'to show an opening hand'
- Double and bid again shows a big hand.
- Double shows an opening hand, but that **does not** mean that you should double to show an opening hand.

## Bidding Quiz Answers

- Hand A: 2♠. Showing a decent hand (about 11-17 points) and a decent ♠ suit. Perfect. Quite why anybody would choose to double and then bid ♠'s at the three-level after partner's very likely 3♣ bid is totally beyond my comprehension.
- Hand B: Pass. Partner has shown 9+ points and usually a mis-fit with a desire to defend a doubled contract. So pass (forcing) and let partner have a bid.
- Hand C: 2♣ or 3♣ (strong in the balancing seat). If you double then partner is bound to bid ♦'s and you may well get too high in a competitive auction.
- Hand D: Pass. Do not double 'to show an opening hand' and do not double with flat 13 counts.

## Bidding Sequences Quiz Answers

- E** 1♣ dbl Dbl is take-out. It should be short in the suit bid unless **very** strong? It promises opening values but that does not mean that you should double just because you have opening values. With an opening hand when RHO opens in front of you and you are not playable in the other 3 suits do not double; overcall a 5 card suit or pass are the sensible options.
- F** 1♣ dbl redbl The redouble shows 9+ points and generally a mis-fit looking for the penalty.
- G** 1♣ dbl redbl 1♠ The pass by opener simply says that he does not have good enough ♠'s to double for penalties. It is 100% forcing.  
pass
- H** 1♣ pass 1♠ pass After the strong (18-19) 2NT 3♦ is natural and forcing.  
2NT pass 3♦
- J** 1♣ pass 1♠ pass As 3♦ would be natural and forcing I would play this  
2NT pass 4♦ unnecessary jump to 4♦ as a splinter setting ♠'s as trumps and looking for slam. With a 'pointed' two-suiter responder should bid 3♦ followed by 4♦ if necessary.