

Tidbit 2

“Bad hands go rapidly, good hands go slowly”.

Interpretation: This relates to partnership bidding. With weak hands, bid to the limit of the hand as quickly as possible. This makes it as disruptive as possible for the opponents who would prefer to have the time and bidding space to reach the optimum contract for them. This is the basis for weak suit pre-empt openings at the 2,3,4 and even 5 level which make life difficult for the opponents.

However, if responder has a good hand herself she should aim to allow the partnership the opportunity to describe their hands in terms of HCPs (high card points) and distribution as fully as possible to ensure that the optimum contract can be found, for example 3NT in preference to game in a minor suit.

Jump rebids with strong holdings have their place but do use up bidding space. If you can make headway simply by using forcing bids, bidding space can be preserved. Forcing bids do include jump bids by opener or responder but also 1 over 1 and 2 over 1 bids by a responder who has not already passed, as well as new suit bids at the three level, fourth suit forcing bids and cue bids

Examples:

<p>♠2</p> <p>♥AT8654</p> <p>♦74</p> <p>♣AKQ3</p>	<p>♠A97</p> <p>♥KQ973</p> <p>♦Q98</p> <p>♣62</p>
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Your partner opens 1H. Despite holding only 2 more HCPs, hand 1 has much more potential than hand 2 and you would be wise to simply bid 2C while awaiting opener’s rebid in case slam looks worthy of investigation. On the second hand an immediate bid of 4H would be acceptable.

Dir: South
Vul: None

♠KJ105 ♥A97652 ♦8 ♣A7	♠Q73 ♥KJ ♦10962 ♣K942	♠A9 ♥Q1084 ♦A753 ♣Q85
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W	N	E	S
e	27	e	s
t	S	t	t

This is another example of a board where taking time over the bidding could reap rewards. West opens 1H. East has an opening bid herself with good heart support so bids 2D (which probably denies 4 x spades) as a waiting bid rather than 4H direct. When West rebids her hearts to show 6 x hearts and not more than 15 HCPs, East still believes that it is worthwhile to investigate slam.

Exercise: A slam is possible but if North leads a diamond and West then finds that she must lose a heart, how does West get rid of that pesky club loser?

Answers for Exercises Tidbit 1

Dlr: North Vul: All	♠ Q J 10 6 5 ♥ 4 2 ♦ K 8 5 3 ♣ J 3										
♠ 8 7 4 3 ♥ K J 10 5 ♦ 10 4 ♣ 10 8 6	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">W</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">NORTH</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">E</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">E</td> <td style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; padding: 2px;">13</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">S</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">S</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">SOUTH</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">W</td> </tr> </table>	W	NORTH	E	E	13	S	S	SOUTH	W	♠ A K 9 ♥ A Q ♦ J 9 7 6 ♣ A K 9 5
W	NORTH	E									
E	13	S									
S	SOUTH	W									
	♠ 2 ♥ 9 8 7 6 3 ♦ A Q 2 ♣ Q 7 4 2										

(1) The club suit is the safest for winning the 9th trick. It would require both the QC and JC plus at least two more clubs in one of the defender's hands to prevent this. Your diamond pips aren't quite good enough to play on that suit. Even if they were, you might find yourself being forced to play out your heart suit too early and losing to South's fifth heart.

(2) Duck the QC! This sacrifices one club trick for the sake of two but with this hand, which has other useful suits, a duck is probably not required. The defence is probably going to have to lead spades themselves at some stage.