

Twoonie Talk #17

The Three-Level is Also For the Opponents

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KJBC and KDBC

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We have seen balancing. These are examples of prebalancing.

Definitions:

Bidding Ahead is bidding when partner has a bid if you and your LHO pass.

Prebalancing is bidding ahead of partner when both opponents have limited their hands. You may fear partner has the wrong shape to balance.

North and South are Vulnerable versus Not Vulnerable.

1. North: ♠ KJx ♥ Qxxx ♦ Axxx ♣ xx
- | W | N | E | S |
|----|---|-----|---|
| 1♣ | P | 1NT | P |
| 2♣ | ? | | |

2. South: ♠ Q542 ♥ xxx ♦ AKx ♣ Qxxx
- | W | N | E | S |
|----|-----|-----|---|
| 1♥ | P | 1NT | P |
| 2♥ | Dbl | P | ? |

Does South allow the opponents to force him to the three level??

3. South: ♠ QJ9542 ♥ xxx ♦ AKx ♣ ---
- | W | N | E | S |
|----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1♥ | P | 1NT | P |
| 2♥ | Dbl | P | 2♠? |
| P | P | 3♥ | ?? |

Does South bid to the three level???

4. North: ♠ KJxxx ♥ Q10xxx ♦ --- ♣ xxx
- a.
- | W | N | E | S |
|----|---|---|---|
| 1♣ | ? | | |

b. North decides to pass. Why would he?

- | W | N | E | S |
|----|----|-----|---|
| 1♣ | P | 1NT | P |
| 2♣ | ?? | | |

c. North decides to prebalance and the auction proceeds as follows

W	N	E	S
1♣	P	1NT	P
2♣	Dbl	P	2♦
P	???		

Does North say “crap” aloud?

d. Let’s say North runs to Hearts.

South: ♠xxx ♥xx ♦KQ9xx ♣AKx

W	N	E	S
1♣	P	1NT	?

W	N	E	S
1♣	P	1NT	P
2♣	Dbl	P	2♦
P	2♥	P	??

Twoonie Talk #17-Answers

The Three-Level is Also For the Opponents

North and South are Vulnerable versus Not Vulnerable.

- | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----|-----|-----|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. North: | | | | | ♠KJx | ♥Qxxx | ♦Axxx | ♣xx |
| | W | N | E | S | | | | |
| | 1♣ | P | 1NT | P | | | | |
| | 2♣ | ? | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Dbl |
| 2. South: | | | | | ♠Q542 | ♥xxx | ♦AKx | ♣Qxxx |
| | W | N | E | S | | | | |
| | 1♥ | P | 1NT | P | | | | |
| | 2♥ | Dbl | P | ? | | | | 2♠ |

Does South allow the opponents to force him to the three level?? No!
South has an opener and is dying to jump but partner is bidding his hand.

3. South: ♠QJ9542 ♥xxxx ♦AKx ♣---
- | W | N | E | S | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| 1♥ | P | 1NT | P | |
| 2♥ | Dbl | P | 2♠? | Yes, leave the three level to the opponents |
| P | P | 3♥ | ?? | 4♠, Partner has a stiff Heart |
| Does South bid to the three level??? | | | | No, the four-level is a good bid. |

4. North: ♠ KJxxx ♥ Q10xxx ♦ --- ♣ xxx
- a.
- | W | N | E | S |
|----|---|---|---|
| 1♣ | ? | | |
- Pass, No diamonds
- b. North decides to pass. Why would he? Because he is sensible.
- | W | N | E | S |
|----|----|-----|---|
| 1♣ | P | 1NT | P |
| 2♣ | ?? | | |
- Dbl
- c. North decides to prebalance and the auction proceeds as follows
- | W | N | E | S |
|----|-----|-----|----|
| 1♣ | P | 1NT | P |
| 2♣ | Dbl | P | 2♦ |
| P | ??? | | |

Does North say “crap” aloud? No, it is not one of the 18 allowed bridge words.

South: ♠ xxx ♥ xx ♦ KQ9xx ♣ AKx

1♣ P 1NT ? Pass.

Honours are better if they develop one of your long suits, not one of opponents suits, especially when they are opposite partner's shortness.

2♣	Dbl	P	2♦	
P	2♥	P	??	2♠

This is an example of equal level correction.