

Hand Evaluation II

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Kootenay Jewel Bridge Club

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The bidding is:

W	N	E	S
1♠	P	P	2NT
??			

2NT shows 5 clubs and 5 diamonds with competitive points. What do you bid with the following?

♠ AK764	♠ AK1098	♠ KJ975	♠ KJ975	♠ AK764
♥ KQJ8	♥ KQJ109	♥ AQ64	♥ AQ642	♥ KQJ2
♦ A	♦	♦ KQ2	♦ KQ	♦ KQ
♣ 962	♣ A62	♣ Q	♣ Q2	♣ Q2

Lessons from this:

With a big hand and no response from partner, you need to ask yourself whether the hand can be played with very limited number of entries from dummy?

Are you counting your losers?

Are you distinguishing what makes for quality points?

- a. No honours in short suits
- b. Touching honours (2,3 or 4).
- c. Good intermediates (8's, 9's or 10's)
- d. Honours in long not short suits.
- e. No difficult tenaces such as KJ2.
- f. Aces and kings, not queens and jacks.

What are singleton kings and queens worth?

It depends on the bidding.

Is it better to give 3 points to a singleton or to tell your partner where your shortness is and let him decide?

Even if you do not splinter or use Jacoby 2NT, it is always better to describe your hand to your partner.

You, West, have the following hand: What is your hand worth with the following bidding sequences?

♠ KJ542 ♥ K4 ♦ KJ3 ♣ Q43

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|------|-----|---|----|------|-----|----|---|------|-----|---|----|
| a. W | N | E | S | b. W | N | E | S | c. W | N | E | S |
| 1♠ | 1NT | P | 2♦ | 1♠ | 1NT | 2♠ | P | 1♠ | Dbf | P | 2♠ |
| P | 2♥ | P | 3♥ | P | P | | | P | 3♥ | P | 4♥ |
| P | P | P | | | | | | P | P | P | |
-
- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|----|----------|------|----------|-----|----|------|----------|----|----|
| d. W | N | E | S | e. W | N | E | S | f. W | N | E | S |
| | | | 1♣ | | | | 1♥ | | | | 1♠ |
| 1♠ | P | 2♣ | P | 1♠ | P | 1NT | P | 2NT | P | 3♣ | P |
| 2♦ | P | 4♠ | All Pass | 2♥ | All Pass | | | 4♠ | All Pass | | |
-
- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|----------|------|-----|----------|----|------|----------|---|----|
| g. W | N | E | S | h. W | N | E | S | i. W | N | E | S |
| 1♠ | 1NT | 2♠ | P | | | | 1♣ | | | | 1♣ |
| P | 3♣ | Dbf | All Pass | 1♠ | Dbf | P | 2♥ | 1♠ | Dbf | P | 2♥ |
| | | | | P | 3♥ | All Pass | | 2♠ | All Pass | | |

In a nutshell, just ask yourself the questions:

Are most of opponent's points in front of or behind your side's strong hand?

How many entries does your hand need to be played properly?

Can partner have all of the necessary entries you need?

Which suits are opponents likely to play for you?

Can you end play an opponent?

Example:

You (West) and your partner have the following two hands:

♠	Ax	♠	QJ109xxx
♥	A9875432	♥	10
♦	A	♦	J10x
♣	KJ	♣	xx

The bidding goes:

W	N	E	S
			1♦
1♥	P	1♠	P
3♥	P	3♠	P
4♥	All Pass		

How many losers does West have playing 4♥?

playing 4♠?

Where did this auction go wrong?

Why?

The losers are:

In 4♥: 1 spade, 1 or 2 hearts, no diamonds, probably 2 clubs for:
down 1 or 2.

In 4♠: 1 spade, 0 hearts, 0 diamonds (ruff twice and give up the King♠) and 2 clubs (a guess) for:
making 4.

Ruff the third heart with the 9 (which works) and ruff the third diamond with the ace♠. To get back to your hand, both opponents are out of hearts, so avoid clubs and throw opponents in with a club and they will play a suit with which you can get back to your hand. This play gives up two clubs for a use. Leading up to the KJ is just a guess.

West bidding 4♥ is wrong because:

He is not void in spades, and in fact, he has Ax in spades so the hands are not as much of a misfit as the bidding argument would indicate. Besides, misfits are usually abandoned earlier.

Even though, West has eight hearts and it turns out to be a one-loser suit, he can't mention them three times.

In spades, East has entries. In hearts, East has none.