

# Chalk Talk # 8

## Series of Three-Tip Talks

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<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/bridge-index.htm> has more.

### Bidding Tip-Pre-empts

#### Rule of lengths:

- 6 cards pre-empt at the two-level
- 7 cards pre-empt at the three-level
- 8 cards pre-empt at the four-level
- 9 cards pre-empt at the five-level.

Most people follow these guidelines. They are roughly correct. However, when Vulnerable, the suit can be a two-loser suit at the very worst and the hand should be 8 to 10 points.

I do not follow them however. People always ask me why I opened four with a seven-card suit or three with a six-card suit or two with a seven card suit.

It is because I use the **Rule of 1,2,3**. When doubled you do not want to give the opponents more than they can get for their game.

## Declaring Tip

Always cash a long suit and make the defenders discard. They may discard a critical card.

## Defensive Tip-Discarding

When forced to discard on declarer's long suit, tell partner the suit you are keeping an honour in and discard a worthless suit bottom to top using standard signals.

♠Q832   ♥8732   ♦---   ♣---

You find you must discard five cards. First, discard the 8♠ telling partner you have a high spade then discard the 2♥ saying you have nothing in hearts. Then discard the rest of your hearts. The 3 then the 7 then the 8.