

Major Suit Weak Two Bids

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This conventional method is a variation of the general guidelines for opening Weak Two Bids combined with the Muiderberg convention and includes a Preemptive Opening on the three level. The exception is that the Weak Two Bids are confined to only the two Major suits. The guidelines for this conventional method are described in detail below.

When opening the auction with a Major Suit Weak Two Bid, the opener may not hold more values than is generally required for an opening bid. The point count should be fewer than 12 high card points. The second requirement is that the opener have at least a 5-card Heart suit or a 5-card Spade suit. The length of the suit opened may be longer and the opener may hold a second side suit even in the second unbid Major. Possible distributions of the holding therefore could be 5-5-3-0, 6-6-1-0, 7-3-2-1, 7-6-0-0, plus additional combinations thereof.

The Losing Trick Count Method is employed to assist determining the decision to open a certain holding and is calculated in the following manner. The number of losers in a hand is determined by the length of each suit combined with the number of the top three cards (Ace, King, Queen) as follows:

- A. The number of losers in a suit is initially taken to be equal to the number of cards in that suit with a maximum of 3 and subtract 1 loser for each Ace, each King in a doubleton or longer and each Queen in a 3-card suit or longer.
- B. If there is a fit, calculate the potential number of tricks by subtracting the number of losers in both hands from the maximum number of 24.

Count the combination of QXX as 2 losers only if:

- A. It is a proposed trump suit, or
- B. The Queen is supported by the Jack, or
- C. It is compensated for by an Ace in another suit

Add an extra loser for each card or longer without Ace or King.

A total number of more than 8 trump cards diminishes the number of losers.

The element of the state of vulnerability plays an important role in determining the decision as to whether to open with a Major Suit Weak Two Bid. The guidelines are as follows:

Bid	Partnership Not Vulnerable	Partnership Vulnerable	Opponents Vulnerable	Opponents Not Vulnerable	Number of Tricks
2 or 2	X		X		5
	Same	Same	Same	Same	6
		X		X	7

The responder has several options depending on:

- 1. suit support**
- 2. working values**
- 3. vulnerability**
- 4. reasons to preempt the opponents**
- 5. willingness to sacrifice**

Response

1. Raising an opening of 2 or 2 by partner to the three level and/or to the four level is preemptive in nature. The one-level raise is not considered to be invitational. The decision to raise to the three level and/or the four level is generally determined by the quality of the suit support, the state of vulnerability, and also the willingness to sacrifice.

2. The bid of 2 No Trump by the responder is a forcing bid requiring the partner to further clarify the holding. Since the opener may employ the Major Suit Weak Two Bid with a range between a minimum of 5 high card points and a holding not quite worth an opening, the responder may use the forcing response of 2 No Trump as an inquiring response.

The rebids by the opener are dependent on the partnership agreement, but possible general guidelines are as follows:

A rebid of the original suit signifies weak values of 9 or fewer high card points.

A rebid of a 3 \square promises a good 9 to a bad 12 minus high card points, which will generally be located in side suits, not specifically in the Major suit opened.

A rebid of 3 \square promises a good 9 to a bad 12 minus high card points, whereby the main values are located in the opened Major suit.

If the opening is 2 \spadesuit , a rebid of 3 \spadesuit promises maximum values from a good 9 to a bad 12 minus high card points and a 4-card Spade suit.

If the opening is 2 \heartsuit , a rebid of 3 \heartsuit promises maximum values between a good 9 to a bad 12 minus high card points and a 4-card Heart suit.

A rebid of 4 \clubsuit promises maximum values between a good 9 to a bad 12 minus high card points and a 4-card Club suit.

A rebid of 4 \spadesuit promises maximum values between a good 9 to a bad 12 minus high card points and a 4-card Club suit.

After interference, a double (or redouble) can be assigned any meaning and is determined by the partnership agreement.

After interference, any cuebid by the partner promises either a void in that named suit or promises the Ace for that named suit.

3. If the responder responds with the lowest possible bid in another suit, this first response becomes an S.O.S response meaning that the responder holds maximum values and a singleton or possible void in the opener's suit. The opener is required to bid his better second suit even if this suit is only a 3-card suit.

4. The responder may pass the opening Major Suit Weak Two Bid.

5. If the opening Major Suit Weak Two Bid is 2 , it falls to the partnership to assign a meaning to a first response of 2 .