

## PREEMPT BIDS (WEAK 2, 3 OR 4 LEVEL OPENING BIDS)- Lesson 6- October 21, 2020

We have already learned that opening bids at the one level indicate a hand strength of between 13 and 21 points. This is a combination of high card points and distribution points. Keep in mind that many modern players open with 12 points in some situations, but I am keeping you at 13 points as beginning players.

We have also learned that a player can open at the 2 level with a very strong hand. Remember that an opening bid of 2 no trump shows 20-21 high card points and a balanced hand. Remember, too, that an opening bid of 2 clubs shows 22 or more points (both HCP and distribution), and no indication of how those points are distributed among the suits.

Bidders also use **preempt bids**, which are bids at the 2 level or higher that indicate weakness in points but length in a suit. Here is their meaning:

Level 2 openings—An opening bid of 2 diamonds, 2 hearts or 2 spades means 6 cards in that suit, between 6-10 HCP, and 2 picture cards in that suit. If you have 6 clubs, you can't open 2 clubs to show weakness, since that is a bid showing strength.

Level 3 openings- An opening bid of 3 clubs, diamonds, hearts or spades means 7 cards in that suit, between 6-10 HCP, and 2 picture cards in that suit. Notice that you can make this bid in clubs. Sometimes, if you only have 6 clubs, but it's a good club suit (3 picture cards), players will make an opening bid of 3 clubs.

Level 4 openings- An opening bid of 4 clubs, diamonds, hearts or spades shows 8 cards in that suit. All other requirements are as indicated above.

Responding to a preempt bid: While the exact requirements for responding are beyond the scope of this class, suffice it to say that you should have an opening hand to consider responding to your partner's preempt bid!

*Why make a preempt bid?* – When you make a preempt bid, you are able to show your hand without needing opening points. You are also raising the bidding to a level where you might make the opposition hesitant to keep bidding.

SAMPLE HAND # 6- LESSON # 6- CONTRACT 3 Diamonds - DEALER: WEST  
Date: October 21, 2020

NORTH

Spades- 9 8 7  
Hearts-  
Diamonds- K Q 10 8 7 6 5  
Clubs- K 3 2

WEST

Spades- 6 5 3  
Hearts- J 10 9 6 5  
Diamonds- 2  
Clubs- Q J 10 9

EAST

Spades- Q J 4  
Hearts- K Q 3 2  
Diamonds- A 3  
Clubs- A 6 5 4

SOUTH

Spades- A K 10 2  
Hearts- A 8 7 4  
Diamonds- J 9 4  
Clubs- 8 7

1. Starting with the dealer, give the complete bidding for this hand.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why did they end up in a partial contract?

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3. What losers does declarer see in this hand?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Do you see a way for a possible overtrick? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What might be a good opening lead? \_\_\_\_\_