

Weak 2 Bids

Let's take a look at them!

When one person in the partnership has not yet made a bid and the other person in the partnership JUMPS in the bidding to bid a new suit this bid is called a “PRE-EMPTIVE” bid

You!

2♠

2♠ is a PRE-EMPT. It is a JUMP in the bidding when your Partner has not made a bid.

RHO	You!
1♠	3♣

3♣ is a PRE-EMPT. It is a JUMP in the bidding when your Partner has not made a bid.

Partner	RHO	You!
1♣	Pass	3♣

3♣ is NOT a PRE-EMPT.

Partner opened the bidding.

You!	LHO	Partner	RHO
1♣	1♥	1♠	Pass
3♠			

3♠ is NOT a PRE-EMPT.
You opened the bidding!

To make a “perfect” PRE-EMPTIVE bid you should have the following:

- A LONG suit (6+ cards)
- A weak hand (5/6 to 10/11 HCP)
 - A GOOD suit is best
- No outside four card major
- No outside five card suit

The LENGTH in the suit determines the
LEVEL you bid at.

With a 6 card suit pre-empt at the 2 level

With a 7 card suit pre-empt at the 3 level

With a 8 card suit pre-empt at the 4 level

♠ 83

♥ KQJ862

♦ 8

♣ T742

You!

2♥

Here is a PERFECT example of a “Weak 2” bid.
If you are Dealer open the bidding 2♥

♠ 83

♥ KQJ862

♦ 8

♣ T742

RHO

1♣

You!

2♥

If your RHO opens the bidding either 1♣ (or 1♦) then JUMP to 2♥ to show this exact hand.

♠ 83

♥ KQJ862

♦ 8

♣ T742

RHO

1♠

You!

2♥ !!!

Watch out though -- If your RHO opens the bidding 1♠ then 2♥ is no longer a JUMP. This now shows VALUES since it is a 2 level overcall!

♠ 83

♥ KQJ862

♦ 8

♣ T742

RHO

1♠

You!

3♥

If you want to bid on this hand you will need to JUMP to 3♥ -- but now Partner might think you have seven of them...

Watch out for VULNERABILITY

If you are VULNERABLE then you should have a very nice suit and a somewhat decent hand.

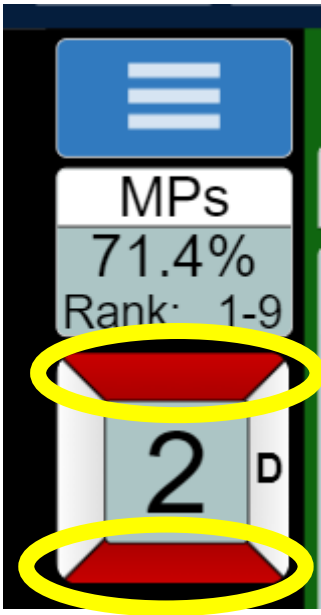
NON-VULNERABLE you should still have a decent suit but it doesn't have to be so good.

How do we know whether or not
we are Vulnerable?

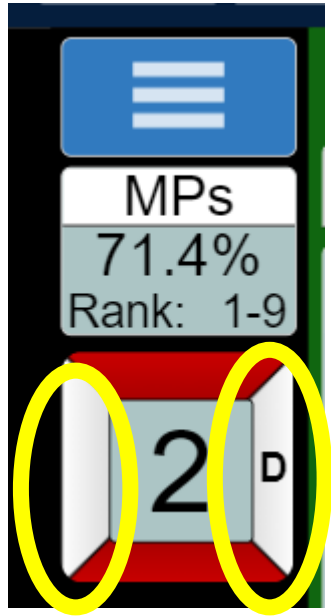
The screenshot shows a bridge game interface with a green background. On the left, a sidebar contains a menu icon, 'MPs 50.0%', and a board number '1' circled in yellow. The main area displays the following information:

- North (N) Robot
- West (W) Robot
- East (E) Robot
- West (W) bid: Pass
- North (N) bid: Pass
- East (E) bid: Pass
- South (S) wiggleshw 4+ (highlighted in yellow)
- South's hand:
 - ♠ Q
 - ♥ J98
 - ♦ AKQ109653
 - ♣ 6
- A row of seven buttons labeled 1 through 7.

You can tell by the colours by the Board Number.



Here N/S are VULNERABLE
(the colour RED)



Here E/W are NOT VULNERABLE
(the colour WHITE)

Vulnerability makes a difference because, since you are weak, you might not make your contract.

Vulnerable every down trick is -100

Non-Vulnerable every down trick is -50

If you go down 2 in your contract and you are NOT Vulnerable you give the Opponents $50 \text{ ppt} \times 2$ down tricks or 100 points. (ppt=points per trick)

BUT if your Opponents can make 2♥ they will score $30 \text{ ppt} \times 2 + 50$ (Part Score Bonus) for 110 points.

So it is better for YOU to go down 2 in your contract vs the Opponents making their part score contract.

If you go down 2 in your contract and you are VULNERABLE you give the Opponents $100 \text{ ppt} \times 2$ down tricks or 200 points.

If your Opponents can make 2♥ they will score $30 \text{ ppt} \times 2 + 50$ (Part Score Bonus) for 110 points.

So it is NOT GOOD for YOU to go down 2 in your contract vs the Opponents making their part score. Vulnerable you can only go down 1.

What does Partner do over a Weak 2?

They should bid game if they think they can make it

All NVul

♠ AK7
♥ Q82
♦ 3
♣ KQJT62

Partner
2♥

RHO
Pass

You!
???

What is your call?

All NVul

♠ AK7	Partner	RHO	You!
♥ Q82	2♥	Pass	4♥
♦ 3			
♣ KQJT62			

Partner might lose a couple of minor suit Aces and maybe a trump – but that's it!

What else can Partner do?

Partner can bid 3NT

All NVul

♠ KQ7
♥ AQT8
♦ K83
♣ AJT

Partner
2♦

RHO
Pass

You!
???

What is your call?

All NVul

♠ KQ7
♥ AQT8
♦ K83
♣ AJT

Partner	RHO	You!
2♦	Pass	3NT

This should easily make!

What else can Partner do?

They should raise to their LAW level with a weak hand

So they add your trump to their trump and assume that is how many tricks they will take. They will then bid to that level.

All NVul

♠ Q87
♥ Q872
♦ 3
♣ KQT62

Partner
2♥

RHO
Pass

You!
???

What is your call?

All NVul

	Partner	RHO	You!
♠ Q87			
♥ Q872	2♥	Pass	4♥
♦ 3			
♣ KQT62			

Partner has SIX trump.

You have four.

$6+4=10$ trump= 10 tricks= 4 Level – Just bid it

All NVul

♠ Q87
♥ Q872
♦ 3
♣ QT762

Partner
2♠

RHO
Pass

You!
???

What is your call?

All NVul

	Partner	RHO	You!
♠ Q87	2♠	Pass	3♠
♥ Q872			
♦ 3			
♣ QT762			

Partner has SIX trump.

You have three.

$6+3=9$ trump= 9 tricks= 3 Level – Just bid it

What else can Partner do?

Partner can bid a new suit if they have a **STRONG** hand.

A new suit is **FORCING** which means the Weak 2 bidder must bid again.

All NVul

♠ Q87
♥ AQT872
♦ K3
♣ AK

Partner

2♦

RHO

Pass

You!

???

What is your call?

All NVul

♠ Q87
♥ AQT872
♦ K3
♣ AK

Partner	RHO	You!
2♦	Pass	2♥

You might easily have a game in ♥ -- find out if Partner can support!

What else can Partner do?

Partner should PASS if they have a weak hand with no chance at making game or they have no fit...

All NVul

♠ KQ7
♥
♦ Q8763
♣ Q8654

Partner
2♥

RHO
Pass

You!
???

What is your call?

All NVul

♠ KQ7	Partner	RHO	You!
♥	2♥	Pass	Pass
♦ Q8763			
♣ Q8654			

You've got no fit for Partner and a new suit is FORCING. If you bid your suit Partner will probably respond – you guessed it -- 3♥

All NVul

♠ KQ7



Partner

RHO

You!

2♥

Pass

Pass

♦ Q8763

♣ Q8654

Yes, you've got no fit and are in trouble but sometimes the only way out of a deep, dark hole is to STOP DIGGING. If you bid, you dig yourself deeper and deeper.

All NVul

♠ KQ7
♥ Q7
♦ K863
♣ A854

Partner

2♥

RHO

Pass

You!

???

What is your call?

All NVul

♠ KQ7
♥ Q7
♦ K863
♣ A854

Partner	RHO	You!
2♥	Pass	Pass

It'll be hard to scrape up
10 tricks. Just Pass.

Last but not least Partner can ASK the Weak 2 bidder if they have an outside Feature.

An outside Feature is an Ace or King that is NOT in the trump suit.

The Responses are...

♠ 64	You!	LHO	Partner	RHO
♥ 643	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
♦ AKQT86	3NT			
♣ 42				

Bidding 3NT shows a SOLID SUIT – AKQ and says you do not need an Outside Feature!

♠ 64	You!	LHO	Partner	RHO
♥ 643	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
♦ KQT986	3♣			
♣ K2				

Bidding another suit shows a maximum hand (8+) and shows where your Outside Feature is!
 Bid 3♣ to show either the Ace or King of ♣

♠ 64	You!	LHO	Partner	RHO
♥ 643	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
♦ KQT986	3♦			
♣ J4				

Repeating your suit says you do NOT have a solid suit and you do NOT have an outside Feature

♠ 64	You!	LHO	Partner	RHO
♥ 643	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
♦ QJ8652	3♦			
♣ K4				

With a weaker hand (5-7 HCP) do NOT show an Outside Feature even if you have one.

Why do you need an
Outside Feature?

All NVul

♠ AJT2

♥ AQ7

♦ J3

♣ AJT4

Partner

2♦

RHO

Pass

You!

???

What is your call?

All NVul

♠ AJT2

♥ AQ7

♦ J3

♣ AJT4

♠ 64

♥ 643

♦ KQT986

♣ 84

Imagine if you just bid 3NT.

No problem. They lead anything and they give you a trick. You have five ♦, three Aces and a trick off the lead.

All NVul

♠ AJT2

♥ AQ7

♦ J3

♣ AJT4

♠ 64

♥ 643

♦ KQT986

♣ 84

The Opponents lead a ♥ .

Perfect! Your ninth trick!

So you win the Queen ♥ and
play a ♦ ...

All NVul

♠ AJT2

♥ A7

♦ 3

♣ AJT4

♠ 64

♥ 64

♦ KQT98

♣ 84

But the Opponent's DON'T
win their Ace of ♦

All NVul

♠ AJT2

♥ A7



♣ AJT4

♠ 64

♥ 64

♦ KQT9

♣ 84

Now what?

You can play another ♦ to set up the suit but there is NO WAY back to Dummy to enjoy your winners!

← Winners (but how to get to Dummy???)

All NVul

♠ AJT2

♥ AQ7

♦ J3

♣ AJT4

Partner

2♦

RHO

Pass

You!

2NT

Find out if Partner has an outside Ace or King or if their suit is solid.

All NVul

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ AJT2				
♥ AQ7	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
♦ J3	3♠	Pass	3NT	
♣ AJT4				

If Partner shows you a King (they will have no Aces) then bid 3NT...

All NVul

♠ AJT2

♥ A7

♦

♣ AJT4

♠ K4 ← Entry

♥ 64

♦ KQT9 ← Winners

♣ 52

Now if the Opponents don't win their Ace of ♦ the first time you can always get back to Dummy with the King of ♠

All NVul

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ AJT2				
♥ AQ7	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
♦ J3	3NT	Pass	Pass	
♣ AJT4				

If Partner bids 3NT you know their suit is running!

All NVul

♠ AJT2

♥ AQ7

♦ J3

♣ AJT4

♠ 43

♥ 64

♦ AKQT96

♣ 52

Winners with no additional Entry needed! The Opponents can't hold up on their Ace because they don't have it!

Play High Cards from the Short Side to avoid blocking the suit.

All NVul

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ AJT2				
♥ AQ7	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
♦ J3	3♦	Pass	Pass	
♣ AJT4				

If Partner bids 3♦ you might not want to take a chance on 3NT. Just “Pass”

All NVul

♠ AJT2

♥ AQ7

♦ J3

♣ AJT4

♠ 43

♥ J4

♦ KQT986

♣ 52

Game here is just not safe.

If you do bid the game better
hope you are lucky or you get bad
Defence. Either will work.

What to do over a “Weak 2”

- Bid game with enough values to make game
- Bid 3NT to play
- Bid to your LAW level to disrupt the Opponents
- A new suit is FORCING
- Pass with no hope for game or with no fit
- Bid 2NT to ask the Weak 2 bidder if they have an outside Ace or King

Over a 2NT response the “Weak 2” bidder will:

- Bid 3NT with a SOLID SUIT -- AKQxxx
- With a MAXIMUM, bid the suit where they have an outside Ace or King at the 3 level
- With a MINIMUM or no Outside Ace or King just rebid their original suit

Enjoy your game!