

Reopening Double -- Part 1

**Board 2**  
East Deals  
N-S Vul



♠ J 6 5 4  
♥ A Q J  
♦ A K 6 3  
♣ K 4

West	North	East	South
	<i>PtownSD</i>		<i>PeteM</i>
		Pass	1 ♦
2 ♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	2 ♦	?

Take my seat in an ACBL matchpoints game on BBO.

Playing a 15 to 17 range for a 1 NT opening, your 1 ♦ opening was impeccable. So was your reopening double.

Right hand opponent has bid your suit -- what now?

Reopening Double -- Part 2

**Board 2**  
East Deals  
N-S Vul



♠ J 6 5 4  
♥ A Q J  
♦ A K 6 3  
♣ K 4

West	North	East	South
	<i>PtownSD</i>		<i>PeteM</i>
		Pass	1 ♦
2 ♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	2 ♦	Dbl
2 NT	Pass	Pass	?

You have 18 points and partner has passed for penalties. You correctly doubled 2 ♦ for penalties, to show your good hand. Now, West has run to 2 NT, of all places. What now?

### Reopening Double -- Part 3

	♠ 9 8 3		
	♥ 8 7 3		
	♦ 10 9		
	♣ 10 9 8 5 3		
West	North	East	South
	<i>PtownSD</i>		<i>PeteM</i>
		Pass	1 ♦
2 ♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	?		

What would you do with the North hand, after partner's reopening double?

Zack Grossack said he would pass, except perhaps against expert opponents. Mike Lawrence graciously responded within a day to my query:

Pete,

Nice grizzly problem.

I pass 2C. No question.

If you bid anything, your partner will surely bid again and you won't make it.

Give him this believable hand and he is likely to bid game. If doubled, you will go down some large number.

AQ102  
AK98  
KQJ3  
2

If you pass 2Cx, your partner will learn quickly what you have and should assume you have done the right thing with whatever it is you have.

That's 280 or 380 perhaps.  
This might be a good result.

Mike

### Reopening Double -- Part 4

<p><b>Board 2</b> East Deals N-S Vul</p>		<p>♠ K Q 2 ♥ K 10 4 2 ♦ Q 8 5 4 2 ♣ 6</p> <p>♠ J 6 5 4 ♥ A Q J ♦ A K 6 3 ♣ K 4</p>	
West	North	East	South
	<i>PtownSD</i>		<i>PeteM</i>
		Pass	1 ♦
2 ♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	2 ♦	Dbl
2 NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl
			All pass
			2 NT× by West
			Lead: ♦ 10

Partner heard your strong bidding, and continued to pass. With a king or maybe even a queen, he might have doubled. The correct call is, Pass. I doubled.

Plan the defense at 2 NT (doubled or not), on the lead of the ♦ 10, when dummy plays low.

There is always something new to learn about this game. I had no idea partner could be so weak and pass my double. Knowing where all the cards are -- and declarer basically does -- 2 NT can be made on any lead, even a heart. Declarer's hand:

♠ A 10 7  
♥ 9 6 5  
♦ J 7  
♣ A Q J 7 2

The best chance of setting 2 NT is to let the ♦ 10 go around. Declarer may lead the ♦ 7, nine from partner, queen from dummy, and you win. Now your ♦ A 6 surround dummy's ♦ 8 5 4. Declarer has three spades, one diamond and three clubs (with a finesse), but does not have enough entries to both establish and enjoy the last diamond.

On the other hand, you must not lead diamonds, either -- or a heart. Declarer makes the contract by endplaying you, or by establishing the third heart if you pitch one, or by establishing the fourth heart.