

# **B**ridge **L**esson

**MODERN BIDDING**

**DEFENDING AGAINST PREEMPTS pt. 1**

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥ ??

## YOU

♠ AQJ92

♥ J84

♦ QT8

♣ 63

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♦ ??

## YOU

♠ K8532

♥ QJ983

♦ 87

♣ 6

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

P

P

??

## YOU

♠ K842

♥ 832

♦ AQ64

♣ K2

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

3♣

??

## YOU

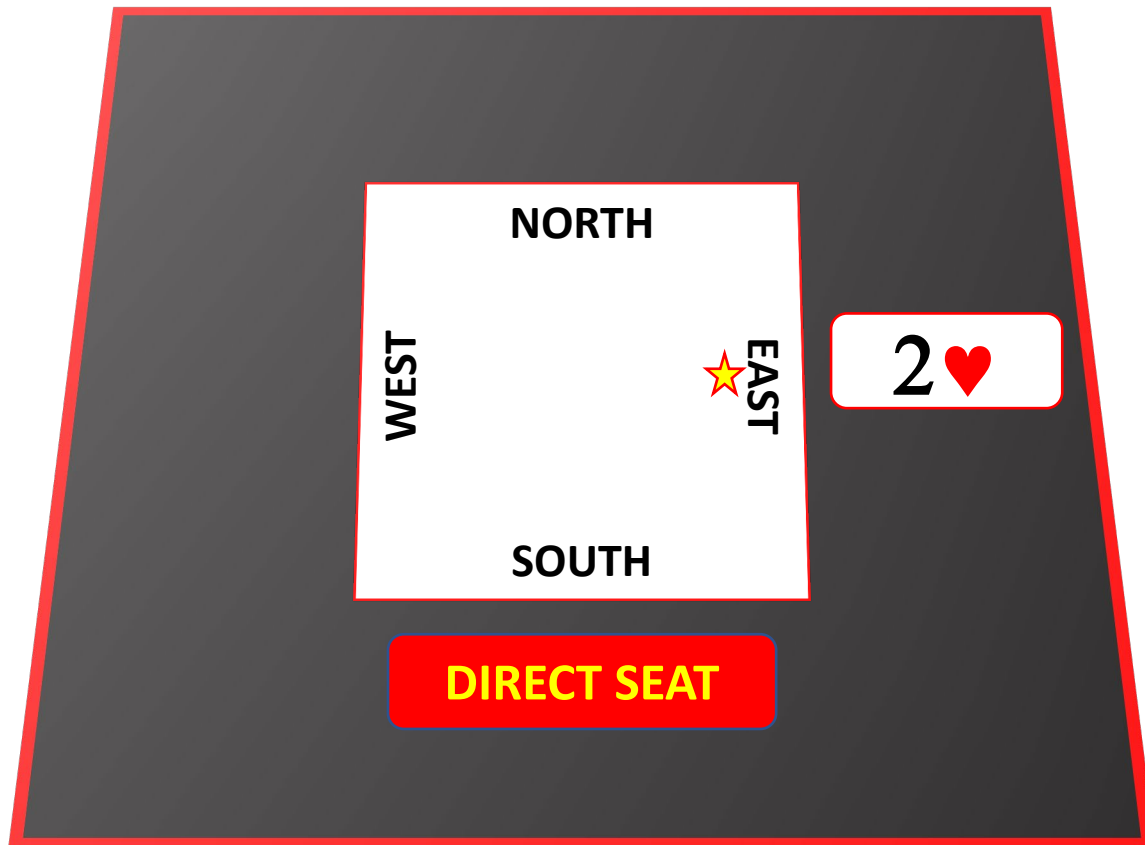
♠ AK852

♥ K83

♦ K2

♣ 653

# ENTERING THE AUCTION



## WHEN IN THE DIRECT SEAT

- Overcalling at the 2 level
  - Opening Hand, 5+ Card Suit in a Major
- Overcalls at the 3 level
  - Opening Hand 6+ Cards in minor 5+ in major

## IMPORTANT FEATURES TO CONSIDER

- 1) Suit Quality / Suit Length
  - 2) Distribution (6-4, 5-5 Good, 5-3-3-2 BAD)
  - 3) Shortness in opponent's suit
- When you are short in the opponents suit partner will have the wrong shape to balance. So whatever ranges we provide, **step up the aggression when you are short in the opponent's suit.**

**DIRECT SEAT**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

??

**YOU**

♠ QT2

♥ 9

♦ AJ876

♣ KQ96

**DIRECT SEAT**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

??

**YOU**

♠ AT9742

♥ 63

♦ AK2

♣ 94

**DIRECT SEAT**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

3♣ ??

**YOU**

♠ J2

♥ K932

♦ AKJ876

♣ 6

**DIRECT SEAT**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

3♦ ??

**YOU**

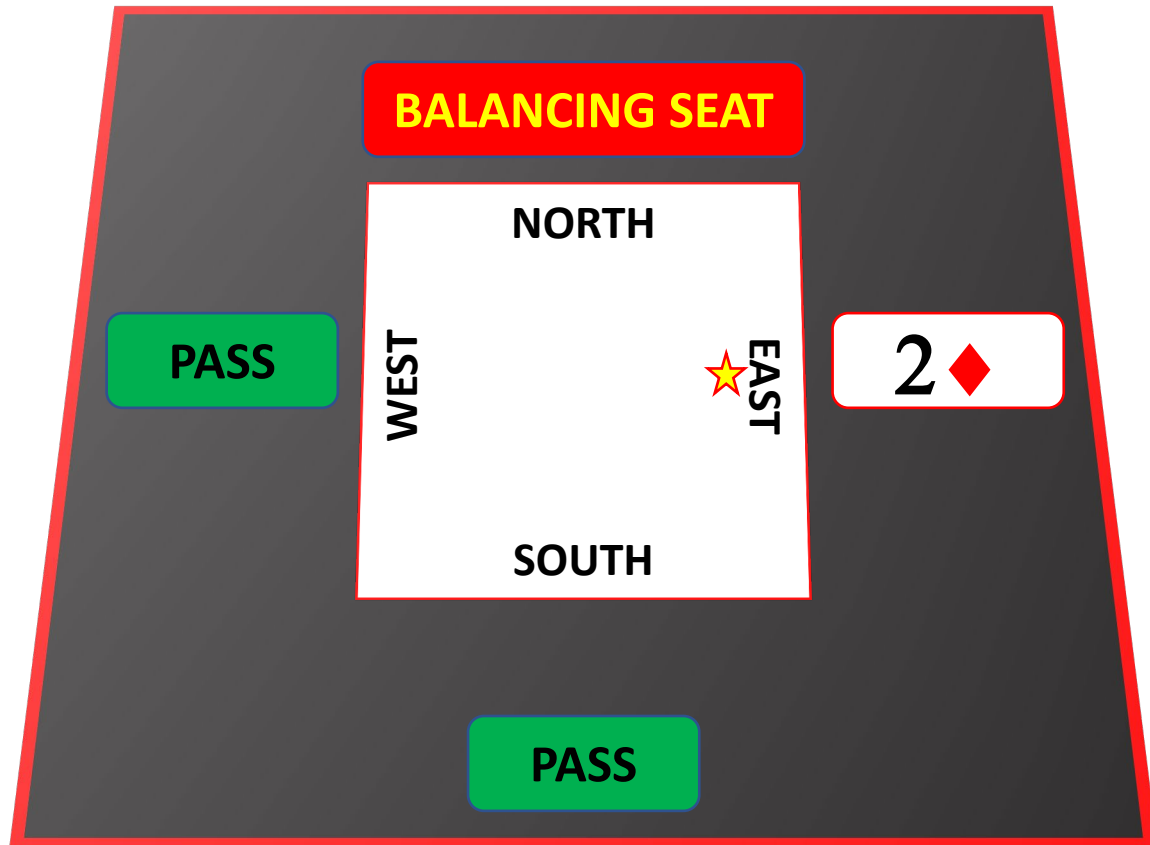
♠ AJ874

♥ A63

♦ 842

♣ AJ

# ENTERING THE AUCTION



## WHEN IN THE BALANCING SEAT

Same Range as in direct seat PLUS;

We need to be aware that any time we have shortness in the opponent's suit, partner often will have a good hand with the wrong shape to act.

We should be VERY aggressive to balance against weak two bids when we are short in their suit.

# BALANCING SEAT

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

P

P

??

## YOU

♠ 2

♥ AJ9743

♦ K876

♣ 86

# BALANCING SEAT

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♦

P

P

??

## YOU

♠ AJ864

♥ A63

♦ 982

♣ 94



# BALANCING SEAT

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♦

P

P

??

## YOU



42



KJ953



3



A9874

# BALANCING SEAT

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

P

P

??

## YOU



T84



AQJT3

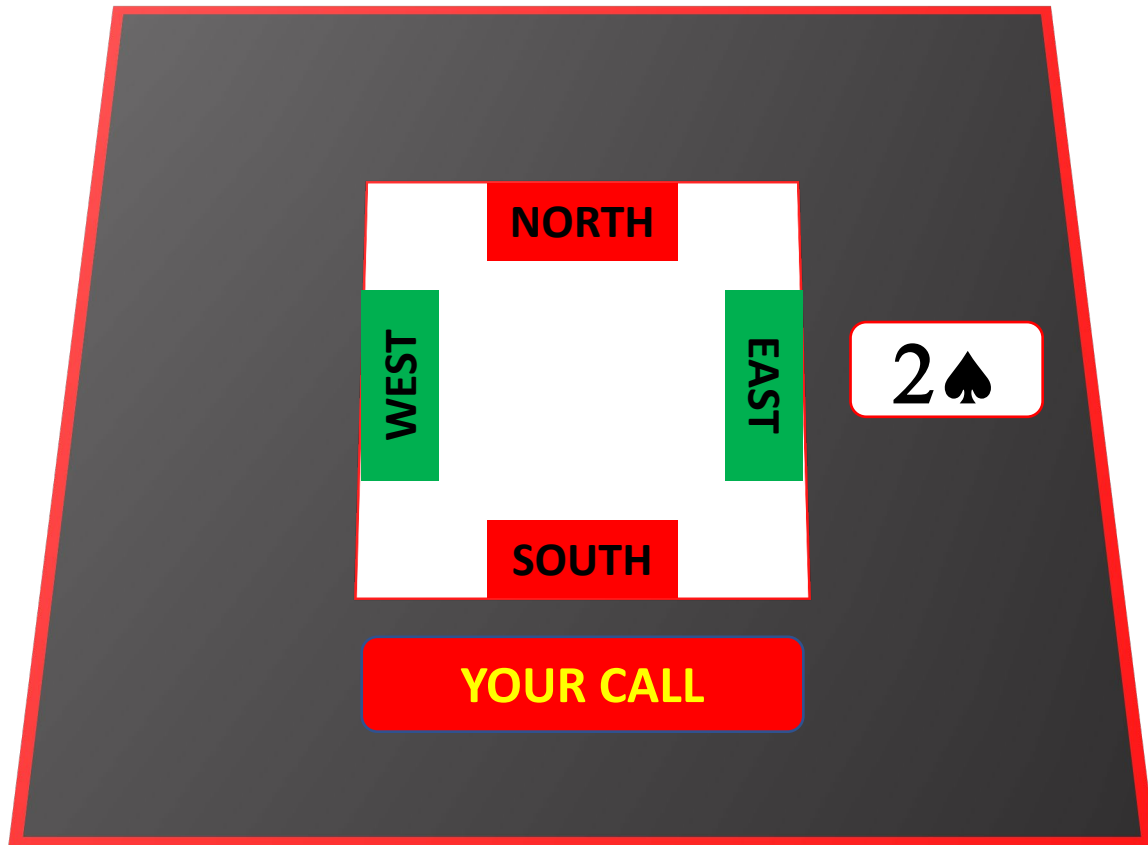


A42



94

# VULNERABILITY



## NON – VULNERABLE

When we are non vulnerable, the risk of entering is much lower so we can get away with having a flaw or two in our hands.

## VULNERABLE

When we are Vulnerable, the risk of going -200 is high. We need a good suit, preferably 6. We also would like to have good distribution. When we are short in the opponents suit, we sometimes have to just bite the bullet and get in there, even vul.

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

??

YOU

♠ KT3

♥ AJ4

♦ AJ864

♣ K7

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

2N

P

3♦

P

??

YOU

♠ KT3

♥ AJ4

♦ AJ864

♣ K7

# NO-TRUMP OVERCALLS

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

2N

**YOU**

♠ **KT3**

♥ **AJ4**

♦ **AJ864**

♣ **K7**

**\*\*2NT IS NATURAL\*\***

**15 – 18 balanced  
with a stopper.**

**\*\*in direct & balancing seat\*\***

**\*\*SYSTEMS ON\*\***

**Just like normal 2NT bids.**

# NO-TRUMP OVERCALLS

WEST	NORTH	EAST	YOU
------	-------	------	-----

3♥

3N

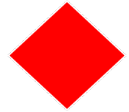
## YOU



A4



K4



AKQJ864



K7

\*\*\*3NT IS TO PLAY\*\*\*

\*\*\*SYSTEMS OFF\*\*\*

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

2♠

P

??

## YOU

♠ A963

♥ 4

♦ KT842

♣ A62

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

3♥

3♠

??

## YOU

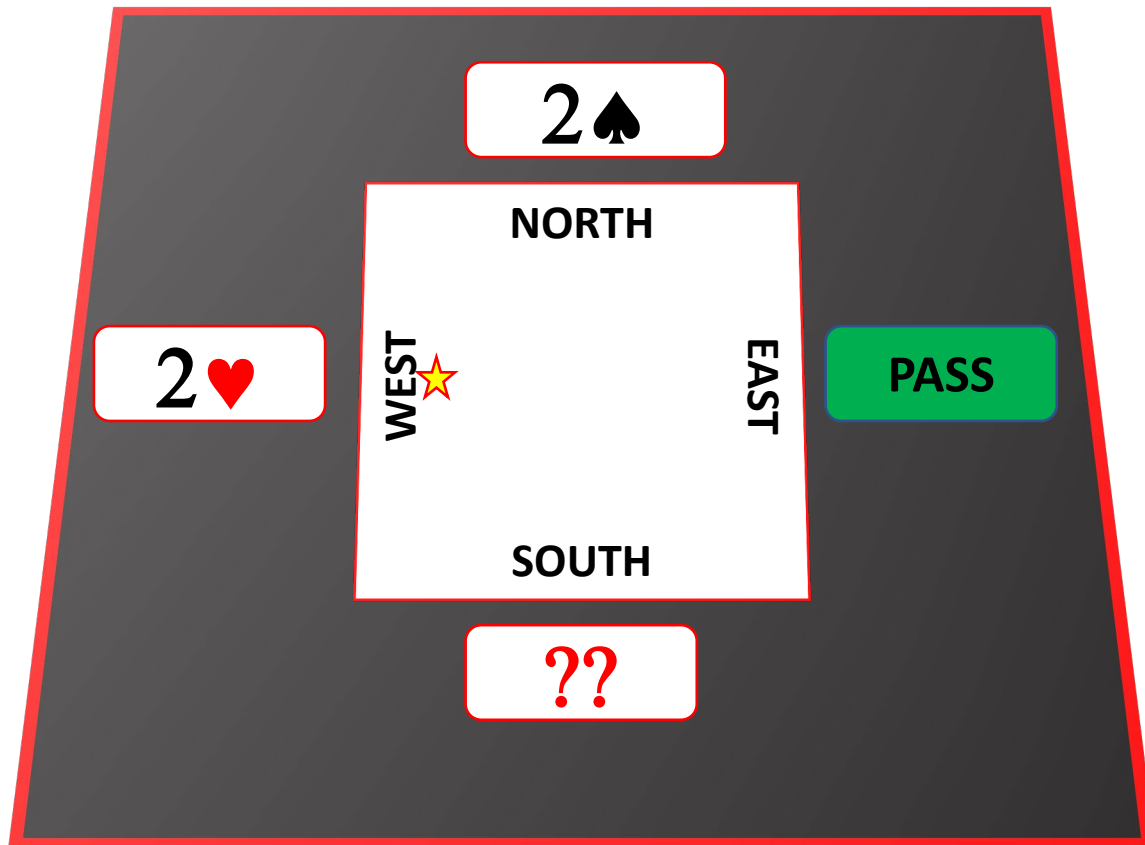
♠ Q3

♥ AJ4

♦ J864

♣ J742

# RESPONDING



**STANDARD RESPONSES TO  
OVERCALLS APPLY HERE.**

**SINGLE RAISE: 6 – 10**

**CUE BID: 10+ (if below 4 level)**

**NEW SUITS: FORCING AND NATURAL**

**\*Be mindful when you have length in their suits. Partner is likely to be aggressive with shortness in the opponent's suit.**

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

2♠

3♥

??

## YOU

♠ 63

♥ 84

♦ AKT82

♣ AQ62

# MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

3♣

3♦

4♣

??

## YOU

♠ KJT3

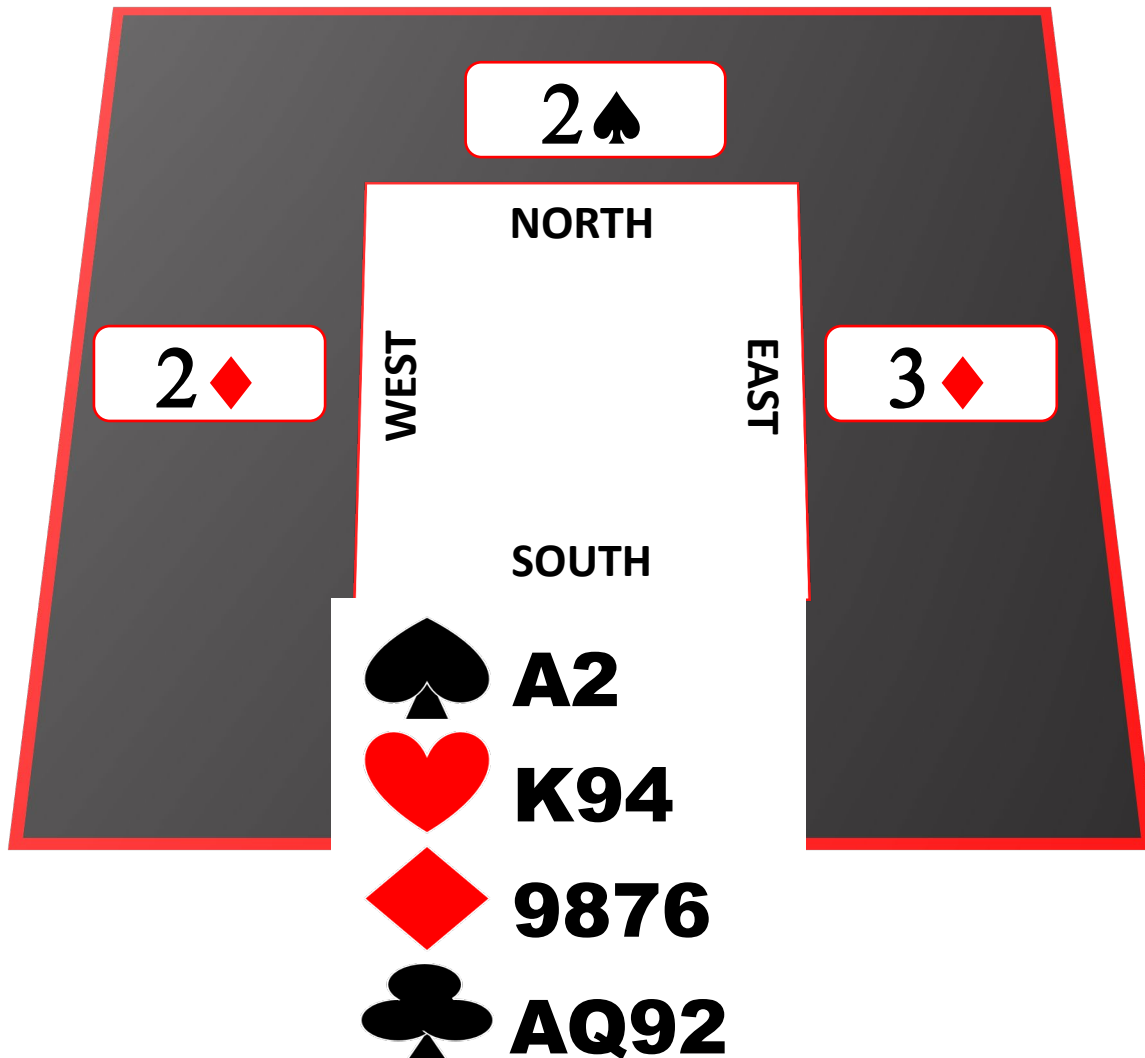
♥ AQJ4

♦ K62

♣ 32



# RESPONSIVE DOUBLES



The **Responsive Double** lets partner know it is our hand. It says, "I want to bid but do not know what to bid."

We use responsive doubles to discover major suit fits and also just to express ownership in the hand

The example auction on the left can be used whenever we have values but don't have a suit of our own to bid. We would typically have 4/5H, however sometimes we need to make this double just to tell partner we have a hand.

1

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

??

YOU

♠ 92

♥ AJT8

♦ AKT6

♣ T32

2

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

??

YOU

♠ AJ942

♥ 7

♦ KJT83

♣ T2

3

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

2♠

4♥

??

YOU

♠ A932

♥ 854

♦ 42

♣ QJ96

4

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♦

P

P

??

YOU

♠ 94

♥ AJT63

♦ 43

♣ KQT4

5

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

P

P

??

YOU



8742



AQ4



AJ6



K84

6

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

P

3♠

??

YOU



AQ



JT



AQ87



KJ432

7

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

??

YOU



AJ



8432



AQT3



KT8

8

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

3♣

??

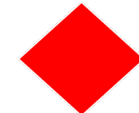
YOU



KJ9



Q952



AKJT4



5

9

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

3♦

3♠

??

YOU

♠ 97

♥ AJ932

♦ Q85

♣ A63

10

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♦

2♥

P

??

YOU

♠ AJ97

♥ AQ84

♦ 3

♣ KT94

11

WEST	NORTH	EAST	YOU
------	-------	------	-----

2♠    2N    P    ??

YOU

♠ 42  
♥ AQ742  
♦ 83  
♣ QT87

12

WEST	NORTH	EAST	YOU
------	-------	------	-----

2♠    2N    P    3♦  
P    3♥    P    ??

YOU

♠ 42  
♥ AQ742  
♦ 83  
♣ QT87

13

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

??

YOU

♠ Q83

♥ 43

♦ AQ865

♣ AJ2

14

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

2♠

P

??

YOU

♠ 64

♥ AQ7

♦ AT8

♣ JT943



15

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

??

YOU

♠ Q95

♥ A83

♦ Q8

♣ KQT94

16

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

??

YOU

♠ KQ2

♥ AJ53

♦ KJ2

♣ QT7

17

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

??

YOU

♠ KJ3

♥ A8

♦ J954

♣ A984

18

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♠

??

YOU

♠ 2

♥ 53

♦ AQJ854

♣ KT92

19

WEST	NORTH	EAST	YOU
------	-------	------	-----

2♦ 2♠ P ??

YOU

♠ 2  
♥ KT853  
♦ AT54  
♣ Q92

20

WEST	NORTH	EAST	YOU
------	-------	------	-----

2♥ 2♠ P ??

YOU

♠ A94  
♥ T4  
♦ K94  
♣ T9432

21

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

3♣

3♠

P

??

YOU

♠ 3

♥ KJ2

♦ KT984

♣ KT92

22

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

3♣

3♠

P

??

YOU

♠ AT6

♥ AJ93

♦ AK84

♣ 84

23

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

??

YOU

♠ Q9

♥ KT32

♦ AJ6

♣ KJ62

24

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♥

P

P

2♠

P

??

YOU

♠ Q9

♥ K972

♦ AT6

♣ KJ62

25

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♦

P

P

2♠

P

??

YOU

♠ AQ74

♥ A832

♦ 43

♣ 832

26

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

2♦

??

YOU

♠ AQ93

♥ KT32

♦ 5

♣ JT62

# Answer Key

1. X We are short in spades, if we don't act it is likely partner will have a tough time. Happy to be Non-Vul
2. 2S We have a singleton heart. This is a super aggressive overcall but partner will have too many hearts to act
3. 4S The opponents have done a great job of preempting us. At least partner has short hearts.
4. 2H Balancing chair, we have shortness in diamonds.
5. Pass We have a great hand but the wrong shape to act. This is why the person who's short has to be aggressive.
6. 3N Ugly but they've left us no choice. See how important it is to further the preempt?
7. Pass Again wrong shape to act.
8. X Whenever its close between overcalling a minor or takeout double, choose the takeout double
9. X We have a diamond fit but need to bring hearts into the game. Responsive Double
10. 4D **Splinter, if you play them. If you don't know splinters then 3D would be your bid.**
11. 3D Transfer to hearts
12. 3N A Decent 8 count opposite partners 2N overcall is enough to put them in game. Partner picks 3N or 4H
13. X Whenever its close between overcalling a minor or takeout double, choose the takeout double
14. 2N Invitational, with a heart stopper or two
15. Pass We cant overcall a minimum opening hand with a 5 card suit vul at the 3 level
16. 2N Perfect 2N overcall
17. X Have to do what you have to do. Double doesn't promise 4 spades, just 3 of each unbid suit
18. 3D This is aggressive but we are the one who has a singleton spade. Partner will have too many to act.
19. Pass We don't have a good enough hand to go venturing to the 3 level without a fit
20. 3S We have an unmentioned fit and enough points to show it. DO IT
21. 3N We might as well give 3NT a go
22. 4C Tell partner we have a very good 4S bid, says nothing about having clubs controlled
23. Pass Wrong shape to act
24. 2NT Partner probably felt pressure to act because they were short. If we invite they should accept with an opening hand.
25. 3D Even though partner has balanced, we still have more than enough to show a good raise
26. X This is very aggressive but we are the ones with shortness in their suit so we need to step it up.