

## Partner's Interesting Choice

by Steve Moese Tues Eve Oct 28

### Board 19 ♠ J10642

South ♥ AQJ4

Deals ♦ 2

E-W Vul ♣ K75

♠ K9

♥ K1075

♦ 108

♣ J10932

N	E
W	S

♠ Q

♥ 8632

♦ KJ965

♣ AQ6

♠ A8753

♥ 9

♦ AQ743

♣ 84

N 5♠; 2N;

1♥; 1♠;

S 4♠; 1N;

NS 1♦;

South's hand is a pure example of the **Rule of 22**. It has 2 ½ Quick tricks, 10 HCP, 6 losers, and 10 cards in 2 suits. All HCP are working in the long suits. The Rule of 22 is our modification of the Rule of 20. It goes like this: Add the number of cards in your two longest suits to your HCP (10 + 10 = 20) then add your Quick Tricks (AK = 2, AQ = 1½, A=1, KQ=1, K=½, QJ=0).

If the total equals or exceeds 22, open the hand in 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> seat. In 3<sup>rd</sup> seat, you might choose to open with less. **#HCP + #C + #QT ≥ 22, OPEN!**

**The Bidding** - What do you think partner chose to open? Well there are two options. 1♠ certainly makes sense since almost everyone opens 5-card Majors anymore. What about 1♦? Wait you say, with two suits of the same length, we're supposed to open the higher ranking suit (♠). How could we ever think to open 1♦? Here's how.

When we open the South hand with 1♠ if partner has a weak hand, they will often respond 1NT. If we rebid 2♦ so far so good. Now what happens if they rebid 2♥? Rebidding 2♠ suggests 6♠ and 4♦ cards, and extra values. We have 5=5 and a sub-minimum. That forces us to rebid 3♦. This means we are at the 3-level with no clear 8-card fit and at most 21-22 HCP between us, likely less. Safety at the 3-level without a fit in trumps requires ≥ 23 HCP. So by opening 1♠ we run the risk that partner with an unfitting hand will drive us as high as 3♦. No need to take that risk.

Now consider the alternative – open 1♦. If partner responds 1♥ we have an easy 1♠ rebid. Over 1N/2♣/2♦/2♥ by partner we can rebid 2♠, showing partner at least 5=5 with better ♦ than ♠ (we bid weak 5♣=6♦ hands this way too). Now partner knows we have a minimum 5=5 hand and can make a better decision placing the contract.

S	W	N	E
1♦!	P	1♠	Dbl
4♣!!	AP		

After choosing to open 1♦ (preparing to cope with rebids) South was elated when North responded 1♠. When East

doubled for Takeout, South chose to apply maximum pressure on the opponents and bid game immediately. This is an important bidding principle. When you know how high you must go, bid there immediately. Jumping to 4♣ in this auction shows a distributional hand, not a strong hand. With 19+ and 4♣ cards Redouble – we mean business.

## 10/28 – Future Master Leaders

1<sup>st</sup> OC: Lois Jones & Caroline Richards (57.1%)

2<sup>nd</sup> OC: Lisa Eisenstein & Liz Lin (56.4%)



Bring your Questions, Hands, Ideas. Let's learn together!

**Tues Eve 6:30 PM Sharp!**

## CBA Newcomer Games – Play Often!

Mon PM < 2000

Fri AM NLM + Lecture

Tue PM 149er LTB

Sat AM Supervised Play

Wed AM Homestyle

Sat PM NLM (Homestyle Available)

## Events at the Cincinnati Bridge Center

- **1<sup>st</sup> Tue Eve Unit Championship Game - 3x Master Points.**
- **NEW!** Kay Mulford offers 2 new 0-10 MP games (Free Lunch & Newsletter too): **Wed Nov 12 0-10 MP Homestyle** (\$5 1st time). **Fri Nov 14 0-10 Pairs.** Lecture 10:30 AM. Call Kay 631-8070 or [kmulford@cinci.rr.com](mailto:kmulford@cinci.rr.com) for partner.
- **Last Tue AM in Nov: SWISS TEAM** games.
- **Oct Thu Eve** is <2500 MP Pairs Game (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>)
- **October CBA Flyer – October is Jane Johnson Club Appreciation Month.** CBC, NKy, and Anderson offer games with EXTRA MASTERPOINTS!

## Area Tournaments

[Louisville-Lexington KY Regional](#)

Nov 3-9

[Indianapolis Sectional](#)

Nov 21-23

[FALL NABC – Providence RI](#)

Nov 27-Dec 7

ACBL Tournaments <http://tournaments.acbl.org/display.php>

The jump to 4♣ puts maximum pressure on EW, who now must choose to double bid or pass. North has no doubt about not bidding past game. Jumps to game are always to play. North does not have enough to take a move toward slam.

**The PLAY** – West led the ♥2 – a reasonable card given the auction and the hand. That gave away nothing (declarer could always take the ♥ finesse themselves). West played the ♥K – an error as the cards lie, but not as the lead implied. Now North pitched 2 losing ♣ from dummy (South) and made 12 tricks for a top score. Notice if West plays low on the 1<sup>st</sup> ♥ South cannot pitch the 2<sup>nd</sup> ♣. EW make only 11 tricks.

**Expert technique:** lead 2<sup>nd</sup> highest (top of touching) spot cards when holding no Honor. West was right to assume partner held the ♥Q given the ♥2 lead. Experts know that leading from A's and J's in unbid suits loses tricks.

Bd 19	NS	EW	Scores		MPs	
			NS	EW	NS	EW
4♠ N	480		6	0		
4♠ N	450		4	2		
4♠ N	450		4	2		
4♠ N	450		4	2		
4♠ N	420		1.5	4.5		
4♠ S	420		1.5	4.5		
3♠ S	170		0	6		
4♠ N	480		2.5	0.5		
4♠ N	480		2.5	0.5		
4♠ N	450		1	2		
2 NTS	120		0	3		

## Newcomer News – by Mike “Keeping Fun On My Convention Card” Purcell 513 702 4007

We return to Sat Supervised Play this Saturday. Volunteers for this Saturday’s 10am game are Bob Fisk, Pam Campbell and Lorna Davis.

This week we look at another tricky hand where opponents bid our best suit before we can.

**Board 1** ♠ KJ7  
 North ♥ K9  
 Deals ♦ A982  
 None Vul ♣ QJ53

♠ AQ943		♠ 2
♥ Q43		♥ A108
♦ J75		♦ KQ106
♣ A8		♣ K10976

EW 4N; 3♠;	♠ 10865
4♦; 4♣; 2♥	♥ J7652
	♦ 43
	♣ 4

### Board 1 (Tuesday 10/28)

**Bidding** – North at my table opened 1♣ (12-21 HCP, 3+ clubs). Yes, 1♦ open is a better description of their hand with 4-4 in the minors but in this case 1♣ makes things particularly hard for East. East has 12 HCP and 5 clubs. East is not happy about showing clubs even if they could if North has them and not partner. They cannot double for the unbid suits as they only have 1 spade. They are not strong enough for a 1NT overcall (15-18 HCP). East’s best action is Pass. South will also pass and West with 13 HCP and 5 spades can overcall 1♠ (8-16 HCP, 5+ spades). North also passes. Now what should East do? With 12 HCP and partner with a possible opening hand there is a possibility of game. East’s best call is 2NT (12-14 HCP). Even though they only have 1 spade this is the best description of their hand. West with 13 HCP can easily raise partner to game in 3NT.

**Play of the Hand** – On a ♥5 lead (4<sup>th</sup> best) declarer (East) has 4 winners (1♠, 1♥, 2♣) and a lot of work to do. The good news is from the bidding we can plan on North having nearly every HCP missing. Start by playing low from dummy forcing the ♥K captured by your Ace. Now decide on your best suit to attack. You have 7 diamonds and 7 clubs. If you attack diamonds you can develop 3 tricks once the Ace is out. Not counting the ♠A and ♣K, if you attack clubs you can get only 2 more tricks. Remember you cannot count the ♣A and ♣K in this assessment as you get these tricks no matter which suit you choose. So attack diamonds first. When North wins their ♦A and returns the ♥9 you can play your ♥10 to capture the ♥J and set up your ♥8. You now have 9 winners (1♠, 3♥, 3♦, 2♣) and you still have a heart stopper. Can you get more tricks? Yes if you play to your ♣A and then finesse clubs to the East hand. North will put up one of their honors which you can capture and force them to take the other one setting up your club suit. This line of play gives the defense their ♦A and ♣Q but gives declarer 11 winners (1♠, 3♥, 3♦, 4♣) for +460 and a top board.

**Post Mortem** – When opponent’s open first it often makes it more difficult to reach the best contract but it also helps you plan your play as shown on this deal.

Bd 1	Scores		MPs	
	NS	EW	NS	EW
3 NT E	150		6	0
2 ♥ S		150	5	1
3 NT E		400	3.5	2.5
3 NT E		400	3.5	2.5
3 NT E		430	2	4
3 NT E		460	1	5
3 ♦ x W		670	0	6
1 NT N		50	3	0
1 NT E		120	2	1
2 NT E		150	1	2
3 NT E		400	0	3