

Stayman answers

- 1) weak satyamna (I like that typo will keep it) YES STAYMAN 5-4 shape
- 2) NO -strong takeout bid 3Sp
- 3) NO -you need 5-4 for weak satyamna
- 4) yep 2C followed by 3C
- 5) well with such a balanced hand you can make a case for not bidding Stayman and settling for playing in NTS. There used to be a convention SID (Stayman in Doubt ! -I kid you not). The idea being that having used Stayman *and having found a fit* you then had a follow up bid to ask whether it wouldnt be better after all to play in NTS. Many would NOT bid Stayman with such a balanced hand.
- 6) nO -weak t/o 2H
- 7) 2H -yes I kno its a rubbish suit but
- 8) 2D -no major
- 9) PASS -think about it
- 10) PASS -think about it ?
- 11) Pass is correct. You dont want to bid 3Sp if partners interest doesnt lie in spades. Just pass and see what partner wants to bid next.
- 12) If you go merrily finessing away you will make 9 tricks if the finesses fail and 13 if they dont.
So the bad line (in that you may end with only 9 tricks) is to win Ace Hrts then finesse Q sp.
The best line which guarantees 10 tricks however the finesses fare is to :
win Ace Hrts -play A + K diamonds --- go to Ace clubs (NO FINESSE note)-
play the Q diamonds and throw a heart. Then draw trumps .Usual discard loser before drawing trumps rigmarole.
- 13) Well partner's 3 clubs is pretty low (actually I changed later editions of this question so partner played the 2 clubs) ; anyway 2 or 3 clubs partner is almost certainly not wanting a club continuation.
You can see the effect of cashing the K clubs (you just set up dummies Q + J).
The amateur plays A + K clubs then thinks ; the pro cashes the ACE , has a think and on this hand switches , to the J diamonds.
well you know who you are.
- 14) THe 7 Hrts was partner's lowest heart. Look at the cards you can see to work that out. So -we may as well lead it back and hope partner has been imaginative and has led from the KJ7. Well I had (I led the 7 Hrts in a real tournament) and no, my partner didnt lead the suit back. Did that matter ? Yes declarer chucked two losing hearts away.