

Answers Weak and strong takeouts in competition

- 1) Pass – we know partner has bid at the lowest possible level and has ergo bid a weak takeout in hearts
- 2) This time partner has NOT bid 2H (the weak t/out bid) and has bid 3H. They are strong and so we raise to 4H
- 3) 3D
- 4) 4H must bid 4 and not 3 (3 would sound like a weak t/out)
- 5) Pass – 3C is also a weak take out and NOT Stayman.

NB if you want a rule which will come more and more into play as you learn more “ we don't play conventional bids after an intervening bid “. No te preoccupes for now but one day ...

- 6) responder is way too strong for the gambling raise call of 4sp ie 1s-----4sp is a weak sequence.

Responder needed to start a delayed game raise (bidding 2D on the first round) and later 4 Sp. Maybe after *that* sequence opener will go on to slam

- 7) same thing –responder needs to d-e-l-a-y the raise to 4H. Bid 1Sp on the first round

(7 again)

- (i) On the Ace Hrts partner played a LOW discouraging signal –ie they don't have the Q or a doubleton-switch to a new suit. J diamonds looks promising

- 8) (i) cover with the K (ii) DONT cover with the K (iii) cover with the Q

I'll leave the answer at that for now -try and work out the benefits of covering or in (ii) the impossibility of a benefit in covering

- 9) (i) either take a diamond finesse (5 to the Q) or play A + K + Q hrts and hope the 2 is now a winner.

The finesse is a 50% chance and the 3-3 break in hearts (which is what u would have to hope for) is only 36%. So the finesse is the right play

- (ii) looks like you might have 9 tricks from the off.

le the diamonds the AKQ3-----7654 are likely to be 4 tricks.

The best play is to test the diamonds –if indeed they “break” and we have 4 diamonds then great but if they don't break then tant pis – we need to try something else.

Next chance is to play A then K then Q hearts –id they break GREAT again (we have 9) finally if the hearts didn't break then you are forced to rely on the club finesse.

Note that the club finesse ((5-----to the Q) was the very last thing we tried.

The trick is to test suit (breaks) without losing the lead. If something doesn't work we still have the lead to try another chance.