

Homework answers –takeout doubles

1) actually no...

The doubler had the correct points 12 + BUT they didn't have the shape. If they should have been short in opener's suit and long in the other suits.

How important is this ? Very, for a first round (simple) take out double

2) now the doubler does a delayed t/o/dble –first waiting to see what will happen over 1NT and only coming to life after South has responded with a weak takeout call of 2H.

They have 12+ pts (when actually less would have been ok) so pointwise they are right.

What about shape ? It is true they are a bit flat (and aren't short in the opponents suit of hearts) but that is ok for a delayed t/out dble.

3) The double is wrong. More points are needed to compete with a pre-empt. (You need approx 16+). Think about it-your double would demand partner responds at the 3 level –well if u only have 13 pts partner would be entitled to feel a bit cheated off. And when they add that to your sins of never knowing what a weak takeout is or a strong takeout or how many points you need to call NTs you can imagine they will not be delighted to partner you. Anything you can do about that ? How about LEARNING the correct calls instead of trying to bluff your way through?

4) you will be bidding spades of course. How many ? The doubler has 12+ pts so surely we can bid 3Sp safely enough. That's the call. 4Sp ? not ridiculous and if u r a good card player ok why not.

5) This time you definitely bid 4Sp. Why ? Coz your partner has 16+ pts.

6) (i) declarer has the Q .

(ii)Q is with partner

(iii) declarer has the K clubs partner has the J clubs

I haven't explained those because u really need to try and work it out for yourselves. The clues though are that

(a) partner will try to win with the lowest of touching honors (e.g the J when holding KQJ)

(b) partner will win with their highest when they don't hold touching honors (e.g the K with KJ10)

(c) declarer will want to win as cheaply as they can when they have gaps e.g with the J with AKJ

7) (iv) win Ace hearts and play a heart back at trick 2 to create a void in dummy

8) This is a suit preference situation. The 2 hearts would ask for a club and the 10 hearts ask for a diamond. Well which do you want , more ? The Ace diamonds will always make a trick so that's not an issue. You would like partner to lead a club though so the 2 hearts at trick 1 will send that message.