

Answers game raises

- 1) 2D ie the start of a DGR
- 2) 4D splinter
- 3) 4H gambler
- 4) 3S limit raise 10-12
- 5) 4C
- 6) 3D (three diamonds) jump shift
- 7) 4S
- 8) *** this question has sneaked in (and shouldn't be here !) and you probably don't know whats going on in the bidding yet and so is unfair . Opener has bid a cuebid ...a subject which hopefully we will cover this year. Meanwhile 4NT would be a fair answer.
- 9) again 4NT looks the value call. Opener has 15-17 pts and a six card heart suit so things look rosy
- 10) pass
- 11) 11) close to 4NT but I think a sign off in 4H is better NB the reason is that our K + Q clubs may be of no extra use opposite our partners singleton club. But you never know ...
- 12) Now 4NT is clear.
- 13) Partner's 9 hearts is a signal (that's a given) but what sort of signal ?
When there is a singleton in the dummy in the led suit partner's signal becomes a SUIT PREFERENCE SIGNAL ie a high card asks for a high ranking suit and a low card a low ranking suit.
Here the 9 hearts asks for a diamond
- 14) You should switch back to diamonds.
Partner's diamonds are very likely to be something of the order of AKJ(x) . They started with the Ace (got a negative signal from you) so switched to a top of nothing club (in the hopes you would win and go back to the 1st suit). Think about it. Its not some abstruse signalling method just common sense.
- 15) ah ha ...the companion question to question 14 above.
At trick 2 you should NOT play the K clubs (but switch). Here you should switch to the top of nothing 9 diamonds.

Let me try and understand why you got it wrong (if you did).

You were on lead with the AKJ10 clubs.

You probably thought "great I will take two club tricks and then look elsewhere".

Now that's not dumb but more experienced players would think

"Great I have two likely tricks in the A + K clubs BUT I want to make a 3rd trick with the J clubs.

To this end I will lead the Ace clubs (to see if partner signals they have the Queen) –if they don't have the Q I will switch and wait for partner to lead a club back to me...when I will make the J and K."