

DGRs and gambling raises

Suppose your partner opened 1Sp and you held :

QJ9876
KQ3
void
8765

would you think of raising to 4Sp ?

Well you should , not least because your partner will make 4Sp.

Just to add your points up to 8 and bid only 2Sp would not do justice to the hand. Such a bid of 2Sp would pay no attention to the great distribution. You *might* decide to bid 4Sp because you have 8 high card pts *and* 5 distributional points all adding up to 13 pts. Or you might just think " hang it, we must have a chance , lets bid 4 and see what happens ".

All of which is very reasonable.

The only fly in the ointment will come if partner believes that you have 13 high card points and goes on to six spades. A contract you would be less sanguine about.

So , we need a method which allows us to make sporting raises to 4Sp and deep and meaningful raises based on high card points.

We have seen that bidding 4Sp directly can be based on distributional features so how shall we bid this hand as responder ?

e.g 1Sp ----- AQxx
 Kx
 KQxx
 xxx

The answer is that we *do* raise to game but that we delay that raise to game { we don't do it straight away }.

Like this :

e.g 1Sp -----2D
 2H -----4Sp
 AQxx
 Kx
 KQxx
 xxx

This Delayed Game Raise { DGR } is an encouraging raise to game. Opener can trust the delay in getting to 4Sp as promising 13-15 pts .