

Suppose both the opponents bid ( or there is a two level overcall ) either of which will take up even more bidding space.

e.g	N	E	S	W
	1D	1H	P	2H
	?			

e.g	N	E	S	W
	1D	2H	P	P
	?			

This seems more awkward { and clearly 1NT is no longer an option ! } but you should still try to compete *if your hand warrants it*.

Here are 3 strong/goodish hands that North might hold.

i) AQx	ii) AQ	iii) AQxx
Axx	xx	x
KJxx	AQJxxx	KJxxx
Kxx	Qxx	AQx

It is riskier -but bidding on { *taking the push* as it is known } is usually right. Notice that "Double" is almost certainly the best move with hands (i) and (iii).

Will there be hands which just don't fit the bill { for which there is no descriptive bid available} ? Inevitably there will be hands for which there is no perfect answer.

Here is such a hand :-

e.g	N	E	S	W
	1C	1H	P	2H
	?			
	AQ			
	xxx			
	KJxx			
	AQJx			

You can't help thinking that your opponents are messing you around somewhat ! You have 17 pts and surely a natural right to be playing the hand and the opponents are bidding their silly suit.....

Pass of course is the safest bid but "Double" still has a lot going for it.

If partner bids Clubs or Diamonds things will be fine ; and if partner is oafish enough to bid spades ? Well they might have 5 or 6 of them on a good day.

{{ Did you notice that you have three small Hrts and realise that the opponents will have 8 or 9 Hrts between them on the bidding ? That would further mean that partner could well have a singleton Hrt and quite possibly a 5 card suit of their own. }}

