

The last bidder has so far only overcalled in a suit. Other options will include :

ii) take out doubles

iii) bids of 1NT

ii)	N	E	S	W
	1C	P	P	Dble
				QJ76
				Q65
				KJ32
				43

West's double has been made on less than the usual requirements { and may be made on as little as 8 pts }. West's philosophy should be to find any sort of bid that will prevent opener playing undisturbed at the one level.

iii)	N	E	S	W
	1C	P	P	1NT
				Q876
				Q65
				KJ3
				Q43

West's bid of 1NT is clearly no thing of beauty ! but is still the right call. With a balanced hand , a "stop" in the opener's suit and 10-14 pts West should bid a protective 1NT.

Whichever bid West { the last bidder} makes , it has to be accepted that the call can be made on fewer points than is usual. Now -saying it can be made on less than the usual is not to say that it has definitely been made on less than normal.

It can be seen here for instance that West here has quite a good hand for their bid..

ii)	N	E	S	W
	1C	P	P	1H
				A3
				KQJ653
				K82
				43

How is East to know which type of hand their partner has ? Is it "protective" with 8 pts or a full blooded standard overcall. Well often East will have a fair idea whats going on from how strong they are. If they have 13 pts themselves it is perhaps unlikely that their partner too has 13 pts. Nonetheless there will be times when East doesn't know for sure. In such circumstances East must make allowances for West's bids. East does best to assume that partner *may* only have 8 pts or so and not to bid as freely { and high} as they normally might. Here is an example of this sensible approach.

e.g	N	E	S	W
	1C	P	P	1H
	P	3H		
		A4		
		A432		
		KQJ		
		7654		

East has a good hand of course and may be tempted to raise to 4 Hrts . A cautious 3H though is a better effort
If West has only 8 pts , then they will stop ,and if they have more... then they can continue to 4H.

