

DEFENSE TO CAPELLETI 2C OVER 1NT OPENING

Narayan Iyer's(Chennai) question :-

I came across a bidding problem for which have not been able to find the right solution. Partner opens 1NT (15-17) and your RHO overcalls 2clubs (Capp-single suit) and you hold, ♠AKxx ♥Jxxxx ♦Jxx ♣x. any major suit bid at 2 level would be signoff. for all practical purposes you know that the single suit is most likely to be clubs. Would 3 clubs still be stayman or would it be DAB. How can you show a 5 card suit and suggest game opposite minimum NT opening. if partner holds ♠QJx ♥KQ ♦AQxxx ♣Jxx is there some way we need to be stopping at 4 diamonds. Can I have your view on this please?.

Narayan Iyer

Sridhar's views :-

I have a simple method to bid over Capp 2C ; the only bid the responder to 1N has lost is 2C ; I use the Double to show this 'stolen' bid and all other bids , ignoring the 2C bid; I e System on . Thus, 2C –Double =Stayman ; 2D/2H etc transfers as if the bidding went 1N-(pass)-?

This is a simple, yet effective solution and I recommend this.

I also would like to use this opportunity to point out a common mistake that many make during competitive auctions – an example is contained in your statement “for all practical purposes you know that the single suit is most likely to be clubs. would 3 clubs still be stayman” ! You have every reason to expect RHO's suit to be clubs in view of the singleton that you hold, **BUT HOW DOES YOUR PARTNER KNOW?** Hence bidding on the assumption that Clubs are held by RHO and expecting Partner to be in tune is unwise and will lead to misunderstanding. What is obvious to you based on your hand cannot be obvious to partner. Such mistakes are common and cause frequent misunderstanding, every bridge player should consciously avoid it.

Best wishes.