

## Preempter's further bids

### Question from Mr.Khan :

“ preempted 3 club from second seat with A K Q 9 7 5 3, partner bids 3 NO\_TRUMP, RHO doubles, What action should I take?. What action if my club suit is AQJ9764.”

### Sridhar's views :

Your RHO is a passed hand and has doubled 3N now – it can only mean either (1) it is a PENALTY DOUBLE with a running suit , AKQJX or AKQ10X in some suit OR (2) more sensibly it is a take out double of clubs . You ( and your partner) should first enquire and find out which one does the double mean .

There is no need for you to take any decision ahead of your partner since he should also be aware of what the double means and can take a decision provided you give him the information he needs – i. e you hold a solid suit OR a broken suit with no values outside.

If the Double is for penalties :

You have to choose between a PASS and a REDOUBLE ; traditionally a redouble means you are confident of making the contract and a pass will show a neutral position or doubts to an extent. In the modern game many partnerships reverse the meanings – I e REDOUBLE shows doubt and encourages partner to take out, while a pass would suggest playing 3N X. You may discuss with your partner on what you wish to play but it is useful to reach an understanding on the meaning of a Redouble in such situations.

The two club suit holdings you have given are both GOOD for playing 3N ; I would be confident of making 3N with both holdings. Your partner should be happy to get a dummy with a zero OR one loser suit. In any case , if the penalty double is based on fast cashing tricks , the solidity of your club suit is not the focus point.

If the Double is for take out :

Your redouble can show running clubs ( by prior partnership agreement) and pass can show a broken suit – this will help partner to decide between bidding further over the run-out on his right ,( say he may choose to bid 4N if he knows you have running clubs) , and doubling them for penalties.