

Question From Mr. Jayakumar:

“Playing Matchpoints, As dealer (Vulnerable Vs. Non-vulnerable) I pick-up KQ98x, Kxx, xx, K8x. Playing precision I open 1S with reluctance. Opponents remain silent throughout. Partner responds 2C (no specific agreement with partner that 2/1 is forcing to game). I rebid 3C. Now partner bids 3S. Should I bid 4S, whatever be the understanding? I decided to PASS and made 230, as dummy came out with AJT, T8xx, A, AQTxx”

Sridhar's views :

Dear Jayakumar ,

I find your opening bid acceptable in Precision . You have faced a problem of playing with a stranger ; Bridge is fun when you play with your regular partner with whom you have a sound understanding ; I can appreciate your situation when you did not even have an agreement on whether 2 over 1 is GF or not. I am sure you would not have passed had you known it was Forcing.

However, you should consider the logic of bidding thus far, before you pass - over 3C , your partner bid 3S ; if he did not intend it as Forcing , why did he NOT pass your 3C ? Is he trying to say that 3S is a better MP spot ? cannot be , because he would have supported your suit WITHOUT mentioning clubs , right ? the minimum he can have is
AXX,XX,XXX,AQXXX - even here your 4S is on heart king being right .

I think you should have bid the game

With best wishes ,

Sridhar