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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch

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Q. 1 – Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K Q J 10 4 ♥A J 9 8 ♦Void ♣Q 10 6 3

The bidding has proceeded:

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♥ Pass ?

What do you bid?

A – As far as we are concerned, only two bids come into consideration – a simple one spade or a jump to two spades. We prefer one spade, allowing partner to make a natural response without being forced – we can always bid strongly thereafter. As for a splinter bid, we dislike making one with a void if there is any reasonable alternative available.

Q. 2 – Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠J 8 ♥Q 6 ♦A K J 10 4 2 ♣A J 10

The bidding has proceeded:

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

?

What do you bid now?

A – Your good six-card suit, fine intermediates and queen in partner's suit make your hand worth considerably more than its point count. Anything less than a jump rebid of three diamonds is a gross underbid.

Q. 3 – As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠J 9 2 ♥A 7 5 4 ♦K 7 ♣A K 6 3

The bidding has proceeded:

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♠ 2♦

?

What do you bid now?

A – You have a dead minimum balanced hand with only three-card support for partner's suit. That is what you want to portray, and only one action fits the bill – pass, before you get into trouble.

Q. 4 – Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K J 10 9 5 4 ♥9 5 ♦K ♣A K 7 3

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♠ Dbl 2NT* Pass

?

*Limit raise in spades

What do you bid now?

A – Partner has shown a hand weaker than a force to game. You have a six-loser hand. Why on earth should you expect partner to be able to cover five of them? Abandon any thoughts of slam. Bid four spades.

Q. 5 – As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠J 9 8 6 5 ♥Q 6 ♦K Q 5 4 ♣Q J

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

2♠* 3♣ ?

*weak

What action do you take?

A – Jump to four spades and leave the opponents guessing how the strength is divided.

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