

Practise Responder's Preference Rebid

NG34Bridge

Hand: 1 Dealer: North Vul: None West North East South 1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass 2♣ Pass ?	South ♠ A 6 5 4 ♥ Q 7 6 4 3 ♦ 9 4 ♣ 4 2
Hand: 2 Dealer: North Vul: None West North East South 1♠ Pass 1NT Pass 2♦ Pass ?	South ♠ Q 7 ♥ 10 6 4 ♦ J 7 3 ♣ A J 7 6 2
Hand: 3 Dealer: North Vul: None West North East South 1♠ Pass 1NT Pass 2♦ Pass ?	South ♠ Q 7 3 ♥ 10 6 ♦ J 7 3 ♣ A J 7 6 2
Hand: 4 Dealer: North Vul: None West North East South 1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass 2♣ Pass ?	South ♠ K 9 4 3 ♥ K 8 5 3 ♦ 7 ♣ 6 5 4 2

Answer: 2♦

You are very weak so you must make a preference bid. You know partner has at least five diamonds. Your bid does not promise any more than two diamonds.

Answer: 2♠

There are three likely lengths for partner in spades and diamonds: 5-4, 6-4 and 5-5. Facing the 5-4 shape, your choice is between playing in the 5-2 spade fit and the 4-3 diamond fit. You will usually find a 5-2 fit easier to play than a 4-3 fit because you can ruff something in the long hand and still have as many trumps as the defender with the longer holding. Facing the 6-4 shape, it is clearly better to play in the 6-2 fit for a combined total of eight trumps than in a 4-3 fit with only seven. Only when partner is 5-5 has your preference made the contract worse. Your rebid is called a 'false preference' rebid because you have rebid your two-card spade suit rather than your three-card diamond suit.

Answer: 2♠

North's 2♦ rebid promises 5+ in spades so you have an 8 card spade fit. Note that partner will not know whether you have made a genuine 3-card support bid as here, or a false preference bid with just two card support as in Hand 2. Partner must not assume that you have three spades.

Answer: Pass

Opener has 5+ diamonds and 4+ clubs. He has denied 4 hearts and 4 spades. He also has 12-18 points (with 19 points he would have jumped to 3♣). The partnership does not have enough points for game. We have an 8+ card club fit so we pass. This is called a preference pass, preferring partner's clubs.