

♣ **Gary's** ♦  
♥ **Top Bridge Tips** ♠

#2

**Captain my Captain**

When you make a pre-emptive bid either as an opening bid or as an overcall remember:

- The bid should describe your hand adequately.
- You should not freely bid again.
- Your partner becomes 'Captain' of the auction.
- If vulnerable, have a chunky suit!

I would not open 2♥ with: ♠2 ♥KJ10843 ♦K8763 ♣8

I don't feel 2♥ describes my holding. I am a 2-suited hand and diamonds could easily be the better contract. *Pass for now.*

I would not open 2♥ with ♠K943 ♥AJ10943 ♦6 ♣43

I don't like to open a 'Weak Two' with a four card major outside of my pre-emptive suit. If partner has 4+ spades we have missed our major suit fit! *Pass for now.*

I would not open 2♥ with ♠J83 ♥AK9543 ♦ -- ♣10984 because my style is not to open a 'Weak Two' with a void. 4♠ might well make opposite only: ♠AQ1096 ♥2 ♦J987 ♣AJ3

*Once you make a pre-emptive bid ask yourself if the bid you just made fully describes your values. If not, then maybe you should pass for now and await developments. Consider again: ♠J83 ♥AK9543 ♦ -- ♣10984 I also categorize this hand as a limit raise in spades should my partner open the bidding 1♠. I don't like to open a weak two with a hand that might be a limit raise in a major. Think about this and talk to your partner.*