

♣ Gary's ♦

♥ Top Bridge Tips ♠

#4

Weak Two Bids – Position

In real estate they talk about: location, location, location. With pre-emptive bidding it is all about: position, position, position, position. (1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th seat). The nature of your **Weak Two** bid is dictated in large part by your position at the table.

First and Second Seat: (**Chunky Suit**) I suggest you have a good suit. None of this 5-card suit shenanigans or bidding with a crappy suit. Most of your values should be in your suit! Discuss this with partner.

Third Seat: (**Barf Bag**) Partner and RHO have already passed. With a weakish hand and a long suit, this is a great time to pre-empt and suit quality is not an issue. The point is to disrupt LHO who is gnawing at the bit to open the bidding.

Fourth Seat: (**Extras**) With the other three hands unable to open, a **Weak Two** opening in fourth seat is not so weak as it promises an intermediate strength hand of around 11 to a bad 14. You are competing for the part-score, so state your case now, and state it with authority. Good chance it will keep the opponents out of the bidding!

Vulnerability: *Is a factor. My partner Gylfi Baldursson of Iceland and I were Kamikaze MP players, yet he still insisted on disciplined **Weak Twos**. When Vul we promised 2 of the top 3 honours. This might seem cumbersome, but being able to count on 2 of the top 3 honours made responding more comfortable and accurate. On the last hand of a team semi-final at a Regional in Quebec City years ago, Gylfi (vul) opened 2♠:*

West (Gylfi)	East (Moi)
♠ AK9873	♠ Q1062
♥ 83	♥ A7
♦ 84	♦ AJ32
♣ 1065	♣ A32

W opened 2♠ at the other table as well, but there E bid 4♠, while I (knowing Gylfi had the ♠AK) confidently bid 3NT. 12 IMPs to us and a win by 3 IMPs put us in the final! Yes this hand was picture perfect for our system. I have to say also that our disciplined style kept us out of auctions where others were in there pre-empting. (But that often kept us out of trouble too)! Make some agreements with partner now.

You do know...that a weak two in 1st or 2nd seat is not just about disrupting the opponents? It is also about placing partner in a good position to:

- 1) **Accurately judge the bidding**
- 2) **Making a good opening lead**