



Weak Two - Bids

© John Grossmann 2015, all rights reserved

Weak 2 opening bids are not new! They were first developed in 1925 by Harold Vanderbilt as part of a strong club system.

Modern bidding systems do not reserve 2D, 2H and 2S for the rare strong hand. Instead, the generic 2 Club bid is used for big hands ~ either distributional or balanced.

Goals of a Weak 2 Bid

The many goals of a weak two bid include: [1] preempting the opponents, [2] burning up bidding space, [3] suggesting an opening lead for defense, and [4] making opponents guess about their best contract....without damaging partner's ability to find a favorable contract.

Partnership Agreements About Weak 2 Bids

If you never have talked with your partner about weak 2 opening hands, you can not use this bidding convention effectively.

Bridge experts are all over the map about possible "rules" governing weak 2 bids. Some "rules" are so restrictive, that they severely limit the number of qualifying hands which reduces the effectiveness of the preemptive bid. But, the bigger issue is not what books or experts suggest, but what are your **partnership agreements**!

	Conservative Approach	Aggressive Style
Suit Quality	Must have 2 of top 3	Often only one of top 3, <u>or less</u>
Suit Length	Exactly 6 cards	80% of the time 6 cards, but use judgement in 3rd seat with 5 or 7 cards
Aces or Side Suit Honors	??	No more than 1 side suit trick
Other major	No 4 card major	No 4 card if partner has not bid
Voids	??	None if partner has not bid
Singletons	??	No more than 1
Points	6-11	5-10 (rarely a weak 11)
LTC	<i>Losing trick count of 6 or lower is <u>not</u> a weak hand !</i>	

When white on red (not vulnerable when opps are vulnerable) players should be more aggressive. Also, when partner has already passed - but make sure your partner understands and agrees! Pair vs team game, opponents, state of your game may also be factors. Whew!

N Colo March '15