

## It's Your Call July problems

Problem 1 from M.A. Lightman Bridge Club (Memphis).

Problems 2-5 from *District 8 Advocate*.

1. Matchpoints. Both vulnerable.

♠QJ52 ♥104 ♦KJ106 ♣AQ6

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	?

2. Matchpoints. East-West vulnerable.

♠QJ4 ♥AK863 ♦KJ ♣K102

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	?

(1) Weak.

3. IMPs. North-South vulnerable.

♠K1092 ♥AKQJ64 ♦— ♣K63

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	2♦	4♦
5♦	5♥	Pass	?

4. IMPs. Both vulnerable.

♠K82 ♥K65 ♦A10983 ♣64

West	North	East	South
1♠	2♠ <sup>(1)</sup>	2NT	?

(1) Michaels: hearts and a minor.

5. Matchpoints. No one vulnerable.

♠K10 ♥642 ♦1093 ♣K10832

West	North	East	South
1♠	Dbl	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	?

he's not happy about it. "I might bid something more to emphasize the quality of my suits. I do not like making this bid."

Four panelists follow Lawrence's advice and bid 3♠. "Shows a 5-6 game force," says Boehm. "2♠ could be a weak 5-6."

"A clear picture of 6-5 and good suits," says Kennedy. "2♠ would not do justice to my hand."

Cohen and the Colchamiro's say 2♠ "should be forcing" but they're not taking any chances and they also jump to 3♠.

The rest of the panel rebids 3♦.

"I would much rather tell partner about my good, long diamonds than about a five-card spade suit," says Meyers. "Partner has lots of clubs and hearts; we probably don't have a fit (unless partner has three spades), so I want to convey my good suit."

"Let's establish trumps before we branch out," advises Freeman as he bids 3♦.

"3♦," says Soloway, "emphasizes my solid suit. I want to play in diamonds."

Montin agrees. "Partner doesn't have three spades unless he is 3-4-0-6 or 3-4-1-5 and chose to bid 2♣ rather than 1NT on the latter hand. Partner will need quick tricks and a spade honor to make slam a good proposition."

5. IMPs. North-South vulnerable.

♠6 ♥Q65 ♦J83 ♣AQ10752

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	?



Call	Votes	Award
2♣	8	100
1NT	3	80
1♥	3	60
2♦	2	40
3♣	1	20

Sorry, folks, the Standard American Yellow Card (our bidding system) does not have a forcing minor-suit raise.

2♣, followed by 3♣, is an old-fashioned "drop dead" bid. A first-round jump to 3♣ is not invitational but a strong jump shift.

Do you really expect the auction to proceed 1♦-Pass-1NT-All Pass? You're looking at only four major-suit cards. Surely someone will balance and you'll get a chance to bid clubs (or raise diamonds, if partner has rebid that suit).

Gitelman says his 2♣ is "a slight overbid, perhaps, but the lesser of evils in my view (versus 1NT with a singleton spade or 1♥ or 2♦ with only three cards in those suits)."

Boehm also bids 2♣. "I like to

play this 2/1 can be shaded, else I'm forced to pick from the unpalatable alternatives of 1NT, 2♦ or even 1♥. 2♣ may win by preempting spades."

Baze sums up the case for 2♣: "If 2♣ followed by 3♣ is not forcing, I would do that. Otherwise, I would rather bid 1NT with a stiff and back in with clubs (or raise diamonds) later, rather than give a three-card diamond raise immediately."

Rigal opts for "2♣ followed by 3♣ if that is not a game force. Nothing will get me to bid 1NT with this hand — I fancy the 3-3 heart fit more."

Three panelists elect to bid 1NT. "If I have no invitational sequence, then 1NT," says Soloway.

Meckstroth also bids 1NT. "1♥ is possible, but I'm not that excited about playing in hearts."

Falk casts his vote for 1NT. "At least, 1NT over 1♦ always shows clubs (unless 3-3-4-3) and I am maximum for my notrump range."

Sanborn elects to bid 1♥, explaining, "I'm not comfortable with the 2♣/3♣ route when I have good support for a real diamond suit. I can't bid 2♣, however, then raise diamonds as that would create a force."

Neither will Cohen, who says both 1NT and 1♥ "have big flaws, but 1♥ is the 'expert' choice — and since I'm on this panel, I'm supposed to go that route." □

## Appeals seminar

The ACBL will organize another combined dinner and teach-in about the appeals process at the 2004 Summer NABC in New York. Players interested in serving on appeals committees are urged to attend. Jeff Polisner and Barry Rigal will discuss misinformation during the meeting, scheduled to take place between the afternoon and evening sessions Saturday, July 10. Pizza will be provided. Check the Daily Bulletin at the NABC for location. Rigal is chairman of the National Appeals Committee. Polisner is counsel to the World Bridge Federation and an NAC vice chairman.