

u have the ace-king-jack. If you intend to continue hearts you could be overtaken to do so. So, what does our ♠ J mean? Count wouldn't be too important here, so the signal should be *it preference*. This application is fairly common when signaling at trick one on dummy's side-suit singleton. Your partner will know from the your ♥ J that you have a high spade card.

Armed with that information, he can decide if he should try for some spades, tap dummy or switch to trumps. This was the full deal:

♠ Q 10 2  
♥ 5  
♦ A 2  
♣ A K 7 6 5 4 2

♠ K J 7 6 4  
♥ Q 8 3  
♦ 9  
♣ Q 10 8 3

N	E
W	S

♠ A 9 8 3  
♥ A K J 10 9 2  
♦ J 8  
♣ 9

At the table, a many-time national champion overtook the heart at trick one

## Special Events Calendar

- 002**  
August  
North American Pairs Club Qualifying — A, B & C  
North American 49er Pairs  
ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game
- September  
Sept. 12 (Thursday evening)  
Club Appreciation Month Games  
Canada-wide Olympiad; Fund Game #2
- October  
Oct. 3 (Thursday evening)  
Dec. 2 (Monday evening, analyses)  
Dec. 2-8 (Shuffle & deal)  
ACBL-wide Charity Game  
ACBL-wide Charity Game Week
- 1003**  
Jan. 25 (Saturday afternoon, analyses)  
Jan. 20-26 (Shuffle & deal)  
International Fund Game #1  
International Fund Game Week #1  
Junior Fund Games  
ACBL-wide Senior Game  
ACBL-wide Charity Game #1  
ACBL-wide Charity Game Week #1  
Canada-wide Olympiad Fund Game #1  
International Fund Game #2  
International Fund Game Week #2
- February  
Feb. 24 (Monday afternoon)  
International Fund Game #1  
International Fund Game Week #1  
Junior Fund Games  
ACBL-wide Senior Game  
ACBL-wide Charity Game #1  
ACBL-wide Charity Game Week #1  
Canada-wide Olympiad Fund Game #1  
International Fund Game #2  
International Fund Game Week #2
- May 12-18 (Shuffle & deal)  
International Fund Game Week #2

and tried the ♠ A and another spade. Declarer ruffed, ruffed a heart in dummy and had 11 tricks for plus 750.

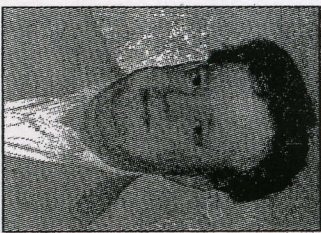
If you signal with a high heart, partner will figure out the right defense. He'll gladly switch to a trump. Declarer can win and ruff a heart in dummy, but can't come to 11 tricks. (If he ruffs a heart with dummy's other trump, he can't score his ♠ A K; if he tries anything else, the defense always has an easy path. For signaling properly, you score plus 200 and gain a few IMPs against the field.

There were some plus 620s your way, but many minus 200s (in five of a major), and yes, some minus 750s against 5♦ doubled. If partner had found a trump lead (quite possible), the defense would have been much easier.

More "over-my-shoulder" deals are demonstrated on-line at <http://larryco.com/>. You may try the deals at no cost or order any of the CD-ROMs Play Bridge with Larry Cohen — 1999, Life Master Pairs or Kit Woolsey's Cavendish 2000 at the site or toll-free at 1 (800) 386-7432. □

# Mike's Advice

Mike Lawrence



## Conventions — part 7

When the opponents double a Jacoby transfer

West North East South  
Pass 2♥ Db1 INT (15-17)  
? ?

Here is one of those auctions that really does occur at the table. Do you know how the bidding should continue from here? For instance, what does opener do if he has just two spades, the suit responder is showing? What does a redouble mean by opener?

There is more than one treatment and these questions have more than one answer. Recently, I have decided to give up on playing in 2♥, doubled or redoubled, for the reason that it happens rather seldom. Do you remember the last time you played in 2♥ doubled after the auction started as shown? Or 2♥ redoubled?

Here is a thought that seems to work. It is reasonable and it also occurs with some frequency, a useful measure of any convention. After your right-hand opponent doubles your partner's transfer bid, try using this scheme:

• Pass: This call shows exactly two cards in partner's major suit. It says nothing about having a maximum or a minimum hand.

• 2♣: Accepting the transfer by bidding the major suit shows three- or four-card support but also implies a minimum hand.

• Rdbl: A redouble shows three-card

support and a maximum hand or four-card support and better than a minimum.

• 3♣: A jump in partner's major promises a useful maximum with four trumps.

Some examples:  
♠ 8 3 ♥ A K J 8 ♦ A J 4 ♣ K 10 9 5

Pass. Your pass does not say you want to play in 2♥ doubled, a popular interpretation. It just says you have only two spades, the suit partner is showing.

♠ K J 3 ♥ Q J 7 ♦ K Q J 8 ♣ K 7 3  
♠ K Q 8 3 ♥ J 8 3 ♦ Q J 4 ♣ K Q J

Bid 2♣ with both hands. Your partner will learn you have genuine spade support but otherwise, not much to talk about. This is good information for your partner to have. If he has a minimum hand, he may judge that trying for game is dangerous. Also, if the opponents bid on, he will know it is wise to compete in his major or to do something else, such as double.

## Pittsburgh Regional August 27-September 2, 2002

Tournament Information  
Judy & Harold Hafner 412-521-1267

Partnerships  
Ernie Retetagos 412-821-6990

See July Bridge Bulletin for full schedule and details.