

## Margaret River Bridge #080227c09

A pre-emptive bid is a bid that is made when you have a very long suit but not a lot of points. The aim of this bid is to try to prevent the opposition from communicating with each other and possibly keep them out of a good contract. You must be careful when choosing to do a pre-emptive bid since it can also have the same effect on your own partnership.

In today's hand, North could open with a pre-emptive 3S bid, but this would be a very poor bid since their hand is actually too strong and would prevent their partner from fully exploring all options. I would prefer North to open with a 1S bid, even though they do not have 13 points (they do have a definite 6 playing tricks, which is much stronger)

Dealer - North	♠AKJ T 8 5 4	
Vul - NS	♥6	
	♦Q 8 6 5	
	♣T	
	N	
♠7 3		♠9 6 2
♥8 5 3 2	W	♥K Q J
♦K 4		♦10 7
♣KQ 7 5 3		♣J 9 8 6 4
	S	
	♠Q	
	♥A T 9 7 4	
	♦AJ 9 3 2	
	♣A 2	

### Bidding

N	E	S	W
1S	P	2H	P
2S	P	3D	P
4D	P	4NT	P
5D	P	6D	all pass

South can now respond 2H indicating that they have at least 10 points and four (but more likely five) hearts. North shouldn't get too excited about this since without a fit they may not be that strong and their partner thinks they have more points than they do. The 2S is very much a slow down bid.

South continues to push on with 3D, indicating four or more diamonds and a strong hand. North supports this with a 4D bid indicating four card support and a dislike for no trumps.

South is now quite keen to explore the options for slam, but can not bid 4C, asking for Aces. Many partnerships have an understanding at this point that 4NT would now be Ace asking, especially when partner has indicated that they do not like NT. North responds by telling partner that they have one Ace and South decides to take the risk and bid a slam in diamonds.

West will most probably lead the King of Clubs, to promote their Queen, but as the cards lie, the slam makes easily on any lead and South is rewarded for their persistence and North is rewarded for keeping their options open with their first bid. If North had bid 3S (or even 4S) as an opening bid, then that is where they would most probably have stayed unless South did a speculative jump to 6S, which is highly unlikely.

Last week was the second round of the three week competition and the winners on the Monday night were Bruce Darby and Sally O'Rourke. Handicap winners (but overall leaders) were Roger and Dianne Last. To find out more about local bridge, including information on the upcoming beginners lessons, go to our website at <http://www.holidaymargaretriver.com.au/bridge>