

2NT Feature Ask - Opener has a solid opening suit

Board 1 North - 11 - (7)

Dlr: North ♠ KT

Vul: None ♥ 43

♦ AKJ643

♣ 982

West - 7 - (8)

♠ 96

♥ AJT76

♦ 52

♣ QT74

East - 6 - (9)

♠ Q8732

♥ 985

♦ 97

♣ A65

South - 16 - (7)

♠ AJ54

♥ KQ2

♦ QT8

♣ KJ3

W N E S

2♦ P 2NT*

P 3NT¹ P P

P

*feature ask
¹solid diamonds

Par: NS 3N+1; +430;

Double Dummy Makeable Contracts

NT ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

N: 4 2 5 1

S: 4 1 5 2

E:

W:



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Responder uses the Rule of 17 and wants to explore for game in opener's suit or in NT.

Bidding 2NT (alerted) asks opener to show a feature (Ace, or protected King or Queen) in a side suit. Opener's response, though, depends on his points and other aspects of his hand.

When opener has points in the high end of the weak 2-bid range (9-11 is in the high end of the 5-11 range), and has AKQ or AKJ in the long suit, he should bid 3NT. Responder now has a good picture of opener's hand and can decide whether to stay in the NT game or do something else.

This is a great NT hand for North/South. But if South didn't have such a balanced hand with stoppers, he could have switched to 5♦.