

Case 1: You have this hand

S Qx  
 H xx  
 D QJTxxx  
 C xxx

Partner opens 1N and your RHO bids 2H, what do you do?

1N    2H    ?

You would like to compete to 3D but sadly 3D is a forcing bid, so I guess you pass. Partner cannot bid again, so the opponents make 2H for +110 and you were cold for 3D +110 your way, bad board.

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Case 2: You have this hand

S Qx  
 H Jxxx  
 D KQTxx  
 C xx

Your LHO opens 2H and partner doubles. Pass by RHO. You bid 3D.

	Prtnr		You
2H	X	P	3D
P	?		

Partner has .....

S AKxx  
 H Ax  
 D Axx  
 C Kxxx

And since she does not know if you have 0 pts or 9 pts, passes 3D. You make 4 but score badly as half the room has played in 3N making 3.

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Case 2b: You have this hand

S xx  
H Txx  
D Q9xxx  
C xxx

	Prtnr		You
2H	X	P	3D
P	?		

Partner has (same hand as above)

S AKxx  
H Ax  
D Axx  
C Kxxx

Partner did not like the bad board from before so figures 3N might have a play.  
Down 3 vulnerable = -300 and a bottom board, sigh

Clearly, the problem is responder can have anywhere from 0 to 9 pts for a regular response.  
Solution to the above bidding problems

### Lebensohl Convention (Leb)

General: The responder bids 2N as an artificial relay, telling partner to bid 3C. Now responder can bid their suit to play or pass to play 3C. Other sequences exist that define specific hands, such as with or without stoppers in the opp's suit.

- Consider this hand S xx H xx D Jxx C KJxxxx
  - 1N (2H) ?
  - You would like to play in 3C but bidding 3C would be game-forcing
  - Solution play Leb.: bid 2N to get partner to bid 3C, then Pass

	2N	(P)	
3C	(P)	P	(P)
  
- Consider this hand S Qx H xx D QJxxxx C xxx
  - 1N (2H) ?
  - Solution: play Leb: bid 2N to get partner to bid 3C, then bid 3D to play

	2N	(P)	
3C	(P)	3D	AP

- If responder has a suit they can bid at the 2-level, say spades, they can bid 2S to play, 3S forcing, and 2N Leb followed by 3S as invitational
  - 1N (2D) 2S = To play
  - 1N (2D) 3S = forcing
  - 1N (2D) 2N (P)  
3C (P) 3S = Invitational

#### Situations for Lebensohl

1. RHO overcalls partner's 1NT opener
2. Partner doubles opponent's weak 2-bid
3. Partner has reversed

Now that you have taken over the 2N bid, what else can we do with this "extra" sequence ?

- A direct cuebid of opp's suit is forcing Stayman but **without** a stopper in opp's suit
  - 1N (2H) 3H P  
3S (P) 4S AP
- Bidding 2N Leb. followed by a cuebid of opp's suit is forcing stayman but **with** a stopper in opp's suit
  - 1N (2H) 2N P  
3C (P) 3H P  
3N AP
- A direct bid of 3N is natural but **without** a stopper in opp's suit
  - 1N (2D) 3N P  
4C (P) 5C AP
- Bidding 2N Leb. followed by 3N is natural but **with** a stopper in opp's suit
  - 1N (2D) 2N P  
3C (P) 3N P  
P (P)

Remember clause: "Slow shows, fast denies"

Hands to Play: Bidding\Lebensohl Convention Hands; #1, #2