

Re: Board 15

Jeff Kroll <texas.blue.hen@gmail.com>

Sat 9/10/2022 2:59 PM

To: Susan Domsalla <sdomsall@msn.com>

Hi Susan,

There are 3 key points here.

1. Not always, but the vast majority of the time, the guideline/rule of 22 ($20 + 2$) works on deciding whether to open or not. You have 8 (5 clubs + 3 spades) cards in your two longest suits + 12 hcp = 20. You have 2 quick tricks with the AK of spades. That's the $20 + 2$ telling you that you should open. This is true in any position.
2. When your hcp + number of spades = 15, you should open in 4th position. [Rule of 15 \(Cassino Points, Pearson Points\): Bridge Bidding \(bridgehands.com\)](#).
3. When you have a close bid, and you think the vast majority of the players will make a bid that's one of the choices, bid with the majority. The idea is that you want to avoid really bad boards which can happen when you choose a bid most won't make.

So, you should open this 1C.

Having said that, you were unlucky. A doubleton Q is not worth a full 2 points unless partner has shown values in that suit. Your hcp are in your short suits where they are less valuable than they would be in your long suit. This is a very marginal opener. The main reason I would open it is point #3. Most people will open any 12 hcp hands. They may end up being sorry. But they will have lots of company if they are. By passing, you could have gotten a top or near top, but you risked a bottom or near bottom.

One last thought on opening marginal hands is to consider your opponents. It's generally not a good idea to pass out hands against weak players.

Hope this helps.

Jeff

On Sat, Sep 10, 2022 at 2:07 PM Susan Domsalla <sdomsall@msn.com> wrote:

I passed in 4th seat...12 hcp; 2 in a doubleton Q. Terrible board for us. Should I have opened 1C?

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The screenshot displays a card game interface with a green background. At the top left, a red-bordered box contains the number '15' and a small red 'D' below it. To the right, a grey header shows 'N Jeanvillag' with a '5+' score. Below this, a white box lists the cards: ♠ Q65, ♥ 1097432, ♦ QJ9, and ♣ Q. A blue menu icon is in the top right corner.

The middle section features four player cards. On the left, 'W hans07' has a '9' score and cards: ♠ J109, ♥ AJ5, ♦ A10862, ♣ J7. In the center, a grey box shows 'W N E S' with 'Pass' under 'S' and 'Pass Pass Pass' below. On the right, 'E sdomsall' has a '6+' score and cards: ♠ AK8, ♥ Q6, ♦ K75, ♣ 109862.

At the bottom of the main area, 'S lesliel' has a '7+' score and cards: ♠ 7432, ♥ K8, ♦ 43, ♣ AK543. Below the cards are four buttons: 'Previous deal', 'Previous trick', 'Next trick', and 'Next deal'.

The bottom status bar shows a green heart icon, a weather icon, '90°F Partly sunny', an upward arrow, a monitor icon, and the time '2:02 PM' with the date '9/10/2022'.