

Better Rebids Through Transfers

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TO THE EDITOR:

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This was October 2017 Master Solvers'
Club Problem B:

Matchpoints
East-West vulnerable
You, South, hold:

♠ K J 10 9 ♥ 10 ♦ 10 3 ♣ A 9 6 5 3 2

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
?			

*BWS: 3 ♣ nonforcing

What call do you make?

Action	Score	Votes
3 ♣	100	14
Pass	80	7
2 ♥	70	5
2 NT	60	1
2 ♠	50	1
else	0	0

Some panelists would have planned ahead by responding one notrump, but in a non-Flannery context (such as BWS), they might have caught partner with four spades; and bypassing spades might work badly even if North held only three spades.

In Major Problems (June 1996 issue), I suggested using transfer rebids after a one spade response to one heart: *two hearts* shows a hand worth two-and-a-half hearts, *two diamonds* shows either a minimum with hearts or extra values with three spades and six hearts, *two clubs* shows diamonds, and *one notrump* show clubs. A cost is the loss of a natural one-notrump rebid.

On the deal in October 2017 B, opener would rebid two clubs to show diamonds, and responder's percentage action would be to pass (even if not a passed hand).