

Daily Bridge Club

Too much information

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TMI: an urban dictionary abbreviation for “too much information” — when you’re overloaded with more data than you can absorb.

I am convinced that bidding with weak hands can be a losing proposition. The opponents buy the contract, and declarer uses the information you gave him. In today’s deal, West’s two diamonds was a “Michaels cue bid,” showing length in both majors.

When North-South got to 3NT, West led the jack of spades. South took his ace and couldn’t force out the ace of diamonds, but since he knew West had long hearts, South led the ten at Trick Two: jack, queen, eight. He returned a club to his queen and led a heart to dummy’s seven. He won four hearts, four clubs and a spade.

OVERCALL

I could understand a one-spade overcall by West, but his actual call was a case of TMI. It told South what he needed to make 3NT.

If West had two low clubs and the singleton ace of diamonds, South could succeed by cashing his club tricks, catching West in a squeeze.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K J 10 9 6 ♥ J 9 6 4 3
♦ A 8 ♣ 2. Your partner opens one

diamond, you respond one spade and he bids two clubs. What do you say?

ANSWER: This may be a dangerous situation. If partner has a minimum hand with no tolerance for either of your suits, as you have none for his, you must stay low. Bid two spades to show long spades and fewer than 10 points. A forcing bid of two hearts would suggest more strength and might get you too high.

South dealer

Both sides vulnerable

NORTH

♠ 5 3
♥ A Q 7
♦ K Q 6 3
♣ K J 8 4

WEST

♠ K J 10 9 6
♥ J 9 6 4 3
♦ A 8
♣ 2

EAST

♠ Q 8 4 2
♥ 8
♦ 7 5 4
♣ 9 7 6 5 3

SOUTH

♠ A 7
♥ K 10 5 2
♦ J 10 9 2
♣ A Q 10

| South | West | North | East |
|-------|----------|-------|------|
| 1♦ | 2♦ | Dbl | 2♠ |
| Pass | Pass | 3♠ | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass | | |

Opening lead — ♠ J