

# Silence Your Ringtones BEFORE Starting!

- ♠ Part of the game, sadly, is dealing with interruptions: sudden noises from a nearby table, a chair scraping against the floor, an accident across the room involving broken glass. The Laws do not provide a remedy for this if you misplay or misbid as a result. During Expo '86 I defended a hand with multiple penalty cards because everyone but me knew that at 10pm there would be loud sudden fireworks noises only a few blocks away!
- ♥ Many such interruptions are preventable. I shush when the room gets too loud, and most know not to yell when it does. However....
- ♦ Too many of us are too cavalier with our electronic devices, forgetting to silence them as the game begins. Ringtones are just as jarring when you are faced with a difficult hand as fireworks are. So please, please be sure that they are turned to silent mode (real silent mode, not the one that can allow ringtones or alarms) before we begin, whether they are with you or stored elsewhere in a coat or a purse.
- ♣ If you need a reminder to take a pill at a certain time during the game, or you must be on call, vibrate mode will do the trick without inconveniencing others.

# Play **Better** Duplicate Bridge! – Quick Quiz

As dealer, is this hand good enough to open 2♣?

♠ AKQJ843   ♥ A43   ♦ Q73   ♣ (void)

Suppose you open 1♠ instead (not vulnerable) and your vulnerable LHO bids 2♥. The other two players pass. What will your rebid be?

(Answers on next slide....)

# Play **Better** Duplicate Bridge! – Quiz Answers

My rule for 2♣ openers comes from the classic book *Five Weeks To Winning Bridge*; in it, author Alfred Sheinwold advised this method: count your likely losers opposite nothing, and the quick tricks (max two per suit) in your hand. If you have equal or more quick tricks, you're good to bid 2♣! The East hand has 3 quick tricks and 4+ losers if West has a bust, so 1♠ is best. (I know, East wasn't actually the dealer, but I get this question often....) After a 2♥ overcall by South and two passes, East should....

....jump to 3♠! This tells West that East has a hand just short of a 2♣ opener with a long spade suit. West will surely raise to 4♠ with 7 points.

<b>#15</b>		<b>V</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	Feb. 17, 2026							
		♠	5	Dealer: S							
		♥	JT 8	NS Vul							
<b>N</b>	<b>WEST</b>	♦	9 8 6	<b>N</b>	<b>EAST</b>						
♠	T 7	♣	Q 9 8 7 6 4	♠	AKQJ 8 4 3						
♥	K 7			♥	A 4 3						
♦	K 5 4 2	<b>D</b>	<b>SOUTH</b>	♦	Q 7 3						
♣	JT 5 3 2	♠	9 6 2	♣							
	3	♥	Q 9 6 5 2		5						
7	HCP	16	♦	A J T	3	FRK	8				
	14	♣	A K		2						
<b>Tricks Available (best play by both sides)</b>											
	in	in	in	in	in		in	in	in	in	in
	NT	♠	♥	♦	♣		NT	♠	♥	♦	♣
<b>by N</b>	3	2	6	3	7	<b>by E</b>	10	11	6	9	6
<b>by S</b>	3	2	6	2	7	<b>by W</b>	10	11	6	9	6