



The responder's sputnik double

The sputnik double is a bid by the responder after an overcall

It promises:

- four cards in an unbid major, or an interest in the minors if both majors have been bid, a minimum strength of 7-8HCP with no maximum

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|----|----|
| | | 1♦ | 1♠ |
| X | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| A♠ | 10♠ | 9♠ | 8♠ | A♥ | J♥ | 9♥ | 7♥ | 7♣ | 2♣ | 9♦ | 6♦ | 5♦ |
|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|

[Problème E11571](#)

A sputnik DOUBLE >for the hearts

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|----|----|
| | | 1♦ | 2♣ |
| X | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| K♠ | Q♠ | J♠ | 9♠ | K♥ | 10♥ | 7♥ | 4♥ | 4♣ | 3♣ | 7♦ | 6♦ | 2♦ |
|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|

[Problème E1574](#)

sputnik double with 9HCP and four cards in each major, there's only one correct bid!



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As the bidding level goes up so does the number of points needed to double: at the one level 7-8HCP are enough at the two level you need 8-9HCP at the three level you need a minimum of 9-10HCP Be careful! There is no maximum to a sputnik double...

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | J | 6 | 3 | A | Q | 9 | 8 | A | K | 8 | 6 | 4 |
| ♠ | ♥ | ♥ | ♥ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♦ | ♦ | ♦ | ♦ | ♦ |

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|-----|-----|
| | | 1 ♦ | 1 ♠ |
| X | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Q | 10 | 8 | 4 | A | K | 9 | 7 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 2 |
| ♠ | ♠ | ♠ | ♠ | ♥ | ♥ | ♥ | ♥ | ♣ | ♣ | ♦ | ♦ | ♦ |

[Problème E5417](#)

DOUBLE A sputnik straight out of the book with four cards in each major and 9HCP!

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|-----|-----|
| | | 1 ♥ | 1 ♠ |
| X | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|
| 7 | 6 | 3 | 8 | K | J | 9 | 6 | 5 | A | J | 10 | 7 |
| ♠ | ♠ | ♠ | ♥ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♦ | ♦ | ♦ | ♦ |

[Problème E5143](#)

DOUBLE Specially for the minors when both majors have been bid, one by the opener and one by the overcaller.



The responder's sputnik double

The sputnik could be a good defensive bid against preempts. Assess your hand!

| S | W | N | E |
|---|---|----|----|
| | | 1♦ | 3♥ |
| X | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|
| Q♠ | J♠ | 9♠ | 7♠ | 4♠ | 4♥ | 3♥ | A♣ | 9♣ | 3♣ | K♦ | 10♦ | 7♦ |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|

Problème E4725

DOUBLE With enough strength to be thinking about game, you can perfectly well use the sputnik after the opponents' preempt. (3 spades would be forcing)



The responder's sputnik double

The ensuing bids

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|------|---|-----|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 8 | 7 | 6 | 10 | 5 | 4 | 3 | K | 5 | A | K | 5 |
| ♠ | ♠ | ♠ | ♠ | ♥ | ♥ | ♥ | ♥ | ♣ | ♣ | ♦ | ♦ | ♦ |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | | W | | N | | E | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 ♦ | | 1 ♠ | | | | | | |
| X | | Pass | | 2 ♥ | | Pass | | | | | | |
| Pass | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | 3 | K | J | 9 | 6 | A | 8 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 2 |
| ♠ | ♠ | ♥ | ♥ | ♥ | ♥ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♣ | ♦ | ♦ |

Problem E8458

PASS After doubling South passes. The opener has shown a first-zone hand so there aren't enough points for game.