15 - 2023 - 4H Opening

At the Bridge Club this week, we had a 4H opening bid 3 times during the round of 27 Boards, each time by different players

What would you have opened with each of these Hands?

4H OPENING - HAND 1 73

AKQ976 AJ1053

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4H OPENING - HAND 2 AQJ43

AKQJ5 108 2

4H OPENING - HAND 3 10

AKQ9842

43 Q73

Hand 1 has 4 losers, and is a clear 4H opening. You hope Partner can cover 1 loser, or if not, you can avoid 2 Diamond losers

Hand 2 also has 4 losers. It is not as clear that 4H is the right bid, as you only have 5 Hearts. Depending on your system, you could open 1H, then jump in Spades (a reverse), saying to Partner 'Pick the longer suit from your Hand'. Alternatively, bid 1S, then jump to 4H, again asking partner to select the longer suit

Hand 3 has 6 losers, but a 7-card suit, making 4H a more dangerous bid if Vul (if Vul, I would open 3H and see what happens). Opening 4H Not Vul may be a good call, as if Partner is weak, it may shut the Opponents out of finding their suit contract, or they may pick a wrong one

MORAL OF THE STORY

You should bid boldly in Bridge. Each of the above hands warrant consideration of a shut-out opening of 4H

Ian Morison

Bridge lover

5 May 2023