

26 - 2023 – Passing in a Hand

I sat West during the week, and this Hand came up:

Dealer N, EW Vul

WEST

KQ10
10953
J2
KQ83

The Bidding:

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
P	P	P	??? (1)

(1) I had 11 Points – do I bid or Pass?

It is highly likely the 29 other points are distributed evenly, and everyone has a flat shaped hand (otherwise someone would have bid)

Should you bid or Pass the Hand out?

You do not have a 5-card suit, nor any voids, and your side - EW - are Vul

But you have two 10s, which add a tiny bit

In these situations, I would Pass. That is what I did at our Table

Here are the full Hands:

83
Q7
AK864
J1075

KQ10
10953
J2
KQ83

J94
AK82
Q53
642

A7652
J64
1097
A9

It turns out that 2H makes when played by EW.

Many pairs play the rule of 15. Sitting in fourth seat add your points and the number of spades. If less than 15, pass.

At our game, there were many who passed it out, some played in 2H making, some 3H or 2NT all going down. We scored slightly under 50%

If you decide to bid, you would open 1C, Partner would bid 1H, and I would then Pass. If NS enter the bidding, you can always bid 2H. If they get to 2S, I would not compete further – they should go down in 2S with proper defence

MORAL OF THE STORY

You should have a plan to deal with a Pass out situation. I think my analysis is correct – Pass it out with no 5-card suit and when Vulnerable. But you should decide yourself

Ian Morison

Bridge lover

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