

**Board 2**  
 East Deals  
 N-S Vul

Penalty Pass

♠ 8  
 ♥ A K 10 3  
 ♦ K 8 7 5 3 2  
 ♣ K 7

♠ Q J 7 6 2  
 ♥ Q J 9 6 4 2  
 ♦ J  
 ♣ Q



♠ 5 4  
 ♥ 8 7  
 ♦ A Q 10 6  
 ♣ A J 10 5 3

♠ A K 10 9 3  
 ♥ 5  
 ♦ 9 4  
 ♣ 9 8 6 4 2

W 2♥; NS 2♦; EW 1♠; E 1♥; N 1♣; Par -110

West	North	East	South
<i>Matthews</i>		<i>Schwartz</i>	<i>Bergen</i>
		1♦	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All pass
2♠× by South			
Down 1 — NS -200			

Gary Schwartz and I traveled to Tampa to play five regional A/X/Y pair games. The turnout was not large, but some prominent stars were there, playing with clients. Sitting mostly East-West, as is our preference, we sat down against against Eric Rodwell several times. We did not play Jeff Meckstroth, who never played in the same direction as Rodwell. We also played against Les Bart. I'm sure there were others I did not recognize or remember.

This board came up the last time we played against Marty Bergen. Every round, he started with the announcement that they play undisciplined preempts, and he always thinks at trick one on defense.

Having seen some of those preempts, I decided on a penalty pass, going for the matchpoint top of +200. This could have boomeranged, as I had a fine heart suit. Bergen and I both made reasonable decisions. The star of the auction was Gary. Would you have reopened with a double?

Gary credited his friend Andy Halpern for pointing out decades ago that he did not need to be worried about hearts. If I had held a hand where I would hurt him in hearts, I would already have made a negative double.