

## February 2020 Hand of Month

Dir: S		19
Vul: EW	♠ AKQ 10 2	
	♥ 9 7 2	
15	♦ K 7	
12 3	♣ K 10 3	
10		
♠ 9 7 3	♠ J 8 5	
♥ K Q 10 6	♥ 5 4 3	
♦ Q 5	♦ 10 8 3	
♣ A J 9 4	♣ Q 7 5 2	
	♠ 6 4	
	♥ A J 8	
	♦ A J 9 6 4 2	
	♣ 8 6	

If partner overcalls, how do you play a new suit by you? Is it forcing or not. What does it show? These are questions all partnerships should discuss.

Do not play a new suit as an escape. If you have a weakish hand and no fit with partner's overcall, just Pass. In your convention card there are three choices listed under "Responses": New suit is Forcing, Not Forcing Constructive or Non-Forcing. My choice is Constructive - a decent suit (5 cards or more) 9 points or more and no fit with partner. Having this understanding consider hand # 19 at the Akron Unit Game on February 14. Here is the auction:

P - 1C - 1S - P

2D- P - 3NT

After passing South can make a "constructive" bid of 2D and North can now bid 3NT knowing partner has a decent hand and the Diamond King is very valuable. Do not worry about the heart suit. 3NT says I have a Club stopper and a good hand. This hand was played 6 times and game was reached once.