

## March 2021 Hand of Month

Dir: E		<b>18</b>
Vul: N-S	♠ 10 7 6 3	
	♥ A 9 8	
4	♦ 9 6 3	
22 8	♣ 8 5 2	
6		
♠ A J 9 4 2	♠ K Q 8 5	
♥ K	♥ Q 10 5 3	
♦ A Q 7 2	♦ J 8 5	
♣ A K J	♣ 7 3	
	♠ -----	
	♥ J 7 6 4 2	
	♦ K 10 4	
	♣ Q 10 9 6 4	

Tuesday March 23 evening game board 18 West has a problem opening bid. After two Passes West has a very good 22 point hand with "flaws". To open 2C with the intent of rebidding 2S requires 8 1/2 Tricks. This hand has 5 to 6 tricks - so that is not an option.

Best probable opening is 2C and rebid 2NT (22-24), but there is a singleton. Third option is to open 1S but you may miss 3NT if partner has 4 points.

So, there is a "fib" somewhere. Best fib: 2C followed by 2NT. Partner will bid Puppet Stayman, and you find your 9 card Spade fit. Partner's 8 points are not good enough for slam.

Be sure to count tricks when 2C is followed by a suit. Tricks is best, not "losers". They should be the same, but most often they are not.