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| DEFENSIVE AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING |
| OVERCALLS (Style; Responses: 1 / 2 Level; Reopening) |
| Aggressive style. May be 4 cards at 1-level with HHxx. |
| Raises are PRE, cue usually has 3-card support. |
| 2NT over 1M (with or without intervention) shows 4-card support. |
| Jump responses are FIT, jump cue is mixed raise. |
| New suit F at 1, 3 level & 2 over 2, constructive 2 over 1. |
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| 1NT OVERCALL (2nd/4th Live; Responses; Reopening) |
| 15-18 2 nd , 17-19 4 th live. |
| Responses as to 1NT opening. |
| 11-15 reopening. |
| Responses as to 1NT opening but 2♣ asks range and Ms. |
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| JUMP OVERCALLS (Style; Responses; Unusual NT) |
| Weak |
| 2NT = two lowest unbid suits |
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| Reopen: Intermediate (about 11-15, 6+ cards). 2NT 19-21 |
| DIRECT & JUMP CUE BIDS (Style; Response; Reopen) |
| Cue = Highest 2 unbid suits |
| Responses: cue FG agreeing major, 2NT = game try/FG with minor |
| Jump cue asks stopper |
| 1♥-4♥ = good 4♠, 1♠-4♠ = good 5m, 1m-4m = good 4M |
| VS. NT (vs. Strong/Weak; Reopening;PH) |
| 2♣ both majors, 2♦ one major, 2M suit plus minor, 2NT minors or any strong two-suiter. |
| After 2♣, 2♦ asks for longer M. After 2♦, M=P/C. |
| Double PEN v 14-16 or weaker. Dble by passed hand & v strong NT |
| = 5m and 4M |
| After 1NT – P – 3NT, 4C/D = Ms (linking longer) |
| VS.PRE-EMPTS (Doubles; Cue-bids; Jumps; NT Bids) |
| X=T/O. Over double of weak 2, 2NT = LEB, 3x = INV. |
| NT=NAT, system on (over 2NT), 4♣ Stayman, 4♦=sign off in M, ♥/♠ NAT INV (over 3NT). |
| Leaping Michaels, cue asks stopper v weak 2M, majors over 2D |
| VS. ARTIFICIAL STRONG OPENINGS- i.e. 1♣ or 2♣ |
| v 1♣, X=♥, 1♦=♠, 1♥/♠/NT CRASH. Weak jumps. 2NT any two-suiter, usually 6-5 or better. v 1♠-1♦, X=Ms 1NT=ms. |
| v 2♣-2♦, X shows diamonds, 2♣-X = clubs |
| OVER OPPONENTS' TAKEOUT DOUBLE |
| XX = 10+, PEN-seeking. Over 1♦/♥/♠, 2NT = sound raise to 3+. |
| Over 1♣, transfers, 1♠ = 4+-4+ ms, 2NT = 5-5 ms. |
| Raises are PRE, jumps are FIT with 4+-card support. |
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| LEADS AND SIGNALS | | | |
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| OPENING LEADS STYLE | | | |
| | Lead | In partners suit* | |
| Suit | 4 th (2 nd from bad suits) | 3 rd & 5 th /attitude | |
| NT | 4 th (2 nd from bad suits) | 3 rd & 5 th /attitude | |
| Subseq | Same | Same | |
| Other: King for count, ace for attitude. 6 th best if we have shown 5+. | | | |
| * 3 rd & 5 th if we have not supported or at 5 level & higher | | | |
| LEADS | | | |
| Lead | Vs. Suit | Vs. NT | |
| Ace | A(+) or AK(+) asks ATT | Usually AK, asks ATT | |
| King | KQ(+) or AK(+) asks CT | Asks CT/UNB | |
| Queen | QJ(+) | KQ(+), QJ(+) asks ATT | |
| Jack | (K)J10(+) | (A or K)J10(+) | |
| 10 | (H)109(+) | H109(+), 109(+) | |
| 9 | Shortage (9/9x) or H98(+) | 9x, H98(+) | |
| Hi-X | Xx, xXx(+) | Xx, xXx(+) | |
| Lo-X | HxX, HxxX(+) | HxX, HxxX(+) | |
| SIGNALS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY | | | |
| | Partner's Lead | Declarer's Lead | Discarding |
| 1 | Hi = E | Hi = E | Hi = E |
| Suit 2 | Hi = ENC | SP | SP |
| 3 | SP | | |
| 1 | Hi = E | Hi = E but see below | Hi = E but see below |
| NT 2 | Hi = ENC | SP | SP |
| 3 | SP | | |
| Signals (including Trumps): | | | |
| Mostly SP in trumps. Smith Peter on declarer's first lead v NT (if we show out, low encourages the suit led). | | | |
| DOUBLES | | | |
| TAKEOUT DOUBLES (Style; Responses; Reopening) | | | |
| Emphasis majors, minors unclear. May be weak if shape-suitable. | | | |
| After a short 1♣/1♦ opening, double could be weak NT type | | | |
| Reopening double may be a king weaker. | | | |
| SPECIAL, ARTIFICIAL & COMPETITIVE DBLS/RDLS | | | |
| Most low-level doubles are T/O or we have redoubled to show strength. | | | |
| If we have bid and raised a suit, MAX doubles apply. | | | |
| After a T/O double, responsive doubles apply to 4♦ and usually deny an unbid M (if both are unbid, doubles show none or both). | | | |
| Support doubles after 1♠-(P)-1♦/♥-non-jump. | | | |
| 1NT – P – 3NT – Dble asks for a spade | | | |

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| W B F CONVENTION CARD |
| CATEGORY: Green |
| NCBO: England |
| PLAYERS: Nicola Smith, Peter Crouch |
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| SYSTEM SUMMARY |
| GENERAL APPROACH AND STYLE |
| INT = 15-17 |
| Five-card majors; 1♣ NAT or BAL or 4-4-4-1 11-15; 1♦ 4+ ♦s |
| Transfer responses to 1♣ opening |
| 2♣ opening = weak 2♦ or Acol |
| 2♦ opening = weak only Multi |
| 2♥/♠ = NAT, 7-12, according to position and vulnerability |
| Initial actions fairly sound |
| 2/1 natural (except 1M-2♣), does not promise rebid |
| SPECIAL BIDS THAT MAY REQUIRE DEFENSE |
| 1♣ NAT or BAL outside NT range |
| Transfer responses at 1 level |
| 2♣ opening = weak 2♦ or Acol |
| 2♦ opening = Multi (weaker 2♥/♠ – can be passed) |
| 2♥/2♠ opening = ‘good’ weak two (7-12) |
| 3NT strong 4M opening (solid/semi-solid suit), to play 3 rd & 4 th |
| 1M-3♦ limit raise of major, 1M-3M PRE |
| Transfers after major-suit intervention over 1♣ or 1NT |
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| SPECIAL FORCING PASS SEQUENCES |
| After (1NT up to 16) X (2m) pass is F (X is PEN) |
| If we bid to game constructively, pass is F |
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| IMPORTANT NOTES |
| In high-level auctions, a new suit is assumed to show a fit for partner and may be only lead-directing. |
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| PSYCHICS: Almost never, no specific types |
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| OPENING | TICK IF ARTIFICIAL | MIN. NO. OF CARDS | NEG.DBL THRU | | | | |
|---------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | DESCRIPTION | RESPONSES | SUBSEQUENT ACTION | PASSED HAND BIDDING |
| 1♣ | Yes | 2 | 4♦ | All weak NTs open 1♣ unless 5M | 1♦=♥, 1♥=♠, 1♠=BAL or minor(s), 1NT=NAT, 8-10, 2♣ FG with 4+♣, 2♦=FG, 5+♦+other suit, 3♣=5-9 6♣ | 1♣-1♦/1♥-1♥/1♠ = weak NT approx. 1♣-1♦/1♥-1NT = F (usually 18-19 BAL) 1♣-1♦/1♥-3♦ = BAL raise. | 2♣ constructive NF Fit jumps |
| 1♦ | | 4 | 4♣ | Natural, 5 cards unless 4-4-4-1 | Natural, 2NT FG with ♦, 3♣ = limit raise SPL (10-12) , 1♦-1NT-2♣=transfer | 1♦ – 1M – 1NT = ART 15+, then 2♣/♦ relay 1♦ – 1M – 2NT = good raise + | Fit jumps (not 3♣) |
| 1♥ | | 5 | 4♦ | Natural | 2♣ NAT or 3-card limit raise, 2NT FG with ♥, 3♦ = limit raise, 3♠ = any SPL (10-12), 3NT/4♣/♦ = void, 1♥-1♠-2♣=artificial 16+ | Transfers after 1NT response 1♥ - 1♠ - 1NT = 12-16 1♥ - 2♥ - 2♠/1♠ - 2♠ - 2NT = any game try 2-way Checkback | Fit jumps 2NT = 4-card limit raise + cue = 3-card raise + Double jump = splinter |
| 1♠ | | 5 | 4♦ | Natural | As 1♥, (3NT = any SPL), 4♣/♦/♥ = void | | |
| 1NT | | | 4♦ | 15-17 May have 6m, rarely 5M May have singleton | 2♣ STAY, 2♦=♥ or balanced slam try 2♥ = ♠, 2♠ = ♣, 2NT = ♦ 3♣=5-4 minors, 3♦=5♠5♥FG, 3M=natural slam try, 4♣ Gerber, 4♦ = ♥, 4♥ = ♠ | 2♣-2♦-2♥/2♠=5-4 INV, 3♥/♠ Ms FG 2♦-2♥-2♠ balanced slam try 2♠/NT-3♣/♦ = fit New suit FG after TRF, jump auto-SPL | 3x INV, good suit |
| 2♣ | Yes | 0 | | Weak 2♦ (0–9) or 23+ balanced or any FG | 2♦ to play facing diamonds, 2♥/♠ = INV, NF, 2NT = relay, 3♦ = preempt, 3♥/♠ = F | 2♦ - 2NT = 3♣ = singleton somewhere (then 3♦ asks), 3♦ = min, 3♥/♠ = (semi-)stopper, 3NT = 2 top honours. 2♣-2♦-2♥ = Kokish | |
| 2♦ | Yes | | 2♠ | Weak 2♥/♠, 0–8 HCP, may be 5-card suit NV 1 st & 3rd NAT in 4th | Bids of majors = pass or correct, 2NT relay, 3♣ = strong with clubs or hearts, 3♦ = strong with diamonds or spades | 2♦-2NT = relay | |
| 2♥ | | 6 | | Good weak 2, 7–12 HCP Sunder vul & 2 nd seat | 2♠ = INV, 2NT = relay, 3♣/♦ = INV, 3♠=NAT F | 2♥-2NT = relay | |
| 2♠ | | 6 | | Good weak 2, 7–12 HCP Sunder vul & 2 nd seat | 2NT = relay, 3♣/♦ = INV, 3♥=NAT F | 2♠-2NT = relay | |
| 2NT | | | 4♦ | 20-22 balanced | 3♣ PUP STAY, 3♦ = ♥, 3♥ = ♠ 3♠ minors, 4♣/♦ = ♥/♠ (slammy), 4♥/♠ = mildly INV | 2NT-3♣-3♦=4M (then 3♥=4♠, 3♠=4♥, 4♣=♥+♠ slammy, 4♦=♥+♠ weak), 2NT-3♣-3♥=no M, 2NT-3♣-3♠/3NT=5♠/5♥ | |
| 3♣ | | (6) 7 | | PRE, new suit F (NF fav) 3♦ over 3♣ asks for 3-card major | New suit 3 level NV = INV, NF, VUL = F | | |
| 3♦ | | (6) 7 | | | New suit 3 level NV = INV, NF, VUL = F | | |
| 3♥ | | (6) 7 | | | New suit 3 level NV = INV, NF, VUL = F | | |
| 3♠ | | (6) 7 | | | | | |
| 3NT | Yes | | | Solid/semi-solid M, trick stronger than opening 4♥/♠ To play 3 rd & 4th | 4♣ asks partner to transfer their suit (then bid suit want controlled), 4♦ to bid their suit | | |
| 4♣ | | 7 | | Natural, PRE | 4♦ = general try, 4M = to play | | |
| 4♦ | | 7 | | | 5♣ = general try, 4M = to play | | |
| 4♥ | | 7 | | | All bids agree M, bid suit want controlled | | |
| 4♠ | | 7 | | | All bids agree M, bid suit want controlled | | |
| 4NT | Yes | | | Both minors | | HIGH LEVEL BIDDING | |
| 5♣ / 5♦ | | | | Natural PRE | | RKCB (3041). Gerber over 1NT. DOPL. | |
| 5♥ / ♠ | | | | Asks for A or K | | 4NT is not RKCB when: no suit agreed (but a force then 4NT agrees responder's suit); a raise of NT; a response to 4SF; in minor-suit auctions where we have bid 3NT and not co-operated. Exclusion Blackwood. | |
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