DEFENSIVE AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING
OVERCALLS (Style: Responses: $1 / 2$ Level; Reopening)
Light overcalls (may be a non-min WJO type)
1 M is nearly always five, but 1D sometimes only four cards Responses: new suit NF, $5+$ cards
Single jump to 2- or 3-level = NAT, forcing
If $3^{\text {rd }}$ hand bids then 2NT shows a good 4-card raise If $3^{\text {rd }}$ hand passes then 2NT is natural
1NT OVERCALL (2 ${ }^{\text {nd }} / 4^{\text {th }}$ Live; Responses; Reopening)
15-17 over 1m, 15-18 over 1M now system on, except 2D after they opened 1 H is "to play".

Reopening - 11-14 over 1m now system on, 11-16 over 1M now $2 \mathrm{C}=$ range ask. Transfers except 2D after they opened 1H is "to play".

## JUMP OVERCALLS (Style; Responses; Unusual NT)

9-12 @ 2-level (5-12 opposite passed hand)

$$
13^{+}-16 @ 3 \text {-level or reopening }
$$

Unusual 2NT - 5-5(+) and constructive Reopening 2NT is 19-21
DIRECT \& JUMP CUE BIDS (Style; Response; Reopen)
(1m) $2 \mathrm{~m} 5 / 5$ majors now $2 \mathrm{~N}=$ hearts, cue = spades
(1M) 2M 5oM5m now 2 N INV+ask
(1m) $3 \mathrm{~m}=$ spades + other minor
(1M) 3M - stop ask, usually with running minor
VS. NT (vs. Strong/Weak; Reopening;PH)
$2 \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{MM}, 2 \mathrm{D}=5+\mathrm{D} 4+\mathrm{M}, 2 \mathrm{M}=5+$ cards, $2 \mathrm{~N}=$ minors
$\mathrm{Dbl}=$ penalties by uph, $5+\mathrm{C} 4 \mathrm{M}$ by ph
Vs $2 \mathrm{~N}: \mathrm{dbl}=\mathrm{MM}, 3 \mathrm{~m}=5+$ cards with $5+$ major Vs Gambling 3N: Multi-Landy ( $4 \mathrm{M}=5 / 5$ )

## VS.PREEMPTS (Doubles; Cue-bids; Jumps; NT Bids)

Vs 2M: X = takeout now 3C wide-ranging, 2NT lebensohl-style except doubler bids their longer minor
Leaping and non-leaping Michaels (NF)
Vs 2D: 3D $=\mathrm{H}+\mathrm{S}, 4 \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}+\mathrm{H}, 4 \mathrm{D}=\mathrm{C}+\mathrm{S} .2 \mathrm{D}-\mathrm{dbl}-\mathrm{P}-2 \mathrm{~N}=$ INV
VS. ARTIFICIAL STRONG OPENINGS- i.e. 1C or 2C Colour/Rank/Other two-suiters (dbl/2D/2NT, or dbl/1D/1NT vs 1C) After $2 \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}-2 \mathrm{R}: \mathrm{dbl}=$ suit, $2 \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{MM}$ or mm

OVER OPPONENTS' TAKEOUT DOUBLE
$1 C-X: X X=11+, 1 S=5+D, 1 N+=$ to play
Others: $\mathrm{XX}=$ good $9+$ now $X=$ pens, $p=F 1$ up to $2 X$ Transfers over $1 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{X} .1 \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{X}-1 \mathrm{~S}=$ minors

| LEADS AND SIGNALS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| OPENING LEADS STYLE |  |  |
|  | Leads (including in partner's suit) |  |
| Suit | High = odd with A/K/Q or even without A/K/Q |  |
| NT | Attitude |  |
| Subseq | Attitude. Around to weak dummy in NT: 9 or higher = one higher card, unless leading top to maintain lead |  |
| Other: |  |  |
| LEADS | K from AK@5-level or vs 4m (asks for count) |  |
| Lead | Vs. Suit | Vs. NT |
| Ace | AK+ | AK+, AKJ+ |
| King | $\mathrm{KQ}+$, AK doubleton | KQ+, AKQ +, AKJT+ |
| Queen | QJ +, AKQ +, Qx | QJ+, KQJ+, AQJ+, KQT9+ |
| Jack | JT+, KJT+, AKQJ+, Jx | JT+, KJT+, AJT+ |
| 10 | T9+, HT9+, Tx | Same |
| 9 | H98+, J98+, 9x | H98+, J98+, 9x, 9xx |
| $\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{X}$ | Xx, HXx, xXxx, HXXxx | Discouraging |
| Lo-X | xxX, HxxX, xxxxX, HxxxxX | Encouraging (typically hxXx) |
| SIGNALS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY |  |  |


|  | Partner's Lead | Declarer's Lead | Discarding |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | High = encourage | High = even | High = encourage |
| Suit 2 | High = even | Suit pref | High = even |
| 3 |  | Smith (high enc) | High = encourage |
| 1 | High = encourage | Smit pref |  |
| NT 2 | High = even | High = Even | High = even |
| 3 | Suit pref | Suit pref |  |
| Suit preference in trumps |  |  |  |
| DOUBLES |  |  |  |
| TAKEOUT DOUBLES (Style; Responses; Reopening) |  |  |  |
| Normal enough. |  |  |  |
| 1m-dbI-P-2m forcing to suit agreement |  |  |  |
| 1M-dbl-P-2M forcing to game |  |  |  |
| SPECIAL ARTIFICIAL \& COMPETITIVE DBLS/RDIS |  |  |  |

SPECIAL, ARTIFICIAL \& COMPETITIVE DBLS/RDLS
1C (1D) $X=$ hearts
Support doubles up to 2 H
Game try doubles
Lightner doubles
X of splinter when oppo have only shown one suit (not 1H-P-3S) or RKC = "lead lowest-ranking unbid suit"

## CATEGORY: Red

## NBO: England

## PLAYERS: Mike+Sarah Bell

## SYSTEM SUMMARY

GENERAL APPROACH AND STYLE

5 card majors, 15-17 NT (14-16 $1^{\text {st }} \mathrm{NV}$ )
$1 \mathrm{C}=$ natural or balanced, can have 5 diamonds
$1 D=4+D$ unbal (could be 4D5C 11-15)
Weak-only Multi, 2M 5M5m
Light openings $1^{\text {st }} \mathrm{NV}$ (decent $10+$ )

SPECIAL BIDS THAT MAY REQUIRE DEFENSE

## 2D weak-only multi

NV, the 2 S response to this is "to play opposite either major" (may be long or short in spades)

Responses to $1 \mathrm{C}: 1 \mathrm{D}=4+\mathrm{H} ; 1 \mathrm{H}=4+\mathrm{S} ; 1 \mathrm{~S}=$ no 4 cM or GF with diamonds; $2 \mathrm{D} / \mathrm{H}=$ transfers, 6 M weak or 5 M 4 C GF; $2 \mathrm{~S}=\mathrm{INV}$ with clubs

Transfers in comp
$\mathrm{P}: 1 \mathrm{~S}, 2 \mathrm{C}=$ hearts

3 N opening $=$ majors or minors

SPECIAL FORCING PASS SEQUENCES

IMPORTANT NOTES

PSYCHICS: Sarah rare, Mike frequent (most often deviant 1NT openings e.g. 6/7-card minors, a bit light on HCP and/or with a singleton honour)

| OPENING | TICK IF ARTIFICIAL | MIN. NO. OF CARDS | NEG.DBL THRU |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | DESCRIPTION | RESPONSES | SUBSEQUENT ACTION | COMPETITIVE \& PASSED HAND BIDDING |
| 1 C |  | 1 (rare) | 4H | $1^{\text {st }} \mathrm{NV}$ : nat $/ 10^{+}-13 / 17-19 \mathrm{NT}$ Other: nat/12-14 NT/18-19 NT $3^{\text {rd }}$ seat: min hand with 5 moderate spades ok | $\begin{gathered} 1 \mathrm{D}=4+\mathrm{H}, 1 \mathrm{H}=4+\mathrm{S}, 1 \mathrm{~S}=\text { no } 4 \mathrm{cM} \text { or } G F \text { with } \mathrm{D}, \\ 1 \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{INV}, 2 \mathrm{C}=5+\mathrm{C} G F \text { (may have } 4 \mathrm{cM} \text { ) } \\ 2 R=6 \mathrm{M} \text { weak or } 5 \mathrm{M} 4 \mathrm{C} G F, 2 \mathrm{~S}=5+\mathrm{C} \text { INV } \end{gathered}$ | $1 \mathrm{C}: 1 \mathrm{D}, 1 \mathrm{H}=\mathrm{wk}$ NT or $5+\mathrm{C} 3 \mathrm{H}$ or 4 H bad <br> 1C:1H, 1S can also be 1444/1435 $1 \mathrm{C}: 2 \mathrm{C}, 2 \mathrm{D}=\text { weak } \mathrm{NT}, 2 \mathrm{~N}=(17) 18-19$ | System on@1-level after 1C (1R). 1C (1S) X doesn't imply hearts 1 C (1S) $1 \mathrm{~N}=5+\mathrm{H} ; 2 \mathrm{D}=4 \mathrm{H}$ inv+ 2 C response by $\mathrm{PH}=5-10$ |
| 1D |  | 4 | 4H | Unbalanced, includes 4D5C <br> 11-15. Sometimes 4+D balanced lead-direct $3^{\text {rd }} \mathrm{NV}$ | 2D inv+ raise (no 4cM) 3C = mixed raise (no 4cM) $3 \mathrm{D}=$ weak raise (may have 4 cM ) | $\begin{gathered} 1 \mathrm{D}: 1 \mathrm{H}-1 \mathrm{~S}= \\ \text { minors, } 1 \mathrm{~N}=\text { spades, } 2 \mathrm{C}= \\ \text { three-suited } \\ 1 \mathrm{D}: 1 \mathrm{~S}-1 \mathrm{~N}=\text { hearts, } 2 \mathrm{C} / 2 \mathrm{H}=\text { minors } \end{gathered}$ | Methods on by PH, and after 1D-dbl-1M-pass |
| 1H |  | 5 | 4D |  | $\begin{gathered} 1 \mathrm{~N}=\text { semi, } 2 \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{GF} 2+\mathrm{C}, 2 \mathrm{R} 5+\text { cards } G F \\ 2 \mathrm{M}=\text { semi-const, } 2 \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{GF} 4 \mathrm{~T} \\ 3 \mathrm{M}-2=4 \mathrm{~T} 0-5 \text { or } 8-9^{*}, 3 \mathrm{M}=\mathrm{INV} 3+\mathrm{T} \\ 3 \mathrm{M}+1=\mathrm{C} / \mathrm{D} \text { sing, } 3 \mathrm{M}+2=\mathrm{C} / \mathrm{D} \text { void } \\ 4 \mathrm{M}-2=\mathrm{oM} \text { sing, } 4 \mathrm{M}-1=\mathrm{oM} \text { void } \end{gathered}$ <br> $1 \mathrm{H}: 2 \mathrm{~S}$ weak; $1 \mathrm{~S}: 3 \mathrm{C}, 1 \mathrm{~S}: 3 \mathrm{H}$ and $1 \mathrm{H}: 3 \mathrm{D}$ all INV <br> * we just raise to 2 M with " $6-7$ " (i.e. a min GF opposite 17-18 balanced) | $1 \mathrm{H}: 1 \mathrm{~N}, 2 \mathrm{C}$ occasionally 2 cards $1 \mathrm{M}: 1 \mathrm{~N}, 2 \mathrm{~m}$ occasionally 3 cards $1 \mathrm{M}: 2 \mathrm{~N}, 3 \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{min}$ <br> $\mathrm{S}: 3 \mathrm{~N}, 4 \mathrm{C}$ asks now $4 \mathrm{D}=1 \mathrm{C}, 4 \mathrm{H}=1 \mathrm{D}$ $\min , 4 \mathrm{~S}=1 \mathrm{D}$ max <br> $1 \mathrm{H}: 3 \mathrm{~S}, 3 \mathrm{~N}$ asks now 4C $=1 \mathrm{C}$, etc | By PH: 2C = 3+card support, 8+; $2 \mathrm{D}=5-5$ minors, $2 \mathrm{NT}=$ best 4 card raise |
| 15 |  | 5 | 4H | $3^{\text {rd }}$ seat: not usually a min with 5 weak spades |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 2 \mathrm{C}=5+\mathrm{H} ; 2 \mathrm{D}=3+\mathrm{T} \text { support, } 8+; \\ 2 \mathrm{H}=5-5 \text { minors, } 2 \mathrm{NT}=\text { best } 4 \\ \text { card raise } \end{gathered}$ |
| 1NT |  | - | 4H | 14-16 $1^{\text {st }} \mathrm{NV}, 15-17$ otherwise 5 M ok. See notes on psychics | ```Stayman (Smolen), 2S = C or invite, 2NT = majors ask, 3C = D, 3D = minors, 3M = short with 3oM, 4m = transfer to 4M``` | Over $2 \mathrm{~N}: 3 \mathrm{M}=5,3 \mathrm{~N}=4 / 4$ majors, $3 \mathrm{C}=$ "don't tell me if you have 4 spades" (this could be: i) 4 hearts; ii) no $M$ with hearts shorter/weaker than spades; iii) 4S333, no-trumpy. <br> Now 3H from responder shows 4 hearts). $3 \mathrm{D}=$ "don't tell me if you have 4 hearts" (Hands as above. Now $3 \mathrm{~S}=4$ spades). | Transfers from 2NT <br> Transfers vs 3 m overcall 1N (2M) 4m leaping michaels |
| 2C | yes | - |  | GF or 22+ balanced | 2 D = waiting, $2 \mathrm{H}=0-4$ no ace | $\begin{gathered} 2 \mathrm{C}: 2 \mathrm{D}, 3 \mathrm{M}=4 \mathrm{M} 5+\mathrm{D} \text { GF } \\ 2 \mathrm{C}: 2 \mathrm{H}, 3 \mathrm{~S}=4 \mathrm{~S} 5+\mathrm{H} G \mathrm{GF} \\ 2 \mathrm{C}: 2 \mathrm{D}, 3 \mathrm{C}: 3 \mathrm{D}=\text { Stayman } \end{gathered}$ | $X=$ double negative vs jump Otherwise, $X$ and $X X=5-7(8)$ bal (pass $=0-4$ any or (8) $9+$ bal or pens, cue $=5+$ pure takeout) |
| 2D | yes | 0 |  | Weak two in a major. Can be five cards $1^{\text {st }} \mathrm{NV}$ and $3^{\text {rd }} \mathrm{NV}$ | 2S NV = to play opposite either major <br> $2 \mathrm{H}, 2 \mathrm{~S} \mathrm{VUL}, 3 \mathrm{M}$ and $4 \mathrm{H}=$ pass or correct. $4 \mathrm{C}=$ bid the suit below your major, 2 N enquiry, 3C and $4 \mathrm{D}=\mathrm{NF}, 3 \mathrm{D}=\mathrm{GF}$ with own major | 2D-P-2S-dbl; now: $P=$ spades, $X X=$ hearts Over $2 \mathrm{~N}-3 \mathrm{M}=$ min, $3 \mathrm{C}=$ non-min $\mathrm{w} / \mathrm{H}, 3 \mathrm{D}=$ non-min w/S <br> 2D-P-2S-dbl; now: $P=\text { spades, } X X=\text { hearts }$ <br> Over $2 \mathrm{~N}-3 \mathrm{M}=\mathrm{min}, 3 \mathrm{C}=$ non-min w/H, 3D = non-min w/S | Over X: P = NF (mild suggestion) $X X=$ bid major you don't have $3 \mathrm{~m}=\mathrm{NF}$, Others $=$ system on Dbl of $2 \mathrm{M} / 3 \mathrm{M} / 4 \mathrm{H}$ is PoC |
| 2M |  | 5 |  | 5M5m <br> 5-10 NV, 6-11 vul | 2N ask; 3C/3D/4C PoC; 2S:4D PoC $2 \mathrm{H}: 4 \mathrm{D}$ raise to 4 H , opener to double 4 S (or 4 H ) if holding diamonds | Over $2 \mathrm{~N}-3 \mathrm{~m}$ min, 3 M GF with linked minor | Dbl of $3 \mathrm{~m} / 4 \mathrm{~m}$ is PoC |
| 2NT |  | $-$ |  | 20-21 | Stayman, transfers, 3S = minors <br> $4 \mathrm{C}=$ diamonds, $4 \mathrm{D}=$ xfer to $4 \mathrm{H}, 4 \mathrm{H}=$ clubs | Completing RST = fit <br> $2 \mathrm{~N}: 4 \mathrm{C}, 4 \mathrm{H}$ and $2 \mathrm{~N}: 4 \mathrm{H}, 4 \mathrm{~S}=3041$ <br> $2 \mathrm{~N}: 4 \mathrm{C}, 4 \mathrm{D}$ agrees now $4 \mathrm{H}=3041$, $4 S / 4 N / 5 C=L / M / H$ short | X = takeout |
| $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 3 \mathrm{C} & 3 \mathrm{D} \\ 3 \mathrm{H} & 3 \mathrm{~S} \\ \hline \end{array}$ |  | 6 |  | Preempt | 4D over 3C = 3041 4C over 3D/H/S = 3041 |  |  |
| 3NT | yes | - |  | 6+/5+, minors or majors, PRE | 4X/5m PoC, 4N strong ask | After 3N:4m, opener bids longer major | X = penalties, bids PoC |
| 4C/4D/4H/4S |  | 7 |  | Preempt | 4 D over 4C = 3041 | HIGH LEVEL BIDDING |  |
| 4NT | yes | - |  | ace-asking | bid the ace you hold (5C = none) | 1430 if $4 N, 3041$ otherwise, Mixed cues, Non-serious $3 M+1$, cheap step as king ask ( 5 N pick a slam if available) <br> If oppo bid over KC: Pass with 0, (re)double with 1 or 4. <br> Below 5 X : bid with 2, pass with 3 . Above 5 X : pass with 2 , bid with 3. |  |

