DEFENSIVE AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING

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OVERCALLS (Style: Responses: 1 / 2 Level; Reopening)

Rarely 4 at 1 level; normally 6 at 2 level

In response new suit F1 at 1L, NF at 2/3 level after partner's overcall

UCB = values usually 3 cd supp; 2NT good raise of M

1NT OVERCALL (2nd/4th Live; Responses; Reopening)

2nd / sandwich / protective

15-18 / 16 – 18 / 13 – 15

System on

JUMP OVERCALLS (Style; Responses; Unusual NT)

Weakish, good suit vul. Then 2NT enq. Sign off = min, bid= values

(1C)-3C = strong jump overcall in C

2NT in protective = 18-20 + System on
Leaping Michaels *(9)* over weak 2 openings
Non-leaping Michaels *(10)* over 3 level openings

DIRECT & JUMP CUE BIDS (Style; Response; Reopen)

Michaels Cue bids *(14)*, 2NT=lower 2 suits (C and D over short 2-C)

Jump cue asks for stop

VS. NT
X=PEN over weak NT (up to 16) BUT X=M/m/D over strong/passed

Over weak NT

2C = both majors, 2D = one major
2H/S = major + min. Will be up to strength

2NT – both minors

Over Strong NT or by passed hand x= M or m or D; 2C/D=9+cds in
m &M, 2H/S nat (unless passed hand when 5H/S + 4+minor).

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

X = TO + Lebensohl *(7)* (slow shows stop); Over 4S - X = t/o

V Multi – X = 13- 15 bal or strong.; 2NT-16-18; bids nat.
V Michaels/Ghesthem X= pen; higher suit=good raise, lower suit – F
in 4th suit; 4th suit=weak.
Leaping *(9)* and non-leaping Michaels *(10).*

OVER OPPONENTS' TAKEOUT DOUBLE

Transfers over 1C. xx = 10+. Suit below opener's major=good 3cd
supp at 2-level; 2N= 4cd game invite. Transfers after 1M-(X).

VERSUS STRONG 1C OPENING – see note **13**

LEADS AND SIGNALS

OPENING LEADS STYLE

	Lead	In Partner's Suit
Suit	4th from honour & 2nd from poor suit	
NT	4th from honour & 2nd from poor suit	
Subseq	Suit pref	Suit pref

LEADS

Lead	Vs. Suit	Vs. NT
Ace	A asks for rev att	A asks for rev att/K unblock
King	K asks for rev att	K asks rev att/Q unblock
Queen	Sequence or interior seq	Q ask for rev att/J unblock
Jack	Sequence or interior seq	Sequence or interior seq
10	Doubleton or interior seq	Doubleton or interior seq
9	Doubleton or 2nd highest	Doubleton or 2nd highest
Hi-X	doubleton	doubleton
Lo-X	Sx xSx xSxx(+)	Sx xSx xSxx(+)

SIGNALS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY

		Partner's Lead	Declarer's Lead	Discarding
SUIT	1	Rev Att on AKQ	Stand Count/suit pref	Rev Att
	2	Standard Count	Suit pref	Standard Count
	3	Suit pref		Suit pref
NT	1	Rev att/unblock on AKQ	Stand Count/suit pref	Rev Att
	2	Standard Count	Suit pref	Standard Count
	3	Suit pref		Suit pref

Signals (including Trumps): hi-lo = suit preference and middle neutral
Smith Peters v NT – peter from either side = encourages

DOUBLES

TAKEOUT DOUBLES (Style; Responses; Reopening)

Doubles nearly always TO; -ve through 5m

Responsive to 5m

SPECIAL, ARTIFICIAL & COMPETITIVE DBLS/RDLS

Lightner against slam. Support X after 4th hand bids. Lead directing;
Asks for S lead v NT if 1N-3N; Says don't lead my suit v NT

SYSTEM SUMMARY

GENERAL APPROACH AND STYLE
5 CARD MAJORS

1C - could be 2. Transfer responses over 1C.

14-16 NT (15-17 3rd/4th)

2D =weak multi (4-7 weak in H or S) or 4-4-4-1 GF

2H/S - Intermediate 8-10 + 6 card suit

2C = GF or 23-24 bal + Kokish relays *(6)*

SPECIAL BIDS THAT MAY REQUIRE DEFENSE

Over 1minor-(1S overcall)-2 other min=h; 2H=other min

Over 1NT – 2S/2NT = transfer to C/D

Bergen major suit raises *(4)*

1NT response is wide ranging

2C response to 1NT = inv+ ask for 4/5 maj + strength

1NT rebid after 1C=17-19 (except 1C-1S-1NT=11-13)

1NT rebid after 1D/H=17+ any shape without 4 card
support, F1

Transfers after 1major-1NT response

Over short C: 2C=both majors, 2S/H/S=weak,2NT=D+H
3C=strong nat

Transfers after oppo X our 1major opening

SPECIAL FORCING PASS SEQUENCES

Over an overcall, opener re-opens with shortage with or without
extra values

IMPORTANT NOTES

Transfer Lebensohl *(8)* after opp bids over our 1NT
opening/overcall or bids at 2-level over our 1C opening
Leb 2NT *(7)* in response to TO X reopening X; slow shows

OPENING	TICK IF ARTIFICIAL	MIN. NO. OF CARDS	NEG. DBL THRU	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSES	SUBSEQUENT ACTION	COMPETITVE & PASSED HAND BIDDING
1C	√	2	4H	If 2, 11-13 (14)NT or 17(18)-19NT hand. May have 5 D if bal.	Transfers over 1C: 1D=4⁺H, 1H=4⁺S, 1S=4⁺D Over 1C/D - 2H/S=4-7 & 6⁺ H/S	Complete transf with 2/3+11-13(14). 1C-1D-2H min with 4. 1N=17-19. 2N=17-19+4 supp.	Transfers still on after interf in 2ⁿᵈ seat.
1D		4	4H	Nat	1C-2D=5/5⁺M less than INV; 1C-4C/D=Texas (*11*)1C/D-2C/D = inv⁺; 1D-2C=2/1GF 1C-2NT=13-15 or 19⁺ bal GF; 1C-3NT=16-18 bal	After transf compl: raise 1M to 2M=GF+4 card M. + (*1*)+(*2*) 1D-1M-1NT-2C=puppet to 2D, inv if continue; 1D-1M-1NT-2D=GF	System on if possible. Support X. Transfer Leb (*8*) at 3-level (after 2-level overcall of 1C) at least invit + 5-card suit)
1H		5	4H	Nat	2NT–game raise; 2/1GF; Bergen raises (*4*); 1NT=5-12; 1H-3S=any void; 1H-3NT=sing S; 1S-3NT=any void	Over 2NT–3C=non min no short, 3other=short,4 void, 3NT=short C	Some Bergen raises (*4*) with passed hand
1S		5	4H	Nat		Over 1NT→ transfers. 1N rebid=17+any shape→ 2C=puppet to 2D, inv if continue; 2D=artificial GF	Some fit jumps.
1NT			4H	Balanced 14–16, can contain 5M/6m (6m usually only 3/4 in hand) Balanced 15-17 3ʳᵈ/4ᵗʰ	5 card stayman (*12*): holding in majors and strength; 4-suit transfers. 3-level bids = short, 4C=5+/5+ majors;4D/H=transfers weak or strong.	Transfer breaks over 2D/H to **2N** if max+4, then bid shortage/retransfers, 3M if min+4. Over 2S/2N break with <Qxx in minor suit – now 3D=at least 5/5C/D and 3major=short	Over X by opp: XX=5-card suit, bid= 1ˢᵗ of 2 4-card suits. XX by 1NT opener =5-card suit After overcall: Leb (*8*) + transfer Leb (*9*) at 3-level (at least invit + 5-card suit)
2C	√	0	4D	GF hand or at least 23-24bal	2D=relay. Suit=7⁺ & 5-card suit	Kokish relays (*6*). 2D then 3C=neg or puppet after 2NT	
2D	√	0(6)		In 1ˢᵗ&2ⁿᵈ&3ʳᵈ=single suit M&4-7 or (4441) GF In 4ᵗʰ=6D&10-13	2H=pass/correct; 2S-game try in H; 2NT=enq; 4C=transfer into major; 4D=bid major; 4H/S to play; 3C/D NF.	After 2NT enq: 3C=H, 3D=S → now 3H/S=inv → bid 3NT with max. After response, bid suit below short with 4441GF.	After X → XX=bid your suit, 2H/S=own suit, 3D=encouraging, 3C=to play
2H		5		6H & 8-10 in 1ˢᵗ&2ⁿᵈ&3ʳᵈ 6H & 9-12 in 4ᵗʰ Occasionally 5 card suit if 5-5	2N enq New suit=F1	After 2NT enq: bid=short; 3M/3N=min/max no short	
2S		5		6S & 8-10 in 1ˢᵗ&2ⁿᵈ&3ʳᵈ 6S & 9-12 in 4ᵗʰ Occasionally 5 card suit if 5-5			
2NT				20-22 bal, can have sing, 5M, 6m (6m usually only ¾ in hand)	3C=5 cd puppet staym; 3D 3H transfers; 3S=minor slam try; 4C=5/5 Ms; 4D/H transfers weak/strong	After 3D/H transfer, complete with 3M, 3N with 2M. 4M with 4+min or cue with 4+max	
3CDHS		6		Pre-empt	New suit=F1	Amended KC: 3D/H/S-4C & 3C-4D	
3NT	√			Pre-empt in a minor	4C/5C/5D=pass/correct; 4D=asks for short		
4C	√	7		Long H, 1-loser suit (min 7 tricks)	4D slam try	**HIGH LEVEL BIDDING**	
4D	√	7		Long S, 1-loser suit (min 7 tricks)	4H slam try	RKCB-14/30; 4D=keycard in C-14/30; when 4NT KC in C → 0314	
4H		7		Pre-empt			
4S		7		Pre-empt		XX of doubled cue = 1ˢᵗ round control, pass=2ⁿᵈ, bid = no control. DOPI-ROPI	
4NT	√			Asks specific aces	5C=none; 5D/H/S/6C=specific ace; 5NT=2	Exclusion KCB 0,1,2,3,4	
5C/5D		7		Pre-empt			

<u>Notes</u>

1. 1C-1D/H-1H/S/NT → now 2C=forces 2D to play or inv if bid on; retransfer shows 5+ to play of GF if bid on; 1C-1H-1S/NT-2D=5$^+$S & 4$^+$H to play or GF if bid on; 2NT=transfer to 3C to play or mild slam try
2. 1C-1D/H-2NT → now 3-level=short; re-transfers; bid suit=short re-transfer suit; 3NT=4333; re-transfer and now 3NT=strong asking for cue-bids
3. Blackout over reverse (lower of 4th suit and 2N). Fit jumps in response to overcalls and by passed hands. Support Doubles; (2D)-X-(2H/S)-X = **values**
4. Bergen raises: 1H-2S=inv+3; 1H-3C=inv+4; 1H-3D=8-9+4; 1H-3H=4-7+4; 1S-3C=inv+3; 1S-3D=inv+4; 1S-3H=8-9+4; 1S-3S=4-7+4
5. Cue bidding style = 1st or 2nd round control up the line
6. Kokish relays: 2C-2D-2H-2S-3suit=2-suited; 2C-2D-2S-3C=negative; 2C-2D-2NT=23-24; 2C-2D-2H-2S-2NT=25-26
7. Lebensohl: 2NT=transfer to 3C, either to play in minor/3H or GF in major or NT. Going through 2NT in GF auctions shows stop in opposition's suit, direct bidding denies stop. Bidding their suit=GF with 4 other Major, through 2NT showing stop, direct denying.
8. Transfer Lebensohl = bid at 3-level over opposition's interference at 2-level over our 1C or 1NT opener. Shows 5$^+$card suit + invit values. Transfer through their suit, eg 1NT-(2H)-3D=5$^+$S. Bidding their suit=normal Leb (see above)
9. Leaping Michaels: 2D-3D=both majors; 2D-4C=C+1major(non-forcing); 2H-4C=C+S(non-forcing); 2H-4D=D+S(non-forcing); 2H-4H=S+1minor; 2H-4NT=both minors; 2S-4C=C+H(non-forcing); 2S-4D=D+H(non-forcing); 2S-4NT=both minors; 3C-4D=D+1major(non-forcing); 3C-4C=both majors
10. Non-Leaping Michael's: 3D-4C=C+1major(non-forcing); 3D-4D=both majors; 3H-4C=C+S(non-forcing); 3H-4D=D+S(non-forcing); 3H-4H=S + 1minor; 3S-4C=C+H(non-forcing); 3S-4D=D+H(non-forcing); 3S-4NT=both minors
11. Texas: 1C-4C=hearts GF hand; 1C-4D=spades GF hand
12. Stayman after our 1NT opener = at least inv: 1NT-2C-
    → Responses:
       2D=min with 5-card major.
          → 2H/2S=multi-2D style responses
          → 3D=name the suit
       2H/S=min + 4-card major in suit bid
       2NT=min without 4-/5-card major
       3C=max + 5-card major
          → 3D=name the suit
       3D=15pts with 5h & 4s
       3H/S=max + 4-card major in suit bid
       3NT=max without 4-/5-card major
13. Defence to strong 1C opening: X= M or m or D 1D= D+M 1H/1S= natural 2C= C+M 2D/2H/2S = natural weak
14. Michael's: (1Major)-2Major = other major + minor; (1minor)-2minor=both majors at least 5/5