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GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF BIDDING METHODS

4-card majors (5-card 18+bal); 15-17 NT

1NT OPENINGS AND RESPONSES

Strength

15-17

Shape constraints

No singleton

Tick if may have singleton

Responses

2♣

Stayman - see notes

2♦

Transfer hearts

2♥

Transfer spades

2♠

Enquiry as to range

2NT

Minor Stayman (GF)

Others

3C/3D strong; 3H: 1444; 3S: 4144; 4C/4D > H/S, invslam

Action after opponents double

xx natural; systems off; 2NT shows constructive 5-5+ in majors

Action after other interference

X of art. bid nat. Neg xs otherwise up to 3S. Rubensohl transfers; transfer into opp suit stayman; 3S stop-ask opps suit

TWO-LEVEL OPENINGS AND RESPONSES

	Meaning	Responses	Notes
2♣	Strong; forcing to 2NT	2D waiting; 2D-2H Kokish (see supp dets); 2NT 25+	
2♦	4(6vul)-10 weak major	(see supplementary notes for multi 2D)	
2♥	5H; 4+(5Vul) in minor; 4(6vul)-10	(see supplementary notes for major-minor bids)	
2♠	5S; 4+(5Vul) in minor; 4(6vul)-10	As above	
2NT	20-22	As per 1NT; 3S - slam D/C, 4s inv slam suit 2 above	

OTHER ASPECTS OF SYSTEM WHICH OPPONENTS SHOULD NOTE

(Please include details of any agreements involving bidding on significantly less than traditional values).

Non-vul 3rd seat may be sub-opening values

Defence to Strong/Polish club and short club with transfer responses includes sub-min 2-suited bids

OTHER OPENING BIDS

	HCP	see Note *	Min length	CONVENTIONAL MEANING	SPECIAL RESPONSES	Notes
1♣	9+	<input type="checkbox"/>	4		Jumpshift to 2level: 4-8; 2C strong	
1♦	9+	<input type="checkbox"/>	4		As above; 2D strong	
1♥	9+	<input type="checkbox"/>	4		As above; Jacoby; 3C/D: shortage and invite+ in hearts	
1♠	9+	<input type="checkbox"/>	4		As above; 3C/D/H: shortage and invite+ in spades	
3♣	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	2/3topHs vul 1 st /2 nd	4D keycard (O-1.1.5 ...)	
3♦♥♠	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Ditto for 3C	For 3D/H, 4C keycard (O-1-1.5...), 3S constructive. For 3S, 4m keycard, 4H to play.	
3NT	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/>		Gambling		
4 bids	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/>		P/e		

DEFENSIVE METHODS AFTER OPPONENTS OPEN

NATURAL ONE OF A SUIT	CONVENTIONAL MEANING	SPECIAL RESPONSES	Notes
Simple overcall	Natural	Fitshowing jumpshift	4s/4h
Jump overcall	Weak	Fitshowing jumpshift	ToPlay
Cue bid	Michaels		
1NT Direct: Protective:	15-18 12-16V; 10-14NV	As per 1NT	
2NT Direct: Protective:	Direct; lowest 2 unbid suits Protective; 20-22		
OPPONENTS OPEN WITH	DEFENSIVE METHODS	SPECIAL RESPONSES	Notes
Strong 1♣	X=majors(weak); 1NT = majors(con); 2NT minors; for other bids see sup. details; also over strong artificial 2C and Polish club		
Short 1♣/1♦	Natural		
Weak 1NT	Multi-Landy; x penal		
Strong 1NT	2C Landy; 2D-S nat; x = 4/5 5/4 Mm	x>2C: p/c; x>2D; bid M	
Weak 2	X = t/o, Leben responses (2NT - 3c - 3NT denies stop)		

Weak 3	X = t/o		
4 bids	X = t/o; 4NT 2-suited		
Multi 2 ♦	X = 12-14, or 18+ no singleton	Stayman; systems otherwise off	

SLAM CONVENTIONS		
Name	Meaning of Responses	Action over interference
RKC Spadewood	3014; 5NT even + void; 6s odd + void; next suit up Q-ask; Jump to 6 level over response: bid 6S with 3rdC	DOddPEven
Exclusion KCd	Exclusion 4D>; responses 0, 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5	

COMPETITIVE AUCTIONS		
Agreements after opening of one of a suit and overcall by opponents		
Level to which negative doubles apply	3S (1C>1D>x = 44 majors)	
Special meaning of bids	UCB = good raise (inv); direct raise p/e; jump>3LnewS weak	
Exceptions / other agreements	Support x (3 cds) by opener; up to level of 2S	
Agreements after opponents double for takeout		
Redouble: Our hand	New suit: Natural	New suit jump: weak
Jump raise: Natural/p-e	2NT: Limit raise in major (nb.2D*)	Other: CrissX
Other agreements concerning doubles and redoubles		
Never penal where suit bid and supported unless P has sufficiently defined hand; 2C > opp bid > x = bust		
Penal after value-showing xx		
1 st x after x of 1NT t/o		

OTHER CONVENTIONS
Splinters; re-splinter = void; 1S-4H to play
1M>2m>3jump to suit above minor is GF with 4cd support in minor
1H>2C>3S (say) is splinter; 4H shows void and is exclusion kc
4 th Suit forcing to game; 2way Drury (2C=4;2D=3); Kokish (see dets)
Minor suit RKCB: Spadewood; 5S continuation serious 6S try
Exclusion KC; 0/1/1.5/2/2.5 responses; lowest possible exclusion bid is 4D where cannot be natural

SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS

(Please cross-reference where appropriate to the relevant part of card, and continue on back if needed).

2-level overcall over 2-level overcall is non-forcing; 2 over 1 is forcing (non-comp)

1NT-2C-2H/S-3minor = denial of fit; 4 in other major; at least 5 in minor bid

3H over 3minor shows fit in bid minor

3S over 3 minor last train to 3N; asking re unshown suit (other minor)

In slam auction, further enquiry guarantees all KeyCds and asks for lowest additional feature (showing Q trump if not known)

Jump to side suit at 6 level >> bid grand with 3rd round control in that suit

2NT jump-rebid = 18-20; 3NT rebid = 6/3(pd suit)

4NT is always a natural bid unless a trump suit has been agreed or unilaterally fixed, or the auction is competitive

Italian cuebids (1st or 2nd round control) and Last Train

Raise of second suit of reverser is forcing; responder reverse forces to game

Major-Minor Continuations (Lucas, Michaels, Multi-Landy 2M)

2S	Natural NF
2N	Relay at least invite then 3m=minimum, 3M=maximum with linked minor (H-C, S-D)
3C	Pass or correct
3D	Inv+ raise in Major
3M	weak
3OM	Natural, FG if 3S over 2H
3N	to play
4m	Pass or correct
4M	to play

If they double 2M - RDBL decent hand with 2+M; 2N asks for minor; 3m natural

Multi 2D

2M	pass or correct
2N	Game invite; 3C/D show good hand with linked M, 3M shows weak hand
3m	NF
3M	pass or correct
3N	natural to play usually long minor
4C	transfer to your suit
4D	bid your suit
4M	natural

If they DBL- Pass = diamonds; RDBL = I have my own suit, please bid 2H and I will place contract

Jacoby

2N>1st bid pattern; 2nd bid shortage 3L; cue 4L; 3M serious try; 3N non-serious

If they intervene: X shows singleton, Cue bid in their suit is void, any other bid shows control, pass denies control.

X of stopask

Redbl=cards in suit, no stop; Pass = semistop; 3NT = good stop+; new suit = single; cue suit = void

High-level forcing situations

Pass and pull X = slam interest

Low-level general forces in overcall seat

Opposite a major overcall, a 2-level bid of opponent's suit agrees the major. Opposite a minor, just general force.

3 level forcing bids

In a non-competitive auction (over an opponent's pass), any change-suit bid at 3 level over a passable bid is forcing.

Invite over intervention

1H - P - 2H - 2S - X = game invite in hearts

Smolen

1NT - 2C - 2D - 3H/S = 4/5 or 5/4 in majors respectively; ditto 2NT - 3C - 3D ...

Exploratory 2NT bids

Where opener supports responder suit at 2 level:

2NT > bid 4cd sidesuit with 3 trumps; with 4 trumps bid splinter, or 3M (min) 4M (nonmin)

Where responder bids 2M over 1M:

2NT > bid shortage (2 or less) if nonmin, or 3NT/4M with no shortage; 3M if min

Where opener rebids minor:

2NT shows at least tolerance in m: > 3m if min; otherwise stop-ask

2NT after 1s response and opener reverse asks opener to bid 3C (unless GF in own hand)

2N ask over (1M-2M)

(1M) x (2M) 2NT asks for better minor

Transfers over opener's jump to 2N

3C forces 3D, which may be passed, further bid nonF

Any other bid is GF transfer

OPENING LEADS

Card led is highlighted in **bold**

v Suit contracts	A K	A K x	K Q 10	K Q x	K J 10	K 10 9	Q J 10
	Q J x	J 10 x	10 x x	10 9 x	9 8 7 x	10 x x x	H x x
	H x x x	H x x x x	H x x x x x	x x	x x x	x x x x	
v NT contracts	A K x (x)	A J 10 x	K (Q) 10	K Q x	K J 10	K 10 9	Q J 10
	Q J x	J 10 x	10 x x	10 9 x	9 8 7 x	10 x x x	H x x
	H x x x	H x x x x	H x x x x x	x x	x x x	x x x x	

Other agreements in leading, e.g. high level contracts, partnership suits:-

H98(x): lead 9

CARDING METHODS

	Primary method v. suit contracts	Primary method v. NT contracts
On Partner's lead	Count (standard); [Ace > att.]	Attitude (reverse)
On Declarer's lead	Smith	Smith (reverse)
When discarding	Hand-dependant	Attitude

Other carding agreements, *incl secondary methods (state when applicable) and exceptions to above*

Suit-preference in trumps and generally, where appropriate

SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS (continued)

Jump to 4S/5s is exclusion keycard where appropriate - 0/1/1.5 ... responses

KOKISH >>>>

responses to 2C: 2D waiting; 2H 0-3, no 6cd suit; 2S natural; 2NT at least 5H and 7pts

3 of suit over 2C: at least 6 with 2 of top 4 honours

2H over 2D relay to 2S; 2NT over 2D is 25+ and forcing

3 level bid over 2H, breaking relay, is 6 cards and no values

3C/D over 2D is natural

3H/S over 2D is 3 (or 4) cds in bid suit; 5/4 in minors

3NT over 2D is 5/5 in minors

4C/D over 2D is at least 6/5 in minors > 4H agrees C; 4S agrees D

Bids over 2H response other than 2NT show H and are natural

Second suit by opener pattern not cue (after 1st suit set)

1H/S in 3rd/4th seat > 2C/2D: Drury: 4/3 card support and good hand
1M; opp x; 2D shows good raise with 3M; 2NT good raise with 4cd support

Defence against transfer openings/responses: double = suit bid; all other bids as if opps have opened/responded in their real suit

Defence against Polish or other multi-way 1C; against strong 1C and strong 2C; and against short C where transfer responses played, in 3rd/4th at green

Pass: no suitable bid or 16+

X: at least 4-4 in majors, 6-15

1D: 5+Hors, 6-15: responses as over 2D opening

1H: 2 suits, C/S or D/H, 6-15 (hue)

1S: 2 suits, C/H or D/S, 6-15 (shape)

1NT: at least 5-4 in Ms, 10+, constructive

[Responses to 2-suited bids: next step up is pass/correct unless 1NT which is relay]

2level: natural

2NT: minors

[up one level over 2C]

1s(opp) - 3s: "Bid 3NT with stop in s"

New suits bid at 2/3 level normally pattern; stopask at 3 level where minor agreed or jump-rebid
New suits bid at 4 level over major normally cues; initiator of transfer sequence can pattern out at 4 level; 2C opener will pattern out at 4 level

More on doubles:

(1s) - x - (3/4s) - x = responsive double showing values

1s(opp) - overcall from pd - 3(4)s(opp) - x = showing values

Support x/xx by opener showing 3 cds in responder's suit: up to 2 level only

Presumption that double of suit bid solely by opp on left is not penal

Any x after penal-oriented xx or penalty pass is penal

First x after penal x of 1NT is t/o; thereafter penal

Takeout over opp sequence to 1NT:

1s - P - 1NT: x = top and bottom of 3 other suits; 2s shows top2; 2NT shows bottom2

2way checkback over 1NT rebid

Direct 2H/2S/3C over 1NT rebid = weak, to play

2C >>2D, if not passed all further bids inv; 2NT puppet to 3C and > shortness

Direct 2D over 1NT rebid = GF