DEFENSIVE and COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Overcalls (style, responses, reopening)

1-Level: light, 2-Level: less light (based on shape)
Responses: 2/1 constructive NF, 1/1 and 2/2 F1,
jump in opener's suit is a 4+ mixed raise, 2NT = 4+
INV+ (except NAT by UPH after 3rd seat passes)
Lowest cue is a good raise

Transfer advances after 1M is doubled

1NT Overcall (2nd/4th, responses, reopening)

15-18 in 2nd seat, full system on 13-16ish in 4th seat, full system on

Jump Overcalls (style, responses, Unusual NT)

<u>1-suit:</u> Pre-emptive, vulnerability dependent <u>2-suits:</u> 2NT = lowest 2 unbid suits, can be weak but not crazy

1M-3. Ghestem, 5oM/5.+

Direct and Jump Cue bids (style, responses)

(1m)-2m = 5♠/5♥+ (1M)-2M = 5oM/5♣+

Jump cue-bid: asks for stopper

vs NT (strong/weak, reopening, PH)

Direct seat – Multi-Landy
Dbl = Strength/penalties

2♣ = Both majors

2♣ = 6+ major suit

2M = 5M 4+m

2NT = 6+♣, any strength

3♣/3♣ = 6+♠ good/bad

Reopening vs Str NT

Dbl = 1 minor or both M

2♣ = clubs + major

2M = natural

2NT = both minors

3♣/3♣ = constructive

vs Preempts (Dbls, Cue bids, jumps, NT bids)

T/O Dbl with Lebensohl vs weak 2s 3M Cue and jump overcall 4♠ are Ghestem. 4♦ overcall = good 4oM overcall

vs Artificial Strong Openings

Over 1♣/2♣: Dbl = majors, 1NT = minors

Over Opponents Takeout Double

Over 1♣-(Dbl) and 1♣-(1♦), transfers are on Over 1m-(Dbl): 2♦/♥ transfers, 2♠ cue raise Over 1M-(Dbl), transfers from 1NT up to 2M-1

After 1any-(Dbl)-Rdbl, next double penalties 1\(-(P)-1M-(X)-2NT = 3-card support any, F1

LEADS and SIGNALS

Opening Leads Style Lead In Partner's Suit Suit 3rd/low NT 4th from honour, Top/2nd bad suit Subseq ATT (or count) ATT (or count)

Other: Overlead most honour sequences vs suit. Versus suit contracts, we lead Ace for attitude and king for count at the five level or vs preempt. In midgame, we often lead attitude (low=enc).

Leads

Lead	vs Suit	vs NT					
Ace	AK+	AK					
King	KQ+	KQ (or AKJT)					
Queen	QJ+ or AKQ+	QJ (or KQ109)					
Jack	J10+, KJ10+	J10+, HJ10+					
10	109+, H109+	109+, H109+					
9	3/low or shortage	9x, 9xx, 98+					
Hi-x	3/low	xx, xxx(x) etc, or 4 th					
Lo-x	3/low	4 th from an honour					

Signals in Order of Priority

	Pard's Lead	Declarer	Discarding
Suit: 1st	UD attitude	UD count	UD attitude
2 nd	UD count	S/P	UD count
3 rd	S/P		S/P
NT: 1st	UD attitude	'Oddball'	UD attitude
2 nd	UD count	U/D count	UD count
3 rd	S/P	S/P	S/P

Signals: UDCA. 'Oddball' on declarer's first played suit vs NT: high from leader's partner likes the lead, high from leader dislikes the lead (if appropriate). In general: Low is even or enc., High is odd or disc. Standard suit preference. Trump hi/lo = ruff/SP

Doubles

Takeout Doubles (style, responses)

Can be light with more distribution. Support for unbid minor may be poor. Often 2NT = scramble. Responsive X can be bal or 2 places to play.

Special, ART and Comp Dbls/Rdbls

Support DBLs to 2♥, usually t/o dbls at low level.



System Card



Category: Green (Natural)

Country/team: Players:

Australia Liam MILNE

James COUTTS

Event: System: 2025 Bermuda Bowl 2/1 GF

System Summary General Approach and Style

1♣ = 2+♣, can choose to open with longer ◆

1 → = 4+ →, balanced is possible

2♣ = strong; 2♦ = Flannery; 2M = weak

Light action including openings (especially third seat deviations), defensive actions, responses and non-vulnerable pre-empts

Very light action at favourable vulnerability

HCP are a guideline only -- judgement rules

1NT Openings: 14-16 1st NV/V, 15-17 otherwise

2-over-1 Responses: Game Forcing
Special bids that may require defence

Transfer responses to 1♣ Flannery 2♦ (4♠, 5-6♥ 10-15)

Transfers and suit switches in competition

Special Forcing Pass sequences

When obvious, like in a GF auction etc. Pass and pull usually shows a strong hand.

Important notes that don't fit elsewhere

After 1NT is doubled for penalty, bids are natural (system off). Redouble is strong and pass is ambivalent/to play.

Psychs

Can occur in any situation (more common NV/V)

Opening	ART	Min. #	Neg. D. Thru	Description	Responses	Subsequent Auction	Passed Hand Bidding
1♣	✓	2	44	Can be short; Can choose to open 1♣ with longer diamonds	Transfer responses to 1C (1S denies 4M unless GF) Inverted minors (invitational or better) Invitational jump shifts 1C-3x = preemptive, like opening 3x	Accepting transfer response shows 3M Others usually deny 3M Relays after inverted minors	2M = fit-showing jump P-1C-2NT = good fit with some shortage
1•		4	4.	Natural 4+ ♦ Can be balanced	1M=natural, others as per 1C 1D-3C = natural invitational 1D-3M = preemptive	Mostly natural	As per 1C
1♥		5	4.	Natural 5+ ♥	1S=5+S, 1NT=(0)5-12 NF, 2m=GF 2NT=4+M GF, 3C=3M limit, 3D=4M limit 1H-2S = natural invitational Limited splinters	1M-2NT: 3C min, others extras NLMH 1M-3m-4 either minor = shortage After 1H-1S, opener's rebids are transfers	P-1M-2C=Drury 3+M Others as per 1C
1♠		5	4♥	Natural 5+≜	As per 1H. 1S-3H = natural invitational	As per 1H	As per 1H
1NT			4♥	14-16 (1 st NV/V) 15-17 otherwise	Stayman and transfers 2S=clubs/invite, 2NT=5cM ask, 3C=diamonds 3D=minors GF, 3M=splinter, 4m=two-under transfer	1NT-2NT-3C(no 5M)-3D asks for 3cM New suit after minor transfer = shortage	
2♣	✓		NA	Game-forcing Or 22+ BAL	2D=waiting, others positive	Kokish, then transfer rebids next. 2C-2D-3M = 4M/5+D	
2•	✓		☺	Flannery 4♣, 5-6♥, 10-15	2NT=GF INQ, 3C=NF, 3D=invitational 3M=invitational 4m=slam try in tied M with shortage in other M	2D-2NT: 3m = fragment, 3H = 6+H, 3S/3NT = 4522 min/max, 4m = 45(40)	
2 ∀ 2•		(5) 6	☺	0-6 dealer fav. Otherwise normal but aggressive	Dealer fav.: 2NT Ogust-style, new suits NF Otherwise: First step=ENQ, 2H-2NT=spades, 2S-3C=hearts New suits F when vul., NF when not vul.	Dealer fav. 2M-2NT: 3C/3D=min/max bad suit, 3H/S=min/max good suit, 3NT=6M. Otherwise 2M-2M+1 inquires and opener shows range and shortage with relays	
2NT			4♥	20-21 balanced	Puppet Stayman and transfers 3S=minors, 4x=two-under slam try transfers	2NT-4m (showing M): step=like, 4NT=RKC 2NT-4M (showing m): 4NT=dislike, other new suit step=RKC	
3♣/♦		6	©	Aggressive NV/V	New suits forcing		
3 ∀/ ♠						High Level Bid	
3NT	✓	7	☺	Good 4M bid in context		1430 RKCB. Non-Serious 34/3NT frequently 01122 EKCB, DOPI vs. interference over Ro	when M slam is possible oman Keycard
4♣/♦		7				1 st or 2 nd round control cue-bids, 'Last Train'	
4♥/♠		7				5NT is usually pick a slam, rarely GSF	
4NT	✓					Lightner double	