## DEFENSIVE AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING

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

$7-17,5+$ cards at 1 level
new suit jump= fit with overcall and good $5+$ card side suit
Responses to overcall forcing, cue $=3$ support $10+$
$2 \mathrm{NT}=10+$ with 4 card support if overcall in major
At 2 level, overcalls will have good quality, especially if VUL,
and will usually have opening hand values
1NT OVERCALL ( $\mathbf{2}^{\text {nd }} / 4^{\text {th }}$ Live; Responses; Reopening)
$1 \mathrm{NT}=15-18$ in $2^{\text {nd }}, 11-14$ in $4^{\text {th }}, 18-20$ after (1x)-p-(1y)
1NT system in response, transferring to opps' suit= 4-4-4-1 ish By passed hand, 1NT=lowest 2 suits, at least 5-4 NV
2NT without any bid from partner is lowest 2 (not over weak 2)

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

(1x)-3x asks for stop
(1x)-2NT and (1nt)-2NT show 2 lowest, $5+5+, 10+$ points
Jump in new suit $=4-9,2 \mathrm{NT}$ response asks for feature
Reopen: 2NT=19-21 BAL, jump suit still weak
DIRECT \& JUMP CUE BIDS (Style; Response; Reopen)
Jump cue $=$ asking for stop, usually on long solid suit
Cue of opponents $1 \mathrm{~m}=$ Both M, $5+5+$, $9+$ points
Cue of opponents $1 \mathrm{M}=\mathrm{oM}+\mathrm{m}, 5+5+, 9+$ points
VS. NT (vs. Strong/Weak; Reopening; PH)
$\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{pens}$
$2=$ majors, usually $5-4+$, over which $2 \star=$ pick a majo
$2 \mathrm{NT}=$ minors, usually $5-5+$
Else $=$ NAT
VS.PRE-EMPTS (Doubles; Cue-bids; Jumps; NT Bids)
Vs Wk2: X t/o + Leb (FASS), 2N 16-19 BAL, Cue = stop ask Vs Wk3: X t/o, $3 \mathrm{NT}=16+$ with stop(s), 4 M continuation NAT 12+,
$4 \Omega=$ range enquiry, $4 \uparrow=$ transfer to long suit, $<12$ points 4 m over $3 \mathrm{~m}=$ majors; 4 NT over $3 \mathrm{M}=$ minors
Vs $4 \mathrm{x}, \mathrm{X}=$ values (passed fairly often in response), $4 \mathrm{NT}=$ two suits

## VS. ARTIFICIAL STRONG OPENINGS- i.e. 1』 or 2\&

Over Polish $1 \stackrel{1}{2}, 2=$ majors, $2 \mathrm{NT}=$ minors
Over strong $1 \&, x=4-4 \mathrm{M}, 1 \mathrm{NT}=4-4 \mathrm{~m}, 2 \star=5-5 \mathrm{M}, 2 \mathrm{NT}=5-5 \mathrm{~m}$ Over strong $2 \curvearrowleft, \mathrm{x}=$ good clubs, suits $=$ pre-emptive, good quality
OVER OPPONENTS' TAKEOUT DOUBLE
$\mathrm{xx}=9+$ no fit, suggesting pens of opps but NF
1NT = NAT, 7-11, tolerance for p's suit
$2 / 1=$ NF $6+$ card suit

| LEADS AND SIGNALS |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| OPENING LEADS STYLE |  |  |
|  | Lead | In Partner's Suit |
| Suit | $4^{\text {th }}\left(2^{\text {nd }}\right.$ from bad suits $)$, low from Hxx |  |
| NT |  |  |
| Subseq | Generally same as above |  |
| Other: |  |  |

## Other:

## LEADS

| Lead | Vs. Suit | Vs. NT |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ace | Ax, AK(x) asks ATT, AKJ(x) | Ax, AK(x), AKJ(x), AQ10x(x) |
| King | $K Q J(x), A K(x) K x, A K$. |  |


Queen $\quad \mathrm{KQ}(\mathrm{x}), \mathrm{QJ}(\mathrm{x}), \mathrm{QJ10}(\mathrm{x}), \mathrm{Qx}$ (rare) $\quad \mathrm{QJ10}(\mathrm{x}), \mathrm{QJ} 9(\mathrm{x}), \mathrm{AKQ}(\mathrm{x}), \mathrm{AQJ}(\mathrm{x})$
Jack $\quad \mathrm{Jx}, \mathrm{J} 10(\mathrm{x}), \mathrm{HJ10}(\mathrm{x}) \quad \mathrm{Jx}, \mathrm{J} 10(\mathrm{x})$, HJ10(x)

| 10 | $10 x, H 109(x)$, K10x, Q10x | $10 x$, H109(x), H109 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 9 | $9 x, 109(x)$, H9x in partner's suit | $9 x, 109(x)$, H9x |


| $\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{X}$ | $\mathrm{Xx}, \mathrm{xXx}, \mathrm{xXxx}, \mathrm{xXxxx}$ | $\mathrm{Xx}, \mathrm{xXx}, \mathrm{xXxx}, \mathrm{xXxxx}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

Lo-X HxX, HxxX, HxxXx HxX, HxxX, HxxXx

## SIGNALS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY

|  | Partner's Lead | Declarer's Lead | Discarding |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Count (low=odd) | Count (low=odd) | Attitude (high=enc) |
| 2 | ATT on A/Q, CT on <br> K/J/10 |  | Count (hi - even <br> remaining) |
| 3 |  |  | S/P hi for high suit |

Signals (including Trumps):
Suit preference in order of trumps, if a lead is an obvious singleton, hits KQx or a singleton in dummy, when clearing a suit, when giving partner a ruff

## DOUBLES

## TAKEOUT DOUBLES (Style; Responses; Reopening)

Unless $18+$ single-suiter or $19+$ BAL, should have support for all unbid suits, may be as light as $7 / 8$ with shape in protective seat

A shortage (2-) in opponents' suit is preferred but not required, but hands without a shortage will be less likely to enter the auction
Jump $=8$-12, double jump below game=weak, Lebensohl (Fast Arrival to 3NT Shows Stop) if applicable

## SPECIAL, ARTIFICIAL \& COMPETITIVE DBLS/RDLS

Lightner double against freely bid slam to ask for unusual lead (usually a void)
If opponents cue our suit, double by opener would say not to lead the suit, double by responder that it is safe to lead the suit (usually Hxx or similar)
Negative doubles up to and including $4 \vee$
Responsive: (1M)-x-(2M)-x! shows minors while (1m)-x-(2m)-x! shows majors Support doubles below 2M
Doubles of artificial bids are usually lead-directing, at low levels 5+ or 6+ cards 1NT-(x)-xx shows a 5 card suit and is a transfer to $2 \%$ pass/correct

## CATEGORY: Green

## PLAYERS: Will Battersby and Aman Parekh

 NCBO: England
## SYSTEM SUMMARY

## GENERAL APPROACH AND STYLE

Strong NT (15-17
5 card majors, $1 * 3+, 1 \diamond 4+$ unless $4=4=3=2$
$2 \diamond / \downarrow / \Delta$ weak, $5-9$, usually 6 cards
2/1 GF

SPECIAL BIDS THAT MAY REQUIRE DEFENSE

 $\qquad$


## SPECIAL FORCING PASS SEQUENCES

If we are in a game-forcing bidding sequence and opponents sacrifice, pass is forcing

## IMPORTANT NOTES

,

PSYCHICS: 1 level opening in third sometimes light (8/9+)

| $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & \frac{0}{3} \\ & \frac{1}{2} \\ & \mathbf{Z} \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | DESCRIPTION | RESPONSES | SUBSEQUENT ACTION | COMPETITIVE AND PASSED HAND BIDDING |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18 |  | 3 | 4 | $10+, 3+$ if $4333,3433,4423$ | 1NT 5－9；2 $10+4+2$ F2NT， 2 ／／／／NAT 6cards 5－ $9 ; 2 \mathrm{NT}=0-56+* 3 * 4-8+3+/ \vee / 4$ shortage， fit；3NT 13－15 BAL all side suits stopped | 12－1X－1NT 12－14 BAL 2NT 18－19 BAL； 12－2NT－3X stops up the line； 1～－2 12－14 BAL，2M stopper，3～ minimum | By PH 1X NF；2M NAT with \＆ fit．All raises in competition NAT NF |
| $1 *$ |  | （3） 4 | 4 | $10+, 4+$ unless $4=4=3=2$ | ```1NT 5-11 NF; 2\& NAT FG; 2 4+ F2NT; 2M NAT 6cards 5-9; 2NT 0-5 6+*; 3\& 9-11 6cards NAT; 3ヶ4-8 5+४; 3M/4; 3M/4ㄹ shortage, \(\downarrow\) fit; 3NT 13-15 BAL all side suits stopped``` | 1＊－1X－1NT 12－14 BAL 2NT 18－19 BAL； $1 *-2 N T-3 X$ stops up the line； $1 \diamond-2 \star-2 \vee 12-14$ BAL， $2 \star / 3 *$ stopper， $3 *$ minimum | By PH 1M／2～NF；2M NAT with <br> fit．All $\diamond$ raises in competition NAT NF |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1 \vee \\ & 1 ه \end{aligned}$ |  | 5 | 4＊ | 10＋，not 5ソ332 15－17 | 1NT 5－11 NF；2m NAT GF；2M 7－9 3card support； 2NT GF with 4＋M［A4］；3M 10－11 4card support； other jump shifts NAT 9－11 NF；1 $\mathrm{V}-3 \mathrm{~s}$ and $1 \mathrm{M}-4 \mathrm{~m}$ shortage，9－11，4card support | 1M－1NT－2NT 18－19 BAL 1M－2NT－3：any minimum | After an overcall，jumps are NAT with fit for M． |
|  |  | 5 | $4 \checkmark$ | 10＋，not 5¢332 15－17 |  |  |  |
| 1NT |  |  | 2． | 15－17 BAL，all 5332，some 5422 and 6 m 322 | 2．asks 4 M ，does not promise M or values； <br> $2 \uparrow / \uparrow / \Delta / \mathrm{NT}$ TRF to $\varphi / \Delta / \& ; 3 *$ PUP［A1 $\}, 3 \uparrow / \uparrow / \Delta$ <br> NAT slam try；4\＆asks aces． | After $2 \star / \checkmark$［A5］；after $2 \star /$ NT S1 denies $m$ fit． | Fast arrival shows stop lebensohl； double of 2X T／O |
| 2\％ | $\sqrt{ }$ |  |  | $23+$ BAL or $91 / 2+$ tricks suit | $2 \diamond$ relay， $2 \uparrow / 2 \triangleq / 3 * / 3 \star=5+$ cards， 2 of 3 top honours | 2NT system applies after $2 \%-2 *-2 N T$ and $2 \%-2 *-3 N T$ | Over intervention $\mathrm{X}=0-5$ ，pass 6＋ |
| 2＊ |  | （5） 6 |  | 5－9，almost always 6 cards． Wider range in $3^{\text {rd }}$ seat． | New suit F1；2NT asks for feature if MAX；jump new suit SPL unless game | Over 2NT，rebid suit minimum，3X feature and MAX，3NT MAX BAL，4M MAX with no feature． |  |
| 2NT |  |  | 4 | 20－22 BAL，all 5332，some 5422 and 6 m 322 | 3＊PUP［A2 $\} ; 3 \star / \odot$ TRF to $\mathrm{Y} / \mathrm{A} ; 3 \Delta 5-5 \mathrm{~ms}$ slam try； <br>  | TRF breaks promise 4card support；3－3NT not 4m，not 3－3ms；after 4X S2 shows xx |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \hline 3 \\ & 3 \\ & 3 \varphi \\ & 3 \varphi \end{aligned}$ |  | （6） 7 |  | 5－9，no side 4M．Wider range in $3^{\text {rd }}$ seat． | New suit F unless game；3NT to play；4NT KCB |  |  |
|  |  | （6） 7 |  | 5－9，probably not 4oM．Wider range in $3^{\text {rd }}$ seat． | New suit F unless game；3NT to play；4NT KCB |  |  |
| 3NT | $\sqrt{ }$ |  |  | AKQxxxx minor，3－hcp outside except $3^{\text {rd }}$ seat． | 4／5＊P／C；4 asks singleton；4NT asks $8^{\text {th }}$ trump | 4ヶ－4ヤ－¢－m short $\mathrm{V} / \mathrm{\Delta} / \mathrm{om}, 4 \mathrm{4NT} 7222$ |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \hline 49 \\ & 4 \\ & 4 \\ & 4 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  | 8 |  | 4－9，may have 4M | NAT，4NT KCB |  |  |
|  |  | 7 |  | 4－9，may have 4oM | NAT，4NT KCB |  |  |
| 4NT | $\sqrt{ }$ |  |  | Asks specific aces | 5\％no ace； $5 \diamond / \mathrm{/} / \mathrm{A} / 6 \diamond$ that ace；5NT two aces． |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \hline 5 \\ & 5 \\ & 5 \\ & 5 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | Pre－empt，highly distributional |  | HIGH LEVEL BIDDING |  |
|  | $\sqrt{ }$ | $\frac{8}{7}$ |  | Asks A／K in suit | Pass no A／K，6M A／K，7M AK | RKCB 1430 but 0314 if trump；R0P1，S1 asks trump queen．6lvl asks $3^{\text {rd }}$ round control．EKCB with 0314 responses． <br> Cuebids $1^{\text {st }} / 2^{\text {nd }}$ round controls up line．Last Train need not show control in constrained auctions．Raise to 5 M in competition asks control in opponents＇suit． Serious 3NT in some auctions．5NT pick slam in some auctions． |  |


| Reference key | Description | Responses | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Subsequent } \\ & \text { action/bonus } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A1 <br> 3. game-forcing puppet <br> Stayman over 1NT | 1NT-(p)-3\% shows $8+$ and at least one $3+\mathrm{cM}$ <br> Over 3\%: <br> $3 \downarrow=$ at least 14 card major <br> $3 \vee=5$ hearts <br> $3 \Delta=5$ spades <br> $3 \mathrm{NT}=$ no 4 or 5 card majors | Over 3 \& , responder then bids the major they don't have: <br> $3 \vee=4$ spades, but not 4 hearts <br> $3 \Delta=4$ hearts, but not 4 spades <br> $3 \mathrm{NT}=$ no 4 card majors <br> $4 \%=$ both 4 card majors, slam interest <br> $4 \diamond=$ both 4 card majors, no slam interest | Opener then bids the fit or reverts back to NTs <br> Over 1NT-3 - $3 \uparrow-3 M$, any new nontrump suits are cues |
| A2 <br> Muppet Stayman for $2 N T$ | 2NT-(p)-3\& shows 4+ points looking for a major fit <br> Over 3\%: <br> $3 *=$ at least one 4 card major <br> $3 \vee=$ no $4+\mathrm{cM}$ <br> $3 \Delta=5$ spades <br> $3 \mathrm{NT}=5$ hearts | Over $3 \star$, responder then bids the major they don't have: <br> $3 \vee=4$ spades, but not 4 hearts <br> $3 \Delta=4$ hearts, but not 4 spades <br> 3NT= no 4 card majors <br> $4 \%=$ both 4 card majors, slam interest <br> $4 \diamond=$ both 4 card majors, no slam interest | Opener then bids the fit or reverts back to NTs, or after 4\%-4M, a cue-bidding sequence may begin <br> Over 2NT-3 - 3 - 3 shows 5 spades and 4 hearts |
| A3 <br> Non-promissory Stayman over <br> INT | 2\% does not promise a 4 cM , as BAL invites have to go through Stayman first 2e could also be bid on a weak hand with 5-4 in the majors looking for the best fit 1NT-2 -2M-3NT promises 4 of the other major, as a GF hand without a 4 cM could have gone through 3s puppet or bid 3NT immediately | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \diamond=\text { no } 4 / 5 \mathrm{cM} \\ & 2 \vee=4+\text { hearts } \\ & 2 \triangleq=4+\text { spades, not } 4+\text { hearts } \end{aligned}$ <br> 1NT-2 $2 \boldsymbol{*}-2$ shows 4 spades invitational |  |
| $\mathrm{A4}$ <br> Swedish Jacoby 2NT in response $\text { to } 1 M$ | 1M-(p)-2NT shows a GF hand with 4+ card support for the opened major. Over 2 NT : <br> $3 \%=$ any minimum <br> $3 \diamond=$ BAL extras $(18-19)$ <br> $3 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{s} / \mathrm{NT}=$ shortage in clubs/diamonds/other major <br> $4 \infty / \diamond / \nabla=$ good side suit in $\$ / \nabla / 0 \mathrm{M}$ | Over partner's 3\% response: $3 \star=$ relay <br> $3 \varphi / \Delta / N T=$ shortage $\$ / \star / \mathrm{oM}$ <br> Over partner's $3 \$$ response: <br> $3 \varphi / \Delta / N T=$ shortage $\$ / \star / \mathrm{oM}$ | If the 2 NT is bid by a passed hand, it shows 4 card support and $9-11$. The responses are: <br> $3 x=$ shortage <br> $3 \mathrm{M}=\mathrm{min}$, no game interest |
| A5 <br> Transfer breaks over 1NT-(p)$2 \diamond / 2 \vee$ | After the sequence $1 \mathrm{NT}-(\mathrm{p})-2 \star / 2 \vee$, opener will show $4+$ card support by bidding something other than $2 \vee / \mathrm{s}$ | $2 \mathrm{x} / 3 \mathrm{x}$ show a good side suit in $\mathrm{x}, 4+\mathrm{c}$ support, MAX <br> 2 NT shows no good side suit, $4+\mathrm{c}$ support, MAX <br> 3 M shows a min with $4+\mathrm{c}$ support | $3 \mathrm{M}=$ signoff, suits $=$ cues, 3 NT at any point $=$ serious slam interest (very good hand) |

## DEFENCE TO MULTI 2 (To be printed and taken to table in EBL/WBF events)

After Multi $2 \diamond$ Opening

- X-13-15 BAL or any 19+. In most situations, we treat the auction like partner has opened a 13-15 NT and the next hand has overcalled - so double is takeout, 2NT is Lebensohl, suits at the three-level are forcing to game. If advancer acts in this situation, the auction is forcing to game opposite the 19+ hand.
- $2 \uparrow / \mathrm{S}$ - NAT overcall, $5+$ cards (usually 6 ), $10 / 11+$ pts
- 2NT - 16-18 BAL - followed by 2NT opening system ( $3 \times$ Stayman, $3 \star / \mathrm{H}$ Transfers to H/S, 3\& 5 +4v)
- 3\%/D - NAT overcall, 5+ cards (usually 6), 10/11+pts
- 3 M - Strong jump overcall, 16+pts, 6+ cards
- 3NT - To play. Usually based on running minor and stops in both majors
- 4 m - Strong jump overcall
- 4 M - To play.
- Pass then double - Takeout (of their major)
- Pass then 2NT - Minors

If the auction starts $2-\mathrm{P}-2 \mathrm{M}$ (Pass or Correct), then we treat it as a weak two in that suit. Thus $2 \uparrow-\mathrm{P}-2 \mathrm{M}$ :

- X - Takeout

2NT - Lebensohl relay

- Overcalls - NAT. At this point, the Major bid by responder to the Multi is used as the cuebid suit for UCB purposes.
- Jump overcalls - Strong
- Cuebid - Stop ask for NT (usually based on running suit)
- 3NT - To play

If the auction starts $2-\mathrm{P}-2 \mathrm{NT}$ (Enquiry)

- 3-level overcalls - NAT
- Jump overcalls - Strong
- X-17+
- 3NT - To play
- Pass then X - takeout of their major

If the auction starts $2 \diamond-\mathrm{P}-3 \mathrm{M}$ (Pass or Correct)

- X - Takeout
- Overcalls - NAT
- 3NT - To play
- Jumps to game - To play

6th Hand Actions.
If the auction begins $(2 \diamond)-P-(2 M)-X-(2 / 3 \circ M)$ (i.e. opener has corrected to their major) then:

- X - Takeout, competitive values
- 3minor - NAT invitational
- 3M/4M - NAT
- 3NT - To play

