

### 3. COMPETITIVE BIDS / OVERCALLS

**Doubles** Explain what your double of opponents opening bid means if it has a specific meaning.

Example 1: Takeout

Example 2: Strong, 16+ HCP, forcing

Example 3: Penalty

#### **Negative doubles thru...**

If you play negative doubles, at what point in the bidding would your partner expect your double to be a penalty double and not a negative double?

Example 1: 1D – 2S – X If you play negative doubles through 2S, then this double is a negative double showing 4 hearts.

Example 2: 1D – 3C – X If you play negative doubles through 2S, then this double is a penalty double and not a negative double because a double of any interference bid by opponents above the 2S level nominated by you is for penalty.

Example 3: 1H – 4D – X If you play negative doubles through 4D, then this double is a negative double showing 4 spades.

\* It is up to you and your partner to agree on your upper limit for negative doubles and write that limit in the allocated space.  
(Colin and I play negative doubles through 2S.)

#### **Responsive doubles thru...**

If you play responsive doubles, at what point in the bidding would your partner expect your double to be a penalty double and not a responsive double?

Example 1: 1D – X (1) – 4D – X (2)

If you play responsive doubles through 4D, then X(2) says, "Yes, partner I have at least 4/4 in both Majors."

Example 2: 1D – X(1) – 4H – X(2)

If you play responsive doubles through 4D, then X(2) is for penalty because 4H is above your 4D limit for a responsive double.

\* It is up to you and your partner to agree on your upper limit for responsive doubles and write that limit in the allocated space.  
(Colin and I play responsive doubles through 4D.)  
If you would never bid like this, then leave it blank or put a dash.

**Jump overcalls.** This is when opponents open the bidding and you make a jump overcall, that is, you overcall by more than the cheapest bid available to you.

Example 1: Opponents open 1H and you jump to 3C over their 1H.

Your 3C bid is a jump overcall because you could have bid 2C but chose to jump higher. If this is a weak bid, then you just write 'weak' in the space allocated.

If your jump overcall has any other special meaning, you must write what it means in the space allocated.

**Unusual NT.** If you play Unusual NT (e.g. opponents open 1H and you jump to 2NT over their 1H opening), you must describe how you play it.

Example 1: 5/5 in the minors

Example 2: Two lowest unbid suits

If you would never bid like this, then leave it blank or put a dash.

**NT overcall (immediate)** If opponents open 1H and you bid 1NT over their 1H what is your point range (or any special meaning) for your immediate 1NT overcalls?

Example 1: 16-18, balanced

Example 2: 15-18, balanced

Example 3: Any other special meaning? If so, write it in the space.

**(re-opening)** (also called a Balancing 1NT)

1NT Overcall Re-opening refers to the specific situation where a player opens at the 1-level and this is followed by 2 passes. Many players in 4th position will bid 1NT rather than passing and letting the opener play at the 1 level.

Example 1: 8+ (not vul) / 10+ (vul)

Example 2: 16-18

Example 3: 13+ etc...

**Immed cue: (minor)**

This is when the opponents open a minor and you (or your partner) immediately bid that same minor at the 2-level.

For example, 1C – 2C or 1D – 2D. There are various ways to interpret this bid.

Example 1: 5/5 in both majors

Example 2: Highest unbid suit and 1 other unbid suit.

Example 3: Natural. etc...

If you would never bid like this, then leave it blank or put a dash.

### **Immed cue (Major)**

This is when the opponents open a major and you (or your partner) immediately bid that same major at the 2-level.

For example, 1H – 2H or 1S – 2S. There are various ways to interpret this bid.

Example 1: Highest unbid suit and 1 other unbid suit.

Example 2: Natural. etc...

If you would never bid like this, then leave it blank or put a dash.

### **Over weak twos**

If opponents open a weak two, some players apply a specific convention for describing their hand to their partner. If you play one of these conventions, you will know it and you must identify it here.

Otherwise, just write 'natural' if that is what you play.

Example 1: Natural

Example 2: Leaping Michaels

### **Over opening threes**

If opponents open at the three-level in a suit, you must identify any specific convention, if any, you play or any specific understanding you have with your partner for this situation. Otherwise, just write 'natural.'

### **Over opponent's transfers**

If you play any particular convention over opponent's transfers, you must write it in this space. Otherwise just write Natural.

**Over opponent's 1NT** If opponents open 1NT and you bid over them (e.g. 1NT – 2S), does your bid have any special meaning or is it a natural bid?

Example 1: Natural

Example 2: Cappelletti

Example 3: D.O.N.T.

\* There are at least 65 different conventions for competing over opponents 1NT opening. If you play one of those conventions, you must identify it here.