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GENERAL APPROACH

2/1 Game Forcing

Two Over One: Game Forcing Game Forcing Except When Suit Rebid

VERY LIGHT: Openings 3rd Hand Overcalls Preempts

FORCING OPENING: 1♣ 2♣ Natural 2 Bids Other

NOTRUMP OPENING BIDS

1NT 14+ to 17-
3♣ Transfer to ♦
3♦ 5-5 in ♣ + ♦, GF+
3♥ 41(44), GF+
3♠ 14(44), GF+
4♠-(22)(54), Slam Inv.
4♦, 4♥ Transfer
Smolen Tr. Leb.
Lebensohl (denies)
Neg. Double -> 7♥
2♥ Transfer to ♠
2♠ Strength Ask*
2NT Puppet Stayman
Other: *Or Transfer to ♣

2NT 20 to 21
Puppet Stayman
Transfer Responses:
Jacoby Texas
3♠ Transfer to 3NT
3NT to
Gambling 3NT
Conventional NT Openings
4NT- Asking for
Specific Aces

MAJOR OPENING

Expected Min. Length 4 5
1st/2nd
3rd/4th Rarely 4 Cards

MINOR OPENING

Expected Min. Length 4 3 0-2 Conv.
1♣
1♦

RESPONSES

Double Raise: Force Inv. Weak
After Overcall: Force Inv. Weak
Conv. Raise: 2NT 3NT Splinter
Other: Modified Jacoby 2NT
1NT: Forcing Semi-forcing
2NT: Forcing Inv. to
3NT: to
Drury: Reverse 2-Way Fit
Other: 1M-(X)-3M is weak

RESPONSES

Double Raise: Force Inv. Weak
After Overcall: Force Inv. Weak
Forcing Raise: J/S in other minor
Single raise Other: 1m-(X)-3m is
Frequently bypass 4+♦ weak
1NT/1♣ 8 to 10
2NT Forcing Inv. to
3NT: 16 to 17
Other 1m-2♥ is Bal. 11-12 HCP

DESCRIBE RESPONSES/REBIDS

2♣ 22+ to HCP
Strong Other
Or within 1 trick
2♦ Resp: Neg Waiting of making game
Cheapest m Bust; Kokish
Positive Responses Rare
2♦ 5 to 10 HCP
Natural: Weak Intermediate Strong Conv.
2NT Ogust or Feature**
2NT Force New Suit NF
2♥ 5 to 10 HCP
Natural: Weak Intermediate Strong Conv.
2NT Ogust or Feature**
2NT Force New Suit NF
2♠ 5 to 10 HCP
Natural: Weak Intermediate Strong Conv.
2NT Ogust or Feature**
2NT Force New Suit NF

OTHER CONV. CALLS: New Minor Forcing: 2-Way NMF
Weak Jump Shifts: In Comp. Not in Comp. 1m-2♠ is 6-9 HCP raise
4th Suit Forcing: 1 Rd. Game **Ogust if Non-Vul.; Feature if Vul.
1m-2NT is GF and shows either 13-15 HCP or 18+ HCP, bal., no 4-card M
Leaping Michaels: 1NT-2♦/2♥-2♥/2♠-2♠/3♥ shows 5=5 in ♠=♥, Inv./GF+
***Except (1♣)-2♣ is natural, while (1♣)-2♦ shows ♥ + ♠ two-suiter

SPECIAL DOUBLES

After Overcall: Penalty
Negative thru 7♥
Responsive : thru 7♥ Maximal
Support: Dbl. thru 2♥ Redbl
Card-showing Min. Offshape T/O
Lightner Double; Snapdragon Double

NOTRUMP OVERCALLS

Direct: 15 to 18- Systems on
Conv. Sandwich 1NT (If PH)
Balancing: 10+ to 14
Jump to 2NT: Minors 2 Lowest
Conv. Balancing 2NT 19-21

DEFENSE VS NOTRUMP

vs: Strong 1NT Weak 1NT
2♣ ♥ + ♠ ♥ + ♠
2♦ Single M Single M
2♥ ♥ + m ♥ + m
2♠ ♠ + m ♠ + m
Dbl: 5+m + 4M ♠ + m Penalty
Other 2NT: ♣ + ♦
3-level overcalls are natural

SIMPLE OVERCALL

1 level 7 to 17 HCP (usually)
often 4 cards very light style
Responses
New Suit: Forcing NF Const NF
Jump Raise: Forcing Inv. Weak
Jump cue bid = mixed raise

JUMP OVERCALL

Strong Intermediate Weak
Game-level jumps are wide-ranging

OPENING PREEMPTS

Sound Light Very Light
3/4-bids
Conv./Resp. Depends on Vul.

DIRECT CUEBID

OVER: Minor Major
Natural
Strong T/O
Michaels
Natural if opps have bid 2+ suits***

OVER OPP'S T/O DOUBLE

New Suit Forcing: 1 level 2 level
Jump Shift: Forcing Inv. Weak
Redouble implies no fit
2NT Over Limit+ Limit Weak
Majors
Minors
Other Transfers over 1M-(X)

VS Opening Preempts Double Is

Takeout thru 7♥ Penalty
Conv. Takeout:
Lebensohl 2NT Response
Other:

SLAM CONVENTIONS Gerber: 4NT: Blackwood RKC 1430
4♣ is Gerber only after 1NT and 2NT openings/rebids/responses, 5♣/3NT
Kickback 1430; Void-Showing Responses to Kickback; Exclusion 3014
vs Interference: DOPI DEPO Level: 5 ROPI

LEADS (circle card led, if not in bold)

versus Suits versus Notrump
xx x(x)x xx xxx
xx x xxx x(x) xxx xxx
(A)K x T 9 x A K J x A Q J x
K Q x K J T x A J T 9 A T 9 x
Q J x K T 9 x K Q J x K Q T 9
J T 9 Q T 9 x Q J T x Q T 9 x
K Q T 9 J T 9 x T 9 x x

LENGTH LEADS:

4th Best vs SUITS vs NT
3rd/5th Best vs SUITS vs NT
Attitude vs NT
Reverse Smith
Primary signal to partner's leads
Attitude Count Suit preference

DEFENSIVE CARDING

vs SUITS vs NT
Standard: Except
Upside-Down: count attitude
FIRST DISCARD
Lavinthal Odd/Even Low Encouraging
OTHER CARDING
Smith Echo Trump Suit Pref. Foster Echo

SPECIAL CARDING PLEASE ASK