

OTHER OPENING BIDS					
	HCP	See Note	Min len.	CONVENTIONAL MEANING	SPECIAL RESPONSES
1♣	11-17, R19	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	No 5 card Major	See notes 1 & 23
1♦	18+	<input type="checkbox"/>	0		See notes 13, 6, 15
1♥	11-17, R19	<input type="checkbox"/>	5		See notes 17, 21, 26 & 27
1♠	11-17, R19	<input type="checkbox"/>	5		
3 bids	<10	<input type="checkbox"/>	7/8	6/7 tricks NV 7/8 tricks V	Transfer pre-empts. See Note 16.
4♣/♦	10+	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Transfer to 4♥/♠	Solid 8-card ♥/♠ suit.
4♥/♠	<10	<input type="checkbox"/>	8	7 tricks NV & 8V	Pre-emptive; non-solid suit.

DEFENSIVE METHODS AFTER OPPONENTS OPEN				
OPPONENTS OPEN A NATURAL ONE OF A SUIT		CONVENTIONAL MEANING	SPECIAL RESPONSES	Notes
Simple overcall		Natural		
Jump overcall		Weak, usually 6 card suit	2NT response is OGUST	12
Cue bid		Michaels 4		
1NT	Direct: Protective	15-17 11-14	As for 1NT opening, but 4-card Stayman	
2NT	Direct: Protective	Lowest two unbid suits Lowest two unbid suits	Weak or Strong	
OPPONENTS OPEN WITH		DEFENSIVE METHODS	SPECIAL RESPONSES	Notes
Strong 1♣		Double= both majors; 1NT both minors		Weak
Short 1♣/1♦		Natural or treat as suit for Michaels		
Weak 1NT		Modified Cappelletti		3
Strong 1NT		Modified Cappelletti		3
Weak 2		Double = take out		10 & 11
Weak 3		Double = take out		14
4 bids		Double for Penalties		
Multi 2♦		Defense as to weak 2♥/♠		10

SLAM CONVENTIONS		
Name	Meaning of Responses	Action over interference
Roman Key Card Blackwood	If ♣s NOT trumps, 14, 30, 2-, 2+Q; otherwise 30, 41, 2-, 2+Q; Notes 24, 25, 31; DOPI/ROPI	
Gerber over NT	4♦=0 or 4, 4♥=1, 4♠=2, 4NT=3	
5NT = Grand Slam Force	6♣ = 0; 6♦ = 1; 6♥ = 2; 7 suit = AKQ of trump suit.	

SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS (continued)
<p><b>23. Interference over 1♣: (continued)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1♣ (2♣) (natural) – ?</b>  <b>Pass:</b> Penalty pass or nothing to say.  <b>X:</b> 11-14 points, no 5 card Major.  <b>2♦:</b> 7-10 points, both majors  <b>2♥/♠:</b> 7-14 points &amp; 5 card suit.  <b>2NT:</b> 15+, any distribution.  <b>3♣:</b> Points for game, but no club stop.</li> <li>• <b>1♣ (2♣) (two suiter) – ?</b>  <b>Pass:</b> Penalty pass or nothing to say.  <b>X:</b> 7-14 points, 5+ clubs.  <b>2♦/♥/♠:</b> (Non cue-bid): 7-14 points &amp; 5 card suit.  <b>Cue-bid:</b> Bid of one of their suits shows Hxx and doubt about their other suit.  <b>2NT:</b> 15+, any distribution</li> <li>• <b>1♣ (2♦/♥/♠) (weak) – ?</b>  <b>Pass:</b> Penalty pass or nothing to say.  <b>X:</b> 11-14, no 5-card major but 4 cards in the other major(s)  <b>2♥/♠:</b> (Non cue-bid): 7-14 points &amp; 5 card suit.  <b>Cue-bid:</b> Game force, no stop  <b>2NT:</b> 15+, any distribution  <b>3-bids:</b> 5-card suit, game force</li> </ul>
<p><b>24. Void-showing in RKCB:</b>  Over 4NT RKCB, with 2 key cards and a useful void bid 5NT; OR if the useful void is below the trump suit bid it at the 6 level.</p>
<p><b>25. Asking for Q of Trumps in RKCB:</b>  After an initial round of RKCB for Key Cards, the next suit up asks for Queen of trumps, unless it is the trump suit. Responses when holding other Ks are :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 of trump suit: no trump Q; then 5NT is for other Ks or if over a sequence where controls have been shown is for other Qs.</li> <li>• 6 of a suit: Q of trumps and either this K or the two other Ks.</li> </ul>
<p><b>26. After 1♣/♥/♠ - 2♣:</b>  After this sequence both responder and 1♣ opener have denied 5-card majors. Opener now rebids as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2♦: Minimum balanced hand, no undeclared 4-card major.</li> <li>• 2♥/♠ (New suit): Minimum Weak NT (12-13-), 4-card suit.</li> <li>• 2♥/♠ (rebid): Minimum hand (12-13-), 6-card suit.</li> <li>• 2NT: Maximum weak NT, no 4-card major. Forcing to 3NT.</li> <li>• 3♣/♦: Hand too strong for a weak NT opener. Forcing to 3NT.</li> <li>• 3♥/♠ (rebid): Non-Minimum hand (13+-17), 6-card suit. Forcing to 3NT.</li> <li>• 3♥/♠ (New suit): Non-Minimum NT (13+-17), 4-card suit. Forcing to 3NT.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Similar meanings apply if there's intervention before the 2♣ bid, with cue-bids asking for stops.</p>

## SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS (continued)

### 27. Responses by a passed hand to 1♥/♠ opening or overcall:

- 2♣: 10-11 points, 4 card support;
- 2♦: 10-11 points, 3 card support;
- 2♥/♠: 7-9 points, 3+ card support;
- 2NT: Good raise to 3♥/♠.
- 3♥/♠: 4-6 points, 4 card support.

**Note:** Where possible, these responses (including 2♣ / 2♦) apply after intervention.

### 28. Checkback after 1♣-2♣-2♥-2♠ (see Note 26):

- 2NT: minimum, NT shape, <4♠; non-forcing
- 3♣/♦: 5+ cards, <4♠, unbalanced hand; non-forcing
- 3♥: 4♥ & 3♠; non-minimum, NT shape; non-forcing
- 3♠: 4♥ & 4♠; minimum, non-forcing
- 3NT: non-minimum, NT shape, <4♠
- 4♠: 4♥, 4♠; non-minimum

**Note:** Both 1♣ and 2♣ denied a 5-card major, and by not jumping, opener has shown a 11-13-hand. "Minimum" and "non-minimum" are to be understood in this context.

### 29. Checkback after 1♣-2♦-2♥-2♠:

- 2NT: minimum, NT shape, <4♠
- 3♣/♦: 5+ cards, <4♠, unbalanced hand
- 3♥: 4♥ & 3♠; non-minimum, NT shape
- 3♠: 4♥ & 4♠; non-minimum (can be strong)
- 3NT: non-minimum, NT shape, <3♠
- 4♠: 4♥, 4♠; minimum

**Note:** By opening 1♣ opener, will not have a 5-card major, but with a balanced 15-17 points may have a 4-card major. "Minimum" and "non-minimum" are to be understood in this context: "minimum" = 11-14, "non-minimum" = 15-17. As responder has shown 15+, all sequences below game are forcing

### 30. Responses to 2♣/2♦ opening:

- **2♦/2♥ response:** asks for a stop. A 2NT response shows a stop in the "asking" suit. With 2 stops, opener bids 3NT.
- **2♣ - 2♥/2♠:** 5-card major, 11+ points. Opener (jump) supports with 3-card support, bids a stop, or 2NT/3NT with 2 stops (min/max). To show a stop above 3 of his suit, opener requires either a maximum or a doubleton in responder's suit; otherwise (or with no stops to show) opener repeats his suit.
- After 2♦-2♥-2♠ (showing a ♠ stop): 3♥ shows a non-minimum with 5♥+, forcing to 4♦ (implies xx or better in ♦). 3♣ shows a minimum with 5♥s.
- **2NT response:** bid 3♣/♦ with a minimum, 5♣/♦ with a non-minimum
- **Raises:** pre-emptive.

#### Notes:

- Opener shows a single-suited hand of 11-14 points and a 6-card suit headed by exactly 2 of the top 3 honours. A 4+-card-major is specifically denied. With other configurations, an alternative opening is found.
- A "stop" is an A or Kxx.

**31. Blackwood after 1♦ opening:** 4NT after a 1♦ opening with control-showing responses is Standard Blackwood, with 5NT for Qs.



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## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF BIDDING METHODS

### STRONG DIAMOND

#### 1NT OPENINGS AND RESPONSES

**Strength** 15-17 Tick if artificial and provide details below

**Shape constraints** No 4/5-card major; 5332, 4432 or 4333 distribution.

**Responses: 2♣** - Transfer to diamonds or Invitational in NT

2♦ Transfer to hearts 2♥ Transfer to spades

2♠ 6-card minor (note 20) 2NT Transfer to Clubs

Others 3♣/♦/♥/♠ = 2-suited hands: See note 22. 4♦ = weak transfer to 4♥

**Action after opponents double** See notes 5 & 19.

**Action after other interference** See note 2

#### TWO-LEVEL OPENINGS AND RESPONSES

	Meaning	Responses	Notes
2♣	11-14 6-card with 2 of top 3 hon	2♦ asks for stop	30
2♦	11-14 6-card with 2 of top 3 hon	2♥ asks for stop	30
2♥	Weak 2, 5-9 usually 6 card suit	2NT OGUST	12
2♠	Weak 2, 5-9 usually 6 card suit	2NT OGUST	12
2NT	6-11 major or minor two-suiter (14-17 in 4 <sup>th</sup> seat)		9

#### OTHER ASPECTS OF SYSTEM WHICH OPPONENTS SHOULD NOTE

1♣: 11-17 points (or Rule of 19), no 5 card major.

1♦: 18+ points or Extended Rule of 25.

**Canapé:** Subject to length prerequisites, a shorter major is in general bid first in preference to a longer minor.

**Discards:** Italian (McKenny on Even Cards, Odd Card asks for that Suit).

**Stayman:** Non-Promissory.

**Pre-empts:** Transfer

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## SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS

1. **Responses to 1♣: Pass** 0-3 (any distribution) or 0-5 (6+ ♣s), 1♦ 4-10 no 5-card major; 1♥/♠ 4-14, 5-card; 1NT 7-10, no 4-card major; 2♣ 11-14, no 5 card major (see Note 26); 2♦ 15+; 2NT 11-12 no 4 card major.  
2♥/♠ 6-card suit, 4-6 points: **OGUST 2NT** enquiry (Responses: 3♣/♦/♥: 0, 1, 2 of the top 3 trump honours, respectively).
2. **Lebensohl after opponents bid a suit over our 1NT:** Double is an invitational raise in NT, 8-9 pts – invites a penalty pass. Suit bid at the 2-level is natural and NF. Suit bid at 3-level is natural & GF. Immediate cue DENIES a stop. 2NT requires opener to bid 3♣. THEN responder either a) passes or b) bids new suit to play (invitational if above overcaller's suit) or c) cue bids (as above but SHOWS a stop), or d) bids 3NT which SHOWS a stop.
3. **Modified Cappelletti:** (9-14 points)
  - 2♣ majors; usually 5-4: Resps: 2♦ no 4-card; 2♥/♠, 4+; 2NT Jacoby (either major; partner bids 3♥/4♥, corrected as necessary). 3♥/♠ invitational with distribution.
  - 2♦ undeclared 6-card (or poor 7-card) suit, 2♥ asks (NF); 2NT asks (F)
  - 2NT = minors. 5-5 weak or strong.
  - 2♥/♠ is 5-4 ♥/♠ & minor, 2NT asks, 3-minor – bid major game if this is your minor.
  - 3 / 4 bids: natural, pre-emptive, decent 7 / 8-card suit.
  - **Double:** Against Weak NT, 15+pts direct (penalties), 12+pts protective NV (optional). Responses as after a 1NT rebid following a 1♦ opening.  
Against Strong NT, x shows 5-minor & 4-major.
 Modified Cappelletti-style bids apply at any level of NT in hitherto uncompetitive auctions.
4. **Michaels:** 1m-2m majors, 1M-2M other M & m, 1m/M-2NT lower 2 suits.  
Weak or strong.
5. **Action after opponents immediately double our 1NT:**
  - **Redouble:** to play, otherwise ...
  - **System on**
6. **NT rebid by 1♦ opener (after 1♥/♠ response):** 1NT 18-20 (no 5-card major):  
**Responses** as to opening 1NT, except 2♣ is Stayman, 2♠ is 5♠+4♥, 2NT transfer to 3♣/♦. See **Note 12** for super-accept. 2NT 21-23 (no 5-card major): **Responses** as to opening 1NT, except 3♣ is Stayman, 3♠ is 5♠+4♥, 3NT transfer to 4♣/♦. 3NT 24-27, no 5-card suit: **Responses** – Stayman and red-suit transfers. 4NT 28+, no 5-card suit.
7. **NT sign-off:** After minor suit slam try if negative. Bid unbid suit for partner to bid 5NT.
8. **1♥/♠ – 2NT:** Jacoby - good support, no singleton, 11-14 pts. Response = shortage.
9. **Response to 2NT Opening:**
  - 3♣/♦ better minor (weak) – opener passes or bids 3♥ with the majors; responder may then correct to 3♠.
  - 3♥/♠ better major (forcing) – with minors, opener bids 3NT.
10. **Defence to weak 2♦/♥/♠:**
  - X: either 12-18 with 4 cards in other/both major(s) or 19+, any distribution.  
... See **Note 11** for responses.
  - 2♠/3♣/3♦/3♥: natural, 12-18, 5+ card suit.
  - 2NT: 16-18 balanced – at least one stop promised, <4 cards in unbid major(s)  
... responses natural.
  - Cue-bid: Michaels: 5-5 in the other major and a minor (8-11 or 15+).
  - 3NT: minors (8-11 or 15+).
  - 4♣/♦: 7-cards, pre-emptive.

## SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS (continued)

11. **Lebensohl after we double opponents' Weak 2 or Multi-2♦:** Suit bid at the two-level is natural and weak (0-7). Immediate non-jump suit bid at 3-level is natural (invitational 8-11). Immediate JUMP suit bid at 3 level is natural & GF (12+). 2NT requires opener to bid 3♣. THEN responder either a) passes or bids new suit BELOW opener's suit (or below 3♦ over multi-2♦) to play (0-7) or b) cue bids opener's major (4 cards in other major & SHOWS a stop; invitational, 8-11 if 3♥; GF, 12+ if 3♠) or c), bids a suit ABOVE opener's suit (invitational, 8-11; 3♠ is 5+ cards) or d) bids 3NT which SHOWS a stop. Immediate cue bid shows 4 cards in other major and DENIES a stop. Immediate 3NT also DENIES a stop.
12. **OGUST 2NT:** 3♣ weak suit 5-7, 3♦ good suit 5-7, 3♥ weak suit 8-9, 3♠ good suit 8-9. 3NT AKQ. NB a good suit is 2 of top 3 honours. Applies even after intervention. If 3-level intervention over 2NT, "system on", with x = "they took my bid", pass showing a lesser hand. But after 2♥ (-) 2NT (3♠), x shows 8-9, irrespective of suit strength.  
  
 After 1♦ – 1♥ – 1NT – 2♦/♥ (transfers), 2♠/2NT transfer-break is **OGUST**.  
**Responses:** 1-step 0-3, 5-card; 2-step 0-3 6+card; 3-step 4-5 (less than 4 in 5-card suit); 4-step 4-5 in 5-card suit.
13. **Responses to 1♦:**
  - 1♥ 0-5; 1♠ 6+ <3 controls; 1NT 3 controls; 2♣ 4 controls etc.
  - 2♥/♠ 4-5, 6-card suit, when 2NT rebid by opener is **OGUST** (responses of 3♣/♦/♥ show respectively 0, 1, 2 of the top 3 trump honours).
14. **Defence to 3-level pre-empts: X** for T/O, 3NT to play.  
Over 3♥/♠, 4♣/♦ shows a 5-card suit & 4 in other Major.
15. **Interference over 1♦:**
  - **After 1♦ (X):** Pass 0-3, 1♥ 4-5, XX 4-5 with feature; else as system.
  - **After 1♦ (1♥):** Pass 0-3, X 4-5; else as system.
  - **After 1♦ (1♠):** Pass 0-5, X 6+ <3 controls; else as system.
  - After higher intervention, X 6+ (0+ controls), Bids = at least 5-card suit, NF
16. **Transfer Pre-empts:**
  - 3♣: Transfer to 3♦. Promises 2 of the top 3 honours in 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> position.
  - 3♦: Transfer to 3♥.
  - 3♥: Transfer to 3♠.
  - 3♠: Acol 3NT opener. 7-card solid minor with no outside defensive trick. Responder bids 3NT to play, else 4♣ which opener may correct.
  - 3NT: 4-level pre-empt in ♣/♦. Promises 2 of the top 3 honours in 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> position.
  - 4♣/♦: Texas.
17. **Checkback after 1♥ - 1♠ - 1NT:** 2♣ asks for strength and undisclosed ♠ length (as only 4 spades are required for a 1♠ response to 1♥, responder with 5 spades may want to know if opener has 3 spades):-
  - 2♦ minimum with <3♠; 2♥ non-minimum with <3♠;
  - 2♠ minimum with 3♠; 3♠ non-minimum with 3♠.
18. **NT Rebids:** After a 1♦/♥/♠ response to 1♣, as only 4 points have been shown, NT rebids are conservative. 1NT = 12-15, 2NT = 16-17. Responder should stretch a 2♣ response with a good 10-count. After a 1♠ response to 1♥, responder has shown 7 points, so 1NT = 12-14, 2NT = 15-17.
19. **Responder's Action after opponents double our 1NT in re-opening position:**
  - **Redouble:** to play, otherwise ...
  - **System on**

## SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS (continued)

**20. 2♠ Response to Opening 1NT:** Minor suit game try - asks opening to bid 2NT, when responder bids his minor. With a high honour in the minor, opener bids 3NT. Responder shows 6+ cards including 2 top honours.

### 21. Responses to 1♥/♠ opening:

- 1♠: 7-14 points, 4+ card suit (see Note 17 for Checkback after opener's 1NT rebid)
- 2♥ over 1♠: 11-14 points, 5-card suit
- 1NT: 7-10 points, <3-card support, could have 5-card ♥ suit
- 2♣: 11-14, denies 4+ card support; no 5-card ♠/♥-suit or 4-card ♠-suit over 1♥
- ... – see Note 26 for opener's rebids;
- 2♦: 15+ points, any distribution;
- Raises:** 2-Level: 7-10, 3-4-card support; 3-Level: 0-6, 4-card support;
- ... 4-Level: 0-10, 5+card support
- 2NT:** Jacoby (see Note 8); **Splinters:** (see "Other Conventions")

### 22. 3-level responses to Opening 1NT: suits show 2-suited hands:-

- 3♣: Strong 5-5 or better in the minors; slam interest, no void.
- 3♦: Major 2-suiter (5-5 or better); game force.
- 3♥: Maxi Splinter. Game force, 5-4+ in the minors, void ♥.
- 3♠: Maxi Splinter. Game force, 5-4+ in the minors, void ♠.
- 3NT: to play.

These responses apply after opener's 1NT rebids, but with appropriate aspirations.

### 23. Interference over 1♣:

- 1♣ (X) – ?  
As system, except ...  
**Pass:** 0-6 points  
**X:** 7-10 points, no 4 or 5 card Major, unbalanced hand
- 1♣ (1♦) – ?  
As system, except ...  
**Pass:** 0-6 points  
**X:** 7-10 points with at least one 4 card Major.  
**1♥/♠:** 7-14 points & 5 card suit.  
**1NT:** 7-10 points (< 4 ♥/♠s, no ♦ stop promised).
- 1C (1♥) – ?  
As system, except ...  
**Pass:** 0-6 points  
**X:** 7-10 points, 4 ♠s.  
**1NT:** 7-10 points (< 4 ♠s, no ♥ stop promised).
- 1♣ (1♠) – ?  
As system, except ...  
**Pass:** 0-6 points  
**X:** 7-10 points, 4 ♥s.  
**1NT:** 7-10 points (< 4 ♥s, no ♠ stop promised).  
**2♥:** 7-14 points & 5 card suit.
- 1♣ (1NT) (natural) – ?  
Modified Cappelletti (see Note 3; but X = 11+)

## COMPETITIVE AUCTIONS

**Level to which negative doubles apply:** All doubles up to and including 4♥ are for T/O except where we have agreed a suit, or have opened or overcalled a natural NT.

**Opponents overcall our 1♥/♠:** See Note 23. If System bids 2♣/♦ are possible, 2NT is Jacoby (Note 8), else 15+; X of 1-level is 7-10, of 2-level 11-14 (no support); LTC raises

<b>Agreements after opponents double 1♥/♠ for takeout</b>		<b>XX:</b> 8+, 3+ support
<b>2♣/2♦:</b> System	<b>New suit:</b> weak, 6-card	<b>Jump in new suit:</b> Splinter
<b>Jump raise:</b> Pre-emptive	<b>1NT:</b> Minors	<b>2NT:</b> Sound raise to 3♥/♠

**Sputnik Doubles:** show 7+pts & the other two suits or the other major.

## OTHER CONVENTIONS

**Fourth Suit Forcing:** Asks partner to describe the hand further.

### Unassuming Cue Bids:

- Opposite partner's overcall, asks for strength. **Response:** jump / show feature with opening bid.
- After opponents' overcall, shows sound raise of partner to the next level.

### Splinter Bids

- Mini, jump bid is trump agreement and a singleton (11-14 points)
- Maxi, double jump shows trump agreement and a void (11-14 points)

**Opening 4NT:** asks for an ace, 5♣ none, bid ace, 6♣ for A♣, 5NT shows 2 aces.

**Gambling 3NT:** Bid via 3♠. Long solid minor suit and no outside defensive trick. Note 16.

**Lebensohl:** see 2, 11.      **NT sign-off:** see 7.      **1♥/♠ - 2NT:** see 8

## OPENING LEADS

v. suit	<u>A</u> K	<u>A</u> <u>K</u> x	<u>K</u> Q 10	<u>K</u> Q x	<u>K</u> J <u>10</u>	<u>K</u> 10 <u>9</u>	<u>Q</u> J 10
	<u>Q</u> J x	<u>J</u> 10 x	10 x <u>x</u>	10 <u>9</u> x	9 <u>8</u> 7 x	10 <u>x</u> x x	H x <u>x</u>
	H x x <u>x</u>	H x x <u>x</u> x	H x x <u>x</u> x x	<u>x</u> x	x <u>x</u> x	x <u>x</u> x x	
v. NT	<u>A</u> K x ( <u>x</u> )	<u>A</u> J <u>10</u> x	<u>K</u> Q 10	<u>K</u> Q x	<u>K</u> J <u>10</u>	<u>K</u> 10 <u>9</u>	<u>Q</u> J 10
	<u>Q</u> J x	<u>J</u> 10 x	10 x <u>x</u>	10 <u>9</u> x	9 <u>8</u> 7 x	10 x x <u>x</u>	H x <u>x</u>
	H x x <u>x</u>	H x x <u>x</u> x	H x x <u>x</u> x x	<u>x</u> x	x <u>x</u> x	x <u>x</u> x x	

## CARDING METHODS

On Partner's lead	Lead of A/Q: Reverse Attitude - low encouraging, high discouraging Lead of K: Unblock or give count Versus suit contracts: peter on doubleton only.
On Declarer's lead	Count: high-low = even no. of cards; upwards = odd no.
When discarding	Italian: McKenny on even card, odd card asks for that suit.
Leads	Higher of touching H's, J no higher H, 10 none or AJ10 / KJ10.