

DEFENSIVE AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING
OVERCALLS
Natural usually 5+cards , 6-17
2m overcall is constructive
New suit is non-forcing but enc/ at the 3-level forcing
2nt is a 4-card fit inv+
Cue is 3-cards inv+ / 3+cards if 2nt not available
Jump cue to the 3-level is a mixed raise
INT OVERCALL
Immediate 15-18. Responses as over opening
Reopening range (10)11-16. 2c range and majors enquiry, transfers
JUMP OVERCALLS
Always weak over one bids but vul will have playing strength
2nt two lower ranking remaining suits, wide range
2d over 1c 5+5+ MM
Over weak twos Leaping Michaels (bid minor + OM) is game forcing, jump overcall 12-16 nat
Reopen: 2NT nat 20-22
DIRECT & JUMP CUE BIDS
Cuebid over weak 2Ms, Michaels (cue is OM + m wide range), constructive. Jump cue looks for stop
Michaels over 1M and some other auctions
1c/d - 2d = majors 5+5+
1c (2+ cards) 2c = 5/4 MM 10-15 also applies in 4th after 1c - p - 1d and after 1c-p-1nt-
VS. NT
Dbl of 1nt for penalty
v (14+) 15-17 or stronger 4M 5+m may be very light in 4th seat or strong in 1 Major
Dbl of 1nt from passed hand 4M 5+m over any strength.
2c = majors
2d = 1 major, multi style then p/c or relays
2M = 5M with 4+minor
VS.PRE-EMPTS
Dbl = take out Cue = 2 suits
3nt natural
Over multi 2d 2M is 4+M short in other or nat.
VS. ARTIFICIAL STRONG OPENINGS
Disruptive, over 1c dbl majors, 1nt minors , weak jumps, UNT.
OVER OPPONENTS' TAKEOUT DOUBLE
After 1h or 1s redble transfer to 1nt. 1NT/2c(2d) transfers. 2M-1 is weak or inv+ raise of M. Fit jump after 1M. 2NT 8-10 raise. Higher art.

LEADS AND SIGNALS			
OPENING LEADS STYLE			
	Lead	In Partner's Suit	
Suit	2 nd and 4 th , Hxx High from 2 cards	Low from odd / high from even (only when not supported in any way, not d)	
NT	Same	As above	
Subseq	Same/ attitude	As above/ attitude	
Other: lead 2 nd highest from poor suits/ low usually promises honour			
LEADS			
Lead	Vs. Suit	Vs. NT	
Ace	Asks attitude / AKxx	Same	
King	Asks count AKx KQx	Same	
Queen	QJx KQ10 asks unblock of J	Same	
Jack	HJ10 J10X denies Q	Same	
10	H109 or 109 (xxx). or 10x	Same	
9	9x H98 (xx)	Same	
Hi-X	Sx xSxx(x)	Same (except in P suit not supported)	
Lo-X	xx	Same (except in P suit not supported)	
SIGNALS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY			
	Partner's Lead	Declarer's Lead	Discarding
1	H = Even	H = Even	Low even enc/ odd may be suit preference
Suit 2	L = ENC	Random or count	then random or remaining count
3	H = suit pref	H = suit pref	
1	H = Even	H = Even	As suit
NT 2	L = ENC	Random	
3	H = suit pref	H = suit pref	
Signals high/ low even, discouraging on A. In trump suit can show suit preference			
First discard – low even most enc. Odd is discouraging and may be suit pref			
Attitude signal on A or in clear situations. SP on shortage lead			
DOUBLES			
TAKEOUT DOUBLES			
Take out dbls – aggressive with right shape .Reopening may be weak			
Over 1c(short) dble is 12-14 bal or standard t/o			
Card showing, support and responsive dbls			
SPECIAL, ARTIFICIAL & COMPETITIVE DBLS/RDBLS			
Dbl at 4 or 5 level by next hand where we have game values - want to bid on			
Pass of opponents low level rdb is penalty (1d-p-p-dbl-rdb-p)			
Dbl of 3-level cue of our or partners bid suit can be don't lead it			
Redbl rescues suit contracts and express doubt about our 3NT contract			

W B F CONVENTION CARD	
CATEGORY	STRONG CLUB
NCBO:	IRELAND
PLAYERS:	Nick FitzGibbon Adam Mesbur
SYSTEM SUMMARY	
GENERAL APPROACH AND STYLE	
Precision style	
1c strong 17+ 5M 1NT 14-16	
Opening bids can be 10 (rarely 9) with shape	
1d a) natural 10-16 may have club canapé if 4/5. Unbalanced unless 6+ diamonds/ occasionally 5422. 4/1S 1/4H 3d 5c possible with weak clubs, rarely (4/3) 1d 5c if clubs weak.	
b) (11-13) any balanced 2+diamonds includes 5m422	
1nt (14-16) may hold 5M or 6m or very occasional singleton	
Often upgrade / downgrade – especially 1nt and 1c	
SPECIAL BIDS THAT MAY REQUIRE DEFENCE	
2H 5+H 4+S 10-13 points (longer hearts)weaker possible in 3rd seat Therefore 1h -1nt may have 4s	
2d 4414 4405 short D 10-16	
3nt 1 st 2 nd pre in minor/ 3 rd /4 th Gambling –may be strong	
4c, 4d openings 1st and 2nd - Strong 4h/s opening	
Pass after overcall of our 1C is weak or penalty	
Many penalty dbls after our 1c opening	
SPECIAL FORCING PASS SEQUENCES	
After positive response to 1c	
Competitive auctions where we have forced to game or opponents sacrificing- pass defend, dble bid on	
IMPORTANT NOTES	
PSYCHICS: very rare by opener / rare by responder / occasional false cuebids	

		Min cards	Neg Dbbs thru	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSES	SUBSEQUENT ACTION	PASSED HAND BIDDING
1♣		0	3s	17+ or equivalent	1d <7 unbal / <8 bal 1h/s/2c/d natural 5+cards 7+hcp, 1nt 11+ bal/ 2H 8-10 bal, 2S (4441) 8+ hcp	After 1d – 2H rebid is 22/23 bal or GF unbal 2S is (4441) or bal 26+ 3c/d is 5+H/S with 5+another GF After 1M, 3c is 444 with 1 in the M.	1nt is 8-10 (11)
1♦		2	4h	Bal 2+d (any 11-13 balanced includes 5m422) 11-16 4441 or 5+d unbalanced or 4+d/5c or 5+d/4c	2m is GF nat, 2H both minors inv, 2S both minors GF 3c/d natural invitational 8-12 good suit	Natural most suit rebids promise diamonds except 1S over 1H which is any hand with 4+ spades	Natural
1♥		5	4d	5+ 10-16 open 5/5 9pts and 5/4 10 pts and 6+ 10 pts	1S 5+. 1nt semi forcing 6-12. 2c artificial GF –no support or 5+S. 2d = 3-card H raise 10+, 2nt = 4+ H raise GF, 3C = 4+H raise 11-12, 3d = 4+H raise (8)9-10, 3H pre, 3S any void, 3nt 4m spl in S/c/d	Opener passes 1nt with 17-20 jp bal 1H-1S-2NT is 3card support, 14-16 After 2d, 2H is minimum, 2S is FG art, 2NT/ 3m short suit try in S/m After 2NT response 3c asks range/shape	2c 3+ H 9-11 Then 2M is min 2nt = 8-10 4card support 3m jump -fit 5+cards with 4+H
1♠		5	4h	5+ 10-16 open 5/5 9pts and 5/4 10 pts and 6+ 10 pts	As after 1H except 2d = 5+hearts invitational or better 2H = 3 card spade raise 10+	As after 1H except 1S 2d 2nt is 3+H fg., 1S 2H 2nt is fg any. 3h/ 3nt any void, 10-13/ 14+. 4c/d/H spl	As after 1h
INT			3s	14-16 any 5 suit/ 6m possible/ occasionally 5422 or singleton	2c Stayman – does not promise a major/ maybe weak 2d/h/s/nt all transfers 3c 5/4 minors unbalanced F 3d/H 3-suiters with shortage in H/S 4c d for H S.	Transfers to minors from responder on second round of bidding	Same
2♣		5	4h	5c with 4M or 6+clubs 10-16	2d relay, 2M fl, 4M spl	After relay 2M natural 3d/H/S shortage	
2♦		0		4414 or 4405m short diamond 10-16 (may open 1nt with 15/16)	2NT inv 3d relay . 3h/3s/4c natural slam try		
2♥		5		5+H 4+S 10-13– longer hearts -can be very light third seat	2nt inv. 3c relay to 3d. 3d inv in M, 3M mixed raise, 4c/d for H/S slam try with shortage other M		
2♠		5		Normally 6 maybe 5 nv. Up to 10	2nt relay		
2NT				19 balanced	may have any 5 card suit/ rarely 6 minor stayman transfers 3S is a minors slam try 4-any slam try two suits above (4c ST in hearts)		
3♣		6		Can be very weak at fav	3d asks better M. New suit forcing		
3♦		6		Can be very weak at fav	New suit forcing		
3♥		(6)7			New suit forcing		
3♠		(6)7			New suit forcing		
3NT	Yes			1 st and 2 nd seat Pre in minor 3 rd and 4 th Gambling	4c p/c, 4d ST		
4♣	Yes	0		Good H 7-8.5 tricks in 1 st /2 nd /4 th 3 rd natural pre	4d is a very good hand fro hearts		
4♦	Yes	0		As above for S	4h is a very good hand for spades		
4♥		(6)/7/8		Pre			
4♠		(6)/7/8		Pre			
4NT	Yes			(8.5) 9 tricks in a minor	5c p/c, 5d p/c, 5H KC in openers minor		
5♣		7+		Pre		HIGH LEVEL BIDDING	
5♦		7+		Pre		RKCB, Kick Back for minors with void showing, Exclusion RKCB, all 1430	
5♥		7+		Inv		In pre-emptive/competitive auctions dbl often encouraging to bid on	
5♠		7+		Inv		Last train	
						Generally cuebid 1 st or 2 nd round controls at cheapest level/ some sequences can show shortage	

Leads and signals

- 1st, 2nd, 4th high from two cards
second highest from three or more cards with no honour
fourth from better suits
in partner's suit (**not supported**) low from odd number/high from even number (only opening lead)
- He must have bid the suit naturally/Our support can be shown in anyway

Signals – Order of Preference

Primarily standard count

- Reverse attitude – only (always unless impossible) on Ace
- Deviation from standard remainder count may be suit preference
- From a known long suit – 2nd lowest is suit pref and non std high is suit pref
- Often suit preference when following suit in trumps
- If there is a long suit in dummy and its possible partner needs to know how many cards you have then the 1st discard if in that suit is count.
- We often do not signal during the play.

- First discard Even is encouraging (high even may be neutral)
Odd is discouraging and may be suit preference/ middle odd card often neutral
Odd may be from an honour if you do not want partner to lead the suit
After 1st discard next card will be standard remainder count.

- Subsequent discards If discard is in suit already discarded may not be count – it may clarify earlier card
Enc discard from a suit where we have known strength = don't lead another suit

Interference over our INT (also applies after our overcall)

- If they dbl rdb is single suit – opener must bid 2c
Suit is that suit plus the next highest suit/ if 54 normally weak 5-suit
After conventional dbl (ie non penalty) system is on

After 2 level overcall (not 2c)

2NT to 3♥ are transfers.

- Transfers to minor are to play or GF.
- Transfer to the Major is Inv +

(Exception after 2 spade overcall 2NT shows clubs to play or GF or hearts NF. 3♠ shows 5+clubs with 4 hearts)

- Transfer to opponents suit is stayman

Double of 2 level overcall

- If 1 or more of their suits is known Dbl is t/o
If suits not known Dbl is values/ Then 1st dbl by either hand is t/o
After t/o dbl by 1 hand all dbls by either hand penalty
Dbl and then bid a suit is non forcing

Versus transfer overcall 2d showing hearts or 2h showing spades

- Cuebid is t/o 9+
- dbl is values/ dbl and dbl is penalty
- pass and dbl is t/o less than 9