

STAMFORD BRIDGE CLUB

8TH JULY 2015

DEFENSIVE BIDS TO 1NT

1

RHO opens 1NT (announced as 12 – 14)

You hold:

♠ K J 9 7

♥ K Q J 4

♦ A 9

♣ T 9 8

What can/should you do?

2

1NT is, in essence, a preemptive bid – and very common.

So you want to compete – but how?

3

Overcall? *No 5 card suit*

Double? *Not strong enough*

Pass? *Possible – and hope that partner can bid in the 'protective' seat*

4

So how do we compete
against 1NT bid on our right?
Whatever you do it is vital that
partner understands the bid.
Remember:

**BRIDGE IS A
PARTNERSHIP GAME**

5

Conventions you may come
across:

- Natural
- Cappelletti
- Ambra
- Aptro
- Astro
- Pin-point Astro
- **Landy**

(Wikipedia lists ca 65 options)

6

Most systems include that if
you are strong enough you
can DOUBLE – shows a good
15+.

RHO bids 1NT

You hold

♠ K T 9 7

♥ K Q J 4

♦ A 9

♣ K 9 8

(16 HCP and cover in all suits)

7

If you have a long suit and c.
11-15 points overcall
naturally:

♠ K T 9 7 6 5

♥ K Q J

♦ A 9

♣ J 9

8

We recommend that you try **Landy**, showing both majors.

Bids of 2♦, 2♥, and 2♠ are still natural but

2♣ is conventional.

That means 3♣ is needed to show a club suit overcall.

9

So going back to our original hand:

RHO opens 1NT

You hold:

♠ K J 9 7

♥ K Q J 4

♦ A 9

♣ T 9 8

Bid 2♣ showing both majors (at least 4/4, but **usually** 5/4 or 5/5)

10

Requirements:

- Opening points or equivalent (say 11+)
- At least 4/4 in the majors
- It is important that the two suits are strong (most of your HCPs there)

11

So what then?

If you are in 4th seat and partner bids 2♣ over 1NT, what do you do?

E	S	W	N
1NT	2♣	P	?

With 3/3 or 3/2 in the majors you want to find the better fit. Ideally 5-3 but possibly 5-2, the latter safer than playing a dangerous 4-3 fit (might lose trump control).

12

We bid 2♦, conventionally, to ask if partner has a 5 card suit. Partner will reply 2♠ with 5 spades or 2♥ with 5 hearts or 4/4 (or 5/5).

13

BUT if you have a 4 card major you reply as if partner opened one of that suit (you have found an eight card, or better, fit).

14

e.g. you hold

♠ 987 ♥ KJT8 ♦ Q965 ♣ 97

Bid 2♥ (0-9hcp's; or 9+ losers)

♠ AK54 ♥ KJ9 ♦ 9876 ♣ T8

Bid 3♠ (10-12 hcp's; or 8 losers)

NB you should only pass if you have a long, weak club suit.

15

So in summary – responding to 2♣:

Pass = 7+ clubs, no game on

2♦ = relay - asks partner to bid his longer major

2♥/2♠ = 3+ cards in the major (0-9HCP) [**if 3 cards then short in other major**]

2NT = 11-13, no major suit interest, invitational (**usually 2/2majors, 5/4minors**)

3♥/3♠ = 4+ cards in the major (8 losers)

4♥/4♠ = 4+ cards in the major (7 losers or fewer)

16

**An actual hand (from Monday
afternoon – 29th June):**

...and so to work ...