

Stamford Bridge Club

10th February 2016

The One No Trump Overcall Recap Talk

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Requirements for a 1N Overcall

- 15-18 high card points (“hcps”)
- At least one stop in the opponents’ suit
- A balanced hand

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A Summary of Responses

After partner has overcalled 1N (and assuming the next hand is silent), our available bids are:

- 2♣ Stayman – usually 8+ but might be 0-7 with 5/4majors
- 2♦ 0+hcps, 5+hearts
- 2♥ 0+hcps, 5+spades
- 2♠ 0-7, long minor (no 4card major)
- 2N 8-9, Game invitational, no major suit interest
- 3♣/) **Unlikely bids. These are slam tries**
- 3♦/) **after 1N opening. Here slam unlikely**
- 3♥/) **when opponents open the bidding**
- 3♠/)
- 3N To play
- 4maj To play

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But note the following

- Don’t bid their suit as a response to Stayman when holding 4cards there (gives oppos unnecessary info)
- Transfers into their suit are redundant bids (we won’t play in their suit)

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A summary of exit transfers after the 1N overcall has been doubled

(1x) 1N (X) ?

XX 5+clubs
2♣ 5+diamonds
2♦ 5+hearts
2♥ 5+spades

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Common Mistakes

- To be fixated on 1N being 12-14 because we learnt that as an opening bid. No, **we need to remember the overcall separately as 15-18.**
- Convention cards where, in the space for the **1N overcall, it says "15+". Wrong** – there must be an upper limit else some games will be missed.

With 19+hcps we need to start with a double, one of the exceptions to our usual SOS rules (to be covered in a later workshop).

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A Proviso

You will have noted that all last week's examples featured a 1N overcall in the direct seat - that is, immediately after the opening bid.

If the 1N bid is made after two passes (by an unpassed hand), ~~the bid~~ reverts to c. 12-14.

e.g. (1♣) Pass (Pass) 1N

This too will be covered in a later workshop.

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Let's finish by looking at a Hand from Hell

You pick up a good hand:

♠ K 2
♥ J 8 6
♦ A K 10 2
♣ K Q J 10

Your right hand opponent opens 1♥

You have some options. You can

- Pass (with so many points?)
- Bid 1N (where's the heart stop?)
- X for takeout (let's rule this out, no ♠ length)

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Here are two scenarios

(Talk Hand 1 – Scenario 1)

(Talk Hand 1 – Scenario 2)

As with much bridge

There is often no definitive(ly correct) answer to a problem

Next Week – Strong Two Bids in Benjaminised Acol

Let's play some bridge