

STAMFORD BRIDGE CLUB

27th January 2016

Take Out Doubles

Part Two

Revision

COMMUNICATION

Developing the language of bidding

Art (and imagination) rather than science

A take out double requires partner to show **the nature of his hand and its strength**

A “normal” double shows the other three suits (or two if two suits have been bid)

“Normal” doubles require:

Support for all unbid suits (at least 3 cards in each suit – more usually 443 or 444)

Opening values

Shortage in the opened suit(s)

BUT, where partner has already bid,

Opening values are NOT needed:

(1♥) 1♠ (2♥) X

To double in this situation you need a few points more at the three level than the one level:

1 level 6+ high card points (“hcps”)

2level 8+hcps

3+level 10+hcps

'Tolerance', or better, for partner's suit:

1♦ (2♣) X

OK with:

♠ K 9 8 3

♥ A 9 6

♦ 10 9 8 3

♣ 5 3

But less attractive if you have a singleton
in partner's suit.

Sequences that promise four hearts:

1♣/♦ (1♠) X

Or deny four spades:

1♣/♦ (1♥) X

Emphasis on finding MAJOR suit fit.

Consider when NOT to use TO doubles.

Level to which Take Out Doubles apply

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT IS ESSENTIAL

Towards:

**"Doubles are for takeout until we've found
a fit"**

And look out for:

- Reopening double

1♠ (2♣) P (P) ;

X

Looking for partner to bid something if
very weak, or pass for penalties if this
partner judges it will score more than a
contract we play

- Cue bid of opps' suit to show strong
hand opposite partner's double

- Further double after partner's double

e.g. (1♠) X (2♠) X