

# Negative Doubles

Chapter 19 - Beginning Bridge Using 2/1

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## Agenda:

- Questions/Discussion?
- What is a “Negative Double”?
- Partner’s response to a Negative Double
- Responder’s rebid after Negative Double
- Practice hands

# Table positions

Opener



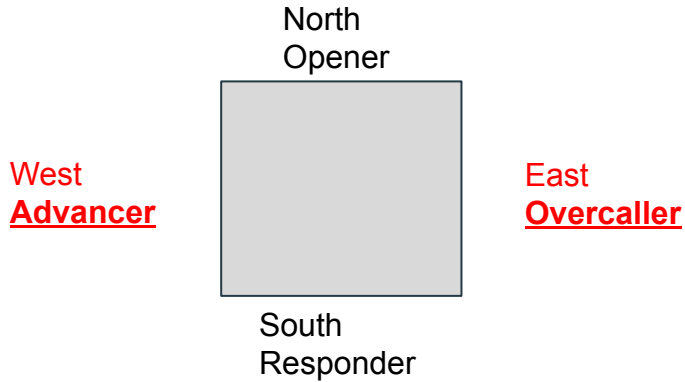
Advancer

Take-Out Doubler

Responder

# What is an Overcall?

- Table “positions”



- Definition of an Overcall: Assume Opener (North) bids a suit or NT (ex. 1 ♦ or 1 NT)
  - Overcaller bids “over” the opener’s bid - ie, the “Overcall”
  - Partner of the Overcaller is called the “Advancer”.

# What do you need to Overcall in a suit?

Bid	Points	Hand attributes
1 of a suit	9+ HCP	<b>Quality</b> 5 card suit
2 of a suit	10+ HCP	<b>Quality</b> 5 card suit - close to opening hand

# What do you need to Overcall in NT?

- 15 - 17 HCP - balanced
- Must have at least 1 or preferably 2 stoppers in Opponent's suit
- All systems are ON. (Stayman and Jacoby Transfers)

# Welcome to the “Negative Double” bid. It is a “**Double**” after Overcaller’s bid!

- It is not for penalty!
- The “Negative Double” says “Partner, I wanted to make a free bid but now that the Overcaller has bid, I can’t really support your suit and but I have some strength to support the other 2 unbid suits.”
- The Negative Double is used primarily to help the partnership find a major suit fit.

# What are the requirements to make a Negative Double?

## Examples:

Opener bids...	Overcaller bids...	Responder bids "Double". How many HCPs are req for the negative double and what does the Double imply?
1 ♣	1 ♦	Double - 6 HCPs - suggests support for ♥ & ♠... <b><u>Opener can bid at the 1 level.</u></b> So, you should have 6+ HCP as the Negative Doubler
1 ♦	1 ♠	Double - 8+ HCPs - suggests support for ♥ & ♣... <b><u>Opener will have to bid at the 2 level.</u></b> So, you should have 8+ HCP as the Negative Doubler
1 ♠	2 ♥	Double - 10+ HCPs - suggests support for ♣ & ♦... <b><u>Opener will have to bid at the 3 level if ♠</u></b> are not rebid by Opener. So, you should have 10+ HCP as the Negative Doubler

## Additional bidding considerations:

- Negative Double of a 1 ♥ Overcall, promises 4 ♠. If you have 5 ♠, bid 1 ♠.
- If you have 4 cards in one major and 3 cards in the other major, the Negative Double may still be your best bid. Remember, your primary objective is to find a major suit fit.
- With 4 cards in one major and 5 cards in the other major, bid the longer major. **Do not use a Negative Double bid.**



So what do you do with this hand? Opener (Partner) has bid 1 ♣ & Overcaller has bid 1 ♠. What can you do as Responder with this hand?

Your hand - 8 HCP

♠ 8 7 5  
 ♥ K J 8 7  
 ♦ A 10 5  
 ♣ 6 3 2

**DOUBLE**

Your hand - 9 HCP

♠ 8 7 6  
 ♥ J 8 7  
 ♦ A K J T  
 ♣ 6 3 2  
 ?



Your partner  
 1 ♣

right hand opponent  
 1 ♠

you  
 ?

What do you bid with this type of hand?

♠ 8 7 5  
 ♥ K J 8 7  
 ♦ A 10 5  
 ♣ 6 3 2

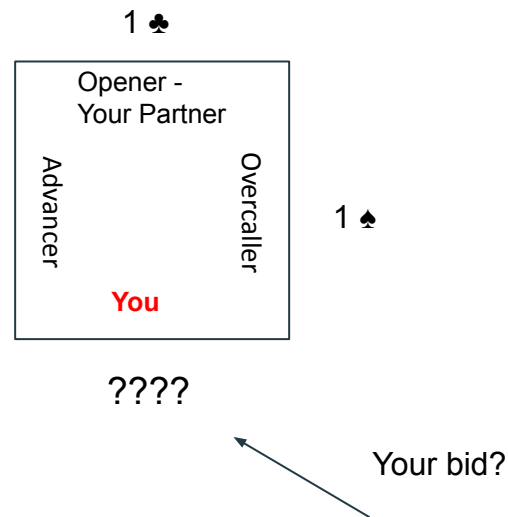
# Partner opens 1 ♣. Overcaller bids 1 ♠. What should you bid as South?

1. Your hand  
♠ K 4  
♥ A Q J 6  
♦ K J 8 2  
♣ 9 5 4 (14 HCP)

**Answer:** Double

2. Your hand  
♠ 8 4  
♥ K Q 9 7 5  
♦ Q J 7 2  
♣ 10 6 (8 HCP)

**Answer:** Double



# Partner opens 1 ♣. Overcaller bids 1 ♦. What should you bid as South?

3. Your hand

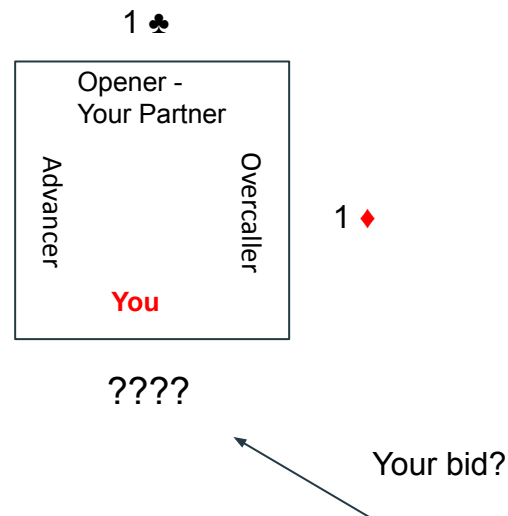
♠ Q J 8 7 3  
♥ A J 10 2  
♦ 8  
♣ 6 4 2 (8 HCP)

Answer: 1 ♠

4. Your hand

♠ A Q 4  
♥ J 10 7 4  
♦ 6 2  
♣ 8 7 5 4 (7 HCP)

Answer: 1 ♥. Double is possible but usually means you have **4 H and 4 S**. You only have 3 S in hand #4. If Opener happens to have 3 good S, 3 ugly H, 3 D and 4 C, he is likely to bid 1 S as his 2nd bid if you were to Double. That would leave the partnership with only 6 S which is a very poor fit. Bidding 1 H makes this more clear to the Opener that you have 4 H.



Partner (N) opens 1 . Overcaller (E) bids 1 . What should you bid as South?

3. Your hand  
♠ K Q 9 3  
♥ 8 5 4  
♦ 10 8 6 2  
♣ Q 4 (7 HCP)

**Answer: Double.** If you had 5 ♠, you would bid 1 ♠. Your Double says I have 4 ♠.

Partner (N) opens 1 . Overcaller bids 2 . What should you bid as South?

4. Your hand  
♠ K Q 10 8 7 4  
♥ Q 3  
♦ J 8 2  
♣ 6 5 (8 HCP)




**Answer:** Double - will encourage partner to bid. You cannot make a free bid. Opener will likely bid ♥. You can still bid 2 ♠ without getting the bid up too high.

## How should Opener respond to partner's Negative Double?

- Rebid the opening suit to show 6+ cards in that suit
- Bid NT if Opener has the Overcaller's suit stopped
- Pick the better of the two unbid suits that Partner (the Negative Doubler) showed with their bid
- Pass - shows a very good holding in the **Overcaller's suit**

## How should Responder Rebid (2nd bid) after making a Negative Double?

- With 6 - 9 points
  - Pass Opener's minimum rebid
  - Give a preference to Opener's original bid
  - Bid a new suit without a jump

Ex: Opener bids 1 , Overcaller bids 1 , You Double (X = Neg. Double), Opener's 2nd bid, 2 , Pass,  
?

Your hand:

 8 6 3  
 K J 8 4  
 9 3  
 A 8 7 3

Answer: **Pass**

## Continued: How should Responder Rebid (2nd bid) after making a Negative Double?

- **With 10+ HCP**
  - Invite with support in Opener's 2nd bid

Ex: Opener bids 1 , Overcaller bids 1 , You Double (X), Opener rebids 2 , Pass, ?

Your hand:

 8 6 3  
 K J 8 4  
 K 3  
 A 8 7 3

Answer: **3 Hearts**

## Continued: How should Responder Rebid (2nd bid) after making a Negative Double?

- **With 12+ HCP**
  - With enough values for game, bid game.

Ex: Opener bids 1 , Overcaller bids 1 , You Double (X), Opener rebids 2 , Pass, ?

Your hand:

 8 6 3  
 A Q 8 4  
 K 3  
 A 8 7 3

Answer: **4 Hearts**



## How should Responder Rebid after making a Negative Double

- With a long suit as the responder but NOT enough HCPs to bid at the TWO level
  - Bid a Negative double and then bid your long suit

Ex: Opener bids 1 , Overcaller bids 1 , You Double (X), Opener rebids 1 NT, Pass, ?

Your hand:

 9 4 3  
 K Q 9 8 4 3  
 9 4  
 Q T 9

Answer: **2 Hearts**

Play hands!

