

PRACTICE HANDS – NEGATIVE DOUBLES

Partner opens 1C/1D. They overcall 1S. What is your bid with Hands 1-4?

HAND 1	HAND 2	HAND 3	HAND 4
♠ 92	♠ A5	♠ 65	♠ 102
♥ QJ63	♥ QJ74	♥ QJ1073	♥ AKJ63
♦ A104	♦ Q1032	♦ K83	♦ Q7
♣ 7654	♣ AJ3	♣ Q97	♣ Q943

Partner opens 1C/1D. They overcall 1H. What is your bid with Hands 5-7?

HAND 5	HAND 6	HAND 7
♠ Q863	♠ A10952	♠ A1095
♥ 85	♥ 854	♥ A7
♦ J754	♦ 76	♦ AQJ3
♣ A92	♣ K63	♣ 863

Partner opens 1C. They overcall 1D. What is your bid with Hands 8-11?

HAND 8	HAND 9	HAND 10	HAND 11
♠ Q653	♠ QJ74	♠ KQ76	♠ AQ932
♥ AJ84	♥ KQ65	♥ 109754	♥ KQ65
♦ 865	♦ AJ	♦ 42	♦ 7
♣ 53	♣ 765	♣ K7	♣ Q84

Partner opens 1H. They overcall 2D. What is our bid with Hands 12-14?

HAND 12	HAND 13	HAND 14
♠ A5	♠ KJ	♠ A3
♥ K1086	♥ KJ854	♥ KQ72
♦ 95	♦ 64	♦ 1083
♣ J8763	♣ 10753	♣ A872

ANSWERS

HAND 1 X. If RHO had passed you would have said 1H. Double is the same as saying 1H.	HAND 2 X. Any other call will misdescribe the hand. Your first job is to see if partner has a fit for Hearts, then show strength later.	HAND 3 X. The hand has 5-card Heart suit but not enough points to bid 2H. Responder needs 10HCP to bid a new suit at the 2-level.	HAND 4 2H. A Response of 2H promises a 5-card Heart suit & 10+ HCP. Opposition's Overcall has not interfered with your natural bidding so no need for a negative X.
HAND 5 X. This promises exactly 4 spades and is Forcing.	HAND 6 1S. Shows 5-card Spade otherwise you would have X'd.	HAND 7 X. Your hand is game going but the correct first move is to let partner know you have 4 spades.	
HAND 8 X. The negative double at the one level guarantees 4-cards in both Majors.	HAND 9 X. The negative double at the one level guarantees 4-cards in both Majors	HAND 10 X is fine. You do have a 5-card major but it is very poor.	HAND 11 1S. Show the Spades first, then the Hearts. If 5-5 in both Majors you would do the same, 1S then Hearts.
HAND 12	HAND 13	HAND 14	

X on HANDS 12, 13 and 14. The negative X on all these hands denies the values for a 2H Response – either not enough points or not enough Heart length. This tells partner a lot

Hands from

Ross Dick, *Better Biding For Improving Players*. QLD Bridge Association

Max Hardy, *Standard Bidding for the 21st Century*, Vivisphere Publishing, New York.