

Paxos (Tangier) – Bidding System

Portland plus...

Fourth Suit Forcing

After three bids of new suits, fourth suit asks for more, forcing to game.
Show shape before stopper in fourth suit.

Jacoby

1♥/♠-P-2NT = Game+ with four+ fit

Replies: Jump to 4♥/♠ with minimum; bids at three-level are natural
second suits above minimum; jumps are splinters.

Landy

2♣ over the opponents' 1NT shows 5-4 in the majors and 8-15 points.
Responder can bid 2♦ to ask for the five-card major.

Michaels cue bid

After the opponents open 1♣/♦, your bid of 2♣/♦ shows 5-5 (never 5-4)
in the majors. After opponents open 1♥/♠, 2♥/♠ shows five cards in the
other major and an unspecified five-card minor. Partner can bid 3♣ which
you pass or correct (with values, partner can bid 2NT).

NB: Michaels also applies after a Weak Two opener or a Weak Three
opener.

Negative Double

Up to 2♠ after 1L opened from partner and suit overcall from RHO.

Shows unbid major. 1♣/♦ (1♥) Double shows four spades. 1♣/♦ (1♥) 1♠
shows five+ spades. 1♣/♦(1♠)Dbl shows four hearts (may have more with
insufficient to bid 2♥).

Roman Key Card Blackwood

4NT after suit bid. Replies: 5♣=1/4 of five aces (incl. trump king); 5♦ =
3/0; 5♥ = 2 no Q; 5♠ = 2 + Q. Over 5♣/♦ replies, next suit up (not trumps)
asks for trump queen; bid 5 of trump suit without, 6 with (or a side king).
After 4NT, 5NT asks partner to bid Seven with a trick-source, otherwise
to bid cheapest king

Splinters

Double jump agrees last suit & shows singleton (void) in suit bid.

Includes 1♠ - 4♥. However, in competition, all game bids are to play eg 1♠ (2♣/♦) 4♥.

Stayman

Over 1NT (& 2NT): 2♣ asks for four-card major (2♦ reply denies).

Shows invitational or better values (because of goulash), but replies are normal (2♦/♥/♠).

Transfers

Over 1NT (& 2NT): 2♦ = five hearts; 2♥ = five spades; these show invitational+ values (or goulash) so opener should only complete with a minimum. 2♠ is a three-way bid

- 1) Game invitational opener bids with a minimum otherwise bids 3♣
- 2) Transfer to a minor. Opener converts 2NT to the minor
- 3) A strong hand with 1-3-4-5 shape. Opener bids 3 card major or over 2NT bids 3NT

1NT – 2NT asks opener to bid their 5 card major if they have one.

Notes on Stayman & Transfers

- They also apply after a 1NT overcall, a 2NT overcall after a Weak Two and 2♣-2♦-2NT
- With 5-4 in the majors, use Stayman; 5-5 use Transfers. 1NT-2♦-2♥-2♠ = INV 5-5; 1NT-2♥-2♠-3♥ = FG 5-5.

Weak Jump Overcalls:

Eg 1♥-3♣ are pre-emptive (more tricks when vulnerable of course)

Weak Twos

2♦, 2♥, 2♠ opener 5-10 good six-card suit [NB: 2♣ = 23+ any]

Replies: 2NT strong ask – bid feature with maximum, repeat suit with a minimum. Raises are weak, typically to level of fit.

Unassuming Cue Bid

Partner overcalls, bid of opener's suit = 10+ pts plus three+ card fit.

Raises of overcall are weak (0-9), level of the fit.

Unusual 2NT

When first bid by the partnership eg (1♦)-2NT showing 5-5 in the two lowest unbid suits. So (1♦)-2NT shows 5♥-5♣. Exception: Over opposing Weak Two, 2NT = natural, 15-19.

1NT – 2S

3 way. 1) Invitational – the first assumption. Now responder bids 3♣/ 3♦ to play or bids the major suit with length.

Transfer Lebensohl.

2NT is the weak escape. All other bids are transfers and invitational, with the exception of the transfer into the overcallers suit which show shortage and is a T/O. A double of the overcaller is penalties.

Wriggle.

XX forces a response to 2C after which any change to another suit shows 5 cards in the bid suit. Any suit bid over the double shows 4 cards in that suit and 4 cards in a higher-ranking suit

Carding

High encouraging. normal count.