

SUMMARY OF OVERCALLS & RESPONSES

**These notes refer to making a SUIT overcall following a 1 of a suit opening bid.
For making a suit overcall following a 1NT opening bid see separate sheet (attached)**

Overcalls (These are general requirements but preferably use **SQOT**)

At the ONE Level -8-15 pts & good 5+ card suit with 2 Honours

At the TWO level 11-15 pts & good 5+ card suit with 2 Honours

Weak Jump Overcall – 6-10 pts & 6+ card suit – *See separate sheet
With a strong hand (16+ HCPs) “double then bid” (see below).*

Double jump is pre-emptive for 7+ card suit & WEAK hand (6-10 pts)

**Any suit overcall promises a
MINIMUM of a 5 card suit.**

Suit Quality Overcall Test (SQOT)– Number of cards in long suit + number (not hcp value) of honour cards (including the TEN) must be equal or greater than the number of tricks required for the bid.

With very strong hand consider DOUBLE then BID if you have:

- 16+ Pts & 6+Card Suit
- 18+ Pts & 5+Card Suit
- 19+ Pts & Balanced Hand, double then bid NT at lowest level

With a Balanced Hand of 16-18 pts & STOPPER in opener's suit - bid 1NT,

Responding

With 3+ card support BID TO THE LEVEL OF THE FIT even if weak (Preemptive)

With support and strength (10+ HCPs) *use UCB / BOSS (see below)*

Without support and 0-8 pts PASS

Without support and 9+ pts bid own suit when the number of cards in your long suit less the number of cards in overcaller's suit is 5+ (Usually 6 card suit but might be good 5 card suit when void in overcall suit).

With balanced hand & STOPPER in openers suit:

Bid 1NT with 9-12 pts; 2NT with 12-15 pts & 3NT with 15+ pts

If partner **overcalls at the two level** they are showing **10+ PTS** and responses can be adjusted accordingly.

Unassuming Cue Bid (UCB) also called BOSS (Bid Opponent's Suit when Strong)

A bid of the opponents suit after an overcall shows support for overcallers suit and strength (10+HCPs) and is a forcing bid asking the overcaller to describe his hand further.

In response, the overcaller should rebid his suit cheaply if he is weak (7-10 HCPs) or try to describe his hand further if he has 11 or more points - i.e. bid another suit, bid no trumps (needs a stop in openers suit) or make a jump bid in the original suit.

4th Seat Overcall (after 2 passes)

At the ONE level 7+ pts & 5 card suit WITHOUT QUALITY

At the TWO level 9+ pts & 5+ card suit WITHOUT QUALITY

With a Balanced Hand of 12-14 pts & STOPPER in opener's suit - bid 1NT.