

Responding to No Trump Openers – Part 3



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Joke Time

John visited his 90-year-old grandpa who lived way out in the country. On the first morning of the visit, John's grandpa prepared a breakfast of bacon and eggs. John noticed a film-like substance on his plate, and asked, "Are these plates clean?"

His grandpa replied, "They're as clean as cold water can get them. Just go ahead and finish your meal."

For lunch, Grandpa made hamburgers. Again, John was concerned about the plates, as his appeared to have specks of dried egg on it. "Are you sure these plates are clean?" he asked.

Without looking up, Grandpa said, "I told you before, those dishes are as clean as cold water can get them!"

Later, as John was leaving, his grandpa's dog started to growl and wouldn't let him pass. John said, "Grandpa, your dog won't let me go!"

Grandpa yelled to the dog, "Cold Water, go lie down!"

After Partner Opens 1NT or 2NT

Texas

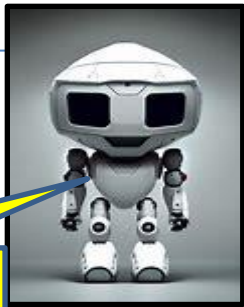
Smolen

Lebensohl

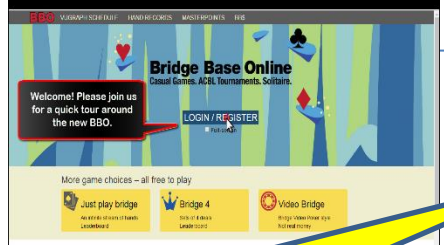
NOTRUMP OPENING BIDS			
1NT			
15 HCPs	to	17 HCPs	3♣
	to		3♦
5 Card Major common: <input type="checkbox"/>			
System on over <input type="checkbox"/> 3♥			
3♠			
2♣ Stayman	<input type="checkbox"/>	Puppet	<input type="checkbox"/>
2♦ Transfer to	♥ <input type="checkbox"/>	4♦/4♥ Transfer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Forcing Stayman	<input type="checkbox"/>	Smolen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2♥ Transfer to	♠ <input type="checkbox"/>	Lebensohl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<input type="checkbox"/> denies)
2♠		Neg. Double	<input type="checkbox"/>
2NT		Other:	
2NT	20	to	21
2NT Minors <input type="checkbox"/> to <input type="checkbox"/>			
Puppet Stayman <input type="checkbox"/>			
Transfer Responses			
Jacoby	<input type="checkbox"/>	Texas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other <input type="checkbox"/>			
3♠ <input type="checkbox"/>			
3NT <input type="checkbox"/> to <input type="checkbox"/>			
Gambling <input type="checkbox"/> ACOL <input type="checkbox"/>			
Kantar <input type="checkbox"/>			

Texas Transfer (6+ Spades and game-going values)

Texas



BBO Robots play this



1NT – Pass – 4D* transfers partner to 4H, and **1NT – Pass – 4H*** to 4S.

2NT – Pass – 4D* transfers partner to 4H, and **2NT – Pass – 4H*** to 4S.

Texas Transfer (6+ Hearts and game-going values)

So, what's the difference between Texas and Jacoby Transfer bids?

- 1) Jacoby can be a 5+-card major and Texas is always a 6+-card major, and:
- 2) Since Texas takes up more bidding room, it denies any interest in slam:

South ♠752 ♥KJ10953 ♦2 ♣A74

North	East	South	West
1NT	Pass	4D*	Pass
4H	Pass	Pass	Pass

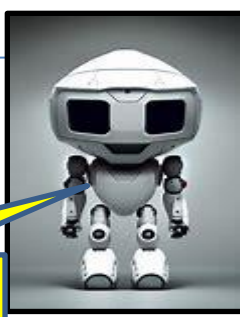
Texas

A Jacoby Transfer can have slam interest:

South ♠KQ10942 ♥Q83 ♦2 ♣K92

North	East	South	West
2NT	Pass	3H*	Pass
3S	Pass	4S	Pass
???			

Jacoby



Smolen



BBO Robots play this

After 1NT, Smolen is for game-going hands that are 5-4 or 4-5 in the majors.

North	East	South	West
1NT	Pass	???	

What do you bid?: South ♠KQ982 ♥QJ53 ♦2 ♣K43

Start with Stayman (2C). If partner rebids a major, jump to game in it.

North	East	South	West
1NT	Pass	2C	Pass
2H	Pass	4H	

North	East	South	West
1NT	Pass	2C	Pass
2S	Pass	4S	

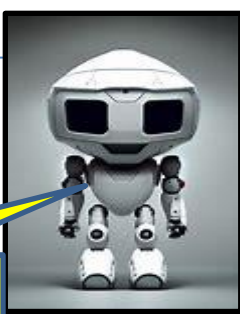
If partner rebids 2D, jump in your 4-card major (forcing to game):

North	East	South	West
1NT	Pass	2C	Pass
2D	Pass	3H*	Pass
???			

With game-going values.

Playing Smolen, partner will know you have 4 of the major you bid and 5 of the other one.

In this way, the strongest hand (1NT opener) will play the hand (usually in 3NT or your 5-card major).



Smolen

BBO Robots play this

Smolen also applies after partner opens 2NT.

North	East	South	West
2NT	Pass	3C	Pass
3D	Pass	???	

With:

South ♠K9862 ♥Q953 ♦4 ♣J32

Bid 3H*.

Do **NOT** use Smolen after 1NT to **invite** to game.

Not part of Smolen.

After 1NT, what do you bid with?:

South ♠KJ862 ♥Q953 ♦4 ♣Q32

Bid 2C.

If partner bids a major, raise that major.

Not part of Smolen.

North	East	South	West
1NT	Pass	2C	Pass
2H	Pass	3H	

North	East	South	West
1NT	Pass	2C	Pass
2S	Pass	3S	

Not part of Smolen.

If partner rebids 2D, bid your 5-card major (inviting to game):

North	East	South	West
1NT	Pass	2C	Pass
2D	Pass	2S*	

Not part of Smolen.

Another Joke

We asked our daughter to use Photoshop to make this photo more interesting. Here's what she came up with:



Lebensohl Over No Trump

When they bid over your 1NT opener, partner will no longer have 2NT to invite to 3NT with. He should just double the opponents with 8-9 HCP's.

After:

North	East	South	West
1NT	2H	???	

for example, South can show 6 different types of hands:

2NT* transfers partner to 3C for you to pass or correct.

1) A **weak sign-off** with a **lower-ranking suit** (alertable):

North	East	South	West
1NT	2H	2NT*	Pass
3C*	Pass	3D	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South

♠J92 ♥5 ♦KJ9842 ♣764

2NT*

South

♠KQ982 ♥53 ♦Q42 ♣764

2S

With a higher-ranking suit, just bid it (to play there).

2) An **invitational hand** with a **long suit higher in rank than the overcall**:

North	East	South	West
1NT	2H	2NT*	Pass
3C*	Pass	3S*	Pass
???			

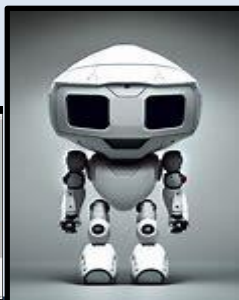
South

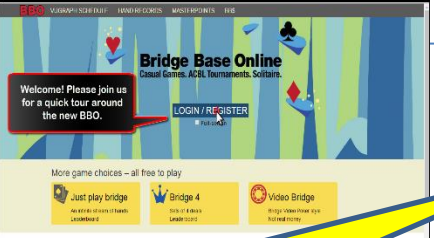
♠AQJ62 ♥95 ♦852 ♣Q94

2NT*

By transferring your partner to 3C first and then bidding a higher-ranking major, you show invitational values with a 5+ card suit.

BBO Robots play Lebensohl.





Lebensohl (Cont'd)

The Rule when using Lebensohl is **“Slow Shows, Fast Denies (a stopper).”**

BBO Robots play this

After:

North	East	South	West
1NT	2H	???	

3) Game values with a 4-card major and no stopper in their suit:

North	East	South	West
1NT	2H	3H*	Pass
???			

South	♠KJ92 ♥J3 ♦K42 ♣K982	3H*
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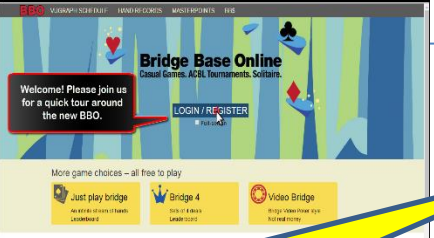
A cue bid of their suit becomes Stayman with **no stopper in their suit** (because you went the **FAST** way).

4) Game values with a 4-card major and a stopper in their suit:

North	East	South	West
1NT	2H	2NT*	Pass
3C*	Pass	3H*	Pass
???			

South	♠KJ62 ♥Q95 ♦KQ52 ♣94	3H*
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Transferring partner to 3C and then cue bidding their suit becomes Stayman (asking for a 4-card major) with **a stopper in their suit** (because you went the **SLOW** way).



Lebensohl (Cont'd)

The Rule when using Lebensohl is **“Slow Shows”** (a stopper).

BBO Robots play this

After:

North	East	South	West
1NT	2H	???	

5) Game values with no 4-card major and no stopper in their suit:

North	East	South	West
1NT	2H	3NT*	Pass
???			

South	♠KJ2 ♥53 ♦K942 ♣KJ82	3NT*
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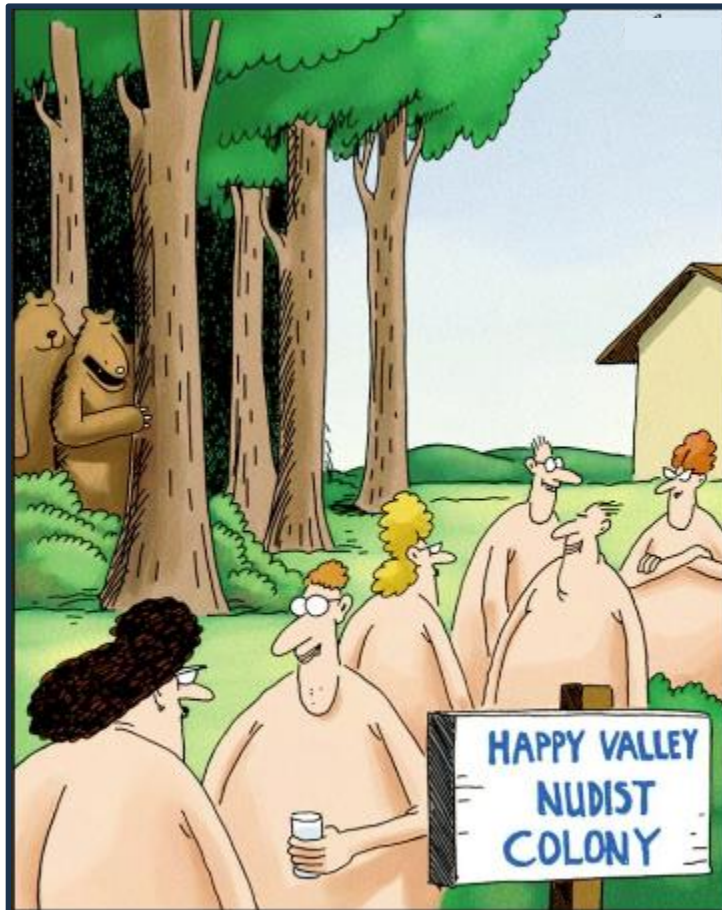
Jumping to 3NT shows game values, no 4-card major and no stopper in their suit (because you went the **FAST** way).

6) Game values with no 4-card major and a stopper in their suit:

North	East	South	West
1NT	2H	2NT*	Pass
3C*	Pass	3NT*	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South	♠KJ62 ♥Q95 ♦KQ52 ♣94	2NT*
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Transferring partner to 3C and then bidding 3NT shows game values, no 4-card major and a stopper in their suit (because you went the **SLOW** way).



"Well, there goes *my* appetite."

Time for the Game