

OPENING LEADS : initially 2nd & 4th, strong K at NT, T can be high card at NT

v. suit	A K	A K x	K Q 10	K Q x	K J 10	K 10 9	Q J 10
	Q J x	J 10 x	10 x x	10 9 x	9 8 7 x	10 x x x	H x x
	H x x x	H x x x x	H x x x x x	x x	x x x	x x x x	
v. NT	A K x (x)	A J 10 x	K Q 10	K Q x	K J 10	K 10 9	Q J 10
	Q J x	J 10 x	10 x x	10 9 x	9 8 7 x	10 x x x	H x x
	H x x x	H x x x x	H x x x x x	x x	x x x	x x x x	

Other agreements in leading, e.g. high level contracts, partnership suits:-

A/K above 4D for attitude/count. (Reverse after T1)

From AK doubleton, whatever feels unusual.

ALWAYS 3/5 PARTNER'S SUIT

Strong K at NT (for unblock) : only trick one and not in a suit shown by third hand

CARDING METHODS

	Primary method v. suits	Primary method v. NT contracts
Partner's lead	T1 : high to encourage	same but unblock/count on K lead
Declarer's lead	later: low to encourage	same
Discarding	low for even number	same

Other carding agreements

Count HIGH=ODD : Attitude HIGH= BAD : If honours known, count (HIGH=odd).

If normal signal irrelevant, default is to SUIT PREFERENCE

If first card forced by system, then giving count is HILO remaining even

SMITH : high in their suit = WAKE UP to partner

SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS (continued)

After 1M-2N : 3♣=any min (then 3♦ asks), 3♦/3M=extras & shortage, 3N=extras no shortage, 4L=void and minimum JACOBY STILL FULLY ON IF THEY BID

After a reverse at 2L : suit at 2L is F1, lower of {2N,FSF} puppet for weak hands, any suit at 3L is GF.

After 1m-1M-2M : step 1 asks;

after 1m-1M-2M : 3M GF slam try

After their UNT, lowest cue=F in lower suit etc.

1♦-1N-2♣ asking range and 1♦-1N-2N for stopping in 3m

1M-<overcall>-2N is good raise with 4 trumps, cue is 3 trumps+

1D-<1M>-any : no transfers by opener and 1N/2N=flawed 14-16/17-19

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF BIDDING METHODS

Strong NT and 2-tier weak twos (Multi)

1NT OPENINGS AND RESPONSES

Strength 14-16 (1st/2nd) else 15-17 <occasional singleton>

Resp 2♣ Stayman (after 2D: 2S invite, 3m GF, 3M 4M5OM, 4m 64 linked M)

2♦ Hearts, then 3L new suit GF, jump splinter, NPH raise GF 2♥ Spades, then new suit GF, jump splinter, NPH raise GF

2♠ clubs or clubs+4♦, then 2N diamonds, over which 3♣=no fit and then 3M short 2N no fit and then 3M short

Others 2R-2M-3m-4om=dbl fit; 2R-breaks:2N=HHx,3♣=max; 3♣=5cd ask; 3♦=5+♦+♣; 3M=short; 4♣=q-raise; 4R=transfer; 4♠=44mm

Action after X XX=bid 2♣, suit=lower of 2, P-P-XX=5cd suit when 2R doubled: accept=3, XX=3+good

Action after natural overcall X takeout @ 2L/3L, 2N puppet to 3♣, 3X transfer, cue=M-ask; over 3m, 4R=transfer

TWO-LEVEL OPENINGS AND RESPONSES

2♣ Strong 2♦ neutral; 2N poor clubs; 2♦-2♥ is hearts or 20-21 flat (2♠ asks); 2♦-3M limited NF; next m=dbl neg

2♦ Weak2 in either M in 1st/2nd 2/3M p/correct, 2N/4m enquiry Weak2 in ♦ 3rd/4th 2N-3m=non min with next asks

2♥ 55+ M+minor varies 2♠ F1 (2N max no support), 2N/3♦ enquiry, 3♣ pass/correct, 3OM invite 2♠ Weak2 in 3rd/4th <opener

2N **22-24** balanced 3♣ MUPPET; 3R transfer; 3♠=♣+♦ (then 4m=longer); 4L=two suit up tf

OTHER ASPECTS OF SYSTEM WHICH OPPONENTS SHOULD NOTE

1m-<1H>: X=four+ spades and 1S denies spades

4N opening asks for specific aces (5♣=none, 5N=two, 6♣=clubs)

OTHER OPENING BIDS

	length	MEANING	RESPONSES
1♣	2+	clubs or balanced	red suit transfers; accepting transfers is weak NT; transfer checkback; 1♠=flat or diamonds; 2♣=FG; 2♦ limited majors; 2M low end weak2
1♦	5+ or 4441	unbalanced	inverted raises; 1♦-1M-1N/2♣ are transfers (2N good raise); 2M low end weak2; 3♣ invites
1♥	5+		raise strong; 1M-3♣=4card raise; 1M-2N GF-jacoby; firstDJ=any splinter, next3=voids bid
1♠			
3m 3M	6+	constructive in 2 nd /4 th	3m-4om and 3M-4♣ artificial slam interest: nonv return=bad else cue, vul give RKC response
3N 4X		gambling natural	4/5♣=pass/correct, 4♦=spl ask (M,M,none,om) 4m-om=RKC, 4m-4N to play

DEFENSIVE METHODS AFTER OPPONENTS OPEN NATURAL 1X

simple overcall	wide range	2N=4cd GT support, jump fits; TAO from 2♣ (1N if X)
jump overcall	weak, except strong over weak	
cue bid	over minor, majors over majors, OM + a minor ?sandwich : RHO suit=natural?	over 2M, 2N asks (3m=min,3M=extras+that m)
1N direct: protective:	<15-18> <11-14>	<system on unless 2 suits bid when lowest cue=Stayman>
J direct: 2N protective:	at least 55 two lowest suits (any strength) protective=18-19 flat + system on	
OPPO OPEN	DEFENSIVE METHODS	SPECIAL RESPONSES
strong 1♣	X/1♦/1N are two suits CRO 1♣-P-1♦-X = majors	NT acts as cue bid if partner overcalls a suit
short 1♣/1♦	over 1♣ : 2♣ natural, 2♦ majors, 2N minors; over 1♦ unchanged; 1m-3m=SJO	bid of opened suit natural except is a cue bid when partner overcalls
PH or 4 th over str else+after 1m-1N	X=1m or MM and 2m=5m4M, 2M=5M4+m X=pen; 2♣=MM; 2♦=1M, 2M=M+m	X-2♣ is pass/c; 2m-2♥ is pass/c; 2M-3♣ is pass/c 2♣-2♦ asks, 2♦-2N asks
weak 2	X takeout, else natural 4m=5m5OM by NPH	2N over second seat X forces 3♣ for invite+ in ♦,M
weak 3	X takeout; over 3m : 4♣=MM, 4♦=1M, 4M=55+Mm 3N-4♣=ask, 3N-4♦=puppet for wk; 3N-suit=slam interest	
4 bids	X takeout over m/M	?4m-4N is natural?
multi 2♦	X balanced 12-16 or strong, P then 2N minors	

SLAM CONVENTIONS

Name	Meaning of Responses	Action over interference
4N ace asking <i>no DRKC</i> 4♣ ace ask	3♠/3N non-serious when major agreed 5♣=1/4, 5♦=0/3 (switch over if not 4N), 5♥=2-noQ, 5♠=2+Q, 5N=even#+v, 6X=odd#+v; Qask : trumps=noQ, else K after 4N, then 5N asks to bid kings count with 4♦=0 and 5♣ for kings similarly Exclusion RKC when obvious	over 5m, D0P1 over 5M, DEPO

COMPETITIVE AUCTIONS

Agreements after opening of one of a suit and overcall by opponents					
Level to which negative doubles apply	4♥, higher doubles increasingly values less takeout; 1N-X, 1any-1N-X: all penalty				
Special meaning of bids	jump at 3L is fit jump; <jump at 4L splinter if spare> compulsory support X over major at 2L only				
Exceptions +					
Agreements after opponents double for takeout					
Redouble	9+ penalty or routinely Hx	New suit	F1 except 1M-X-1N+ are tfs	Jump new suit	fit jump
Jump raise	pre-emptive	2NT	<4 cd support, good raise> 3N is good 4M bid		
Other agreements concerning doubles and redoubles					
responsive X denies 4OM unless GF hand; X game try if no other available <of slam (except sacrifice) or by pre-emptor : asks for unusual lead> 1any-X-suit-X is that suit after 1N-X-suit: X by 4th seat is general values, second X by 2nd shows extra values & willing to defend If they double Stayman : bid only with a stop, P=no stop					
OTHER CONVENTIONS					
FSF (<above 1♠>): asks partner to describe hand : is GAME FORCING fit jumps by PH except 1M-3♣ P-1M-2♣=inv 3cd support (2M=weak) and P-1M-2♣-2♦-2OM=good 4cd raise P-1♥-2♠, P-1♠-2N= 4cd raise with spl (step1 asks); P-1♥-2N=FJ in spades GAZILLI (with 1M-1level-2M showing clubs)					

IN SANDWICH AT 1-LEVEL

- 1prepC-P-1D : we play 2C as natural, 2D as majors
- 1realC-P-1realD : we play 2C as majors, 2D as natural
- 1realsuit1-P-1realsuit2 : bid of realsuit2 natural but cue of realsuit1 and 2N are both 55 other suits with cue being weaker.
- phoneysuit1-P-realsuit2 : bid of phoneysuit1 natural and cue of realsuit2 is Michaels with OM+either minor, and 2N is both minors
- majorsuit-P-1N : X=takeout, bid of majorsuit1 is Michaels and 2N is lowest
- <TBC> minorsuit-P-1N : X=takeout, 2C=majors, 2D=one major, 2M=major+other minor

AFTER 1D-1N

- 2C asks (2D=min, 2H=med, 2S=max GF, 2N=long C med, 3C=long C weak)
- 2N says choose which minor to stop in
- 3C says 55, extras but NF

BLACKWOOD RULES

- If hearts agreed and 4S would be a slam try in hearts then 4S asks
- if hearts candidate trumps but 4S natural, then 4N is ace asking in hearts
- If minor already agreed and 4m forcing, 4m asks
- If denomination not already agreed but 4C and 4D would both commit us to play in the same minor, then 4D asks and 4C is support over which 4D asks

FSF Rules

is GF by a non-passed hand
lowest non-NT bid is a waiting bid
jump in fourth suit, 55 suits bid and GF
bid and rebid of fourth suit, asking again
1C-1D-1H-1S = spades, and F1
1C-1D-1H-2S = FSF and not spades and GF

Transfer refusals – continuations

bidding above 3M is a void
retransfer then suit is splinter
retransfer then 3N is a non-splinter slam interest

Bidding suits at the 4L

Rebid of a suit already promised by either hand is natural
Else it promises support for the last bid suit
Applies to 1H-2D-3H-4C but not to 1M-1N-3M-4any which is natural

Positive responses to 2C

Are forcing to 4H
Responder never introduces a new suit at the 4-level

Slam bidding in general

When major agreed, 3M+1/3N reserved for non-serious
Else 3N never to play and used to initiate cues so suit is always shortage
... but need to check : 1N-2H-2S-3D-3S-4C : bidding shape or shortage?

When we double 1N

Next double by either hand just shows values, and willingness to defend.
We usually defend with balanced opposite balanced and the majority of HCP.
Immediate bid if they pass is weak.
Immediate bid if they bid shows a little (pass first with weakest) and is NF.
Doubles tend to be aggressive, one aim being to get them out of 1N.
When competing our 2N direct (over their suit) is usually 2PP.
When in response to a double 2N is Lebensohl style. (in context).

Hello, we are Dan & Patrick; we play 14-16 in two seats then 15-17 NT; 2D multi
& 2M lucas, udca generally but traditional at T1; third and fourth seat three weak
twos; discards udc in the most affordable suit. CC at

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/gloucestershire/GCBA-CC-McIntosh-Shields.pdf>