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| **OTHER OPENING BIDS** |
|  | HCP  | see note | Min length | CONVENTIONALMEANING | SPECIALRESPONSES | Notes |
| 1♣ | 12\*-19 | ⬜ | 4 | For choice of opening - note 1\* Light openings possible – note 2For opener’s NT rebids – note 3 | 1NT response = 6-92NT response = 10-12Limit raisesSplinter bids/ 3NT see Other conventions |
| 1♦ | 12\*-19 | ⬜ | 4 |
| 1♥ | 12\*-19 | ⬜ | 4 |
| 1♠ | 12\*-19 | ⬜ | 4 |
| 3 bids | 6-10 | ⬜ | 7 | Pre-emptive |  |  |
| 4 bids | 6-10 | ⬜ | 8 | Pre-emptive |  |  |
| \*(Please enter your normal HCP range in the HCP column. Please tick box if you have any special agreements involving different values in particular positions (e.g. light openings in third seat) and include further details under Supplementary Details). |
| **DEFENSIVE METHODS AFTER OPPONENTS OPEN** |
| OPPONENTS OPEN A NATURAL ONE OF A SUIT | conventionalmeaning | specialresponses | Notes |
| Simple overcall | wide range, from 8+ at 1-level |  |  |
| Jump overcall | Intermediate 12-16, good 6-card suit |  |
| Cue bid | 2-suited hand – note 6 |  |  |
| 1NT | Direct:Protective: | 16-1811-14  | As for 1NT opening |  |
| 2NT | Direct:Protective | Lowest two unbid suits – note 6 Limit bids20-22 balanced As 2NT opener |  |
| OPPONENTS OPEN WITH | DEFENSIVEMETHODS | specialresponses | Notes |
| Strong 1♣ | X = both majors; 1NT both minors |  |
| Short 1♣/1♦ | Natural |  |  |
| Weak 1NT | Double = penalties; 2♣ both majors note 7; others nat. |
| Strong 1NT | Double = penalties; 2♣ both majors note 7; others nat. |
| Weak 2 | Double = take out |  |  |
| Weak 3 | Double = take out |  |  |
| 4 bids | Double = take out |  |  |
| Multi 2♦ | X= 13-15 bal or v strong; 2NT = 16-18 bal |
| **SLAM CONVENTIONS** |
| Name | Meaning of Responses | Action over interference |
| Blackwood | 5♣ = 0 or 4 aces; 5♦ = 1 ace, 5♥ = 2 aces; 5♠ = 3 aces |
| 5NT = Grand Slam Force | 6♣ = 0; 6♦ = 1; 6♥ = 2 of top 3 honours,  |
|  | 7 of trump suit = 3 |
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| **COMPETITIVE AUCTIONS** |
| Agreements after opening of one of a suit and overcall by opponents |
| Level to which negative doubles apply | 2♠ |
| Special meaning of bids | Cue bid = good raise |
| Exceptions / other agreements | Jump raise pre-emptive |
| Agreements after opponents double for takeout |
| Redouble | 9+ HCP | New suit | forcing | Jump in new suit forcing |
| Jump raise | Pre-emptive | 2NT | Good raise | Other |
| Other agreements concerning doubles and redoubles |
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| **other conventions** |
| **Fourth Suit Forcing**: A bid in the fourth suit is artificial, showing no particular |
|  Holding in that suit but requesting partner to describe his/her hand further. |
|  After 1♣ - 1♦ - 1♥, 1♠ is natural and 2♠ is ‘fourth suit forcing’. |
| **Unassuming Cue Bids** Opposite partner’s overcall a cue bid shows a good raise |
| **Splinter Bids** Response of 3♠/4♣/4♦ to 1♥ opening or 4♣/4♦/4♥ to 1♠ opening |
|  shows a raise to 4♥/4♠ with 4+ trump support and singleton or void in bid suit |
| **Long suit trial bids** Used after a simple raise, showing a suit with 2 losers. |
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| **SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS** |
| (Please cross-reference where appropriate to the relevant part of card, and continue on back if needed). |
| 1 **Balanced hands not 12 to 14**. With four hearts and four spades open 1♥,  |
|  Otherwise open the longest suit or the higher ranking of 2 4-card suits. |
|  **Unbalanced hands**: always open the longest suit. With 2 5-card or longer suits |
|  always open the higher ranking. Consider Rule of 20 for light openings. |
|  **4441 hands**: singleton ♣ open 1♥; singleton ♦ open 1♣; singleton ♥ or ♠ open 1♦ |
| 2 **Rule of 20** : If HCP + length of 2 longest suits is 20+ consider opening with 10 HCP |
| 3 **NT rebids**: After 1 level response 1NT = 15-16; 2NT = 17-18; 3NT = 19 |
| 4 **1NT - 2♠ Baron** shows either a raise to 2NT without a 4-card major or GF with slam |
| interest, usually no 5-card suit. Opener rebids 2NT with a minimum or lowest 4-card |
| suit with a maximum. With 11-12 responder passes 2NT or bids 3NT over a suit. |
| **1NT – 2NT** transfer to 3♣. Opener bids 3♣ and responder passes or bids 3♦ to play |
| **OPENING LEADS** |
| (For all the card combinations shown, clearly mark the card normally led if different from the underlined card). | (Hatch over this box if using non-standard leads). |
| v. suit contracts | 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 contracts | **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:- |
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| **Carding methods** |
|  | Primary method v suit contracts | Primary method v NT contracts |
| On Partner’s lead | Attitude: high encouraging, low discouraging EXCEPT lead of K v NT asks partner to unblock or give count. |
| On Declarer’s lead | Count: high-low=even no. of cards; upwards = odd no. |
| When discarding | Attitude: high encouraging; low discouraging |
| Other carding agreements, including secondary methods (state when applicable) and exceptions to above |
| **Suit preference signals:** High = higher ranking other suit |
|  Low – lower ranking other suit |
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| **SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILS (continued)** |
| **5 2NT - 3♠ Baron** GF with slam interest, usually no 5 card suit |
| **6 2 suited overcalls** 1m 2m shows 5+ -5+ in majors; 1M 2M shows 5+ -5+ in other |
| major and a minor. 1any - 2NT shows 5+ - 5+ in two lowest unbid suits |
| **7 Defence to 1NT** 2♣ shows 5+ - 4+ in majors.  |
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|  | **Name****Partner** | **EBU No.****EBU No.** |
| **GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF bidding methods** |
| **Bridge for All Acol – Modern Acol** |
| **1nt openings and responses** |
| **Strength** | 12 to 14 | Tick if artificial and provide details below ⬜ |
| **Shape constraints** |  | Tick if may have singleton ⬜ |
| **Responses** | 2♣ | Stayman |
| 2♦ | Transfer to hearts | 2♥ | Transfer to spades |
| 2♠ | 11-12 or 18+. See note 4 | 2NT | Relay to 3♣. See note 4 |
| Others | 3♣/♦/♥/♠= 5+-card suit and slam interest.  |
| Action after opponents double | All two level responses are natural |
| Action after other interference | Bid naturally, X = takeout after suit overcall |
| **two-level openings and responses** |
|  | **Meaning** | **Responses** | Notes |
| 2♣ | Game forcing or 23+ balanced | 2♦ negative |  |
| 2♦ | Strong two or Weak two \*\* | 2NT negative /asks for feature \*\* | \*\* |
| 2♥ | Strong two or Weak two \*\* | 2NT negative /asks for feature \*\* | Delete as |
| 2♠ | Strong two or Weak two \*\* | 2NT negative /asks for feature \*\* | appropriate |
| 2NT | 20 – 22; 3♣ Stayman, 3♦/♥ Transfer; 3♠ GF with slam interest (5) |
| **other aspects of system which opponents should note** |
| (Please include details of any agreements involving bidding on significantly less than traditional values). |
| **Note:** *This convention card has been produced to summarise a standard system for use by players who have learnt Standard English Acol when they move into club bridge.* *This card may be copied as needed for club use.* |
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