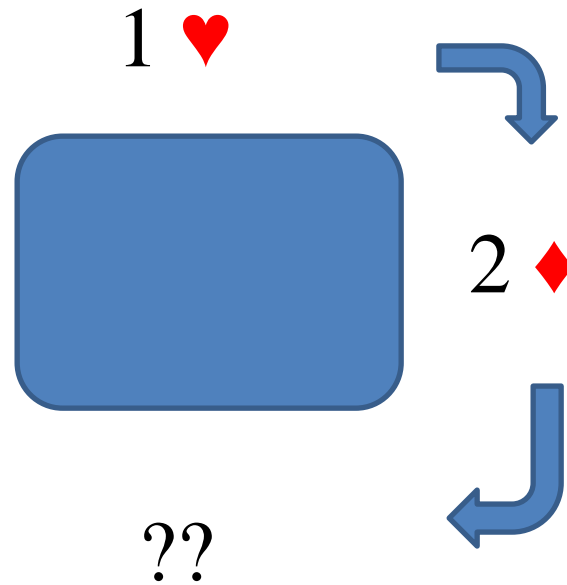


# When an Opponent Overcalls at the Two Level



# Basic Guidelines

- Double is negative, through the level you and your partner have agreed.
- New-Suit Bids promise partner 10+ points and 5+ cards in the suit. If you play 2/1, you promise 12+ points.
- Cue Bid promises 11+ points and 3+ card support.
- Jump Shift promises 6+ cards with fewer than 10 points.
- No Trump Bids are natural and guarantee a stopper in the opponent's suit.

# 1 ♠... (2 ♦)... Double

Your Hand A

♠ 4 2

♥ A Q 7 4

♦ 10 7 5

♣ K Q 4 3

Your Hand B

♠ J 2

♥ K 9 7 4

♦ 10 7 5

♣ A 9 4 3

Your Hand C

♠ 2

♥ K Q 7 4

♦ A 10 7 5

♣ A J 4 3

1 ♥ ... (2 ♦) ... Double

Your Hand D

♠ K 10 8 6 4 2

♥ 5 4

♦ 5

♣ K J 4 3

Your Hand E

♠ A J 8 6 5

♥ 4

♦ K 7 5

♣ 9 7 4 3

# 1 ... (2 ) ... Double

Your Hand F

 K Q 10 4

 10 7 5 4

 10 7

 A Q 3

Your Hand G

 8 6 5 2

 A 7 5 2

 K Q 5

 A 3

Your Hand H

 Q J 9 7 2

 Q 7 6 4

 K 10

 4 3

# 1 ♥ ... (2 ♦) ... New Suit

Your Hand A

♠ K Q 10 4 2

♥ 7 4

♦ 10 7

♣ A Q 4 3

2 ♠

Your Hand B

♠ A 2

♥ 4

♦ K J 7 5

♣ A Q J 9 4 3

3 ♣

Your Hand C

♠ A Q 9 7 2

♥ Q 7

♦ A 10

♣ J 9 4 3

2 ♠

1 ♥ ... (2 ♦) ... New Suit

Your Hand D

♠ K Q J 7 4 2

♥ Q 7

♦ A 7

♣ A Q 3

2 ♠

# 1 ♥ ... (2 ♦) ... Support Partner

Your Hand A

♠ 7 4 2  
♥ K 10 4  
♦ 10 7 5  
♣ A 8 4 3

2 ♥

Your Hand B

♠ A 9 4 2  
♥ Q J 6  
♦ 7 5  
♣ 9 7 4 3

2 ♥

Your Hand C

♠ 7 2  
♥ Q 9 7 2  
♦ A 10 5  
♣ J 9 4 3

3 ♥



# 1 ♥ ... (2 ♦) ... Cue Bid

Your Hand A

♠ 7 4

♥ K J 8 4

♦ 10 7 5

♣ A K 4 3

3 ♦

Your Hand B

♠ A 9 4 2

♥ Q J 6

♦ A 5

♣ K J 4 3

3 ♦

Your Hand C

♠ K J 2

♥ Q 9 7 2

♦ 5

♣ A Q 9 4 3

3 ♦

# 1 ♥ ... (2 ♦) ... Cue Bid

Your Hand D

♠ K Q J  
♥ Q 10 8 4  
♦ 10 7 5  
♣ A K 4

3 ♦

Your Hand E

♠ A Q 9 4 2  
♥ Q J 6 3  
♦  
♣ A J 10 3

3 ♦

Your Hand F

♠ K J 2  
♥ Q 9 7 2  
♦ A K  
♣ 9 4 3 2

3 ♦

# 1 ♥ ... (2 ♦) ... No Trump

Your Hand A

♠ K J 4

♥ 8 4

♦ K J 9

♣ Q J 8 4 3

2 nt

Your Hand B

♠ Q 7 2

♥ Q 8

♦ Q 10 7 5

♣ A J 9 8

2 nt

Your Hand C

♠ K J 9

♥ J 10

♦ A Q 8 5

♣ Q 9 4 3

3 nt

# The Penalty Pass

- Whenever you open the bidding with a 1 level suit bid, your LHO makes a suit overcall, your partner passes and your RHO passes, you must consider reopening with a double.
- When you reopen with a double, you are not saying you want to defend the contract. You are asking partner the question: Do you want to defend this contract?
- Responder's pass is sometime called a Trap Pass.

# 1 ♠ ... (2 ♣) ... Trap Pass

Your Hand A

♠ 4  
♥ A 9 4  
♦ K J 9 4  
♣ Q J 8 4 3

pass

Your Hand B

♠ 4  
♥ 8 5  
♦ K Q 10 7 4  
♣ K J 8 4 3

pass

Your Hand C

♠ K 9  
♥ J 8 6  
♦ A Q 8 5  
♣ K Q 9 4

Pass

or

3nt

1 ♠ ... (3 ♦) ... ??

Your Hand A

♠ 4 2  
♥ A 10 9 4  
♦ K J 9  
♣ Q J 8 4

double

Your Hand B

♠ Q  
♥ A K 8 5  
♦ 5 3 2  
♣ K J 8 4 3

double

Your Hand C

♠ K 9  
♥ J 8 6 5  
♦ 8 5  
♣ A K Q 9 4

double

1 ♠ ... (3 ♦) ... ??

Your Hand D

♠ Q 4 2  
♥ K 10 9 4  
♦ J 9  
♣ Q J 8 4

3 ♠

borderline

Your Hand E

♠ Q 8 4 2  
♥ 8 5  
♦ 5 3 2  
♣ K J 8 5

3 ♠

Your Hand F

♠ K 9 8 7 2  
♥ K 4 2  
♦ 5  
♣ Q 9 8 4

4 ♠

1 ♠ ... (3 ♦) ... ??

Your Hand D

♠ K 5 4 2

♥ K 10 9

♦ J 9

♣ A K 8 4

4 ♦

Your Hand E

♠ K J 2

♥ A Q 5

♦ 9 2

♣ K Q J 8 5

4 ♦

Your Hand F

♠ K 9 8 7 2

♥ A K 4 2

♦ 5

♣ K Q 9

4 nt



2 ♣ ... (2 ♥) ... ??

- People don't overcall a 2 ♣ opening bid very often, but it happens occasionally.
- Best ignore the overcall. Just make your normal bid.
- Of course, you don't have to bid to keep the auction open for partner.
- You can pass, listen for your partner's bid than bid accordingly.

2 ♣ ... (2 ♥) ... ??

- Keep it simple.
- Pass with 4 or fewer points.
- Double with 5-7 points.
- Bid a decent 5-card or longer suit with 8 or more points.
- Bid no trump with a solid stopper in the opponent's suit and 8+ points.
- Talk it over with partner, but an overcall of 2 ♣ happens so seldom, good luck in remembering.

2 ♣ ... (2 ♥) ... ??

Your Hand A

♠ 7 4 2

♥ 10 9

♦ K 9 8 3

♣ J 8 4 3

Your Hand B

♠ K J 10 7 4

♥ 10 9

♦ K 3

♣ Q 8 4 3

Your Hand C

♠ K J 6

♥ A 9

♦ 8 7 6 3

♣ J 8 4 3

Pass, you  
expect partner  
to bid what she  
can make.

2 ♠

2 nt

2 ♣ ... (2 ♥) ... ??

Your Hand D

♠ Q 4 2

♥ 10 9

♦ K 9 8 3

♣ J 8 4 3

Double, 5-7

points,  
relatively  
balanced