## DEFENSIVE AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING

#### OVERCALLS

1-level: 8-16, 5+ suit. 2-level: 11-16, 5+ suit.

If the overcall was in a major: cue = inv+ with 3-card support 2NT = inv+ with 4-card support

In competition, 2-level is NF.

Reopening can be up to 3 points lighter.

#### NT OVERCALL

1NT = 15-18, shows stopper; SYS on if art opening, TRFs otherwise (TRF to opps' suit is Stayman)

2NT = 16-19, shows stopper; TRFs, TRF to opps' suit is Stayman

From passed hand: 4+M & 5+m.

Reopening 1NT: 11-14p.

### **JUMP OVERCALLS**

NV 2-10p, VUL 4-12p. Suit might be bad, especially NV. 2NT = two lowest unbid suits

Reopening: minimum opener with good suit.

### **DIRECT & JUMP CUE BIDS**

Direct cue: two-suited with all unbid majors, 10+p. Jump cue: stopper ask for 3NT.

## VS. STRONG NT (MINIMUM ≥ 14P)

X = 10+p, one-suited

2♣ = ~6+p, ♣+another

 $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = \sim 6 + p, \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} + M$ 

 $2 \checkmark = \sim 6 + p, \checkmark + \spadesuit$  $2 \spadesuit = 4 - 9p, 6 + \spadesuit$ 

 $2\Phi = 4-9p, 6+9$ 2NT = 55+mm

# VS. WEAK NT (MINIMUM < 14P)

X = 14.5+p, 2♣ = 4+ ₹4+♠, 2NT = 55+ minors. Other bids natural.

### VS. PREEMPTS

Jump to 4m shows bid m and a major. 4-level cue is two-suited with all unbid majors. After X, Lebensohl [A1].

### VS. ARTIFICIAL STRONG OPENINGS

X=MM; NT bids=mm; other bids natural

# OVER OPPONENTS' TAKEOUT DOUBLE

2nd level NF

XX = point majority, enables PEN DBLs and forcing pass.

#### LEADS AND SIGNALS

### OPENING LEADS STYLE

	LEAD	IN PARTNER'S SUIT
Suit	2/4	3/LOW
NT	2/4	3/LOW
Subsequent	ATT	ATT

RUS, A for CT/UB.

4th implies honor, but 2nd does not necessarily deny.

## LEADS (EXCEPT IN PARTNER'S SUIT)

	•		•	
LEAD	VS. SUIT		VS. NT	
Ace	Ax,AK(+)	CT	CT/UB	
King	AK+, Kx, KH	ATT	AK(+), KH	ATT
Queen	KQ+, QH, Qx	ATT	KQ+, QH, AQx	ATT
Jack	QJ+, Jx, JT	ATT	(A)QJ+, JX, JT, HJX	ATT
Ten	(K)JT(+)	ATT	(A)(K)JT(+), HTx	ATT
Hi-X	xSx(+)		xSx(+)	
Lo-X	xS, HxxS(+)		xS, HxxS(+)	

### SIGNALS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY

	PARTNER'S LEAD	DECLARER'S LEAD	DISCARDING
1	ATT (Lo = ENC)	In NT/Trumps: Smith	ATT
2	CT (Lo = even)	CT	S/P
3	S/P	S/P	

**Smith:** From opening leader, hi-lo discourages opening lead suit. From partner, hi-lo encourages opening lead suit.

### **DOUBLES**

#### TAKEOUT DOUBLES

Can be light (10+p) with perfect shape. Focus on majors. No conditions on shape if 17+. Cue response at 2-level is F1, usually 10+p; 2NT resp. w/o jump is Lebensohl [A1].

Takeout doubles of nebulous minors show at least (43) majors, and don't necessarily promise any minor suit

## SPECIAL, ART & COMPETITIVE DBLS/RDLS

Support doubles up to 2♥ Maximal doubles [E1]

#### WBF CONVENTION CARD

**CATEGORY: Blue** 



NCBO: Estonia

EVENT: European U31 Teams 2024 PLAYERS: Reti Toom - Rao Zvorovski

#### SYSTEM SUMMARY

#### GENERAL APPROACH AND STYLE

Strong (16+) club, 5-card majors, nebulous diamond. Opening range 11-15p, 1NT range 13-15p (14-16 opposite passed partner); can have 5-card major/6-card minor.

In response to 1M: <sup>2</sup>/<sub>1</sub> NF; 1NT response forcing, INV+, asking; jump responses to 3m are NAT INV.

In response to 1♦: 2/1 GF, 1NT response NF.

In response to  $1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\Rightarrow} : 1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$  art GF,  $1 \stackrel{\blacktriangledown}{\bullet} 6-8$  bal/(4441),  $1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\Rightarrow}$  any 0-5, see back of card for other semi-positives.

2♦ weak-only multi, 2♥ weak majors, 2♠ 5+♦5+M, 2NT 20-21p BAL.

Two-level bids are usually NF in competition (except after a strong club opening).

# SPECIAL BIDS THAT MAY REQUIRE DEFENSE

2♦ weak-only Multi

2♠ weak 5+♦5+M 2♥ weak majors

1 **0** + **(** (catch-all)

1♣ strong

# SPECIAL FORCING PASS SEQUENCES

When we have shown at least INV+(22+p) strength, opponents cannot play undoubled.

#### IMPORTANT NOTES

Good (to the best of our ability) judgement overrules specific agreements if it is more likely (in our understanding) to get a good result.

Defense against Multi 2♦ [H2]

**PSYCHICS:** Occasional, usually for the lead

9N		RDS	BL					
OPENING	ART	MIN CA	NEG. DBL	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSES	SUBSEQUENT ACTION	COMPETITIVE & PASSED HAND BIDDING	
14	✓		5♠	16+p (or ≤ 4.5 losers)	1 ◆ = art GF; 1 ♥ = 6 - 8  bal/(4441); 1 ♠ = any  0 - 5; 1N = 6 - 8, 5 + ♦; 2 ♠ = 6 - 8, 5 + ♥; 2 ♦ = 6 - 8, 5 + ♠; 2M = 6 - 8, 4M, 5 + ♠; 2N = 6 - 8, 5 + ♠ 4 + ♦; 3 ♠ = 6 - 8, 6 + ♠	After 1♥/1NT/2X, +1 is art GF. After 1♠ response, 2♣ is 21+.	After 1-of-a-suit interference, X/XX is 6-8 and bids GF. X of 1NT is pen. Higher, X is GF T/O.	
1+	<b>✓</b>	0	4♥	11-15p, 0+♦, catch- all 11-12 if BAL	1M=5+p,4+M; 1NT= to play (6-~11); 2♣=3+♣, GF; 2♦=5+♠, GF; 2M=3-8p, (5)6+M; 2N=nat inv(~11-12p); 3m=6+m, INV; 3M=2-8p, (6)7+M	After 1-level rebid: 2♣ forces 2♦, to play or some inf; 2♦ is ART GF. Raises of 1M can be on three; 2N ask to clarify.	Lebensohl [A1] is in use after 2 ◆ ♥ ♠ overcalls. After 1N overcall, 2 ♠ is both majors at least 44. After a double, 2NT is both minors.	
1♥		5	4.	11-15p, 5+♥	1N=INV+, asking. 2/1 NF. 1M-2M= 7-10p, Hx or better support; 1M-3M=0-9p, to play; 1M-4M = to play, might not be weak; 1♠  = 7+p, 4+♠, F1. 1♥-2♠ = 3-9p, (5)6+♠; 3m/3♥ = nat 6-card inv;	After 1NT: 2 = max/6-card M; 2M=4+ black side suit. In general natural bidding, 4SF. After 2NT: 3X=shortness, max;	After interference, 2nd level is NF. After X, 1NT is NF; XX is 11+ and activates forcing	
1♠		5	4♥	11-15p, 5+ <b>♠</b>	2NT = 4+M, INV+; 3NT=to play.	3M=min; 3N=6♠, no shortness; 4X=5+suit	pass.	
1NT			4♥	(semi-)BAL, can have 5M/6m. 1st/2nd: 13-15 3rd/4th: 14-16	2♣ = Stayman; 2♦♥ = TRF; 2♠ = ♣ or min-max ask; 2NT = ♦ or both minors; 3X = 6-card suit w/ 2 of 3 top honours; 4m = South African Texas [F2]; 4M = to play;	natural bidding; after 2♣-2♦: 2♥ = both majors, no game interest	2♠ overcall = SYS ON; Lebensohl [A1]; see runouts [F1]	
2.		5	4♥	11-15p, 6+♣ or 5♣ 4M (but not 4405)	2♦ = ASK, 2M = NF. 2NT = forces 3♣, to play or GF two-suited. 3 ♣♦♥ = INV+ TRF. 3♠ = TRF to 3NT. 3NT = to play	After 2♦: 2M = 4M; 2NT=no 4M, max; 3♣=no 4M, min; 3X=6♣4X, max	After DBL, nat NF on two-level, XX enables FP	
2•	✓		-	3-10p, 5+M	2M/3M/4M: P/C; 3m=F1, 5+m; 2NT=ASK	After 2NT: 3♣=medium hand; 3♠=min w/ ♥; 3♥=min w/ ♠; 3♠=max w/ 6♥; 3NT=max w/ 6♠.	After DBL, XX asks to bid the major not held (to escape to responder's suit)	
2♥	✓	4	-	3-10p, 4+♥, 4+♠M VUL: usually 55+	2NT asks strength and shape, 2♠ to play	3♣ = (54) MIN; 3♦ = 44 MIN; 3M = 5M4OM, MAX; 3N = 44 MAX, 4m = splinter, 55 MAX, 4♥ = 55 MIN	After DBL, RDBL=strength, 2N=ASK, 3m=to play	
2♠	1	4	-	3-10p, 5+♦5+M	2NT ASK; 3M P/C	After 2N: 3♣=min w/ ♥, 3♦=min w/ ♠, 3♥=max w/ ♥, 3♠=max w/ ♠		
2NT			-	20-21p, BAL	3♣5-card stayman, 3♦♥♠4♣♦♥ TRF, 4♠ both minors	Responder never bids NAT M	After DBL, SYS ON, XX=GF	
3♣		6	-		new suit = GF, 4♦ = PreKCB [A2]	Clam hidding, DICD1/20	aturals are surface 20m last tradia	
3♦		6	_	(0)2 10p ( ) orit	new suit = GF, 4♣ = PreKCB [A2]	Slam bidding: RKCB1430, mixed controls, non-serious 3NT, last train, Redwood, DOPE if not enough room.		
3 <b>♥</b> 3♠		6		(0)3-10p, 6+ suit			$\Diamond$	
3NT	✓		-	Solid 7-card minor, exactly 1 side A or K	4♣ P/C, 4♦ asking for the side control, 4N QUANT			
4♣		7 - / Op 7: quit		4-9p, 7+ suit	4♦ PreKCB [A2]			
4 🔷		7	-	4-3p, 7+ suit	4NT PreKCB [A2]		era C	

4NT PreKCB [A2]

0-13, 7+M

4NT ✓

Pre-emptive, at least 6-5 in minors

NCBO: Estonia Players: Reti <u>Toom</u> - Rao <u>Zvorovski</u>

# **Section A: Conventions used**

# [A1] Lebensohl

2Y NF

2NT Forces 3♣ (if doubler not strong), then
3Y<X 0-8 nat
3X Stayman, denies stopper
3Y>X INV
3NT To play, shows stopper
3Y<X 9-11 nat
3X Stayman, shows stopper
3Y>X GF
3NT To play, shows stopper

# [A2] PreKCB

When asking aces from a hand that has pre-empted, the answers are as follows:

Step 1 0 Step 2 1 w/o Q Step 3 1 w/ Q Step 4 2 w/o Q Step 5 2 w/ Q :

Section B: Leads and signals.

Section C: Bids that may require a defence

Section D: Defensive and competitive bidding

**Section E: Doubles** 

# [E1] Maximal double

When we have agreed on a suit and opponents bid one less than three of our suit, then double usually shows an interest in bidding game.

# Section F: Back of card

# [F1] 1NT runouts

When our 1NT opening gets doubled, responders bids meanings change as follows:

P No better ideas

XX single-suited

2X X + higher suit

2NT both minors

Openers redouble shows hand badly suited for playing 1Nx.

# [F2] South African Texas

In response to 1NT, 4 of a minor bid is a transfer to the respective major. The +1 response to that shows a hand rich in controls.

The four-level transfer followed by 4NT is ace-asking. Two-level transfer followed by 4M shows mild slam interest; two-level transfer followed by 4NT is quantitative invite with 5M.

Section G: Others

**Section H: Prepared defences** 

# [H1] Against 2NT showing minors

X strength, often interest in penalizing a minor

3♣ both majors, ♥ better

3♦ both majors, ♠ better

3M NAT



NCBO: Estonia

Players: Reti <u>Toom</u> - Rao <u>Zvorovski</u>

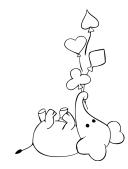
Supplementary sheet 1

## [H2] Against Multi 2♦ Multi: 1. Overcall in hearts, or 2. Overcall in spades, or 3. 19-22 balanced, or 4. 19+ three-suited 15-19 BAL, stopper(ish) in both majors Overcall in clubs 2NT Overcall in diamonds 6-10 nat, 6/7+ card suit 5+♥5+m, GF 5+**♠**,5+m, GF Natural balanced (2♦)-X 4+♦, can be weak or suspecting a misfit P 2MP/C asking 2NT 19-22 NT (then 3♦ Stayman) **3♣** min w/ ♥ or max w/ ♠. (then 3♥ P/C, 3♠ GF) 3♦ 3♥ max w/ hearts 3♠ min w/ spades 3N-4♥ three-suited, shortness in steps from ♠ to ♣ 3X Nat, F1 **(2**♦)-2♥ P/2♠ To play in 2M Lebensohl [A1] 3X Nat, forcing **(2**♦)-2**♠** 2NT INV+, artificial <INV nat GF

 $(2^{\bullet})-2N$ 

3♦ <INV 3X nat GF

3♣ INV+, artificial



NCBO: Estonia Players: Reti <u>Toom</u> – Rao <u>Zvorovski</u> Supplementary sheet 2