

Disciplined Standard American (as of 14/10/2014)

Disciplined Standard American is a bridge bidding system devised essentially from three sources: (1) it makes heavy use of the precursor to the "2 over 1" system, namely KS, developed in the fifties by Edgar Kaplan and Alfred Sheinwold. (2) it has been adapted in many areas to account for the concept of the LAW of Total Tricks discovered and explained by Larry Cohen in his book To Bid or Not To Bid, printed in 1992. (3) A great deal of the system was augmented with really great work done by two good internet friends; an excellent bridge player from India, Raghu Tripathi (thanks Rags) and a second excellent player from Canada, Normand Rheault (thanks Normand). Their major contributions include the conventional treatment of the three and four opens, the competitive bidding following opponent interference, and the excellent defenses provided for the opponents' openings of Weak Twos, Flannery Two Diamonds and Multi 2 Diamonds. Finally, the system has been and continues to be field tested by my Bridge Partner, Lucille Poliquin (Thanks Kid).

CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (No interference by Opponents)

Opening Bids:

1 Level Bids

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
1 ♣ / 1 ♦	One of the five following types of hands: (1) 13-14 HCP and 6 or more clubs/diamonds (2) 15+ HCP and 5 or more clubs/diamonds (3) N/T distribution and 18-19 HCP (4) 13+ points and exactly 4/4 in the majors (5) A hand containing 3 Quicktricks but which can not be opened 1 of a major or 1 NT Opener's partner must remember that opener may have as few as 3 cards in the opened minor!	One of a minor opening should not be made with only a 5 card suit and 13 or 14 points. ((With the weak single suited type hand the plan is to immediately rebid the suit opened.) N/T distribution consists of the following: (1) no voids or singletons (2) no 5 card major suit or 6 card minor suit (3) If the hand contains two doubletons, at least one of them must be stopped. With 18-19 HCP NT hand, the plan is to jump in N/T on the next round.
1 ♥ / 1 ♠	11 + HCP and at least 5 cards in suit bid	A minimal (11/12 HCP) hand should contain 2+ quick tricks. (Ace=1quick trick; King =1/2 quick trick; AK=2 quick tricks; KQ=1 quick trick; AQ = 1 1/2 quick tricks; AKQ of a major suit =3 quicktricks; AKQ of a minor suit = only 2 and 1/2 quicktricks.)
1 No Trump	N/T distribution and exactly 15-17 HCP	All suits do not have to be stopped!

2 Level Bids

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
2 ♣	Conventional "Strong 2" Opening bid which shows one of the two following type hands: (1) N/T distribution and 21 + HCP (2) A very strong one suited hand (any suit), only 1 trick short of game and at least 4 defensive tricks . The suit should be at least 6 cards long and contain at least 2 of the top 3 honors in the suit.	In addition to the N/T distribution, all four suits should be stopped (e.g. Ace or King x or Queen x x or Jack xxx). Normally, two suited hands will not contain a suit which can stand by itself at game level, and therefore two-suiters should be opened at the 1 level

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CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (Continued)

Opening Bids (continued):

2 Level Bids

Contin.:

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
2 ♦	Requirements: shows specifically 11-15 HCP and exactly 5 Hearts & 4 Spades	Comments: Conventional opening called "Flannery 2 Diamonds". This bid is highly descriptive and the plan is to turn control over to partner, as to the contract (suit & level).

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
2Hearts/ Spades	6 cards in opened major with 5-10 points	In first or second chair, the bid also promises no secondary major and 2 of the top three honors in the opened suit. All responses will be forcing except a raise or jump in opened major

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
2 Notrumps	seven card preempt in clubs	Partner will establish the contract--usually by bidding three clubs

3 Level Bids

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
3 Clubs	7 card Diamond suit weak - preemptive	The weaker the hand the better --less than two defensive tricks
3 Diamonds	7 card Heart suit weak hand -preemptive	Less than two defensive tricks
3 Hearts	7 card spade suit weak hand -preemptive	Less than two defensive tricks
3 Spades	Solid 7+ Card Minor	The Bid asks partner to bid 3 Notrump to play if partner has stoppers in the other 3 suits
3 No Trump	8 card minor suit	The suit will NOT BE SOLID

4 Level Bids

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
4 Clubs	9 tricks in hearts	essentially a 2 club opener in a major but without the four defensive tricks....
4 Diamonds	9 tricks in spades	essentially a 2 club opener in a major but without the four defensive tricks....
4 H/S	8 card suit	Less than two defensive tricks
4 No Trump	9 card minor suit	Less than two defensive tricks

Responses To Opening Bids:

Responses To

1 club/diamond:

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
(1 D) / 1 H / 1 S	At least a four card suit and 5+ HCPs (with a five card suit, can stretch point count down to 4)	This is a simple, but ambiguous response, both as to length of suits and HCP strength. Multiple 4-card suits should be "bid up the line" (cheapest suit first)

1 N/T	5-9 HCPs and no four card or longer major	
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2 C/(2 D)	10 + HCPs and 5 or more cards in Opener's suit	This is a conventional, strong response. It also denies having a four card major.
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CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (Continued)

Responses To Opening Bids (Continued):

Responses to 1 club/diamond contin.:

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
(response in opened suit)	(the 5 cards is required, because opener may have only 3 cards in the suit)	Opener will then tell responder whether the opening was based on a real suit, a two-suiter, or some level of N/T distribution. After opener's rebid, responder takes control.
(2 D) / 2H/ 2 S	Less than 8 HCPs and a 6+ card suit	Preemptive Jump Bid in new suit to show shape. The suit must be at least six cards long, contain No more than 1 of the top three honors in the suit , and have shortness in partners opened suit. The jump shift basically says: "Partner we can only play in either my suit or in NT, if you have the hand."
2 NT	10-11 HCPs and no four card major	must have a stopper in both majors.
3 clubs / (3 D)	Less than 8 HCPs and at least 6 cards in Opener's suit	This Conventional jump response is preemptive, and the weaker the hand the better the bid.
(3D) / 3 H/ 3S	Singleton or void in suit bid, Six or more cards in Opener's suit, and 12+ points	This double jump in a new suit is a " splinter " bid used to show shape and an interest in slam in Opener's minor suit open if Opener is interested (based on the short suit).
3 Notrump	11-12 HCPs and no four card major	must have a stopper in both majors and the unbid minor.

Responses To

1 heart/spade:

(1 of a major)

All responses to a one-of-major open are conventional and known as "**Bergen Raises.**" Based on the Law of Total Tricks, the raises are designed to quickly get the partnership to the level of the # of trumps held.

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
PASS	0-7 points and 2 card support OR 0-4 points and 3 card support	With less than 2 card support, see 1 N/T (below)
2 of the major	3 card support (5-8points) -constructive	
2 Notrump	4 card support (11-15 points) - game force	The bid is designed to get into slam, with less thans slam pts. , by asking for a short suit-- Jacoby
3 Clubs	4 card support (8-9 points) - constructive	
3 Diamonds	4 card support (9-11 points) - limit (asking)	
3 of the major	4 card support (0-7 points) - preemptive	LAW bid

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CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (Continued)

Responses To Opening Bids (Continued):

**Responses To 1
of a Major
contin.:**

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
4 of the major	5 card support (0-7 points)	LAW bid
1 Notrump	0+ points - Forcing (bid also for hand of exactly 8-10 points and 2 or 3 card support in partner's opened major)	This is a conventional bid, made with very weak hands and void or singleton in Opener's major suit NOTE: With two card support in partners major and 8-9 points, bid the forcing Notrump and then rebid Partner's major suit. With three card support and 9-10 points, jump in Partners major suit.
2 of a new suit (no jump) Over 1 of a major	10+ points and a five card suit or longer	The "2 over 1" bid (new suit at a new level) is forcing for one round and it establishes control.
1 spade over 1 heart	6+ points and at least 5 spades	The spade length is because we bid "Flannary 2 Diamonds". Opener did not open "2 Diamonds", therefore he does not have 5 hearts and four spades.
Double Jump in New Suit	4 card support, 13+ points and singleton or void in the suit bid.	This is a conventional splinter bid which explores for slam with less than slam points , based on the shortness in the suit bid. Opener would continue the exploration by Q bidding a first round control on his rebid.

**Responses To 1
Notrump:**

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
Pass	6-9 points - Competitive Or 0-5 points and no 5 card major or 6 card minor	The pass should be made smoothly and quickly so as not to tip off to the opponents the nature of the hand.
2 Clubs	10+ points - Game Going Or preparation for a rescue in a minor suit at the three level	Conventional bid asking for "Stayman rebids" Note: if for minor suit rescue, the minor suit <u>should not</u> include two of top three honors
2 Diamonds (transfer)	5+ Hearts and 0+ points - Rescue or Game going	Bid asks opener to bid 2 Hearts NOTE: A transfer bid followed by a Notrump rebid shows exactly: the five card major and 8-9 HCPs . <u>Nt opener bids 4 of the major, holding 16+ pts and 3+ cards</u> , or passes.
2 Hearts (transfer)	5 Spades or more and 0+ points - Rescue or Game going	Bid asks opener to bid 2 Spades. See Note Above
2 Spades	10+ points & 10 cards in the minors	This Minor Suit Stayman bid asks opener for four card or longer minor ...with both minors bid up line; with neither bid 3 notrump
2 Notrump	<u>The Bid does not exist!</u>	
3 Clubs/Dia.	6 + cards in minor suit and 15 + HCPs	Invitation to Slam in the bid minor.
3 H/S	6 + cards in major suit and 15 + HCPs	Invitation to Slam in the bid major
3 Notrump	10-16 HCPs	Bid is to play

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CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (Continued)

Responses To Opening Bids (Continued):

**Responses To 1
No Trump Cont.**

4 Clubs	Sufficient points (18+) to bid NT slam	Keycard Gerber -See Specialized Bids
4 No Trump	Quantitative ask for Small Slam (16 HCP)	Opener will pass with minimum open and bid 6 No Trump with maximum open
Responses To 2 Clubs:	All immediate responses to 2 clubs are artificial and show # of controls	
Bid	Requirements:	Comments:
2 Diamonds	0 controls	Each Ace = 2 controls; Each King = 1 control
2 Hearts	1 control or 6-8 HCPs in Queens & Jacks	
2 Spades	2 controls	(Note: with interference bid after the 2 club open, a pass shows 0 controls and a bid up from the opponents bid shows 1 control...two up would show two controls, and so on...Double would be penalty)
2 NT	Bid Does Not Exist	
3 Clubs	3 controls	
3 Diamonds	4 controls	
3 Hearts	5 controls	

Responses to 2 Diamonds: **The only forcing & conventional response is 2 NT.** All other bids, including the pass, are to play. Ace asking uses both Keycard Gerber and Keycard Blackwood.

The 2 NT bid says, "Partner, bid a 3 card minor at the 3 level or a 4 card minor at the 4 level. With two doubletons, bid 3 hearts with 11-13 HCPs or bid 3 spades with 14-15 HCPs. With 15 HCPs and both doubletons stopped, bid 3 No Trump"
Gerber is used if the trump is to be Hearts....Blackwood is used if the trump is to be Spades.

Bid	Requirements:	Comments:
2 Hearts or Spades	New suit bid asks if opener has support Notrump bid asks for a feature in new suit	Opener will show support for his partners suit or return to his opened major. He will show a feature (an outside Ace or King) in response to Notrump . If he has none he will return to his opened suit.

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CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (Continued)

Responses to 2

Notrump

Opener:

<u>Bid</u>	<u>Requirements:</u>	<u>Comments:</u>
		All bids are to play

**Responses to
Three Level
Openers:**

All 3 level openers, with the exception of 3 **Spades** are Preemptive in nature (weak hands with a seven card suit). Therefore, Opener will never bid again (except to possibly cooperate in a penalty double situation).

With 3 or more card support for preempting partner, it is **imperative** that responder get the partnership immediately to the 4 level or higher, commensurate with the Law of Total Tricks! Partner must also, of course, complete the transfer. To transfer to 3 Notrump from 3 Spades, partner needs a stopper in each of the other suits; without such, partner bids 4 Clubs and opener will pass or bid diamonds, if that is his suit.

**Responses to
Four Level
Openers:**

(See prior comment on 3 level openers.)

Opener's Rebids:

In general, all of opener's rebids will be of two types:

(1) "Natural" a bid chosen by the Opener which further describes the strength and shape of the hand, made in response to the "natural" response.

(2) "Conventional" a bid required by the conventional response given by responder. This bid, although required, also further describes Opener's hand.

Open

One of a minor

<u>Response</u>	<u>Rebid</u>
1 level new suit:	New suit at cheapest level
	1 Notrump
	2 Notrump (jump)
	Rebid of opened minor
	Jump in Opened Minor

Rebid shows:

13+ HCPs, the opened minor suit is real (at least 5 cards) and the new suit bid is at least four cards long

13-14 HCPs, no trump distribution (**will not have** four card support for partners suit)

18-20 HCPs, notrump distribution (**does not promise stoppers in all suits**)

13-17 HCPs, and a real opened minor suit probably six or longer

18+ HCPs and at least a six card suit.

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CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (Continued)

Opener's Rebids (Continued):

<u>Open</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Rebid</u>
One of a minor (continued)	1 level major suit	Rebid of Responder's suit Jump in Respond. Suit
jjjjjjjjjjjjjjjj		(All jumps in new suits) (Game level bid -NT or suit)
1 Notrump:	Pass	Rebid of Minor open
		2 Notrump
		New suit at 2 level
		Jump in Opened suit
		3 Notrump (jump) doesn't exist!
Raise in Partner's Opener (conventional):		
		3 level in Opened suit
		2 NT
		3 NT
		New suit at cheapest level
		Jump in New Suit
		4 level jump in Opener (past 3 NT)
Jump in new suit (preempt.):		
		Rebid of opened suit
		Rebid of Partner's suit
		Jump in Partner's suit
Jump in Partner's Opener (Preemptive):		
		4 level bid in opened suit

Rebid shows:

13-15 HCPs, at least four cards in partner's suit
16-18 HCPs, at least four cards in partner's suit (any distribution)
13-17 HCPs and a pure two suiter -at least 5/5 in the suits
20-21 HCPs and just not quite good enough for the 2 Notrump open (jump to game in partner's major suit response may be made on min. of 18 HCPs!!)
13-14 HCPs and Notrump distribution.
13-14 HCPs and weak long minor open
18-19 HCPs, Notrump distribution, both majors stopped.
13-16 HCPs and extreme two suiter (6/5) or 17-20 HCPs and moderate two suiter (5/4)-can't stand N/T contract.
Good 6+ card suit and 18+ points (just shy of 2 club open) (point count required by opener would have meant opening 2 NT)
"My suit was real (probably 6 long) and I have 13-16 HCPs
13-15 HCPs and Notrump distribution (does not promise all suits stopped)
18-19 HCPs and Notrump distribution (all 3 other suits stopped)
"A secondary (4 card) suit and I'm vulnerable in some other suit as far as Notrump"
Mini-Splinter bid - singleton or void in suit bid, real minor suit (5+) and an interest in slam in the minor (10+ cards between partners)
Same bid as above except denial of singleton or void, HCP level is 18+ (just couldn't open "2 Clubs") -- Warning! If responder next bids 4 Notrump, this is sign off -to play. ("Partner we've overreached ourselves.)
"Partner, I have a void in your suit and my minor suit is for real!"
"Partner, I have 3 cards in your suit, we are safe at the 3 level (LAW bid)"
"Partner, I have 4 cards in your suit, we are safe at the 4 level (LAW bid)."
"Partner, my minor suit opener was real, I have at least 5 cards & together we have 11 trumps and we are safe at the 4 level (increase in preempt) and we can even consider the five level if needed"

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CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (Continued)

Opener's Rebids (Continued):

Open

**1 of a Minor
continued:**

Double Jump Splinter Bid:

3 Notrump
5 level in opened suit
New suit

3 NT **5 in the unbid minor**

Rebid shows:

To Play

To Play

Q bid showing first round control in the suit bid, saying " I'm also interested in slam."

To Play ("Partner, we can't play this at 3 NT)

One of a major

Raise in major opened:

**Game (4 level in opened
major)**
3 Level in opened major

New suit

19 HCPs and 6 card suit (constructive) **or** 13-18 HCPs and seven card suit (preemptive)

6 card suit (competitive)

Game try based on 18-19 point hand....asks partner to bid game with max

2 NT (game force):

New suit at 3 level
New suit at 4 level
3 Level in opened major
3 NT
4 Level in opened major

11+ HCPs and singleton in suit bid

11+ HCPs and void in suit bid (be careful going past game)

16 + HCPs and no singleton

15-17 HCPs and no singleton and both minors stopped

11-15 HCPs and no singleton

3 Clubs (constructive):

3 Level in opened major
4 Level in opened major

minimal point count and 5 card suit (partner will pass)

15+ HCPs & 5 card suit (constructive) **or** minimal point count and 6 card suit (preemptive)

3 Diamonds (limit):

3 Level in opened major
4 Level in opened major

minimal point count and 5 card suit (partner will pass)

13+ HCPs & 5 card suit (constructive) **or** minimal point count and 6 card suit (preemptive)

New suit at cheapest level

New Suit Jump

3 of a Major Raise (preemptive):

Pass!

The only exception would be to increase the preempt with 6 or 7 cards in the suit

4 of a Major Raise (preemptive)

Pass

(See comment above)

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CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (Continued)

Opener's Rebids (Continued):

Open **Response** **Rebid**
One of A Major 1 Notrump (forcing)
Cont.

<p style="margin-left: 40px;">2 Clubs/Diamonds</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">Other Major at 2 Level</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">Rebid of opened Major</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">All Jumps</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2 NT</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">Jump in opened Major</p> <p>2 of a New Suit (no jump):</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">New suit (third one bid)</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Rebid of Opened suit</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">Rebid of Responder's suit</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">Jump in Responder's suit</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2 NT</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">3 NT</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">All jumps into new suit</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">All double jumps in new suit</p> <p>New suit at 4 Level:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">New suit</p> <p style="margin-left: 80px;">Game level rebid of Opener</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">4 NT</p> <p>One Notrump (Opener's 1 NT is highly informative and limited. Therefore Opener should not bid again unless forced to by his partner.)</p> <p>2 Clubs:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2 Diamonds</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2 Hearts</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2 Spades</p> <p>2 Diamonds: 2 Hearts or 3 Hearts</p> <p>2 Hearts: 2 Spades or 3 Spades</p>	<p>Rebid shows:</p> <hr/> <p>11 to 15 HCPs, and longer cards in the bid minor than the other minor</p> <hr/> <p>11-15 HCPs and at least four cards in the other major</p> <hr/> <p>11 to 15 HCPs, equal length in the minors, and no four card secondary major, and a six card suit</p> <hr/> <p>16+ HCPs and same as above</p> <hr/> <p>15+ HCPs and stoppers in all suits</p> <hr/> <p>16+ HCPs, six card suit, no secondary major , and equal length in minors.</p> <hr/> <p>Secondary suit (at least 4 long) with probable denial of support for responder's suit (three cards)</p> <hr/> <p>Minimal opener (11-13) and denial of support for responder's suit.</p> <hr/> <p>Minimal hand with at least 3 cards in suit.</p> <hr/> <p>16-18 HCPs and 3+ card support in responder's suit</p> <hr/> <p>Minimal hand with two card support for partners suit</p> <hr/> <p>16-20 HCPs with both unbid suits stopped.</p> <hr/> <p>shows extreme two suited hand</p> <hr/> <p>Splinter Bid confirming Partner's suit as trump and asking as to slam .</p> <hr/> <p>A Q bid showing first round control and saying, "Yes partner, I am interested in slam."</p> <hr/> <p>"Thanks, partner, but the singleton doesn't help and Game level is just fine."</p> <hr/> <p>Key card Blackwood</p> <hr/> <p>"No 4 card major, partner."</p> <hr/> <p>" A 4 card Heart suit, partner. (I could also have spades)"</p> <hr/> <p>" A 4 card Spade suit, partner." (Bid denies a four card heart suit)</p> <hr/> <p>(Partner asked Opener to do this. Bid 3 with 4 of partner's suit.)</p> <hr/> <p>(Partner asked Opener to do this. Bid 3 with 4 of partner's suit)</p> <hr/>
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Disciplined Standard American (as of 14/10/2014)

CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING (Continued)

Opener's Rebids (Continued):

<u>Open</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Rebid</u>
One No trump Cont.	2 Spades: (min. Suit Stayman)	3 Clubs/Diamonds 3 No Trump
	3 of a Suit	cheapest Q bid Three NT
	4 Clubs - Keycard Gerber	4 Diamonds 4 Hearts 4 Spades
2 Clubs (conventional)	4 H/S (Since both the opening bid and the control showing response are conventional (artificial), all of Opener's rebids must be natural showing either a very good suit or a 22+ NT.	Pass!!
2 Diamonds (conventional)	2 Hearts:	Pass
	2 Spades:	Pass
	3 Clubs:	Pass
	2 Notrump (Conventional Force):	
2 Hearts (conventional)	(See responses to 2 Hearts.)	
2 Spades (conventional)	(See responses to 2 Spades.)	
2 Notrump	(The club-Stayman response and the transfer responses to this bid are much like the opening 1 NT. Therefore see rebids over 1 NT.	

Rebid shows:

Bid minors up the line with both at least four cards long and equal length
Partner, I have no four card or longer minor

Partner, I am very interested in slam in your suit, based on my holding
Partner, I am not interested in slam in your suit..lets play **Three NT**

0 or 3 Aces

1 or 4 Aces

2 Aces

Partners bid is made on long suit with no chance for slam....

The point is to find the suit fit (if appropriate) quickly and then set the contract level, based on the number of controls
shown by partner. Partner needs **only two cards** for fit with Opener's long suit.

See Page Five for Rebids

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COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Competitive bidding begins at the time that the opponents enter the bidding process. This usually occurs at one of two times, either immediately after the Opening (in second position), or after response (in fourth position). However, opposition interference, of course, can begin anywhere in the constructive bidding sequence. All bids will be affected and modified from the "normal constructive meaning" after the opponents bid. In general, two things will occur, no matter when or how the opponents interfere with a bid:

- (1) All weak bids that would have been required or demanded in the constructive bidding process are no longer needed. The opponents, by virtue of their bid have kept the bidding open. The "weak" bid is therefore replaced with "pass."
- (2) The bid by the opponent has now provided new bids for conveying information that were previously not available:
 - bid (or Q-bid) of opponent's suit (if the bid was a suit overcall)
 - "Double" of opponent's bid (if the bid was a suit overcall)
 - "Redouble" (if the opponent's bid was "Double")

The exact meaning of each of these bids will vary, but in general this is what will occur:

- As previously stated, all weak bids will be replaced by a pass, **except where required by the LAW**
- Strong, forcing bids will be replaced by a Q-bid in one of the opponent's bid suits, or by redoubling, or by strong new suit bids at new levels
- Waiting, competitive bids, usually indicating interest in unbid suits will be made by doubling the opponent's bid suit. These are known as "negative doubles" when made by responder, indicating as few as 8 points

Most of the exceptions to this approach will occur after the conventional openings of 1 NT, 2 Clubs, and 2 Diamonds or when the opponent's overcall bid is artificial (showing something other than just the suit bid).

(A note on "standard" interference bids by the opponents: Usually the opponents will enter the bidding in one of three ways after an opening of one of a suit:

- (1) An overcall in a new suit - showing at least four but probably five cards in the suit bid. Point count can range from 8 - 16 HCPs (look at the opponent's convention card!)
- (2) "Double" - This is usually not for penalty, but is a "Takeout Double" showing an opening hand (12+HCPs), at least 3 cards in each of remaining three unbid suits, and asking his partner to find suit fit, if possible.
- (3) A jump or double jump in a new suit, showing preemptive length - very similar to our opening 2 level and 3 level preemptive bids.)

<u>Opening Bid</u>	<u>Immediate Interference by Second Position:</u>	<u>Meaning of Responder's Bid</u>
1 of a Minor	New suit at cheapest level	Double - Negative, showing 8+ HCPs and interest in unbid suits OR with the same 8-11 and good support for opener's suit.
		New suit (at cheapest level) 5+ cards in bid suit and 11+ points if bid at two-level or 3-11 points if bid at the one-level
		Q-bid of Opponent's suit - 11+ HCPs (forcing to game) and asking for stopper
		2 of Opener's minor - 0-7 HCPs and 5 cards in opened suit.
		Jump in Opener's minor - preemptive showing a 6 card suit
		1 NT - 5-10 HCPs and opponent's suit well stopped
	Takeout Double	Redouble - 10+ HCPs (forcing) (says nothing about support for partners opened suit)
		New Suit - Less than 10 points and a five + card suit
		Rebid of Partner's Minor - 5-7 HCPs and a 5 card suit in the minor
	Jump in new suit (probably preemptive)	Double - Negative, showing 8-11 HCPs and interest in unbid suits
		Q-bid of Opponent's suit - 11+ HCPs (forcing to game)
		New Suit is Weak and long!
1 of a Major	New suit at cheapest level	Double - Negative, showing 8-11 pts and interest in unbid suits, especially the other major if it wasn't bid. OR same 8-11 pts but with good support for partner's major.
		New suit (at cheapest level) -11+ HCPs and a quality 5 + cards in bid suit (forcing)

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Opening Bid **Immediate Interference by Second Position:**

1 of a Major Continued	New suit continued
	Takeout Double
	Jump in new suit (probably preemptive)
1 NT	Any natural or conventional interference by the opponent:
2 Clubs	Double
	suit bid at 2 or 3 level
Other 2 Bid Opens	

3rd. Position Interference:

Opening Bid **Response** **Interference bid by 3rd. position**

1 of a Minor	1 level new suit: New suit at 1 or 2 level
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COMPETITIVE BIDDING CONTINUED

Meaning of Responder's Bid

Q-bid of Opponent's suit - 12+ HCPs (forcing to game) and asking Partner if he has stopper. (If he does he bids Notrump)

Cheapest rebid of Opener's major - 0-7 HCPs and 3 cards in opened suit.

Jump in Opener's major - preemptive showing 0-7 HCPs and 4 card suit

game bid in Opener's major - 0 -7 HCPs and five card suit

Cheapest NT - 8-10 HCPs and opponent's suit stopped

Jump in new suit - Preemptive 7 card suit

Redouble -10+ HCPs (designed to force the opponents into the auction - Opener will double opponents suit with four+ cards (This bid the redouble can be made with or without support for the major)

Bid of Partner's Major- 0-7 points and a 3 card suit in the major

Jump Bid of Partner's Major --0-7 points and a four card suit.

1 Notrump -- use like the Forcing Notrump

Double - Negative, showing 9-11 HCPs and interest in unbid suits

Q-bid of Opponent's suit - 12+ HCPs (forcing)

New Suit bid is **Weak and Long**

Conventional Responses Using **Lebensohl**: See Lebensohl Responses at the **end of this spreadsheet**

All responses are the same as constructive responses, except that 0 controls can now be shown with a pass. Therefore, all bids reflect the next higher # of controls.

Same as above

See Treatment as described at the **end of this spreadsheet**

Meaning of Opener's Rebid

Pass - "I have the real minor suit, partner and 15 to 17 HCPs"

2 of the opened minor - "I have the real minor, but am weak -13 to 15 HCPs"

Double - "I have the 15-17 NT hand without Opponent's suit well stopped (at least 1 1/2 times.)."

Cheapest NT - "I have the 15-17 NT hand and Opponent's suit well stopped (I may have a weakness in another suit, however."

Q-bid in opponent's suit - "I have a strong NT and something in the opponent's suit. With a little something in opponent's suit, bid notrump, partner."

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COMPETITIVE BIDDING CONTINUED

3rd. Position Interference continued:

<u>Opening Bid</u>	<u>Response</u>	<u>Interfer. Bid</u>
1 of a Minor continued:	1 level new suit:	Double (for takeout)
	1 Notrump:	2 of a major (or other minor)
1 of a Major:	1 NT (forcing)	new suit or Double (takeout)

Meaning of Opener's Rebid

Pass - "I have the real minor suit, partner and 15 to 17 HCPs"

2 of the opened minor - "I have the real minor, but am weak -13 to 15 HCPs"

Redouble - 15-17 NT with support for partner's suit (3 good or 4 cards long)

1 NT - 15-17 NT without support for partner's suit

2 NT (jump) - Strong NT with good stoppers in unbid suits

Pass - "I have the real minor suit, partner. Please bid it at the 3 level with the 7 HCP maximum and 3 cards, or with 4 card support"

Double - "I have the 18+ HCP NT distribution, but I'm wide open in the opponent's major."

2 NT - "I have the 18+ HCP NT distribution, and am well stopped in the opponent's major (may be vulnerable elsewhere)."

Pass - the minimal 5 or 6 card major suit opening

Minor suit at 2 level - at least five cards in the minor with a void in the other minor

Other major at least five cards in the other major also

Double or Redouble - the maximum 16+ HCP hand

Rebid of opened major - a seven+ card suit

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DEFENSIVE (INTERFERENCE) BIDDING

Defensive bidding occurs when we enter the bidding after the opponents have opened the bidding. Our bids will be of three types: bids designed to show one suit or two suits, bids designed to show points and asking partner to name a suit, and preemptive bids designed to interfere with the opponents bidding sequences or to "steal" the contract with an extra long suit.

Note: Points to consider:

1. With both sides bidding, unless such bidding is based on extreme distribution, no side will have a slam.
2. It is more likely that the opponents who have opened will have the majority of the HCPs and, therefore, the ability to make game. The obvious exception to this would be when the opponents open with a weak preemptive bid, themselves.
3. Because, in normal circumstances, the opponents will have more HCPs than us, they will normally take and play the contract more often. Therefore, our defensive bidding should try to be for defensive, lead directing purposes, as much as for offensive purposes. The point is that there should be clear purpose in entering the auction after the opponents have opened the bidding. Just to be bidding is a no no-no. You will offer up free information to the opponents at no cost.
4. The opponents should not be allowed to play 1 Notrump - it is too hard to defend!
5. You should always bid to the level = to the total number of trump held by you and your partner (Law of Total Tricks). Therefore, if you and your partner have 8 cards in a suit, you are safe to be at the two level in your bidding. With nine cards, you are safe at the three level. The trick is to bid so as to know how many trump you and your partner have and to force the opponents to levels higher than their trump number can support, when possible.

Direct Interference (bidding directly after an opponent opens):

<u>Opponent's</u> <u>Open</u>	<u>Interference Bid:</u>	<u>Requirements and Meaning:</u>
One of a Suit (natural):	Overcall of a new suit at the 1 level	8-15 HCPs, a 5 card suit, and good honors. The point is that this should be lead directing should the opponents win the contract.
	Double (conventional take out bid)	12+ HCPs, shortness in opponent's bid suit and at least 3 cards in the other three suits. (You are demanding that your partner bid if the opponent in third position doesn't).
	Double (Strong, one suited hand bid)	16+ HCPs - Your partner will assume the previously described take out bid. Therefore, you must clarify your hand with a jump in your suit at the first opportunity.
	Jump overcall in new suit	Preemptive 6 card suit - See opening 2 bids in majors requirements. However, the constructive essence of the weak two opener in first position is <u>not required</u> . The preemptive nature of the interference bid is more important.
	Double jump overcall in new suit	Preemptive 7 card suit - See opening 3 bids requirements
	2 Notrump	Preemptive showing at least 5/5 in the 2 lower unbid suits (0-11 HCPs OR 16+ HCPs): 1 Club - 2 NT shows Diamonds and Hearts 1 Diamond - 2 NT shows Clubs and Hearts (Note: A subsequent bid or jump by the 2 NT bidder will signal the bigger hand.) 1 Heart - 2 NT shows Clubs and Diamonds 1 Spade - 2 NT shows Clubs and Diamonds
	Overcall in same suit as Opponent's open	Preemptive showing at least 5/5 in 2 suits (at least one a major) (0-11 HCPs Or 16+HCPs): 1 Club - 2 Clubs shows Spades and second suit (see Note above) 1 Diamond - 2 Diamonds shows Spades and second suit 1 Heart - 2 Hearts shows Spades and a minor 1 Spade - 2 Spades shows Hearts and a minor
<u>Opponent's</u> <u>Open</u>	<u>Interference Bid:</u>	<u>Requirements and Meaning:</u>
1 Notrump (15 - 18 High card points)	D.O.N.T. (Disturb Opponents Notrump!) (Direct and Balancing seats)	Bidding over opponent's NT opening has little to do with HCPs and everything to do with shape! Even if you have 0 points, you will be protected at the two level if you and your partner have an 8 card fit. The point of D.O.N.T. is to find a fit at the 2 level, not to try to get to game!

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Double

Any one-suiter Partner must pull to 2 Clubs. We will pass with clubs, otherwise bid our suit.

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DEFENSIVE BIDDING CONTINUED

Direct Interference (bidding directly after an opponent opens) Continued:

<u>Opponent's</u> <u>Open</u>	<u>Interference Bid:</u>	<u>Requirements and Meaning:</u>
1 Notrump (strong) Continued:	Two Clubs	Clubs and any higher suit. (at least 5/4 cards long -- with decent suits can be 4/4 if not vulnerable)
	Two Diamonds	Diamonds and any higher suit. (at least 5/4 cards long -- with decent suits can be 4/4 if not vulnerable)
	Two Hearts	Hearts and Spades. (at least 5/4 cards long -- with decent suits can be 4/4 if not vulnerable)
	Two Spades	Spades only (weaker than Double followed by rebid of Spades)
<hr/> With a 12 + HCP Hand - Pass! and let partner bid D.O.N.T. <hr/>		
1 Notrump (12-14 HCPs)	MODIFIED CAPPELETTI	After a weak notrump open, the chances for a game our way are improved. Therefore this defense is used.
	Double	shows 16 + HCP any hand (in balancing position 11 + points and balanced) Partner must consider passing with 5 + HCP but can use Stayman and transfers with 0-4 points. Rebid by Doubler of 2 No Trump shows 21 -25 pt. Hand
	Two Clubs	A relay to 2 D that shows either a 6 card diamond suit or a two suited minor-major. On the relay, partner will pass with the diamonds or bid his major. Partner can then pass or bid 2 Notrump to find the minor.
	Two Diamonds	shows both majors...at worse 4/4 with 12-15 HCPs or with 5/5 from 9 HCPs up to 15 HCPs. Partner will bid preferred major if game is not possible. Part. Can pass with 6 + diamonds and singleton majors.
	Two Hearts	Natural bid showing 5 + cards in hearts
	Two Spades	Natural bid showing 5 + cards in spades
	2 No Trump	shows both minors and 9 - 13 HCPs (most of the points in the minors)
	Any three level bid of a suit	shows a seven card suit with two of the top three honors
	Any four level bid of a suit	shows 0-8 HCPs and a better preempt (rule of 2 and 3)
	3 Notrump	shows 14-15 HCPs , 5/5 in minors and almost all points in the minor suits
	4 No Trump	Bid Does Not Exist
	5 Clubs/Diamonds	Preemptive
	Note; After Interference by OPP.	All Bids are on with a double and the redouble is to punish.. All bids are off with any other interference.

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SPECIALIZED BIDS AND RESPONSES

The following detail some of the bids and responses previously mentioned and some new bids not yet discussed. They may occur in constructive, competitive, or defensive bidding sequences.

Constructive Slam Bidding

The system uses 4 conventional bids in bidding slam. All but the last are used, not to get into slam, but to stay out of slam or too high a slam, when missing key cards.

<u>Bid</u>	<u>When Used:</u>	<u>Responses:</u>
Keycard Gerber 4 Clubs:	Used only in constructive bidding. The 4 Club bid indicates desire to be in a NT slam. Responses are designed to show the holding of five or less key cards-- the 4 aces and the king of the last suit bid.	4 Diamonds - 0 or 3 Key cards 4 Hearts - 1 or 4 Key cards 4 Spades - 2 key cards Once the response is made, the Gerber bidder can now: sign off at four NT, bid six NT to play, or bid 5 Clubs to ask for kings outside the key suit (if there is a key suit): Five Diamonds is 0 or 3 outside kings, Five Hearts is 1 or 4 outside kings

<u>Bid</u>	<u>When Used:</u>	<u>Responses:</u>
Keycard Blackwood 4 NT:	4 Notrump indicates the desire to be in a Trump Slam. The responses are designed to provide info. As to the holding of the four aces and the king, queen of trump. If Trump has not been established, the last suit bid is the key suit.	There are 5 Keycards: the four aces and the King of Trumps: 5 Clubs - 0 or 3 Keycards 5 Diamonds 1 or 4 Keycards 5 Hearts - 2 Keycards, but missing the Queen of Trumps 5 Spades - 2 Keycards, but also the Queen of Trumps After the Ace showing response, the 4 NT bidder can make further inquiry as to the holding of the queen of trump. He simply bids the next suit up. For example, 4 NT....5 clubs....5 DIAMONDS now asks for the queen. If responder does not hold the queen he simply bids the next suit up -- in this case 5 hearts. If he holds the queen, he skips to five spades; if he holds both the queen and an outside king, he skips to six clubs; with the queen and two outside kings--six diamonds, etc. The 4 NT bidder can also just bid 5 Notrump directly asking for outside kings (see Gerber above)

<u>Bid</u>	<u>When Used:</u>	<u>Responses:</u>
Grand Slam Force 5 NT:	5 Notrump, when jumped into , is asking for partner to bid grand slam in the agreed on trump suit when two of the top 3 trump honors are held. Otherwise, responder is to bid a small slam.	7 bid in trump suit - "Partner, I have two of the top 3 honors." 6 bid in trump suit - "Sorry, partner, I only have one." 6 bid in any suit lower than trump suit - "Only 1 of top three honors, partner, but I have one more trump than you expect."

<u>Bid</u>	<u>When Used:</u>	<u>Responses:</u>
Quantitative raise of 4 Notrump	Used directly over a notrump bid, including the opening of 1 Notrump. The four notrump must be a clear jump.	Partner passes with minimum bid and bids 6 Notrump with a maximum hand

Take Out Double and Responses:

The takeout Double, because it requires partner to bid when the opponents have stopped bidding, must be very disciplined. In the direct overcall position, The Doubler must have 12+ points and should have at least 3 cards in each of the three unbid suits. In the 4th seat or balance position, the HCP requirement drops to 10+ points.

Responses to Takeout Double with no intervening bid by the opponents:	Example: (Opponent) - 1 Club (open) Partner - Double (takeout) (2nd Opponent.) - Pass	Responses: New suit at cheapest level - 0-7 pts 1 NT - 8-11 pts and Opponent's bid suit well stopped Jump in new suit - 8-11 pts and 4+ cards Q-bid in Opponent's suit - 12+ pts
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SPECIALIZED BIDS AND RESPONSES CONTINUED

Take Out Double and Responses Continued:

Responses to Takeout Double with increase in bid by opponents:
Example: (Opponent) - 1 Heart (open)
Partner - Double (takeout)
(2nd Opponent.) - 2 Hearts (3 Hearts)

Responses:
New suit at cheapest level - 5-10 pts. and 5+ Cards in suit
Double - Responsive showing 8 - 11 pts but with no clear choice as to suit
Q-bid in Opponents' suit - 12+ pts
Note: Distribution points should be liberally assessed in all suits but the opponents in response

Note On Balancing:

"To balance" means to bid in the fourth position, based on your partner having the "balance of points." For example, you are sitting in 4th chair, the opponent on your left opens "1 Diamond", your partner passes, and your right hand opponent passes. You are in the "pass out" position. That is, if you pass, the contract is now set at 1 Diamond. There is only 1 of 2 possibilities. Either, the opener has a very big hand, but was forced for one reason or other to only open the "1 Diamond", or you and your partner really have the majority of the points, and for some distribution reason, your partner could not make an overcall of some sort. Due to this second possibility, you can come into the auction with less strength than would have been required in the direct overcall position. In the "balance" position an overcall of new suit (5+) requires from 5-9 Pts and a takeout double shows 10+ Pts. (12+ if Opponent opened at two level)

Bids Designed to Keep Opponents From Playing at the Two Level with 8 Card Trump Fits:

OBAR BIDS (The acronym stands for Opponents Bid And Raise - Balance In Direct Seat)
Example: 1 Heart-pass-2 Hearts -2 Spades
Example: 1 NT-pass-2 Hearts (natural) - Double
Example: 2 Hearts (weak)-pass-2 spades (non forcing)-3 Clubs

The 2 Spade bid is made with as little as 0 points, and a 5 card suit
The balancing can occur in Direct Position whenever the Opponents have limited their total point count, giving you assurance that you and your partner have a reasonable share of the total point count, but more importantly an 8 card or 9 card fit at the 2 or 3 level.

Note: One simple, but important rule when playing OBAR BIDS, We Can't play in 2 Notrump!

Instead, we play Scrambling 2 Notrump:

Scrambling 2 Notrump is used only after an OBAR BID. 2 NT is bid to say, "Partner, I don't have a preference as to a suit. Pick your best suit and we will play there.

Example:
1st Opponent: bids 1 Spade
You: Pass
2nd Opponent: **2 Spades** (weak hand with spade support.)
Partner: **Pass**

1st Opponent: **Pass**
You: **Double** (OBAR takeout)

2nd Opponent: **Pass**

Opponents have shown a total of about half the HCPs and at least a an 8 card fit in Spades. We don't want to just let them play 2 Spades.

(pass says, "Partner, I don't have a single long suit to bid or the shape for a takeout double")

(Double says, "Partner, I have support in three suits, bid your preferred suit.")

SPECIALIZED BIDS AND RESPONSES CONTINUED

**OBAR Bidding
Continued**

Partner: **2 NT** (Scrambling - Pick your best, partner.)

1st Opponent: **Pass**

You: **3 Diamonds** (this is my longest suit, partner)

Lebensohl For No Trump Interference

Lebensohl may be used in several different situations

- A. After opponent's natural overcall of partner's 1nt opening
- B. After opponent's artificial overcall of partner's 1nt opening
- C. After opponent's three level overcall of partner's 1 NT opening
- D. After opponent's double of partner's 1 NT opening
- E. After opponents' 2-level preempt

This is a discussion of A through D above:

A. After opponents' natural overcall of partner's 1nt opening:

Opponent's Overcall is at the 2-level

1. Double is for Penalty – shows 6 + points and at least 4 cards in opponents bid suit.
2. A Two-Level suit bid is to play—it shows either a very weak (0 to 5 HCPs) hand and at least 5 card suit OR 6-9 HCP hand and no distribution for the penalty double..
3. 3. Three-Level suit bid is forcing to game – shows 10+ points and a good 5 card suit (six card if minor suit)
4. A TWO-NOTRUMP bid is artificial and made with 0 to 9 HCPs. It forces partner to bid three clubs. Responder's rebids over three clubs:
 - a. Pass with a weak hand and long clubs
 - b. Any suit bid below the rank of the overcall is a signoff.
 - c. Any suit bid above the rank of the enemy suit is invitational and shows 8-9 HCPs.
5. An IMMEDIATE cue-bid by responder is Western Q. It promises a stopper in the enemy suit and promises 10 + HCPs. The bid asks for second stopper.
6. A direct jump to Three No Trump over an enemy overcall DENIES a stopper in the enemy suit, but promises game points. Opener then:
 - a. passes with stoppers
 - b. explores for a better contract, if no stopper.
7. Two No Trump followed by three notrump shows two stoppers and asks opener to pass and play in three notrump.

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SPECIALIZED BIDS AND RESPONSES CONTINUED

Lebensohl For No Trump Interference Continued:

B. After Opponent's conventional Overcall of Partner's 1 No Trump Opening:

Opponent's Overcall is at the 2 level, shows two suits both of which are Identified (example: D.O.N.T. 2 Heart Bid)

Double is for Penalty – shows 8 + points and at least 4/3 in opponents bid suits.

All other bids same as in A above.....

Opponent's Overcall is at the 2 level, shows two suits identifying two suits, but neither is the one bid (example: Landy 2 Club Bid)

Double is for Penalty – shows 8 + points and at least 4/2 in opponents bid suits. (partner will continue the double with sufficient length after the next bid)

All other bids same as in A above.....

Opponent's Overcall is at the 2 level, shows two suits but only one is identified- the bid suit (example: D.O.N.T 2 club Bid)

Double is for Penalty – shows 8 + points and at least 4 in opponents bid suit.

All other bids same as in A above.....

C. After Opponent's Overcall at the 3 Level Of Partner's 1 NT open:

1. A bid below game is forcing to game or penalty double
2. A double is NEGATIVE. Opener must rebid unless he chooses to convert the double into penalty.

D. After opponent Doubles Partner's 1Nt open:

1. Redouble with 12 + HCPS...forcing
2. Pass with **0-11 HCPS ---See SOS Redouble below**

Note 1: Game bids are signoffs

Note 2: Three no trump shows a stopper

Note 3: A cue- bid of a minor suit is either

- a. Stayman, or
- b. Slam interest (with or without a major). Subsequent bids will show which one.

Use Of SOS Redouble: Given ONLY the following Sequence: 1 NT by us..Double by opponent..Pass by Partner...Pass by second opponent -- Opener WILL ALWAYS REDOUBLE! -- Then Partner's bids are up the line to try to find a fit. (Partner and you will continue to bid four+ length suits until a fit is found.)

SPECIALIZED BIDS AND RESPONSES CONTINUED

Use of Lebensohl for Interference Bidding Over Opponents Open of A Weak Two Bid

The Lebensohl Convention is also used in defensive bidding following the Opponent's open of a Weak Two showing a 6 card suit and 5-11 HCPs.

Requirements for our Takeout Double in Direct Position:

- 14-16 HCPs and at least four cards in the unbid major (both majors if 2 Diamonds was bid) **Or**
- 17 + HCPs and any distribution (other than the distribution for a notrump overcall)

Requirements for our Takeout Double in the Balance Position:

- 12-15 HCPs and at least four cards in the unbid major (both majors if 2 Diamonds was bid) **Or**
- 16 + HCPs and any distribution

Responsibility of Responder:

First) Classify your hand as one of the following:

- Weak (about 0-7 points)and excellent support in Partner's major
- Weak (about 0-7 points)and a 5+ card side suit
- Weak but with major length (usually 5+ to an honor) in Opponents's bid suit
- Competitive (about 8-11 points) and no strong support for Partner's major(s)
- Game going (12+ points)

Second) Now, Bid One of the Following:

- 2 Spades** -- This bid is made on a **bust** hand if the open was 2 Hearts by Opponent -- Special Bid
- 2, 3, or 4 of Second Major** --These are all weak bids, based on the length of the suit -- They are LAW bids. (assume Partner holds four cards.)
- 3 Bid of a Minor** --Competitive Hand (8-11 points)and a five card suit
- Pass** -- Penalty pass based on the excellent holding of opponents's suit
- 2 Notrump --All Other Hands!** This response will be made with all game going hands and some of the weak hands. It asks Partner to automatically bid three clubs with the 14-16 HCP double.

After the 2 NT - 3 Club Relay, Partner will do one of the following:

- (1) Set the contract with a weak hand...takeout doubler wil pass.
- (2) Show the game going hand by either bidding game in a major, Q bidding to ask for stopper, or bidding 3 Notrump directly with stopper (must have 11/2 stoppers)

With the big takeout Double (17+ HCPs), Doubler **will not bid 3 Clubs!** Instead, Doubler will do one of the following:

- (1) Bid 3 Notrump to show a stopper in Opponent's suit
- (2) Q bid to ask for a stopper in opponent's suit
- (3) bid another suit at the three level. This bid is only invitational to game. Because Partner's 2 Notrump could have been made on a very weak hand.

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SPECIALIZED BIDS AND RESPONSES CONTINUED

**After Opponents Interference With One Of the
Conventional Two Bids**

The reason for the Conventional Two Opens is two-fold. First, the two opens provide a way to deal with multiple types of hands in an effective offensive way. Second, because the bidding sequences are begun at at least the 2 diamond level the opponents are at a distinct disadvantage in having to start this high....Therefore they are apt to get in trouble in a big way in a hurry! Therefore, we will replace most of our forcing 2 notrump responses with a double. Redoubles will also be used, should an opponent double for takeout..

A. After opponent's overcall of partner's 2 Diamond opening Action To Be Taken

<u>Opponents Bid</u>	<u>Meaning of Opponents Bid</u>	
2Hearts/Spades 3 clubs	natural overcall	Double would be for penalty with length in opponents suit. Otherwise , a Q bid would game force
double	to show diamonds	All responses remain the same as if no interference
double	to show strength	Redouble for game force, otherwise all responses remain the same as if no interference

B. After opponent's overcall of partner's 2 Club opening: Action To Be Taken

<u>Opponents Bid</u>	<u>Meaning of Opponents Bid</u>	
Any two level bid	natural overcall	double is for penalty with length in opponent's suit Pass shows 0 controls; and bids up the line to show number of controls.... Example: 2 Clubs by Partner....2 Hearts by Opponent...3 Clubs would show two controls...

Bidding over Opponent's Flannery 2 Diamond Open

Opponent's Open shows 5 Hearts, 4 Spades and 11 to 15 points. The following Comments

<u>Overcall</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	
Pass	Either weak or stack in a major	With the stack, it is best to be quiet and see what develops
Double	11 - 15 HCPs and both minors	
2 Hearts	16 + HCPs and both minors	the bidder is looking for a heart stopper from partner, Partner will bid 2 or three No Trump with stopper
2 Spades	19 + HCPs and spade stopper	Partner must look to the minors before bidding game in notrump.....
2 No Trump	16-18 HCPs & stoppers in both Majors	
3 C/D	11 + HCPs and the suit bid	This is a Gambling type 3 notrump with a solid minor
3 No Trump	To PLAY	

Bidding over Opponent's Multi 2 Diamond Open

Opponent's Open will usually show three different types of hands: a weak six card major; a short minor such as 4/1/4/4 dist.; or a strong 22 + HCP Notrump hand.

Requirements for Direct Seat:

- Double -- 13-16 HCPs and a balanced hand (If followed by a 2 Notrump rebid, it shows 20-22 HCPs)
- 2 Hearts/ 2 Spades --The major bid and a minor (at least 5 of the major 4 of the minor)
- 2 No Trump -- 17-19 HCPs and a balanced hand
- 3 Clubs/Diamonds -- natural suit and nonforcing
- 3 Hearts/Spades -- 5 card suit and 14+ HCPs or 6 card suit and 12+ HCPs

Requirements for Fourth Seat -- Bidding has gone: 2 Diamonds - P - 2 H/S - ? :

- Double --Holding Opponent's bid suit and 12+ HCPs
- 2 NT -- 17-19 HCPs
- 3 Clubs -- Takeout holding shortness in the opponents' suit
- 2 Spades -- Natural Spade bid

Requirements for Sixth Seat:

- Double -- Penalty
- 3 C/D --Clubs/Diamonds and the other major with Good Hand (5 of the minor and four of the major)
- 2 NT -- Both Minors and a good hand

Note: Bidding continuations are given in separate sheet

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SPECIALIZED BIDS AND RESPONSES CONTINUED

Bidding over Opponent's Bergen Responses

Over Forcing Notrump

We do not bid either D.O.N.T or Capiletti over the forcing No Trump response. All overcalls are natural.

Over 3 Clubs

Double shows the other major and Diamonds (at least five in the major and four in diamonds) and 11 + points

all other bids Natural

Over 3 Diamonds

Double shows strong Diamonds -- Is lead directive

all other bids Natural

SAMPLE CONVENTION CARD FOR DSA

System: Disciplined Standard American

Opens

1 of a major shows five plus cards

1 of a minor is in the longer minor

1 NT =15-17 HCPs and NT distribution;

Flannery 2 Diamonds showing 5 Hearts/4 Spades and 11-15 HCPs;

Weak Two Hearts/ Spades (constructive);

Transfer Preempts (including NAMYATS) at the three and four levels;

2 Notrump open= 20-21 HCPs;

2 club open = 1 trick short of game

Responses

Over 1 notrump: nonforcing stayman, Jacoby transfers; minor suit stayman; Smolen

Over 1 of a major: Bergen Bids; splinters; Jacoby 2 Notrump; Forcing 1 NT

Over 1 of a minor: Inverted responses

Over 2 Clubs: Control showing bids

Over 2 Diamonds: 2 Notrump asks for the long minor suit

Over 2 Diamonds Flannery: 2 NT is forcing and asking for more information

Over Weak Two Opens: RONF

Competitive Bidding

Negative doubles thru three spades, asking only for partner to bid second suit; Responsive doubles thru three spades;

Full Michaels; Full Unusual NT for lower two unbid suits;

D.O.N.T over opps' strong 1 NT opens and natural notrump responses;

Modified Cappeletti over weak notrump opens;

Redoubles are point showing only (10 + by responder);

Lebensohl over notrump interference and over weak two opens by opponents;

O.B.A.R.;

Western Q bids;

Q bids of opponents' conventional bids are natural and doubles are lead directive

Slam Bidding

Roman Blackwood (03/14);

Roman Gerber (03/14);

GSF;

Extensive use of Q bids

Leads & Discards

Standard leads (K from Ace King x) and signals but use

Lavinthal suit preference signals on first discard at notrump