

Negative Doubles

Opener They Responder
 1 suit (Suit Overcall) **Db1**

Double is "Takeout" – with enough points to respond.

A negative double is ONLY done by the responder. It is a type of takeout double.

SOUTH

♠ 75

♥ KQ72

♦ 865

♣ K532

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	??

W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	X

Double. Negative doubles focus on the other major, and here you have four hearts and enough to respond.

Negative Doubles

Opener They Responder
 1 suit (Suit Overcall) **Db1**

How many points?

To double, you have to be comfortable forcing your partner to the next level. A double on the one level can just be a responsive hand (6+ points). Doubling on higher levels requires more.

SOUTH

♠ 75

♥ KQ72

♦ 865

♣ K532

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	?
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	X

We make a negative double after a the 1S overcall here. This is enough to force to the two level.

SOUTH

♠75

♥KQ72

♦865

♣Q532

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	2♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	2♠	P

The same hand, but now we'd force partner to the 3-level. We don't have enough for that.

SOUTH

♠75

♥KQ72

♦J653

♣A53

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	2♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	2♠	X

Double. This is what you need for a negative double of 2S.

Negative X

Opener They Responder
 1 suit (Suit Overcall) **Db1**

How many points?

1-level : approx. 6+

2+level : approx. 10+

The more shape you have, the less you can have in high card points. Having a second place to play is helpful (either in opener's suit or the other minor).

SOUTH

♠A5

♥KQ72

♦Q65

♣K532

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	X

Double. Double is unlimited and forcing.

SOUTH

♠ **A5**

♥ **KQJ2**

♦ **AQ5**

♣ **K532**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	X

Double. Sure, you have a bajillion points, but you can still start with a double to find your fit.

SOUTH

♠ **53**

♥ **KQJ2**

♦ **AK5**

♣ **A532**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	2♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	2♠	X

Double. This time, you have plenty to double and force your side to the 3-level. You are going to force your side to game.

Negative Doubles

Opener They Responder
 1 suit (Suit Overcall) **Db1**

On What Level?

You need to agree how high double is takeout. We like it to be infinite.

SOUTH

♠ 53

♥ KQJ2

♦ AK5

♣ A532

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	3♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	3♠	X

Double. Double here is still takeout, though once you get to this high a level, you might not have perfect shape.

SOUTH

♠ 53

♥ KQJ2

♦ AK5

♣ A532

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	4♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	4♠	X

This Double is NOT penalties. That said, partner can choose to pass with nothing special

SOUTH

♠ A53

♥ AJ2

♦ A52

♣ J532

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	4♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	4♠	X

Double is still takeoutish. You are telling partner you have enough points to compete at this level.

SOUTH

♠ **KJ109**

♥ **A32**

♦ **542**

♣ **532**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	4♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	4♠	P!

Pass. You don't think they are making 4S, but you can't double for penalties because your double is takeout.

Negative Doubles

Opener They Responder
 1 suit (Suit Overcall) **Db1**

What does it show in the
unbid suits?

Negative Doubles

<u>Opener</u>	<u>They</u>	<u>Responder</u>
1 suit	(Suit Overcall)	Db1

In general, the focus is on the
OTHER MAJOR

Negative Doubles

<u>Opener</u>	<u>They</u>	<u>Responder</u>
1 suit	(Suit Overcall)	Db1

There are 2
“special” auctions

First Special Auction:

W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♥	X
		or	
	1♦	1♥	X

EXACTLY
FOUR SPADES

With either of these auctions, double is exactly four spades. Bidding 1S promises 5+spades.

SOUTH
♠ **AQ32**

♥ ?

♦ ?

♣ ?

Nobody Vulnerable

W	N	E	S
	1m	1♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1m	1♥	X

Note, that we don't need any more than the points we already have to bid at this vulnerability.

SOUTH

♠AQ432

♥?

♦?

♣?

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1m	1♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1m	1♥	1♠

With 5+ spades, you must bid 1S and now partner can raise with three of them.

**Second
Special
Auction:**

W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	X
<u>Guarantees</u>			
4-4 (+) MAJ			

This is the only auction where double guarantees both majors.

SOUTH

♠ **AQ43**

♥ **QJ75**

♦ **?**

♣ **?**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	??
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	X

Double. You have four cards in each major.

SOUTH

♠ **AQ43**

♥ **QJ752**

♦ **?**

♣ **?**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	??
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	X

Double. You want to find the major fit, and you should bring both of them into play.

SOUTH

♠ **AQ4**

♥ **QJ75**

♦ **?**

♣ **?**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	??
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	1♥

You can show a four-card major by bidding it over a 1D overcall. You cannot double without both majors.

General

Other

Auctions:

W	N	E	S
	1?	Any	X
“Takeout”			

Excepting notrump bids, 1Suit- any (suit)-double is takeout

**General
Other
Auctions:**

**Usually, the focus
is on the unbid
Major(s).**

**General
Other
Auctions:**

**Some hands will
be difficult. Do the
best you can.**

Double is a bid that we often forget, but if you want to do SOMETHING, double is often right.

SOUTH
 ♠ **AJ543**
 ♥ **Q3**
 ♦ **J76**
 ♣ **AQ5**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	1♠

1S promises 5 spades and is forcing. You will get to game eventually.

SOUTH
 ♠ **KJ87**
 ♥ **9843**
 ♦ **87**
 ♣ **A32**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	X

Double shows exactly four spades and 6+ points.

SOUTH

♠ **Q54**

♥ **84**

♦ **AJ762**

♣ **873**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1 ♦	1 ♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1 ♦	1 ♥	2 ♦

You should raise with 5 diamonds and no major.

SOUTH

♠ **J865**

♥ **4**

♦ **AQ762**

♣ **AQ8**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1 ♦	1 ♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1 ♦	1 ♥	X

Double. You want to mention your four spades. You will force to game eventually.

SOUTH

♠ **A5**

♥ **KJ9843**

♦ **A**

♣ **Q432**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	P

Pass and hope partner can balance with a double. This is called a “penalty Pass”

SOUTH

♠ **K54**

♥ **A1042**

♦ **A4**

♣ **QJ62**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	3NT

You know what game you likely belong in. Nothing else accurately describes your hand.

SOUTH

♠ A5432

♥ K84

♦ 2

♣ 8732

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	1♠

1S promises five spades and 6+ points. You've got that.

SOUTH

♠ AQJ3

♥ AK

♦ A54

♣ A983

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♥	X

Double shows 4 spades and 6+ points. That + is very important as you may have a hand like this.

SOUTH
 ♠ **AKQ4**
 ♥ **Q752**
 ♦ **J42**
 ♣ **65**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	??
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	X

Double here guarantees 4-4 in the majors. You have extra values, but can show that later.

SOUTH
 ♠ **AQJ4**
 ♥ **J4**
 ♦ **8754**
 ♣ **732**

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	??
W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	1♠

With only one four-card major you should bid it when the opponents overcall 1D.

SOUTH

♠ 764

♥ A8742

♦ Q842

♣ 4

Nobody Vulnerable			
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	??
W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	X

Double. You can have 5 hearts if you don't have enough points to bid 2H (10+).

What's Next?

June 19: Decisions in Competitive Auctions

June 26: Stayman and Beyond

**July 10: Takeout doubles, Responses to Takeout
Doubles, and the "Big Double"**

July 17: Keycard Blackwood and followups

July 24: New Minor Forcing