

Texas Transfer

Texas Transfers are used to bid game in a major suit after partner opens 1N or 2N and responder has 6+ cards in a major. 1N (or 2N)-4D is a transfer to 4H. 1N (or 2N) -4H is a transfer to 4S.

If a pair plays both Jacoby Transfers and Texas Transfers, they can better distinguish between hands in which responder has no slam interest, mild slam interest, or definite slam interest.

When responder has no slam interest, responder uses Texas Transfer and passes partner's bid of the suit. For example, after partner's 1N, responder would bid 4D with A2/K108754/J103/75. After 2N by partner, responder would bid 4S with J97653/54/Q8/K52.

When responder has mild slam interest, responder makes a Jacoby Transfer bid first and then raises to game. For example, after 1N by partner, responder with KQ10843/K52/KQ4/54 would start with 2H and raise 2S to 4S. With a plethora of aces and kings plus decent trump support (e.g., J952/A87/A2/AK86), opener can use Key-Card, make a cue bid, or jump to 6. With fewer controls (e.g., AJ5/QJ8/QJ7/KQJ2) or poor trumps (e.g., 62/AQ3/ AJ87/AQ96), opener should pass.

When responder has definite slam interest, responder may bid a new suit after opener accepts the transfer and continue with forcing bids to clarify his interest, or responder can make a Texas Transfer bid and continue bidding (with Key-Card or a cue bid) after opener accepts the transfer.

The convention can be played over interference through 4C. If the opponents bid 4D over 1N, now the convention must be "off" and the major suit bids must be natural. Otherwise, what would responder do with A2/QJ10987/Q4/532? Some partnerships choose a different cut-off for when the convention is "on" or "off". Make sure you and partner are in agreement.