

The objective of bridge?

Maximising our IMP expectancy

Which contracts do we want to play in?

Good contracts

- Game
- Two below game
- Slams

Bad contracts

- One below game
- 5-level
- Saves

IMP expectancy for declarer

- All contracts +0.05
- 1m +0.29 1M +0.03 1NT +0.44
- 2m +0.06 2M +0.27 2NT -0.88
- 3m -0.21 3M -0.39 3NT +0.4
- 4m -0.56 4M +0.36 4NT -1.84
- 5m -0.29 5M -1.37 5NT -2.44
- Small Slam +1.27 Grand Slam +2.26
- Doubled -2.23 Redoubled +0.12

• Special thanks to Matthew McManus for providing the statistics for this slide (from Butler, Playoff and Gold Coast Teams)

What can we do about it?

- Avoid invites that will leave us playing one below game – take a view bid game or don't
- Avoid pushing to the five-level make your slam tries below game where possible
- Play 1C-1NT as invitational
- Play Transfer X-Y-Z

Transfer X-Y-Z

- Applies any time we start with three bids at the one-level
- 2♣ – Puppet to 2♦, to play 2♦ or hcp invite in any suit
- 2♦ – Transfer to Hearts, weak or GF
- 2♥ – Transfer to Spades, weak or GF
- 2♠ – Transfer to Clubs, weak or GF
- 2NT – Transfer to Diamonds, ALWAYS GF
- 3X – Shapely invite (not NT suitable)

1♦-1♥-1♠-?

♠ AQT7

♥ KJ85
KQJ753

♦ 42

♣ J74

♠ 7

♥ Q876

♦ 5

♣ QJT9876

♠ 53

♥ A753

♦ Q963

♣ 974

♠ QJ87

♥ AKQJ853

♦ Void

♣ K2

♠ 5

♥ AKQ97532

♦ K2

♣ QT

♠ QT52

♥ A832

♦ 7

♣ J543

♠ 6



♦ KJ83

♣ A2

♠ Q6

♥ AJ97532

♦ 76

♣ Q2

Transfer XYZ

- Can be used in any auction which starts with three actions at the one level (including interference auctions – DISCUSS with your partner when it will apply)
- If playing transfers over 1C then it may not make sense to play it after 1C-1S-1NT

- 2♣ Puppet to 2♦; either to play in 2♦ or to make hcp invite
- 2♦ Transfer to ♥; (weak or bid again = GF, jump = shortage)
- 2♥ transfer to ♠ (as for 2♦)
- 2♠ transfer to ♣ (weak or GF)
- 2NT transfer to ♦ (GF as weak would go through 2♣ puppet)
- 3X shapely (not NT suitable) invitational

Other considerations

- Don't accept a weak or GF transfer with significant extras.
- Over the minor suit transfers opener can bid the intervening step, we play this as denying a fit for the minor and bidding the minor shows a fit.
- After the 2♣ puppet a rebid of 3M can be used for another hand type, we use it as a puppet to 3NT so that you can choose who declares this contract.