

OPENING BIDS SYSTEM		In Partners Suit	
Suit	Lead	3rd&5th	3rd&5th
NT	4th, 2nd from bad suits		
Subseq	4th, 2nd from bad suits		
Other: Ace asks for attitude, K for count/unblock			
RHO			
VS. NT			
Lead	Ax(+)	Ax(+)	Ax(+)
Ace	Ax(+)	Ax(+)	Ax(+)
King	KQ(+)	KQ(+)	KQ(+)
Queen	KQ(+)	KQ(+)	KQ(+)
Jack	QJ(+)	QJ(+)	QJ(+)
10	J10(+)	HJ10(+)	HJ10(+)
9	109(+)	H109(+)	H109(+)
Hi-x	xSxx xSx	xSxx xSx	xSxx xSx
Lo-x	Hxx Hxs	Hxx Hxs	Hxx Hxs
SIGNALS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY			
Suit: 1st	Hi=DISCRG	Hi/lo=E	Discarding
2nd	Hi/lo=E	S/P	Hi/lo=E
3rd	S/P		E=ENCRG
NT: 1st	Hi=DISCRG	Hi/lo=E	Hi/lo=E
2nd	Hi/lo=E	S/P	E=ENCRG
3rd			
Signals (including Trumps): SMITH SIGNAL vs NT			
REMAINDER COUNT=STND			
S/P in Trump suit,			
DOUBLES			
TAKEOUT DOUBLES (S/W) Responses (Reopening)			
May be light (10+) with classic shape			
CUE-BID promises rebid.			
After RESP DBL of M:2NT SCRAMBLE			
Lebensohl in responsive double position			
SPECIAL ARTIFICIAL AND COMPETITIVE DOUBLES			
NEG DBL THRU 4 ♠			
RESP DBL thru: 4 ♠			
SUPP DBL THRU 2 ♠			
Most low-level DBLs=10			
ANTI LD DBL			
Game try dble when no space otherwise Comp or responsive when we have agreed a suit and opp bids unsupported then double is penalty			
SPECIAL TAKEOUT DOUBLES			
1♠ Op 2NT = 5/5 m, Rable = 12+ hcp			
3♠ = 10+ then subsequent dbles T/O F to PEN or 2NT			
After 1M; Transfers. TRFS to M = 3 card support limit +, 2NT = 4 supp limit +			
raises PRE but remain inverted after 1 ♠ OP			

usually 5 cards  
 w suit=F1  
 CB usually promises 3 card support  
 ter M overcalls: jump fits and 2NT=4+ support  
 imp Raises Preemptive

VS. NT  
 Lead Vs. Suit  
 Ace AKx(+)

1NT Openings: 14-16  
 2 OVER 1 Responses Artificial after 1M opening  
 SPECIAL BIDS THAT MAY REQUIRE DEFENCE  
 2♥ opening = 44/14 or 44/0/5 11-16  
 Weak jumps in response to 1 level opening  
 2 level responses over 1 Major opening are artificial  
 2NT not natural in competitive auctions  
 2♠ opening is weak with ♠ or ♣ or 20-22 balanced  
 2♣ opening is weak with ♠ and another  
 Transfers when opps double or overcall at the one level

IMPORTANT NOTES THAT GO ON ELSEWHERE  
 TEND TO PASS COMP DBL AT 3+ LEVEL WHEN BAL ESP. WHEN WE OPEN 1♠  
 2NT almost never natural in competitive auctions  
 Psychics: Seldom

Opening	Artificial	Min.	Neg Dble thnt	Description	Responses	Subsequent Auction	Passed Hand Bidding
1♣	Yes	0	3♣	11-13 BAL or any 17+ (note 1)	1♠=0-7 or GF, 1NT=8-11, 2NT=12/13, 3NT=14-18, 4NT=19-22, 5NT=23-26, 6NT=27-30, 7NT=31-34, 8NT=35-38, 9NT=39-42, 10NT=43-46, 11NT=47-50, 12NT=51-54, 13NT=55-58, 14NT=59-62, 15NT=63-66, 16NT=67-70, 17NT=71-74, 18NT=75-78, 19NT=79-82, 20NT=83-86, 21NT=87-90, 22NT=91-94, 23NT=95-98, 24NT=99-102, 25NT=103-106, 26NT=107-110, 27NT=111-114, 28NT=115-118, 29NT=119-122, 30NT=123-126, 31NT=127-130, 32NT=131-134, 33NT=135-138, 34NT=139-142, 35NT=143-146, 36NT=147-150, 37NT=151-154, 38NT=155-158, 39NT=159-162, 40NT=163-166, 41NT=167-170, 42NT=171-174, 43NT=175-178, 44NT=179-182, 45NT=183-186, 46NT=187-190, 47NT=191-194, 48NT=195-198, 49NT=199-202, 50NT=203-206, 51NT=207-210, 52NT=211-214, 53NT=215-218, 54NT=219-222, 55NT=223-226, 56NT=227-230, 57NT=231-234, 58NT=235-238, 59NT=239-242, 60NT=243-246, 61NT=247-250, 62NT=251-254, 63NT=255-258, 64NT=259-262, 65NT=263-266, 66NT=267-270, 67NT=271-274, 68NT=275-278, 69NT=279-282, 70NT=283-286, 71NT=287-290, 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792NT=3171-3174, 793NT=3175-3178, 794NT=3179-3182, 795NT=3183-3186, 796NT=3187-3190, 797NT=3191-3194, 798NT=3195-3198, 799NT=3199-3202, 800NT=3203-3206, 801NT=3207-3210, 802NT=3211-3214, 803NT=3215-3218, 80		

## Note 1-The 1♣ Opening

11(10+)-13 HCP balanced or 17+ any (not 20-22 balanced)

### Responses

1♦ = 0-7 or GF without a M (19+ if balanced, 14+ if 1 suiter minor or both minors)

1♥/♠ = 8+ natural may have longer minor

1NT = 8-11(12)

2NT = 12-13

3NT = 14-18

2♣/♦ = natural 5+ suit about 8-13 HCP, no Major. (With upper range and 5-3-3-2 type hand bid NT instead to avoid missing games)

2♥/♠ = 6 card suit about 6-10

3♣/♦ = natural inv. to 3NT opposite mini opener

3♥/♠ = Pre-emptive

4♣/♦/♥/♠ as per opening bids

### 1♣-1♦ Auctions

- 1♥/♠ = 10-13 3+ cards or 17+ (may only be 4 cards if longer minor)
- 1NT = 17-19 balanced
- 2♣/♦ = natural 17+ NF, never a major (about 17-21 HCP)
- 2♥/♠ = Nat GF (maybe only 4 Major if longer minor, not 4-6 except ♥-♦)
- 2NT = 23-24 balanced
- 3♣/♦ = Nat GF no 4 major except if 4-6 but not ♦-♥ (next suit is relay to ask if 2<sup>nd</sup> suit)
- 3♥/♠ 4♣/♦ = Sets suit and asks controls (1 step=0, 2 step = 1, 3 step = K/K, 4 step= Ace)
- 3NT = 25+ balanced

### 1♣-1M auctions

- 1♠ = 4 spades or 3 spades with 2 hearts 10-13 or 17+ exactly 5 spades  
Then 2♣ = Ask. 3♣/♦ are canape GF. 1 NT, 2♦ (canape), 2♥ (5 cards not suitable for NT) are sign offs, 3M invitational
- 1NT = 10-13  
Then 1NT is sign off, 2♣ artificial ask, 2♦ = canape sign off, 2 bid M is sign off 5 cards but unsuitable for NT. 3♣/♦ = canape game forcing. 3♥/♠ are natural and invitational

**GO via 2♣ to invite with 5 card major/ 4 other Major or Game Force with 4 card minor/6 card Major only shows a new minor when he has extra values or is happy to go above 3NT**

### 1♣-1NT Auctions

2♣/♦ = Singleton in bid suit 4/4/4/1 shape

2M natural

3 level bids show semisolid or better suit asking cue bid

2NT is bid to ask responder re minors. Responder bids lowest minor or 3NT with a rubbish hand.

### 1♣-2♣/♦ Auctions

Strong hand bids naturally except 2NT which Asks. This is what we usually bid with a fit or with a balanced hand.

1♣-2♣/♦

2NT

---Now 3NT is a balanced minimum, 3 minor is 6 card suit (may have M splinter if minimum), 3 other minor natural, 3 M 6 card suit splinter in bid suit and upper range.

With the weak hand you can pass or raise. Raise to 3♣/♦ is upper range (12-13) invitational to 3NT.

## Note 2 : 1♦-1M auctions.

1NT = 11-16 unbalanced

2♣ is an ask

-2♦ = 11-12

--2X = TG

--2NT = sign off

--3X = FG

-2M = 13-14 6 diamonds and 2 cards in M

-2OM = 13-14 4 cards (obviously this suit could not be bid at the 2 level)

--2NT and raise are TG others FG

-2NT = 15-16

--all continuations are GF

-3♣/♦ = 13-14 5 cards suit.

2NT invitational about 12 HCP

2♣/3♣ = canape

2M = possible 6/3, 5/4 or 4/4 shape with singleton.

3♦ by responder is now F1. Opener should bid naturally showing shape.

2NT = diamonds or diamonds + 4 card M support.

Subsequent bidding as per 1♥-1♠-2NT

3♦ = 6 diamonds/3 M

3M = no Qsp

3NT = 6 diamonds/3M stronger hand than 3♦ bid

4♦ = 7 diamonds 3 M

## Note 3: 1♥/1♠ OPENING

### Responses to 1♥Opening

- 1♠ = natural 5+ HCP
- 1N = 6-12 semi forcing i.e. pass with 11-13 Bal only
- 2♣ = Artificial GF, not 3 or 4 card ♥ support, not 4 +♠ over unless longer m
- 2♦ = 3 card ♥ support 10-12 or 13+ GF 3 card support
- 2♥ = 5-9 3 card ♥ support
- 2♠ = 4-7 6 card suit
- 2NT = 13 + GF with 4 card support, may have Qsp but not Qvoid
- 3♣ = 10-12 4 card ♥ support
- 3♦ = 7-9 4 card support
- 3♥ = Pre-emptive, 3-6 HCP
- 3♠ = any void, Assume 10-13 (stronger if bids again after signoff), 3 NT asks void
- 3N = Qsp in ♠, 10-13 HCP, usually 4 card support
- 4♣ = Qsp, 10-13 usually 4 card support
- 4♦ = Qsp, 10-13 usually 4 card support
- 4♥ = pre-emptive
- 4♠/5♣/5♦ = ERKB

1♥-1♠

- 2NT = 14-16 long ♥ or 5+♥ +4♠ with Qsp or Q void with hand not good enough to commit to game
  - 3♣ = strong relay,
  - 3 opened M /3NT= long ♥, others = ♥+♠, with Qsp. (note 3 other M = Qsp in clubs),
  - 4♣/♦ = Q void
  - 3♥ = weak for pass/correction, 3♠ = GF

1♥-2♣ Auctions:

13+ GF

- (a) Balanced
- (b)♠ (+/- Shorter ♠)
- (c)♦ (+/- shorter ♠)
- (d) both minors

- 2♦ = 11-13 Balanced or 5+♥ with 4+♣/4+♦
- 2♥ = 6+ Nat 10-16
- 2♠ = 5+ / 4+♠ 10-16
  - 2nt = flannery ask, other natural. 3♣/♦ = 6 card suit.
- 2NT = any 5/4/4/0
  - 3♣ = void ask, then next bid sets suit
- 3♣/♦ = 5+/5+ 14-16
- 3♥ = SEMISOLID+
- 3♠ = 5+/5+ 14-16

1♥-2♦ Auctions:

10-12(13), 3 card support OR (13) 14+ GF 3 card support

- 2♥ = 11-13 Balanced or 10-11 any
- 2♠ = GF 14+ (bid 2♠ with all 14+)
- 2NT = TG no shortage maybe 6-3-2-2 or such like hand.
- 3♣/♦/♥ = Qsp TG usually good 12 + singleton in ♣/♦/♠
- 3♠/4/♣/♦ = Qvoid 10-13
- 3♦ = 14-16 no splinter
  - 3♥/♠/NT = Qsp in ♣/♦/♠
  - 4x = cue no splinter
- 3♥/♠/NT = 14-16 Qsp in ♣/♦/♠
- 4X = void (note 4♥ = spade void)

1♥-3♣ Auctions:

- 3♦ = Ask, then 3♥/4♥ = min/max
- 3/4x = Qsp TS

1♥-3♦ Auctions:

- 3/4x = Qvoid TS

## Note 4

### Responses to 1♠ Opening

1NT	= 7-12
2♣	= Artificial GF (not 3/4 ♠ support, not 5+♥)
2♦	= 5+ ♥ TG(10-12) OR 5+♥ GF (13+)
2♥	= 3 card ♠ support 10-12 OR 13+ GF with 3 card support
2♠	= 5-9 3 card ♠ support
2NT	= 13+ GF 4 card ♠ support
3♣	= 10-12 4 card ♠ support
3♦	= 7-9 4 card ♠ support
3♥	= Any void, 10-13, 3♣ asks void
3♠	= Pre raise 3-6
3NT	= Void 14+, 4♣ asks void
4♣/♦/♥	= Qsp 10-13
4♠	= Pre raise

#### 1♠-2♦ Auctions:

(a) (9)10-12 5+♥ TG

(b) 13+ 5+♥ GF

- 2♥ = 10-13 No fit, no 6♠, can pass or bid 2♠ to play with 10-12 hand
- 2♠ = 6+ ♠ 10-13. All continuations GF except 3♠
- 3♣/♦ = 14-16 Nat
- 3♥ = 10-13, 3card support or 4 card support 10-11 (if 4 support 5-4-2-2)
- 
- 3♠ = 14-16 6+ ♠
- 4♣/♦ = 10-13 Qsp with 4 card support
- 4♥ = 12-13 4 card support no Q

## Note 5

### The 1NT Opening

14-16 HCP (may have 5M, 6m or 5/4 in minors)

- ♦ 3♣ = 5+ clubs and 4+ diamonds GF
- 
- 3♦ = 5+♦/4 ♣ GF
- 3♥ = Slam try. Not solid with at least A or semisolid with outside A and K(A)
- 3♠ = Slam try as above
- 4♣ = Gerber
- 4♦/♥ = TRFS ; subsequent 4NT is RKCB, subsequent new suit is exclusion RKC
- 4♠ = 4/4 minors quantitative

## Note 6 : 2♣ Openings

**2 Club Opening: 11-16 6+♣ or 5+♣ with 4 Major (open 1M with 5M/6♣) Denies 4♦**

### Responses

- 2♦ = Ask . (Forcing to 3♣)
- 2♥/♠ = Natural F to 3♣
- 2NT = Natural INV F1 or GF with ♣
- Raises Pre emptive
- 3♦/♥/♠ natural 1 suiter GF
- 3NT to play
- 4♦/♥/♠ = EKCB

### 2♣-2♦ Auctions

- 2♥/♠ = natural.
- 2NT = 6♣ 14-16
- 3♣ = 6♣ 11=13
- 3♦/♥/♠ = splinter with 6 + clubs Max
- 3NT = max solid suit

### 2♣- 2♥ auctions

- 2♠ natural,
- Now 2NT is forcing ask

### 2♣-2♠ Auctions

*(Note: this is the tough auction. Over 3♣ responder can bid 3♥ GF to show 5*

*spades and 4 hearts)*

2NT = max 6 card clubs

3♣ = *minimum may have 4 hearts*

3♦ = maximum 5 clubs and 4 hearts

3♥ = maximum with 6 clubs and 4 hearts

3NT = max solid 6 + card suit

Jump new = splinter

4♣ = good suit and splinter

After 2NT/3♣, 3 diamonds is again for non stops. Diamonds and a Major 5+/5+ are shown by bidding 2M then 3♦ followed by 4♦

### 2♣-2NT Auctions

3♣ = minimum, then 3♦ asks non-stops as above. 3♥/♠ = cue TS then opener bids Qsp. If none 3NT.

3♦/♥/♠ = Qsp non minimum, then new = cue, 3NT to play

3NT = no splinter 14-16

## Note 7: 2♠- Spades and another suit 5+/5+.

May be 5♠ and 4 other if non-vulnerable

### Responses

- 2NT asks for 2<sup>nd</sup> suit. Then subsequent bids are natural game forcing
- 3♣ = Invitational if 2<sup>nd</sup> suit was hearts or otherwise to play in openers minor
- 3♦ = Invitational in spades
- 3♥ = Natural, constructive but non forcing
- 3♠/4♠ = Pre-emptive

## Note 8

2NT: 11-13 At least 5+♦ and 5+♣ or 14-16 5+♦ and 4+♣. Never 5/4/2/2  
(Often open 1♦ with 5/5 and lower range)

### Responses

- 3♣ = strong relay. Can pass 3♦ rebid otherwise GF
  - 3♦ = 6♦/4♣/2/1
  - 3♥/♠ = 3 cards in bid suit with 5/4/3/1 or 5/5/3/0 or 6/4/3/0
  - 3NT = 5/5/2/1
  - 4♣ = 6/5/1/1
  - 4♦ = 7/4
  - 4♥/♠ = 6/5 with void in bid suit.
- 3♦/4♣ to play
- 4♦ invitational
- 3M natural Forcing
- 4M to play
- 4NT RKCB in ♦

## Note 9

**Ghestem:** 5+/5+. weak or strong.

Cue=extremes, 2NT = lowest, 3♣=exclusions except 2♦ after 1♣ opening.

### Responses

Jumps are Pre-emptive. CUE = support for either suit at least invitational. 4<sup>th</sup> suit is natural and Forcing

## Note 10

**Defence to 1 NT Opening**(Also used after 1♣ opening, 1NT overcall and 2 passes)

- 2♣ = ♥ and another. If ♠ then longer spades
  - 2♥/4♥ to play with 4 support. 2♥ is rarely 3 card support with a singleton ♦
  - 2♦ = relay no 4♥. Now partner can pass, bid 2♥ with 5 or bid ♠/♣ naturally
  - 2♠ = natural non forcing but constructive.
  - 2NT strong relay without 4 hearts
  - 3♥ Invitational
- 2♦ = ♠ and another. If ♥ then longer hearts
  - 2♠/3♠/5♠ as above
  - 2♥=relay no 4 spades, developments as above
  - 2NT strong relay no 4 spades
- 2♥/♠ = Natural six card suit  
2NT is Ask (game try)
- 2NT is both minors 5+/5+
- 3X = Pre-emptive
- Double of weak NT is penalty.
- Double of 15+NT is one minor.
- Double of 15- NT is penalty  
After penalty double, pass is semi-forcing and we play Lebensohl to 2♠