



Lesson 56 Teacher's Notes

The Competitive Auction: Coping with Interference

Aims

- To develop awareness of the competitive auction
- To expand the use of the cuebid in their suit
- To introduce some new competitive bids: the *penalty redouble* and *2NT to show a sound raise* over a takeout double

Content

- 1) Expand the use of the *Unassuming Cuebid* to auctions where partner opens and they overcall. Jump raises become pre-emptive, based on distribution points rather than high cards. The cuebid is used to show a sound high card raise and defensive values.
- 2) Look at what happens when partner opens and they make a takeout double. There is no cuebid because they have not bid a suit. Yet we may want to make pre-emptive raises to make it harder for them to find a fit. We can redouble to show an all-round good hand, so we do not need a natural 2NT bid. We use 2NT to replace the cuebid: it shows a sound raise to the 3-level or higher.
- 3) Emphasise that the Rules for Competitive auctions are different from the Uncontested auction. When you raise partner in an Uncontested Auction *the more you have, the more you bid*. When you raise in a Competitive Auction *the higher you jump the more trump you hold*. Jump raises in a Competitive Auction are based on distribution and Fit Points, not high cards. Hands with lots of high cards use the cuebid to show a normal limit raise.