## SYSTEMS \& CONVENTIONS

SYSTEMS, OVERCALLS, LEADS, SIGNALS, DISCARDS

## Systems

- "Weak NT \& Reverse Benjis"

1NT opener = balanced 12-14 hcp.

1 of suit opener $=11+$ hcp, no more than 7 losers, and a rebid (MUST HAVE ALL 3); May be light (Rule of 20)

1NT rebid after 1 on $1=15-17$ hcp
2 NT rebid after 2 on $1=15-19$ hcp

2NT rebid after 1 on $1=18-19$ hcp
2 NT opener $=20-21$ hcp. Can open with a singleton but has to be A or K .

2D opener $=18+$ hcp, 6 card 1 loser suit, 2 outside defensive tricks. No more than 5 losers

2 H response $=$ waiting, denies biddable 5 card suit.
$2 \mathrm{NT} / 2 \mathrm{Sp} / 3 \mathrm{Cl} / 3 \mathrm{D}=5$ card suit; any A or K, or 2 KQs , or 3 Ks ; suit headed by $A$ or $K$ from any of these combinations

2NT rebid = balanced 22-23 hcp
2 Cl opener $=20+$ hcp, 4/3 loser hand, unspecified 5 card suit.
2 H response - weak, $0-4 \mathrm{hcp}$, no A
2D response - weak(ish)/waiting, at least 5+hcp or an A
2NT rebid $=24-26 \mathrm{hcp}$
3NT rebid $=27+\mathrm{hcp}$
2 Cl opened and overcalled

$$
\text { PASS }=2 \mathrm{H} \text { relay }(\text { weak, 0-4 hcp, no } A)
$$

$$
\text { DBLE }=2 \mathrm{D} \text { relay }(\text { weak(ish), } 5 \text { hcp OR A }
$$

Overcalls

- 5+ card suit with honours that partner can lead up to
- jump overcalls are always WEAK
- suit raises after overcalls are WEAK to level of FIT
- cue bids after overcalls show FIT and values for GAME
- overcalls at 2 level show OPENING VALUES
- DOUBLEs after overcalls are for TAKEOUT or to show a very strong hand. Partner MUST bid on except after 1NT which is for penalties

Honour Leads

- Honour - vs NT, 3 card sequence, solid or broken)
- vs suit, 2 touching face cards
- Ace. - Promises K (unless from shortage vs suit; or 6+ vs NT)
- vs NT, not A from short suit
- vs suit, NEVER underlead A
- vs NT, OK to underlead if no sequence (lead 4th best)
- partner MUST give ATTITUDE
- King - MUST be from 5+ and strong sequence
- K lead does not deny A
- vs NT, instructs parties to UNBLOCK any honour
- vs suit, partner MUST give COUNT
- Queen - from a sequence, promising K and/or J
- partner gives ATTITUDE
- Jack - denies a higher honour; may be from a sequence; will have 10 unless singleton or doubleton
- partner to win trick with A or K; otherwise MUST give COUNT
- 10 - with $1 / 2$ higher cards (strong 10s); or 10 x; 10 bare

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No Honour Leads - "2nd & 4th"
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- 4th. - signals honour in suit
- MUST have OUTSIDE ENTRY
- MUST not lead 4th from $10 \times x \times$
- partner should try to win trick
- if unable to win trick partner - vs NT gives COUNT
- vs suit give ATTITUDE
- 2nd - denies honour
- lead is 2nd highest
- partner should try to win trick
- if unable to win trick partner - vs NT gives COUNT
- vs suit gives ATTITUDE
- 3x suit - without honour, lead middle/up/down (MUD) vs NT \& suit
- AVOID if lead looks like 4th from honour
- D'blt'n - higher card first.


## NB - notwithstanding all normals rules for leads, if partner has bid a suit (or doubled an opponent's conventional bid), then the lead will most often be the suit and could be an unsupported honour)

Signals

- leads - "REVERSE ATTITUDE" - LOW card to ENCOURAGE
- HIGH card to DISCOURAGE
- count. - IMMEDIATELY after suit led -
- Hi-Lo shows EVEN number of cards in suit
- Lo-HI shows ODD number of cards in suit
- current - count on 2 nd round of suit after ATTITUDE given first time suit is played e.g-
- A led, holding 972-9 (ATTITUDE), then Hi-Lo to show 2 cards remaining
- suit pref - LOW card asks for a LOWER ranking suit
- HIGH card asks for a HIGHER ranking suit
- MID shows no preference

Discards

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## RESPONDING LIGHT

Partner opens one of a suit and you can rebid a higher ranking suit at the 1 level:-

- with 5hcp and a higher ranking 5 card suit - BID SUIT
- with 4hcp and a higher ranking 6 card suit - BID SUIT
- with 4hcp and 4 fewer cards in partners suit than your own suit - BID SUIT

Example - partner opens 1H - you hold Sp KJ982
H 7
D 982
CI 5432
With 4 more Sp than H BID SPADES - looking for a better fit

## CONVENTIONS

4 Suit Transfers/Non-Promissory Stayman
Checkback Stayman
Puppet Stayman
Crowhurst
Wriggle
Unusual 2NT
Michaels
Negative Doubles
Unassuming Cue Bid
Splinters
Roman Key Card Blackwood - 14/30
Jacoby 2NT
Game trial bid (major suits only)
Minor suit game try - looking for 3NT. (After minor suit opened and supported the next suit bid is a cue bid showing a stopper, and asks partner to cue bid a suit with a stopper).
4th Suit Forcing (at 2 level forcing for one round; at 3 level to game)


[^0]:    - "REVERSE ATTITUDE" - HIGH card - NO INTEREST in suit played
    - LOW card. - INTEREST in suit played

