

Interference Situations and Agreements

Australian Bridge Team questionnaire

Produced for the ABF International Performance Task Force

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What follows is a list of situations where partnerships might be lacking an agreement.

Go through these with your partner and see if you can fill any gaps in your competitive bidding.

1-minor opening

- After inverted minors:
 - What does double mean from both sides if they overcall?
 - What does redouble mean if they double, and what does the next double mean?
 - Is pass forcing after an overcall?

1-major opening

- What does double mean after they overcall partner's Bergen raise response? What do bidding new suits mean?
- What does double/pass/bid mean after they overcall partner's Jacoby 2NT response? What about if they overcall at a level past our game contract?
- If your 2/1 response is game-forcing, what does opener's double mean after the opponents overcall responder's 2/1? What does pass mean?
- After a takeout double and our side redoubles – how high is the auction forced to? What is double from both sides? How aggressively do you double sitting over/under the bidder, at the 1 or 2 level?
- What are responder's continuations after opener's support double? What bids are forcing, what bids are non-forcing, what bids are invitational? What does double then bid mean by responder/opener?
- What about the same scenario except opener passes instead of making a support double?

1NT opening

- If they overcall after Stayman, what is double from both sides?
- If they overcall after a transfer, what is double from both sides?
- What if they double Stayman or Transfers? What is the meaning of pass/redouble/bidding? Do you have any way of showing or denying a stopper in the suit that was doubled?
- If you play Lebensohl – what are the continuations and what is the difference of immediate versus delayed bids? E.g. 1NT (2♣) 2NT then 3NT, versus an immediate 3NT bid.

2♣ opening

- How do we deal with interference after the opponents overcall our 2♣ opening? What is the meaning of double or pass from both sides?

We open the bidding

- How do you deal with delayed interference, e.g. 1♣ (Pass) 1♥ (Pass) 1NT (2♠). What is double?
- After you make a penalty pass at a low level, for example 1♦ (1♠) Pass (Pass) Double (Pass), what sort of holding are you expected to hold if you later double a different suit?
- After the opponents overcall at the 1-level, are the requirements for responder bidding a suit at the 2-level reduced in any way? How high is the auction forcing after e.g. 1♦ (1♠) 2♣?
- After the opponents make a two-suited overcall, what is double (and subsequent doubles)? What is pass then double? What do other bids mean?
- If you open a weak two and partner inquires with 2NT, then the next hand overcalls, do you have any agreements about what bids/doubles mean?
- What is the meaning of responder's double after you open 2NT and the next hand overcalls?
- After we double their 1NT overcall, what does the next double mean from both sides?

They open the bidding

- After they redouble our takeout double, what is pass? (over (1m) Double (Redouble), (1M) Double (Redouble), and at higher levels)
- Do you have any rules about the expected hand-type for a responsive double, e.g. (1♠) Double (2♠) Double? What does this double tend to say about the unbid major?
- What is your defence to 2♦ Multi?
- What is your defence to Precision 1♣? What about Precision 1♦? When is bidding diamonds natural in the latter case?
- Do you have a fall-back style of defense against unusual two-level openers?
- What is your defence to transfer responses to 1♣?
- If we double their 1NT opening, and they run with a bid that does not promise the suit bid, what does partner's double mean? E.g. (1NT) Double (2♦ transfer) Double.
- If we overcall, LHO makes a negative double and partner redoubles, what is the meaning of the next double from both sides?
- What does partner's pass/redouble/bid mean after they double our two-suited bid, e.g. (1♠) 2♠ Michaels (Double)? How do they ask us to bid a suit, how do they show their own suit?

High-level situations – pre-empts and the slam zone

- What agreements do you have after they interfere with RKC – if they overcall below your trump suit, or if they overcall above your trump suit?
- What does pass/redouble/bid mean after they make a lead-directional double of a Keycard response?

- What do your bids mean after they double a slam-try cue bid?
- General bidding style after the opponents pre-empt. What type of hands are expected to double a high-level pre-emptive opening? Does the style of double depend on vulnerability?
- What type of hands should pull a takeout double of 4♥/4♠/5♣ with?
- If you play 4NT as being sometimes for takeout, in what situations does this apply?
- After LHO preempts, and RHO responds in a new suit, what is fourth hand's double?
- What does it mean if we double their splinter?
- Do you have a structure over your 3NT overcall of their preempt?

What agreements do you have about unsolicited doubles by a preemptive bidder, e.g. 4♥ (4♠) P (P) Double? Does it make a difference if the preemptive bidder was overcalling or facing a passed partner?

Other agreements

- What agreements do you have after they double your stopper-asking cue bid?
- If you play pass as forcing in any situations, what situations does this apply to?
- Do you have any rules about when you ignore the opponent's double?
- Do you have a general rule about what a redouble means, after they double an artificial bid?
- What is the meaning of bidding a new suit in competition after your side has found a major suit fit, e.g. 1♥ (1♠) 2♥ (3♠) 4♣?
- If you play Lebensohl 2NT and Scrambling 2NT – when do each apply? What general rules do you have?
- If you play 2NT as “scrambling”, what is the difference between bidding the highest suit immediately, or bidding 2NT then correcting to the highest suit? For example (1♠) Double (2♠) Pass (Pass) Double (Pass).... 3♥, or 2NT-3m-3♥.
- Same question with 4NT “two places to play”, followed by the highest suit, e.g. after (4♠) Double (Pass) 4NT.
- If you play that passing partner's double for penalties creates a penalising situation, do you play that e.g. 1NT (2♦ artificial) Double (Pass) Pass counts as passing for penalties? Or is the next double still takeout?
- If they bid over our artificial raise (which has forced us to a certain level, e.g. a cue raise), and we can still bid to that level, what is the difference between passing and bidding?
- After your 1NT opening/overcall gets doubled – how does responder show a good hand (balanced/unbalanced)?