



NAMES Otto Rothenberg - Marty Lavine

GENERAL APPROACH

Two Over One: Game Forcing Game Forcing Except When Suit Rebid
VERY LIGHT: Openings 3rd Hand Overcalls Preempts
FORCING OPENING: 1♣ 2♣ Natural 2 Bids Other

NOTRUMP OPENING BIDS

1NT
14 to 16
to
5-card Major common
System on overcall X&2♣
2♣ Stayman Puppet
2♦ Transfer to ♥ 4♦, 4♥ Transfer
Forcing Stayman Smolen
2♥ Transfer to ♠ Lebensohl (fast denies)
2♠ MSS Neg. Double 3-level
2NT Other: 2♣-2♦-3♦ is 5-5M

2NT 19 to 20
Puppet Stayman
Transfer Responses:
Jacoby Texas
3♠ xfer to 3NT
Direct 3N = 5♠/4♥
3NT to
Gambling, No OS A

MAJOR OPENING

Expected Min. Length 4 5
1st/2nd
3rd/4th

RESPONSES

Double Raise: Force Inv. Weak
After Overcall: Force Inv. Weak
Conv. Raise: 2NT 3NT Splinter
Other: 2NT: either LR+ or 4+ Trump support raise Other: off in Comp
1NT: Forcing Semi-forcing BUHP
2NT: Forcing Inv. 0 to any
3NT: 15 to 17 w/2
Drury : Reverse 2-Way Fit
Other: JS = mini-splinter, 3+, 8 losers

MINOR OPENING

Expected Min. Length 4 3 0-2 Conv.
1♣
1♦

RESPONSES

Double Raise: Force Inv. Weak
After Overcall: Force Inv. Weak
Forcing Raise: J/S in other minor
Other: off in Comp
Frequently bypass 4+♦ Always!
1NT/1♣ 11 to 12
2NT Forcing Inv. ♦+♣ to good!
3NT: 13 to 15
Other Xfr resps/1♣ 2om/NT=Maj t.o.

SPECIAL DOUBLES

After Overcall: Penalty
Negative thru 4♥
Responsive : thru 3♦ Maximal
Support: Dbl. thru 3♥ Redbl
Card-showing Min. Offshape T/O
Snapdragon

NOTRUMP OVERCALLS

Direct: 14 to 17 Systems on
Conv.
Balancing: 12 to 14
Jump to 2NT: Minors 2 Lowest
Conv. P->xx; xx->4-cd suits; 4w xfr

DEFENSE VS NOTRUMP

vs: Strong Wk <=14 pts
2♣ ♥ or ♦+♥ ♥+♠ (4+)
2♦ ♠ or ♥+♠ 5+♥
2♥ ♣ or ♠+♣ 5+♠
2♠ ♠ & ♦ 4♠ & 5m
Dbl: ♦♣+♦♣+♥ Penalty
Other

SIMPLE OVERCALL

1 level 6 to 15 HCP (usually)
often 4 cards very light style
Responses
New Suit: Forcing NF Const NF
Jump Raise: Forcing Inv. Weak
Suction / Big 1♣, 2♣ & ♦ resps

JUMP OVERCALL

Strong Intermediate Weak

OPENING PREEMPTS

Sound Light Very Light
3/4-bids
Conv./Resp. Leaping Michaels

DIRECT CUEBID

OVER: Minor Major
Natural
Strong T/O
Michaels

OVER OPP'S T/O DOUBLE

New Suit Forcing: 1 level 2 level
Jump Shift: Forcing Inv. Weak
Redouble implies no fit
2NT Over Limit+ Limit Weak
Majors
Minors
Other Hoffmeister 2NT

VS Opening Preempts Double Is

Takeout thru 4♥ Penalty
Conv. Takeout: 4N is t/o of 4♠
Lebensohl 2NT Response
Other: 4N Natural over minors

SLAM CONVENTIONS Gerber : 4NT: Blackwood RKC 1430
5N (after RKC response) asks for specific Kings; Queen ask w/specific Kings
5N response to RKC = 2 w/a void; Exclusion, Kickback; Poor Man's Blck
vs Interference: DOPI DEPO Level: ROPI

LEADS (circle card led, if not in bold)

versus Suits versus Notrump
x(x) x(x)x x(x)x x(x)x
x(x)x x(x)x(x)x x(x)x x(x)x(x)x
A(K)x T(9)x A K J x A Q J x
K(Q)x K J(T)x A J T 9 A T 9 x
Q(J)x K T(9)x K Q J x K Q T 9
J(T)9 Q T(9)x Q J T x Q T 9 x
K(Q)T 9 J T 9 x T 9 x x

LENGTH LEADS:

4th Best vs SUITS vs NT
3rd/5th Best vs SUITS vs NT
Low from xx versus Suits Attitude vs NT
2 & 4 (ex. 3-card suits) No Rusinow pd's suit
Primary signal to partner's leads
Attitude Count Suit preference

DEFENSIVE CARDING

vs SUITS vs NT
Standard:
Except
Upside-Down:
count
attitude
FIRST DISCARD
Lavinthal
Odd/Even

OTHER CARDING

Smith Echo
Trump Suit Pref.
Foster Echo

SPECIAL CARDING PLEASE ASK