

Defense against natural openings

Level 1 openings including 1C/D with a 2+ suit

- ❑ DBL: Takeout. Promises 3 cards in the un-bid majors and 2 in the un-bid minors. Maybe light with the right distribution.
 - If opponent RDBLs
 - All jumps are pre-emptive
 - Pass asks DBLer to “get us out of here”
 - If opponent passes
 - Cue-bid is only forcing
 - Other bids are limit
- ❑ Level-1 overcall: 8-16 HCP, 4+ suit
 - Raises: Pre-emptive
 - Cue-bid: Limit raise or stronger
 - Jump cue-bid: 4+ fit, constructive raise
 - 1NT: Stopper, 8-11 HCP
 - 2NT: Stopper, 12-14 HCP
 - 3NT: To play
- ❑ Level-2 overcall (without jump): 10-18 HCP, 5+ suit
 - Raises: Pre-emptive
 - 2NT: Stopper, 9-12 HCP
 - 3NT: To play
 - Cue-bid: May be with a forcing raise
 - Jump cue-bid: Fit, short in opening suit
 - Shift: Round forcing
- ❑ 2D over 1C/D: Both majors
- ❑ Other jump overcalls: Weak
- ❑ Cue-bid: Natural over 1C and a Precision-style 1D, Michaels over 1H/S
- ❑ 2NT over a major: 5+5+ in the minors
- ❑ 2NT over a minor: 5+5+ (excluding opening suit), very strong offensively
- ❑ 1NT: Balanced, 16-19 HCP over a minor, 14-17 over a major. Developments are as after 1NT opening including after opponents’ intervention.
- ❑ Jump cue-bid over 1C: Natural, weak
- ❑ Other jump cue-bids: Ask partner to bid 3NT with a stopper
 - 3NT: Stopper, 2 or fewer controls
 - 4NT: Stopper (at least Kx), 3 or more controls
 - 4C: No stopper, 2 or fewer controls
 - Other suit bids up to the game: Natural
 - Cue-bid: No stopper, 3 or more controls

- ❑ Other bids: Pre-emptive

Developments if 3rd seat does NOT pass

- ❑ Negative DBL through 4H
- ❑ Snapdragon DBL through 2S
- ❑ New suit: non-forcing
- ❑ Jump shift: 4+ fit and a good suit
- ❑ Cue-bid: Strong, usually with limit+ fit
- ❑ Raises: pre-emptive
- ❑ Jump cue-bid at level-3: Mixed raise (4+ fit, weaker than limit, too strong for a pre-empt)
- ❑ Jump cue-bid at level-4: Splinter
- ❑ Our Overcall is DBLed:
 - Raise: Hxx fit
 - NT: Hxx fit, balanced
 - RDBL: Raise without an Honour OR a hand with the other suit(s)
- ❑ Our 2-suited Overcall is DBLed:
 - Preference: Hx(x)
 - RDBL followed by preference: less than Hx(x)

Natural 2C (i.e. Precision Club)

- ❑ Overcall: 8-15 HCP, 5+ suit
- ❑ 3C: 5+5+ in diamonds and hearts
- ❑ 2NT: 5+5+ in spades and diamonds/hearts
 - 3S: fit, not forcing
 - 3C: Relay
- ❑ 3NT: To play
- ❑ DBL: Take-out, 3+ cards in both majors or any 16+ HCP
- ❑ Other bids: Pre-emptive