**Auckland Bridge Club Improvers Sessions**

**Bidding against Opponents’ 1 NT Opening**

**13 July 2017**

**General guidelines to bidding over 1NT**

***Double*** opponents’ 1NT opening to show a strong (16+) hand, usually close to balanced.

***Bid*** to show a distributional/unbalanced hand in the 11-15 point range; preferably should have one or more 5+ card suits.

***Pass*** with a moderate (11-15) balanced or near-balanced hand.

**General guidelines to responding if partner bids over 1NT**

***If partner doubles***, pass with 6+ points to collect a penalty, bid with a weak distributional hand.

If ***partner makes a bid showing a single suit***, pass with a weak hand, raise to game with a fit and 13+ points, and make an invitational raise with a fit and 10-12 points.

***If partner makes a bid showing 2 suits***, give preference at the lowest level with a weak hand, jump to game with 13+ points and a fit, and make an invitational bid with 11-12 and a fit.

**Possible methods**

***Bid naturally*** – bid shows a good 5+ card suit and 11+ points. Easy to remember but limited.

***Landy*** – most bids are natural, except that 2♣ shows at least 4/5, and preferably 5/5, in the majors. ***Most recommended method***, as it permits finding a major suit fit.

***Pottage***  - 2♣ shows a single suited hand in any suit, 2♦ shows both majors, 2 of a major shows that major and a minor, and 2NT shows both minors. Very versatile, but rather complex!

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