

Auckland Bridge Club Improvers Sessions

Dealing with interference over our 1 NT Opening

20 July 2017

General guidelines to opponents' interference over our 1NT opening

Double usually shows a strong (16+) hand, usually close to balanced.

A *bid* usually shows a distributional/unbalanced hand in the 11-15 point range; usually should have one or more 5+ card suits. Bids may be *natural* to show a single suit or *artificial* to show 2 suits; if their bid is artificial, opponents are *obliged* to inform you of its meaning.

It is essential to find out what the opponents' bids mean, so that you can act appropriately!

General guidelines to deal with RHO's action over partner's 1NT

If RH opponent doubles: pass with 9+ points and a balanced hand, expecting partner to make her contract and therefore to collect a good score. If you have a weak unbalanced hand, it is usually best to remove the 1NT doubled into your longest suit. You can do this either by bidding naturally or by making a transfer bid, according to your agreed methods: **YOU MUST DISCUSS WITH YOUR PARTNER WHICH METHOD YOU WILL USE!**

If RH opponent bids a suit naturally: pass with a weak hand, bid a 5+ card suit at the lowest available level with a moderate (say 8-10 points) hand, bid game if you know that you have the values and a fit (eg, you have a 6+ card major and 12+ points), or make a take out double with reasonable values and at least 3 card support for all the other suits.

If RH opponent makes a conventional (artificial) bid showing 2 suits excluding the one that they have bid (eg, 2♣ Landy showing both majors): pass with a weak hand, make a take out double to show a good holding (5+ cards with some top honours) in the suit that they bid but do not have, plus tolerance (3+ good cards) for the remaining suit, inviting partner to choose her better of those suits.

In either of these two latter cases, you may pass partner's response with insufficient points for game, bid game with a fit and 12+ points, or make an invitational bid.