

# BEGINNERS' LESSONS

## Welcome

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# Lesson Eight

## Takeout Doubles



# Reasons for Overcalling

- To get into the bidding ... make it hard for the opposition
- Express a genuine desire to play in a suit
- Suggest a lead for partner



# Rules to Overcall a suit

- **MUST** be a 5+ card suit with a good suit – 2+ honours in suit
- Point count should be close to opening values ... a little bit less is OK though

**KNOW THE RULES!**



# Overcalling a suit

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
		1♣	1♥

South has an Opening Hand with a GOOD 5-card suit (at least two honours in the suit)

E HER

S YOU

9♠ 8♠ 7♠ AKJ9887 A75♦

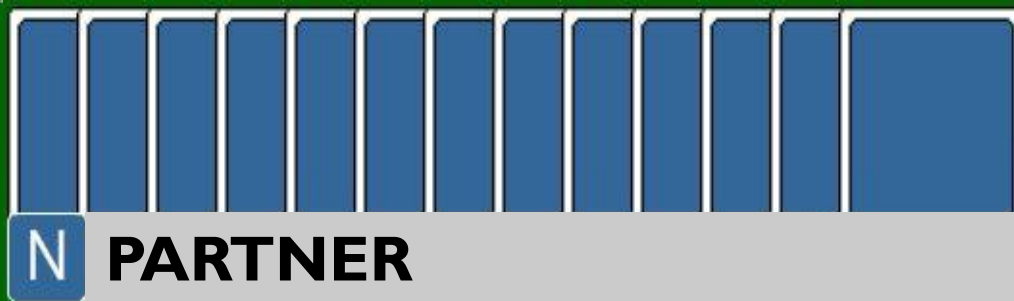
# Rules to Overcall in NoTrumps

- You need **BETTER** points than an opening INT
- 16 – 18 points
- **MUST** have a cover in the opposition's suit

**KNOW THE RULES!**



# Overcalling 1NT

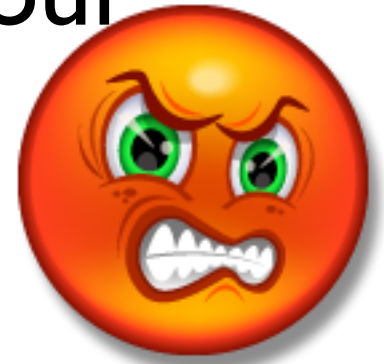


W	N	E	S
		1♦	1NT
18 points balanced hand with a diamond hold			



# WHAT HAPPENS when your hand doesn't meet this criteria?

- No 5-card suit
- Can't overcall NT because you have no hold in the opposition's suit
- Can't overcall NT because your hand is not strong enough





# Takeout Double



N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
		1♣	X

13 points, no 5-card suit  
- can't bid a suit  
- can't bid INT  
(not strong enough)

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

# Takeout Double shows the following:

- At least 3 cards in each of the **unbid** suits
- Shortage in the opponent's suit
- Opening hand (12+ points)
- **X** asks partner to choose the best contract

**DO NOT** double with 4+ of the opponent's suit



# Choices when Overcalling

1. FIRST CHOICE - Overcall a major
2. SECOND CHOICE - Overcall INT
3. THIRD CHOICE - Use the takeout X
4. FOURTH CHOICE- Overcall a minor

**REMEMBER MAJORS ARE MORE  
IMPORTANT THAN THE MINORS OR  
NT**



# Takeout Double



N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
		1♣	X

12+ points  
3+ cards in each of  
the unbid suits  
Shortage in opposition suit

E HER

S YOU

# Takeout Double



N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
Pass		1♦	X
12+ points			
3+ cards in each of the unbid suits			
Shortage in opposition suit			

E HER

S  YOU

A 6 5 4 A K 6 A Q 10 4 10 9

♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦

# Takeout Double



N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
		1♣	X
12+ points 3+ cards in each of the unbid suits Shortage in opposition suit			

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

# Takeout Double



N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
		1♦	PASS

15 points  
BUT only 1 club and not  
balanced so must PASS

E HER

S YOU

♠ A Q 10 6    ♥ A K 9 7    ♣ 8    ♦ Q 9 6 5



# Takeout Double



N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
	Pass	1♣	PASS
14 points			
BUT only 2 hearts. A balanced hand but cannot bid INT because there are not enough points so must <b>PASS</b>			

E HER

S  YOU

J 10 5 4 J 4 A Q 8 A Q 10 8

♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦



# Response to a Takeout Double

If your RHO passes - YOU MUST BID

- even if you have no points !
- even at the 2-level if necessary
- REMEMBER: partner has promised that they can handle any other suit



You do not have to bid after an opponent calls



# Response to a Takeout Double

## 1. FIRST CHOICE

Give preference to a major

## 2. SECOND CHOICE

Bid INT

## 3. THIRD CHOICE

Give preference to a minor



**You do not have to bid after an opponent calls**



# Response to a Takeout Double

GAME	13+	Jump to GAME Suit (5+), or 3NT
INVITATIONAL	10-12	Jump in a suit (4+) Bid 2NT (with a stop)
MINIMUM	0-9	Bid your own suit (4+) Or INT with 6-9 points



# Response to a Takeout Double

- If the opponent's bid BEFORE you are forced to bid, you can now PASS
- Therefore a bid from you now shows 8+ points ... it is a CONSTRUCTIVE bid



You do not have to bid after an opponent calls



# Response to the Takeout Double

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
1♣	Dbl	Pass	1♥

Bid your lowest 4 -card major

With less than 10 points, bid at the lowest level possible

E HER

S YOU

# Response to the Takeout Double

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♠	Dbl	Pass	1NT
6 – 9 points no 4-card major, balanced with with a Spade hold ... therefore bid 1NT			

W HIM

E HER

S  YOU

A 10 2 7 6 Q J 10 8 9 7 3 2

♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

# Response to the Takeout Double

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♣	Dbl	1♥	PASS
East has bid so you now don't have to bid With less than 8 points - <b>PASS</b>			

W HIM

E HER

S  YOU

10 7 2 7 6 Q J 10 8 9 7 3 2

♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

# Response to the Takeout Double

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♦	Dbl	Pass	1♥
Bid your major at the lowest level			

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

8♠ 3♠ 2♠ Q♥ 10♥ 7♥ 3♥ 2♥ J♣ 8♣ 9♦ 5♦ 4♦



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