

SPECIAL DOUBLES

After Overcall: Penalty 
Negative  thru 4H
Responsive  : thru 4H Maximal 
Support: Dbl  24 (vs NT) 
Card-showing  Min. Offshape T/O

NOTRUMP OVERCALLS

Direct: 15 to 18 - Systems on 
Dbl: 15 to 18 = void
Balancing: 10 to 16
Jump to 2NT: Minors  2 Lowest 
Stayman: 20-10-13 2/10-14-16

NAMES Sutherland-Morse

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

SIMPLE OVERCALL

1 level 7 to 17 HCP (usually)
often 4 cards  very light style

Responses

New Suit: Forcing  NFConst  NF 
Jump Raise: Forcing  Inv.  Weak 
Jump 2 = 7-9 4 Trump Raise

DEFENSE VS NOTRUMP

vs:
2  D x M, m Majors
2  H+S M
2  H S
2  S Good m
Dbl: 1st Penalty
Other: 2NT = 19-21

NOTRUMP OPENING BIDS

15 1NT to 17
to
5-card Major common 
System on over
2  Stayman  Puppet 
2  Transfer to  Forcing Stayman 
2  Transfer to 
2  Range Ask
2NT = 30 (like)
3  s/s Inv minors
3  " F "
3  3-1 (5-4; 6-3)
3  1-3 (H " )
4  4  Transfer  Smolen 
Lebensohl  (FA denies)
Neg. Double  2+3L
Other: Base after M response to 2C

2NT 20 to 21
Puppet Stayman 
Transfer Responses:
Jacob  Texas 
3  3NT 5/10/15
3NT 24 to 26
Stayman, Trips, Super G

JUMP OVERCALL

Strong  Intermediate  Weak

OVER OPP'S T/O DOUBLE

New Suit Forcing: 1 level  2 level 
Jump Shift: Forcing  Inv.  Weak 
Redouble implies no fit

Conventional NT Openings
XX = 20/10/15
Base after M response to 2C

OPENING PREEMPTS

Sound Light Very Light
3/4-bids   
Copy/Resp
4th min = Post Mortem card

2NT Over Limit+ Limit Weak

Majors 7-10 4 Trumps  
Minors   
Other: 2NT = 7-9 3 Trump Raise

MAJOR OPENING

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

MINOR OPENING

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

RESPONSES

Double Raise: Force  Inv.  Weak 
After Overcall: Force  Inv.  Weak 
Conv. Raise: 2NT  3NT  Splinter 
Other: Jacoby  627  10-B 
1NT: Forcing  Semi-forcing 
2NT: Forcing  Inv.  to
3NT: to
Drury : Reverse  2-Way  Fit 
Jump to 3 Inv

RESPONSES

Double Raise: Force  Inv.  Weak 
After Overcall: Force  Inv.  Weak 
Forcing Raise: 2H Inv  other 2S 6FT
Single raise  Other:
Frequently bypass 4+ 
1NT/1  to
2NT Forcing  Inv.  13 to 15
3NT: 16 to 17 4,3,3,3
Jump to 3 Inv (New Suit)

DIRECT CUEBID

OVER: Minor Major

Natural:  
Strong T/O  
Michaels  
2NT = values 3C = P x C

VS Opening Preempts Double Is

Takeout  thru 4H Penalty 
Conv. Takeout:
Lebensohl 2NT Response  Unless PH Double
Other:

SLAM CONVENTIONS Gerber  4NT: Blackwood  RKC  1430

Super & Roman 5NT Resp specific keys
vs Interference: DOPI  DEPO  Level: ROPI

LEADS (circle card led, if not in bold)

Usual vs Suits vs Notrump
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
5/6 K 5x Count K 5x 10x 11x 12x
A 5x 11x
LENGTH LEADS: A 5x 11x
4th Best vs SUITS  vs NT 
3rd/5th Best vs SUITS  vs NT 
Attitude vs NT 
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

DESCRIBE RESPONSES/REBIDS

2  to HCP
Strong  Other 
2  Resp: Neg  Waiting 
2  11 to 15 HCP Spades 5/6 Hearts 4C, 4D Slantives H, S
Natural: Weak  Intermediate  Strong  Conv.  2NT Force  New Suit NF 
2  5 to 10 HCP Mellabe Feature with Extras
Natural: Weak  Intermediate  Strong  Conv.  2NT Force  New Suit NF 
2  5 to 10 HCP Mc Gabe Feature with Extras
Natural: Weak  Intermediate  Strong  Conv.  2NT Force  New Suit NF 
OTHER CONV. CALLS: New Minor Forcing  2-Way NMF 
Weak Jump Shifts: In Comp.  2H In Comp.  Hamilton vs 1NT overcall 
4th Suit Forcing: 1 Rd.  Game 
Unusual vs Unusual C=H D=5
Note Sign-off after 2NT TR (3C asks about 1st Major)
(3D Inv or opened minor)

SPECIAL CARDING  PLEASE ASK