Polish Club 2005 A Brief Description

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Openings

The 1+ opening is described at the end of this section.

1 ♦ opening - 4 cards, 12-17 HCP

Canape: 4 diamonds: 5 clubs are possible if weak (12–14 HCP)

2* response – natural, promises 5 clubs, one-round force.

Rebidding diamonds by Opener shows length (5 diamonds) and does not specify strength. The other 2-level bids show 4-card openings in the range of 12–14 HCP.

2♦ response – inverted minor, 10+ HCP, 4 diamonds

3+ response - preemptive

NT responses: 1NT = 7–10 HCP, 2NT = 11–12 HCP; both deny a 4-card major.

1♥/1★ openings - 5 cards, 12-17 HCP

1NT Response - not forcing

Responder's 2NT is forcing after the suit is repeated.

- 1. 1 A/1NT
- 2♥ 2NT =forces to 3 of a major: opener shows shortage, and
- 1. 1NT

2 2NT =forces to 3 of a major; opener shows shortage

Two-over-one response – forces to three of that suit.

2* response is semi-natural.

Rebidding the suit by Opener shows a minimum and does not show length. 2NT rebid by Opener shows strength (15-17 HCP).

2NT response – limit raise with support

Jump raise – preemptive

Two types of Splinter bids

- 3 = any shortage, 9-12 HCP (then 3NT asks shortage) 1.
- 1. 3NT = any shortage, 9–12 HCP (then 4+ asks shortage)
- 3NT = spade shortage, 12-16 HCP 1¥
- $4 \bigstar$, $4 \blacklozenge$, $4 \blacklozenge$ (after $1 \bigstar$) = bid shortage, 12–16 HCP 1 ¥/1 🛦

Drury-fit by a passed hand; 2 of the bid major is the weakest rebid. lump shift by a passed hand – invitational (9–11 HCP)

1NT opening (15–17 HCP)

Stavman 2+

Opener's 2v does not deny four spades.

Responder's subsequent bidding is natural: forcing at the 3-level, non-forcing at the 2-level. Also 2:

1NT

2• 2 = invitational (7–9 HCP), 5 spades, 4 hearts, and

1NT 2.

2 ./2 3♦/3♥ = transfer, agrees Opener's suit, GF

Jacoby transfers 2♦/2♥

Transfer to hearts (2) does not deny five spades. Responder's new suit at the 3-level forces to game. Also:

1NT 2. 2. 2♠ forces to 3♥ (8+ HCP)

3

2 response - transfer for clubs

Opener may choose between a positive 2NT, and a negative 3. Responder may continue by showing shortage.

- 2NT response limit
- 3* response transfer to diamonds, weak or strong

Opener is obliged to bid 3 . Responder may continue by showing shortage.

3♦ – natural, inviting

3♥/3♠ – 5431 convention: GF, both minors: at least 5-4, shortage in the bid suit

2. Opening - Precision: 5 clubs and a 4-card major, or 6 clubs, 11-14 HCP

2 response - relay, forcing to 3*

Opener shows a 4-card suit (3♦ shows extras) or makes a choice between 2NT and 3♣ with long clubs.

2v/2* response - not forcing, good 5-card suit (7-11 HCP)

2NT response – weak support in clubs or GF two-suiter. Puppet to 3. Opener must bid 3. Responder either passes or shows his suits: 3. = diamonds and

hearts, $3 \mathbf{v} =$ hearts and spades $3 \mathbf{A} =$ spades and diamonds.

- 3. response limit raise (invitational)
- 3♦/3♥/3♠ response limit, good 6-card suit

2+ opening - weak two in a major (limited Multi), 6+ cards, 6-11 HCP

2♥/2♣/3♥/3♣ response – pass or correct

2NT - relay, forcing to 3 of the major. Opener bids:

 $3 \bigstar = \text{good opening} \rightarrow 3 \bigstar = \text{ask} \rightarrow 3 \checkmark = \text{spades}, 3 \bigstar = \text{hearts}$

- $3 \bullet =$ hearts, minimum opening
- $3 \mathbf{v} =$ spades, minimum opening
- 3+ response GF, any one-suited hand
- 3 game-invitational with support in both majors

Opener bids 4♣ with hearts and 4♦ with spades if the invitation is accepted.

4★ response – asks Opener to bids the suit below his major. Opener bid 4♦ with hearts and 4♥ with spades.

- 4 response asks Opener to bids his suit.
- 4♥/4♠ response to play

2v/2 openings - Polish two-suiters, 6-11 HCP

Opening $2 \checkmark = any 5-5$ with hearts (spades possible). $2 \blacktriangle$ response = pass or correct Opening $2 \bigstar = 5$ spades and 5 of a minor

2NT response – asks for another suit. With hearts and spades Opener bids 3♥. Other responses – natural

2NT opening - 5-5 in minors, 6-11 HCP

3v asks to bid a longer minor or a longer major if minors are equal.

3. - natural, forcing

3NT opening - gambling (no stopper outside)

4♦ asks for singleton.

4.*/4 ♦ openings - natural

1 + openina

- 1) 12–14 HCP, no 5-card major, no 4-card diamond suit. Five clubs are possible if the hand is balanced. Opener should not bid clubs on the next round – even in competition.
- 2) 15-17 HCP, five clubs, unbalanced distribution. Opener bids clubs in the next round.
- 3) 18+ HCP, any distribution.
- 1 + response

1) negative: 0–8 HCP. In the 7–8 HCP range, Responder should not have a 4-card major (the response of one of a major is 7+HCP, the 1NT response is 9-11 HCP).

2) 9–11 unbalanced: either both minors (5-4), or one poor minor. (The hand does not qualify for any of the responses: 1NT, 2 in a minor, 3 in a minor.)

3) 12–16 HCP balanced without a 4-card major. The hand is not suitable for declaring no trumps. 1.

- 1.
- 2

 $1 \vee /1 =$ better major (3 cards is possible)

- 1NT = 18-20 HCP, balanced
- 2 = 15 + HCP. natural

 $2 \bullet$ = artificial GF. exclusive of 2-suiter hands

 $2 \checkmark$, $2 \bigstar$, $3 \bigstar$, $3 \bigstar$ = 5+ in the bid suit, semi-forcing

- 2NT = 21-23 HCP, balanced
- $3 \vee /3 \wedge /4 =$ GF. 2-suiter (5-5):

3♥ – with hearts, then Responder's 3♠ shows preference over hearts, 3NT asks for a minor, 4 +, 4 + are cue bids with agreed hearts,

- $3 \bigstar$ spades and a minor, then 3NT asks for a minor, $4 \bigstar$, $4 \blacklozenge$ are cue bids.
- 4. minors

1♥/1♠ response – 7+HCP, 4 cards

- 1* 1 •/1
- 2 = 15+, one-round force, then Responder's $2 \bullet$ forces to game.
- 1. 1.
- $2 \bullet$ = Relay. 18+ HCP, promises at least 3 cards in Responder's major. Responder bids:
 - $2 \checkmark = 7-10$ HCP, 4 cards in the bid major
 - 2 = 11 + HCP, 4 cards in the bid major

2NT = 11 + HCP, at least 5 cards in the bid major

- $3 \Rightarrow 3 = 9-11$ HCP, 5 in the bid minor, 4 in the bid major
- 3 = 7-10 HCP, 5 cards, unbalanced (then 3 asks for a shortage, 3NT asks for a side suit)
- 3 = 7-10 HCP, 5332 with 5 in the bid major
- 3NT = 7-10 HCP, 6 cards in the bid major 1.
- 1*
- 2 = 5 + (18 + HCP), GF
- 1* 1♥/1▲

2NT = 18 + HCP, (semi-)balanced, denies 3-card support in Responder's suit. 1NT response - 9-11 HCP, no 4-card major

- 1* 1NT
 - 2 = natural, 15 + HCP, GF2口可旨
 - 1NT 1.
 - $2 \bigstar$, $2 \bigstar$, $2 \bigstar$ = 5+ cards, 18+ HCP, GF

2♣/2♦ response – 5 cards, GF

2♥/2▲ – strong jump shift (semi-solid suit) 2NT response – 12+ HCP, GF no 4-card major

 $3*/3 \bullet$ response – good 6-card suit, invitational (9–11 HCP)

 $3 \neq /3 = 7$ -card suit with 2 high honours, nothing outside

Conventions in an uncontested auction

Jump shift - strong, semi-solid suit, slam interest

Fourth suit

Fourth suit invites to game after an initial one-over-one response. Responder may pass in the subsequent bidding but Opener may not. Fourth suit forces to game after a two-over-one response.

Third suit

If Opener raises the third suit, that promises four cards in the suit and denies a stopper in the unbid suit. 3NT bid by Opener shows four cards in the third suit and promises a stopper in the unbid suit.

Forcing 2NT

Responder's 2NT is forcing after a two-over-one response.

2. - check back: weak with clubs or game invitational, or game forcing

Opener's rebids:

 $2 \bullet = \text{minimum opening, no 3-card support}$

2 in Responder's suit = minimum opening, 3-card support

2 in the other major = nice opening, 3-card support

2NT = nice opening, no 3-card support

Responder's continuations: $3 \div$ signs off. 2 in the bid major is non-forcing (10–12 HCP). Other bids (including 2NT) are game forcing.

En passant

In an uncontested auction, stoppers are shown. In competition, bidding the opponent's suit asks for a stopper. If opponents bid two suits, bidding the higher-level suit promises stopper in the lower-level suit.

Slam bidding

RKCB 1430

5 = 1 or 4; 5 = 0 or 3; 5 = 2 or 5, no kings; 5 = 2 and a king, etc.

Exclusion Key Card Blackwood (1430 responses)

After trump agreement, an unusual jump shift at the 5-level (or 4 h when hearts are agreed) asks for key cards, exclusive of the ace of the bid suit.

5

Hoyt

The cheapest bid after key cards are shown asks for kings. The next cheapest bid shows no kings, etc.

5NT – kind of Josephine; asks for the number of high honours (ace, king or queen) in trumps

6 = 0; 6 = 1; etc.

Cue bids - first- and second-round controls are treated as equals

Splinter bids - weaker and stronger types after 1v/1 openings

- $1 \bullet 3 \bullet =$ weaker Splinter (9–12 HCP), any shortage, \rightarrow 3NT asks
- $1 \neq -3NT =$ regular Splinter (12–16 HCP), spade shortage
- 1 3NT = weaker Splinter, any shortage $\rightarrow 4 + asks$

 $1 \vee /1 = -3 /4 /4 \vee /4 = regular Splinters (12-16 HCP)$

AutoSplinter

An unusual shift jump agrees bidder's own suit only if Partner has not shown any suit.

Six in the Splinter suit

Asks partner to bid the grand slam with a void in the splinter-suit.

Interference after Blackwood - DOPI

Double = 0, pass = 1, the cheapest bid = 2 keycards, etc.

Competitive bidding

Over opponent's takeout double

Jump shift – suit and support (fit jump) New suit – forcing at 1-level (except 1 ◆; see below), non-forcing at 2-level Redouble = 10+ HCP. Opener bids before Responder: this shows a minimum if the bid is cheaper than two in the opening bid, but shows extras otherwise.

1 \bullet response over opponent's double – natural, not forcing Support bidding after Partner's 1 \checkmark /1 \bullet opening is doubled:

1NT = 7-9(10) HCP; 3-card support

2NT = limit raise: 4-card support

Jump shift shows suit and support.

Over opponent's overcall

New suit is forcing at the level of 1 and 3. New suit is not forcing at the level of 2. Jump raise is pre-emptive.

Support bidding after Partner's 1♥/1♠ opening is overcalled

2NT promises good support (usually 4 cards) and forces to game. Direct cue bid is gameinvitational, or game forcing with flat distribution and defensive values.

After Partner's 1NT opening is overcalled

Double is negative - part score range. New suit is non-forcing at the two-level, but forcing at the three-level. Lebensohl: either GF with 4 cards in the other major or non-forcing with an unbid suit.

New suit = pass or correct. Double is punitive.

Negative double - through 4+

Negative doubles include, apart from standard agreements, forcing hands with a weak 5-card suit and – after 1v/1 opening – invitational no-trump hands.

When the second defender overcalls

Support double

A support double does not shows extras but promises offensive values. After a 14 opening, double is two-way: either a support double or a stronger variant of the opening.

Defensive bidding

No-trump hands

1NT and 2NT non-jump overcalls – 15–18 HCP with a stopper Subsequent bidding: the same as after a 1NT opening 1NT re-opening - 12-15 HCP

Subsequent bidding: the same as after a 1NT opening

2NT re-opening - 19-21 HCP Subsequent bidding: similar to after the 1NT opening

Jump overcalls - direct: natural, pre-emptive; re-opening; constructive

Takeout doubles and strong doubles (17+HCP)

Takeout doubles promise three cards in unbid majors and two cards in unbid minors. Equal level conversion shows extras.

After Partner has doubled 1+, a 1+ bid is negative, other 1-level suit bids are forcing. After 2 + artificial opening (Multi or Wilkosz)

Second hand's double is for takeout of spades. Pass and then double after 2v/3v in the next round is for takeout of hearts:

2♦	dble	2♥	dble
2.	dble	2	= responsive dble

= punitive

Fourth hand's live double is for takeout: 2• pass dble

2♥/2▲

= takeout of hearts/spades respectively

Direct cue bid Michaels cue bid - unlimited

Jump cue bid

Jump cue bid shows either a solid suit and asks for a stopper or shows any game-forcing one-suiter hand.

Versus strong 1 NT opening

Double shows two suits: 5+ cards in a minor, 4+ cards in a major. 2* = any one-suiter (constructive if a minor) 2* = major two-suiter 2*/2* = 5 cards in the bid suit and a 4-card minor

Versus weak 1NT opening

Double is for takeout. Other bids show the same shape as versus a strong no trump and promise opening values.

Drury (2*) promises fit

Rebidding the suit is weakest.

Lebensohl after 2♥/2★ and Partner's double

Leads and signals

Leads are 2nd best from bad suits (low from two); 4th best from good suits; top of honours; ace from ace-king, king from king-queen, etc., except 9 from 109x(x).

Signals are upside down throughout. In Partner's led-suit count is preferred in suit contracts, attitude is preferred in no trump contracts.

Echo against no trump contracts – a small card in Declarer's first-played suit (from either hand) accepts the lead. Lavinthal – standard way (discouraging in the suit discarded, suit preference for the other 2 suits).

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