

Module 17 – Introduction to Competitive Bidding

The Take-Out Double

1. Why use the “Take-Out double”?
2. Responding to partner’s Take-out Double
3. Card Play of 6 hands

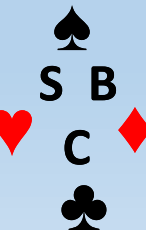
Bad Leads: The “Elvis Presley Coup”

*If you lead from AQ and your RH opponent has Kx,
the King is no longer dead!! –
Aces are for killing Kings!!!*



This week’s Paddy’s Pearl

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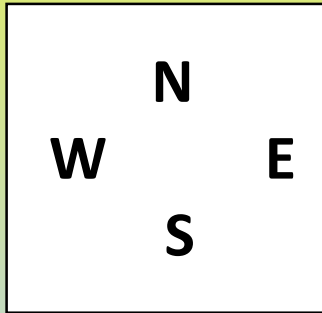
The Take-Out Double

1. The **ONLY** “*vocabulary*” for communicating in bidding is the level of bidding (from 1 to 7), the four suits, NT, pass, double and redouble. **Hence, double and redouble are important parts of the bidding information exchange between partnerships**
2. “**Double**” in former times was a **PENALTY** bid saying you believe opponents have bid too high and you expect to put their contract back for higher penalty points. **However, at the 1-level it is unlikely you will make 7 tricks in opponents best suit.**
3. Hence, nowadays **low levels doubles are “Take-Out Doubles”**, are conventional and competitive. It really says that *you have the points to bid but don't know he best bid*
4. If our RHO opens and you make a “**Take-Out Double**” it says “**Partner I have the points to bid 13+HCP, don't have a suitable 5 card suit or 1NT overcall, “please bid your longest suit:**
 - o The “take-out double” means you must be able to ***accept any suit bid by partner***
 - o You must respond to partner's “take-out double” even with no points. ***Partner's double essentially is bidding the three other suits not bid by opener.***
 - o **If your RHO bids after the “take-out double” you are not now obliged to bid.**
You don't need to bid when your partner has another chance to bid



Examples of the “Take-Out Double” - 1

♠ AKJ9
♥ 8
♦ A865
♣ K862



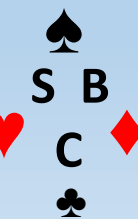
1♥

You are West and South opens 1♥

With 15HCP you want to bid but don't have a suitable suit
Good enough to overcall.

You double which does not say you expect to put back
opponent's 1♥ contract.

It says to partner “ *Please bid your longest suit*”, I have
enough points to overcall but don't have a suitable suit to
overcall ***BUT can support any suit you bid other than hearts***





Examples of the “Take-Out Double” - 2

a)



South opens 1♥

b)



South opens 1♣

c)

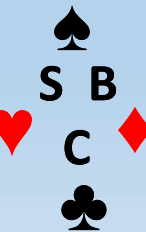


South opens 1♠

You have enough HCP to bid and three suitable suits which you cannot overcall,
So **DOUBLE** asking partner to bid his longest suit to make it trump.

NOTE: Double means you don't have a NT overcall OR a suitable suit to overcall

If you have a suitable alternative bid DO NOT MAKE A TAKE-OUT DOUBLE





ALTERNATIVE BIDS where better than Take-Out Double

a)

♠ A86
♥ AQJ6
♦ QJ76
♣ Q9

South opens 1♦

We have 16HCP and diamond stops so the *best overcall is 1NT*

b)

♠ KQJ102
♥ 93
♦ A52
♣ 864

South opens 1♥

You have a good suit of your own.

Overcall 1♠

Don't DOUBLE asking questions where you may not like the answer

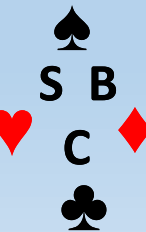
c)

♠ AKJ962
♥ 3
♦ K754
♣ AQ

South opens 1♥

Overcall 2♠

Why double when you have an obvious overcall?

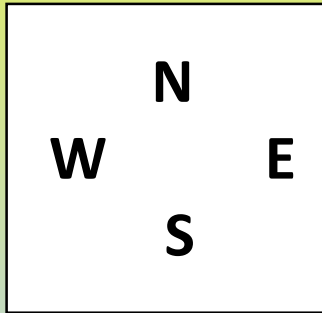




Sometimes you have to PASS

What do you do when you have a good hand with strength on opponents suit?.

♠ KJ632
♥ A53
♦ 87
♣ AQ5



1♠

You are West and South opens 1♠.

With 14HCP you want to bid but your strength is in opponents suit.

Double would ask partner to bid his longest suit which isn't

Necessarily what you wish.

You can't bid your longest suit as this is opponents suit.

With the weakness in diamonds you don't have a hand suitable to overcall 1NT.

Unfortunately you have to PASS

You may be fortunate to re-enter the bidding later, particularly

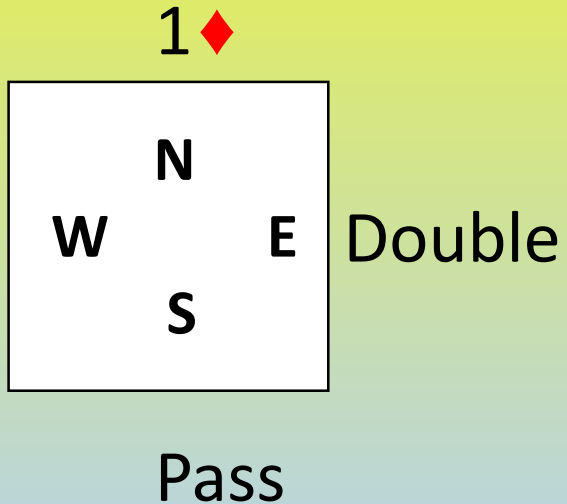
If opponents get too high in spades. You can perhaps get

a penalty double saying "*we can out this contract back*"



Responding to partner's "Take Out Double" - 1

♠ Q642
 ♥ 983
 ♦ 1075
 ♣ J74



What can you do when partner is forcing you to bid
 And you have very few points?
 Don't worry!
Just bid 1♠ your longest suit





Responding to partner's "Take Out Double" - 2

West North East South
 1♥ Double Pass

What do you bid to partner's take-out double with the following hands?

????

a)

♠ AQJ106
♥ 93
♦ AJ42
♣ 54

4♠

With partner's strength and your long strong ♠ suit and overall strength game should be on.

b)

♠ 982
♥ KQ72
♦ K76
♣ 942

1NT

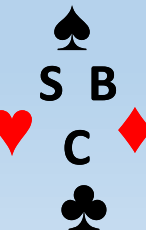
With 8HCP a balanced hand and stops in opponents suit. No other suit option to bid

c)

♠ J10965
♥ K2
♦ KQ54
♣ 98

Respond 2♠

1♠ would be too weak as partner may think you have as low as 0 HCPs. With a 5 cards suit and 8+ HCP, jump bid





Can you PASS a “Take-out Double” ?

If opener’s partner (3rd player) responds, then you are no longer obliged to bid over partner’s “Take-out Double”

a)

♠ J63	1♠	Double
♥ 972	[Empty box]	
♦ J874		
♣ Q106		

b)

♠ 954	1♠	Double
♥ KJ75	[Empty box]	
♦ A643		
♣ Q6		

South’s response of 2♠ after your partner’s take-out double, you are no longer obliged to bid with your worthless hand.

You can PASS

You now have a good hand so you want to bid. You would have bid 3♥ if S had passed. So you can still bid 3♥ after the 2♠ response.

(With 2 suits of the same length always bid the highest ranking first)

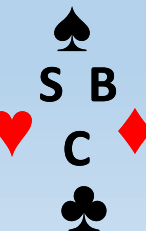




Module 17 - Quiz

Q1. West is dealer, and you are South in 3 situations. In what situations do you need to bid and which pass and is your partner's double for take-out or for penalties?

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>Take-out or Penalty</i>	<i>Must South Bid (Yes/No)</i>
a) 1♦	Dbl	p	???	Take-out	Yes
b) 1♥ p	p Dbl	4♥ p	p ???	Penalty	No
c) 1♥	Dbl	1♠	p	Take-out	No (unless >6HCP and have a 4+ card minor suit)



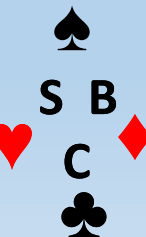
Playing Hands for Module 17

Bad Leads: The “Elvis Presley Coup”
If you lead from AQ and your RH opponent has Kx,
the King is no longer dead!! –
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Dealer: North

Vulnerability:

♠ KQJ83

♥ K4 15HCP

♦ Q2

♣ A976

♠ A1092

♥ 7632

♦ 754

♣ Q4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 6

♥ AQJ10

♦ A1096

♣ KJ53

♠ 754

♥ 985

♦ KJ83 4HCP

♣ 1082

With 21HCP it is likely that E/W will win the part-score auction

Bidding: N opens 1♠ his longest suit with 15HCP. East bids Double (take-out double) asking partner to bid his bid suit S passes and now West must bid and chooses 2♥ his 4 card suit (*even with 0HCP he would have to bid*). East supports with 3♥ (15HCP, 4 card support, and equiv. of 3 HCP for a singleton spade).

Lead: ♠K which west wins with ♠A

Card Play: Immediately take the ♥ finesse and when you have taken all trumps out, play ♣3 towards ♣Q (the WORK suit). *I would expect declarer to make 9 tricks* with the cross-ruffs, probably losing 1♠, 1♦ and 2♣ tricks

<u>Bidding</u>			
<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
1♠	Db1	p	2♥
p	3♥	All Pass	

Deal 17.1





Dealer: East

Vulnerability:

8HCP

♠ QJ1092

♥ 854

♦ AJ85

♣ 2

♠ K83

♥ Q1097

6HCP

♦ 106

♣ J1094

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 4

♥ AKJ32

♦ 932

♣ KQ65

13HCP

♠ A765

♥ 6

♦ KQ74

13HCP

♣ A873

<u>Bidding</u>			
<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
	1♥	Dbl	2♥
2♠	3♥	All Pass	

Deal 17.2

With 21HCP it is likely that E/W will win the part-score auction.

Bidding: East opens 1♥ with 13HCP and a 5 card suit.

With opening points and *no 5 card suit S makes a take-out double, asking partner to id his longest suit.*

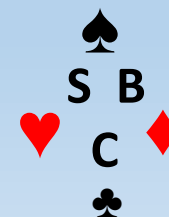
West with 4 card support bids 2♥, *which he would have done anyway had S passed.*

North equally bids 2♠ *which he would have done had west passed.*

East bids 3♥ recognising he has an additional 3HCP for the singleton ♠.

Lead: ♦K top of honour sequence

Card Play: West will win with a diamond ruff on trick 3, remove trump and play on the ♣ WORK suit to eliminate A and make 9 tricks (6 ♥ tricks, one being a ruff, and 3♣ tricks)





Dealer: South

Vulnerability:

4HCP

♠ 10984

♥ J63

♦ 542

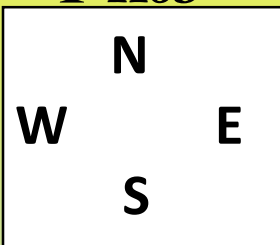
♣ K63

♠ KQ2

♥ A972

♦ 7

♣ AJ1087



♠ J3 9HCP

♥ Q54

♦ A1093

♣ Q952

♠ A765

♥ K108

♦ KQJ86

♣ 4

13HCP

<u>Bidding</u>			
<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
		1♦	Db1
p	1NT	All Pass	

Deal 17.3

With 23HCP I would expect E/W to win the part-score auction

Bidding: S opens 1♦ with 13HCP and a 5 card diamond suit.

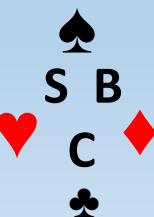
With 14HCP and tolerance for all suits except diamonds W makes a “take-out double” asking partner to bid his longest suit. Had W bid his 5 card club suit at the 2 level it would have denied tolerance for at least one of the majors and made it more difficult for E to find the correct bid.

N passes and **East bids 1NT** which is same 6-8HCP required of a 1NT response to an opening bid + stops in opponents bid diamond suit. Everyone else passes

Lead: ♦K which is taken immediately by the Ace as 1093 is a second stopper in this suit

Card Play: Immediately play ♣Q and finesse which loses, after the diamond return the ♦103 becomes a trick/stopper. E should probably make 8 tricks with 2♠, 1♥, 1♦ and 4♣ tricks. He may make 9 tricks if S does not defend passively

Note: *With E/W having 23HCP and S opening the bidding once N plays the ♣K, E knows all the other points are with S, otherwise he would not have had 13HCP to open.*





Dealer: West

Vulnerability:

17HCP

♠ 5

♥ K1086

♦ AK75

♣ AK72

♠ AK986

♥ AJ72

14HCP ♦ 2

♣ Q104

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ QJ3

♥ Q53

♦ 8643 6HCP

♣ J63

♠ 10742

♥ 94 3HCP

♦ QJ109

♣ 985

Bidding			
N	E	S	W
			1♠
Dbl	p	2♦	p
3♦	All Pass		

Deal 17.4

While both partnerships have 20HCP it will be interesting to see who wins this part-score auction. I suspect it will be N/S playing a diamond contract.

Bidding: After partner's 1♠ opening having been doubled by N I expect E will pass and S being obliged to bid his longest suit after N's *take-out double* will bid 2♦. West really isn't strong enough to bid 2♥, but may do so. N with a very good hand and 4 diamonds is likely to bid 3♦ which will be passed out. If West chooses to bid 2♥ then I would not be surprised if E/W get to 3♠ as East now knows that W has a 5 card spade suit.

Lead: ♠A

Card Play: After taking the second spade with a ruff in N, declarer should play ♦A and then ♦5 to the ♦Q to find East has a singleton. Declarer should then lead ♥9 towards the K *and make 10 tricks* 1♥, 6♦, two being ruffs of spades and 2♣ tricks

Note: Should E/W play in 3♠ I would expect them to make 8 tricks and *go 1 back*





Dealer: North

Vulnerability:

14HCP

♠ K873

♥ AJ976

♦ AQ6

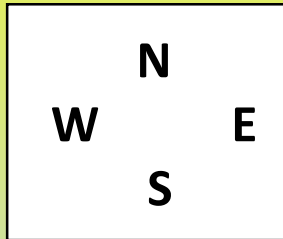
♣ 3

♠ QJ62

♥ 83

♦ 742

♣ Q1072



♠ A10

♥ KQ42

♦ KJ10

♣ KJ65

17pts

♠ 954

♥ 105 4HCP

♦ 9853

♣ A984

5HCP

Bidding

N

E

S

W

1♥

1NT

All Pass

Deal 17.5

With 22HCP will E/W win the part-score bidding auction?

Bidding: N with an opening and unbalanced hand should bid his longest suit 1♥ *and E overcall 1NT*, showing 15/17HCP, a balanced hand and stops in opponents suit. With E being directly behind N's opening suit it is very likely that he has 2 stops in hearts. S and E should both pass as they know they don't have game on and S doesn't have support for partner's suit. East's hand is **NOT** suitable for a take-out double as it doesn't have length in the other suits, especially spades which partner is likely to bid and has shortage in the bid suit.

Lead: Probably ♥10, highest in partner's bid suit.

Card Play: Take heart in East. *While clubs are the best work suit*, I suggest that W plays ♠A and then ♠10 to establish 2 extra spade tricks in W while having the ♣Q10 as entries for the spades. *I would expect E/W to make 7 tricks* losing 1♠, 3♥, 1♦ and 1♣ *though if the defence get their play wrong then E/W could make 8 or even 9 tricks.*





Dealer: East

Vulnerability:

6pts

♠ 10754

♥ Q1062

♦ 96

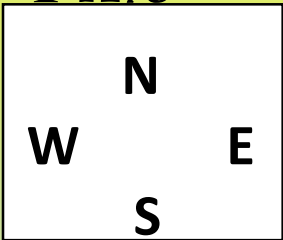
♣ A75

♠ KQJ93

♥ 973

♦ K8

♣ KQ4



♠ A82

♥ 8

♦ QJ542

♣ 9862

♠ 6

♥ AKJ54

♦ A1073

♣ J103

14pts

7pts

13pts

<u>Bidding</u>			
<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
	p	1♥	1♠
2♥	2♠	All Pass	

Deal 17.6

In a competitive auction I expect E/W to win the part-score contract with their 21HCP and higher ranking spade suit

Bidding: After East passes S should open 1♥ with his 5 card suit and 13HCP.

West does not have a take-out double as he has no tolerance for diamonds and has a 5 card spade suit, so overcalls 1♠ suggesting 13-19HCPs

N with 4 card support and 6HCP can bid 2♥ as he would have if W had passed and equally W can bid 2♠ with 7HCP, knowing his partner W has 5 spades for an overcall. Everyone is likely to pass out as they don't have anything extra to allow a bid.

Lead: ♥2 fourth highest of partner's suit with the low card promising an honour.

Card Play: E wins trick 2 in hearts with a spade ruff I would suggest declarer plays ♦2 to establish ♦K and another ruff of hearts and then draws trump.

Declarer could make 9 tricks losing 1♥, 1♦ and 2♣

Note: If N/S play in hearts they can make 9 tricks

