

ANNOUNCING, ALERTING AND BIDDING GUIDELINES

Opening Bid	Description	Announce	Alert	No Action
1♣ and 1♦	Could be fewer than 3 cards		✓	
	Could be as few as 3 cards			✓
	Other (strong, artificial)		✓	
1♥/♠	1 NT forcing after a major	"Forcing"		
1NT	Balanced "12 to 14" (or appropriate range) and, if relevant, "may contain a 5 card major" or "may contain a singleton" - also the rebid by opener after opening 1 of suit and response of another suit			
2♣	Strong, Acol, Benji Acol etc		✓	
	Precision	"Clubs + point range"		
2♦	Weak with diamonds	"Weak + your range"		
	Strong with diamonds	"Strong, forcing" or "Strong non-forcing"		
	Benji Acol		✓	
	Multi	"Multi"		
2♥/♠	Weak with heart/spades	"Weak + your range"		
	Strong with hearts/spades	"Strong, forcing" or "Strong non-forcing"		
	Other (Lucas, Flannery, etc)		✓	
1NT - 2♣	Simple stayman where 2♦ denies			✓
	Responder may not hold a 4 card M		✓	
1NT - 2♣/♦	Forcing and non forcing stayman		✓	
	Checkback stayman		✓	
1NT - 2♦	Transfer	"Hearts"		
1NT - 2♦ - 2♥	Completion of transfer			✓
1NT - 2♥	Transfer	"Spades"		
1NT - 2♥ - 2♠	Completion of transfer			✓
1NT - 2♠	Transfer to either minor	"Clubs or Diamonds"		
1NT - 2♠	Transfer to clubs only	"Clubs"		
1NT - 2NT	Transfer to Diamonds	"Diamonds"		
	Breaking of Transfers		✓	
Bids above 3NT	Artificial opening bids		✓	
	Ace asking and cue bidding after suit agreement, also by inference			✓
Doubles	Only alert doubles when playing with screens; however they must be listed on the convention card			
Overcalls	If your partnership regularly overcalls on 4 card suits		✓	

1) Please do not offer an explanation of an alerted or announced bid UNLESS asked by the opponent next to bid.

2) If your partner has given the WRONG explanation you must say nothing during the auction but:

a) if you land up as the declaring side dummy or declarer must tell the opposition BEFORE their lead

b) if you have to defend the hand you must keep quiet until the end of the game but call the T.D. then.

3) If your partner gives the RIGHT explanation but you have made the wrong bid you must say nothing whether declarer or defender.

4) A late alert can be rectified but you must call the T.D.

5) After three passes the bidding cards MUST BE LEFT ON THE TABLE and the lead is made FACE DOWN. This is the CLARIFICATION TIME when questions regarding bidding may be answered or misexplanations corrected. If there have been control or ace asking bids they must now be pointed out. The leader may ask questions but before his partner can ask the lead must be face down. The auction period is only finished when the lead card has been faced.