**Overcalls – quick review**

When partner overcalls . . .

How many cards in the suit? \_\_\_\_\_

How many points at the 1 level? \_\_\_\_\_

How many points at the 2 level without a jump? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe a 2-level overcall *with* a jump \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Responding to partner’s 1-level overcall

7-11 points and a fit for partner’s suit \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

12+ points and a fit for partner’s suit \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TAKE – OUT DOUBLES -** Opponents have opened the bidding and you have:

* Opening strength
* 3+ cards in all unbid suits (preferably with an honor in each)
* Shortness in opponents’ suit (void, singleton, doubleton)
* Neither you nor partner has bid anything other than pass

**Responding to partner’s TAKE-OUT double**

Take it out if your RHO (Right-Hand Opponent) passes.

Repeat: Take it out! You must bid.

* 0 – 8 points bid best suit at lowest level
* 9 – 11 points **jump** a level, bid best suit
* 12+ points cuebid opponent’s suit

No-Trump responses to partner’s take-out double require more points.

* 8 – 10 points and at least one “stopper” in opponent’s suit – bid NT at lowest level possible
* 11 – 12 points and more than one “stopper” – **jump** in NT
* 13+ points and more than one “stopper” – bid 3NT

If your RHO bids something other than pass, a bid by you is voluntary and shows values, so Doubler can bid again without extra values. If, however, advancer has been forced to bid and has shown 0-8 points, a rebid by T-O Doubler shows 17+ points.

**Take-out double sample hands** NORTH

**Hand #1** AJ43

Dealer: WestK65

AQ65

West opens 1 club 72 East passes

SOUTH

Bidding K105

W **N** E **S** 108432

1C \_\_? P \_\_? KJ2

P \_\_? all pass 96

Contract? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Plan the play of the hand

How many “losers” do you have? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Consider both your hand and

Dummy’s, but count losers from the long-trump hand.

How many points might East have? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you play the spades to avoid losing a trick?

**Hand #2** NORTH

Dealer: West AJ83

A953

WEST 104 EAST

Q76 A62 1042

KQJ10 764

AQ87 J652

97 Q104

SOUTH

K95

Bidding 82

W N E S K93

1D \_\_? P \_\_? KJ853

P \_\_? all pass

Contract? \_\_\_\_\_\_

Lead? \_\_\_\_\_

Plan the play of the hand.

How many losers do you have? \_\_\_\_\_\_ Consider both your hand and

Dummy’s, but count losers from the long-trump hand.

Too many losers . . . how can you eliminate one of them?

How might you play the spades to avoid losing a trick?

**Counting Your Points in a Suit Contract**

Until you know that you and partner have a trump fit, count only High Card Points.

Once you know that you have a fit, re-evaluate your points.

**DECLARER adds** **value for length.**

The conservative approach – add 1 point for every card more than 5 you

have in the trump suit.

A more aggressive approach

5-card trump suit add 1 point

6-card trump suit add 2 points

7 card trump suit add 3 points, etc.

**DUMMY adds** **value for shortness.**

The conservative approach

For a doubleton in a non-trump suit add 1 point

For a singleton in a non-trump suit add 2 points

For a void in a non-trump suit add 3 points

A more aggressive approach

For a doubleton in a non-trump suit add 1 point

For a singleton in a non-trump suit add 3 points

For a void in a non-trump suit add 5 points

Discuss with your partner which approach you intend to use beforehand to avoid surprises when you lay down your hand as dummy.