

Handling No Trump interference after your 15-17 1NT opening



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This is my alternative to Lebensohl when the opponents bid after your 1NT opening. In this entire article, you open 1NT, 15-17 and the opponents take action.

If they Double (X)

BOP or Balance of Power bidding when the Opponents Double with an equal hand.

If the Double shows an equal hand:

Pass shows the balance of power, (6-8 HCP) and ensures game.

Redouble shows weakness and asks you to bid 2♣. If partner has ♣, she passes. If she does not have ♣, she begins to bid 4+ card suits up the line.

All systems are on:

2♣ is Stayman

2♦ transfers to Hearts

2♥ transfers to Spades

2♠ transfers to Clubs (shows a better hand than Redouble)

2NT transfers to Diamonds

If the Double shows a single unspecified suit:

All systems are on:

2♣ is Stayman

2♦ transfers to Hearts

2♥ transfers to Spades

2♠ transfers to Clubs (or Diamonds)

2NT is invitational

3NT is to play (this is now possible)

If they bid a natural suit, all systems are on that can be on and Double is Stolen Bid.

If the opponents bid 2♣ :

Double is Stayman

2♦ transfers to Hearts

2♥ transfers to Spades

2♠ transfers to Clubs (or Diamonds)

2NT is invitational

3NT is to play

If the opponents bid 2♦:

Double is Stolen Bid (Transfer to Hearts)

3♦ is Stayman (cuebid)

2♥ transfers to Spades

2♠ transfers to Clubs (or Diamonds)

2NT is invitational

3NT is to play

If the opponents bid 2♥:

Double is Stolen Bid (Transfer to Spades)

3♥ is Stayman

2♠ transfers to Clubs (or Diamonds)

3♣, or 3♦, shows 5 or more ♣ or ♦ and is forcing to game

2NT is invitational

3NT is to play

If the opponents bid 2♠:

Double is Stolen Bid (Transfer to Clubs or Diamonds)

3♣, 3♦, or 3♥ shows 5+ and is forcing to game

2NT is invitational

3NT is to play

If they make an artificial bid, ask what the bid means if you intend to bid. If it is a transfer or relay use good judgment to manage the interference as follows:

If they bid 2♣ (Transfer or relay to Diamonds):

Double is still Stayman

2♦ transfers to Hearts

2♥ transfers to Spades

2♠ transfers to Clubs or Diamonds

2NT is invitational

3NT is to play

If they bid 2♦ (Transfer or relay to Hearts):

Double is Stolen Bid

3♦ is Stayman

2♥ transfers to Spades

2♠ transfers to Clubs or Diamonds

2NT is invitational, 3NT is to play

If they bid 2♥ (Transfer or relay to Spades):

Double is Stolen Bid

3♥ is Stayman

2♠ transfers to Clubs or Diamonds

2NT is invitational

3NT is to play

If they bid 2♣ (Transfer or relay to Clubs):

Double is Stolen Bid

3♠ is Stayman

2NT is invitational

3NT is to play