

Proper Use of Jacoby and Texas Transfers



By Marjorie Michelin

michelinonbridge@aol.com

Most players that learn Jacoby and Texas transfers, have not been taught the subtleties in using the bids properly. We need to distinguish between 5- card suits, 6+ [or more] in the suit. We need to discern drop dead bids, game invitational bids, forcing bids, slam invitational bids, quantitative bids, & slam forcing bids. Which bids are Ace asking or Key Card bids or Quantitative bids?

For this Bridge Tip we are assuming you have learned Jacoby Transfers. Texas Transfers are a jump to the 4-level and bid as a “transfer” auction like Jacoby Transfers.

Key Points:

Jacoby Transfer:

Jacoby transfers are made on the 2-level. You promise 5 or more in the Major

1NT 2♥*

2♠

* = Transfer

Texas Transfer:

Texas transfers are bids on the 4 level and promise at least a 6-card suit

Don't use Texas if you only have a 5-card suit

1NT 4♥*

4♠

Sometimes we have hands that want to invite game, invite slam, or ask for Aces or Keycards.

The following are examples for Jacoby, Texas and Quantitative bidding . Partner opens 1NT

1 ♠KJ9765

♥54

♦432

♣54

Transfer and Pass

2 ♠KJ9765
♥K4
♦432
♣54

Transfer and bid 3♠ inviting game promising 6+♠

3 ♠KJ9765
♥K4
♦K42
♣54

Bid Texas and Pass

You have game and 6+♠

4 ♠KJ976
♥K42
♦AJ2
♣K4

Transfer and bid 4NT

Quantitative, invites slam

Promises 5 only spades.

When we have a hand that wants to invite slam and has a 6+ major, we use Jacoby Transfer first, then bid 4 of the Major. Partner will now know you have at least 6 in the Major and an invite to slam.

5 ♠KJ10976
♥K4
♦A32
♣K4

1NT 2♥*

2♠ 4♠ Slam invite 6+♠

6 ♠KJ10976
♥KQ
♦A32

♣K4

2NT 4♥* [Slam hand]

4♠ 4NT= RKC OR Aces

7 ♠KJ1097

♥K53

♦AJ10

♣K4

1NT 2♥*

2♠ 4NT [Quantitative]

5♠ TO PLAY

Opener has spades support;

No interest in Slam