

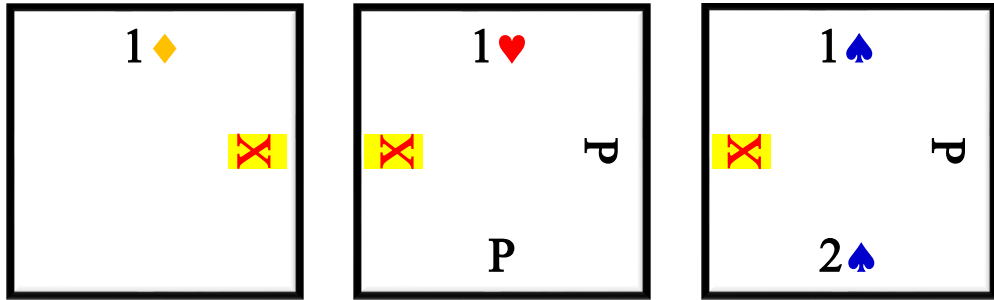


**COMPLETE GUIDE**

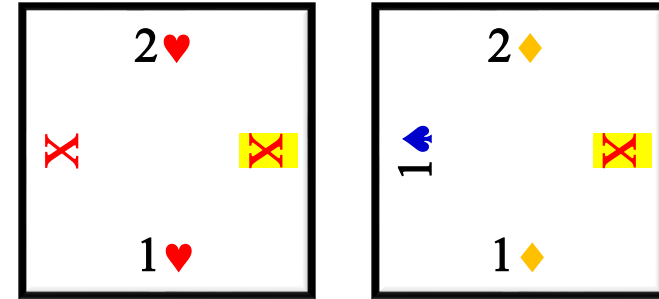
**DOUBLES**

**NOTES**

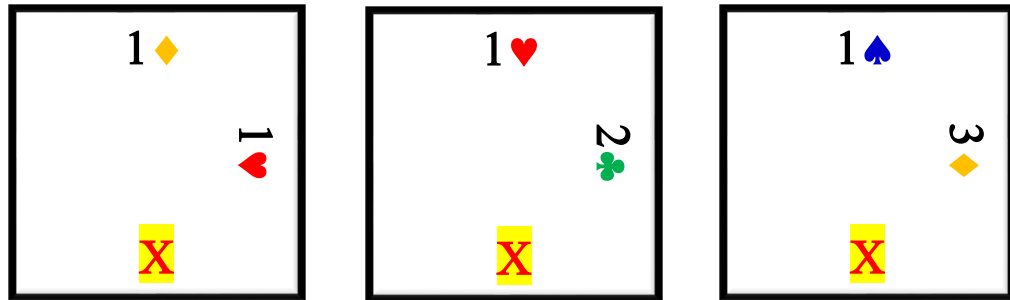
## TAKEOUT DOUBLES



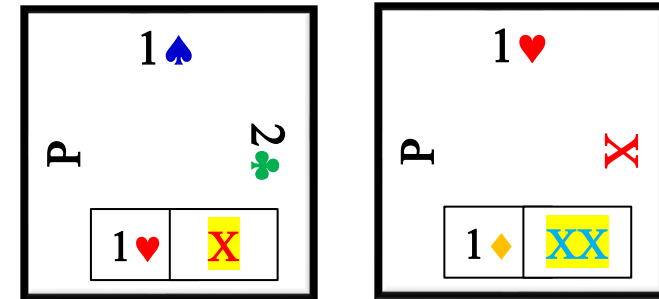
## RESPONSIVE DOUBLES



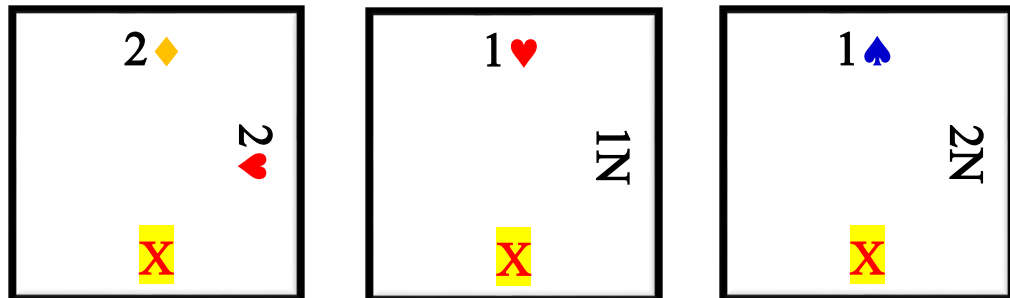
## THE NEGATIVE DOUBLE



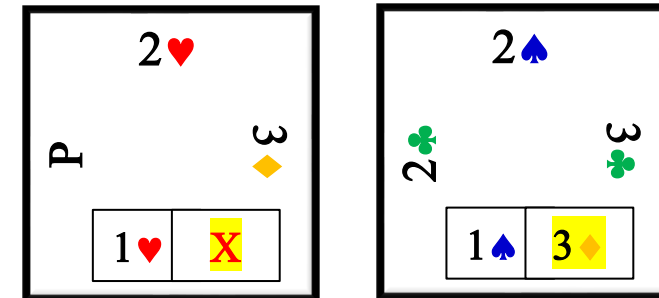
## SUPPORT DOUBLES

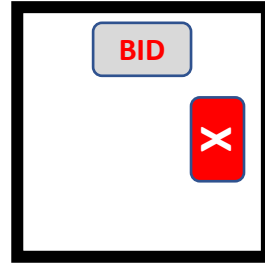


## THE PENALTY DOUBLE



## MAXIMAL DOUBLES

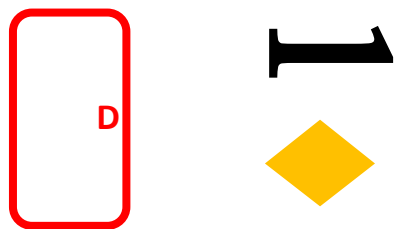




# THE TAKEOUT DOUBLE

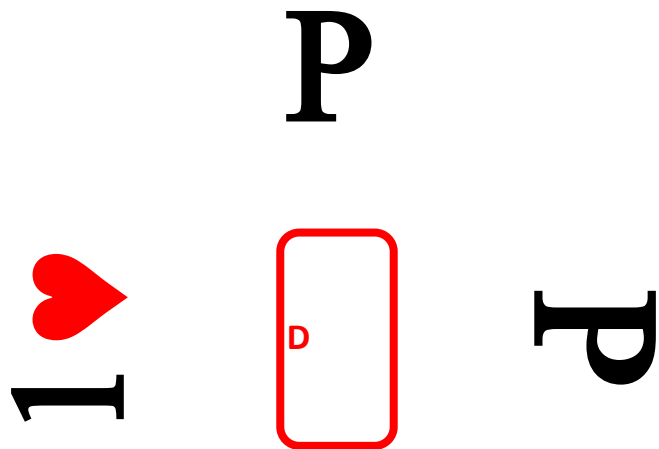
OUR “OPENING” DOUBLE

# THE TRADITIONAL TAKEOUT DOUBLE



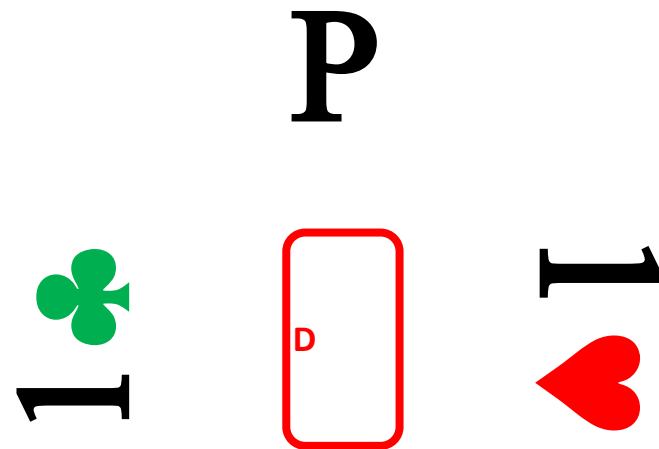
**X**

12+ TOTAL POINTS  
3+ CARDS IN **ALL** UNBID SUITS  
or  
A HAND TOO STRONG TO  
OVERCALL (18+)



**X**

9+ TOTAL POINTS  
3+ CARDS IN UNBID SUITS LIKELY  
or  
A HAND TOO STRONG TO OVERCALL  
(15+)



**X**

12+ TOTAL POINTS  
4 CARDS IN **BOTH** UNBID SUITS  
or  
A HAND TOO STRONG TO  
OVERCALL (18+)

# DOUBLES

When we make takeout doubles, we are absolutely forcing our partner to bid. So, the higher the opponent's bid is, the more values our doubles will show.

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♥

X

12+ pts. & support for all the unbid suits.

WEST

NORTH

EAST


YOU


3 ♠

X

Much bigger hand needed for this takeout double!


# MAKE YOUR CALLS

| WEST | NORTH | EAST  | YOU |
|------|-------|---|-----|
|      |       | 1  | ??  |

| WEST | NORTH | EAST  | YOU |
|------|-------|---|-----|
|      |       | 1  | ??  |

 **AT87** 1  
 **K4**  
 **AK32**  
 **982**

 **KT74** 2  
 **KQ4**  
 **AJ32**  
 **86**

 **9862** 3  
 **A3**  
 **J32**  
 **AK85**

 **AJ4** 4  
 **8**  
 **AKQ87**  
 **J832**

# MAKE YOUR CALLS

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
|      |       | 1 ♣  | ??  |

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
|      |       | 1 ♥  | ??  |

 **AT87** 1  
 **K4**  
 **AK32**  
 **982**

P

### WRONG SHAPE

I know we don't like it, but sometimes we just have to pass.

 **KT74** 2  
 **KQ4**  
 **AJ32**  
 **86**

X

### NORMAL TAKEOUT X

Now we have the right hand. 12+ total points and 3+ cards in all the unbid suits.

 **9862** 3  
 **A3**  
 **J32**  
 **AK85**

X

### NORMAL TAKEOUT X

Opening hand or better, support (min 3) in the unbid suits. \*or very strong hand\*

 **AJ4** 4  
 **8**  
 **AKQ87**  
 **J832**

X

### TWO CHOICES

Double is the preferred choice even with a diamond overcall available.

# MAKE YOUR CALLS

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
|      |       | 1♥   | ??  |

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| 1♣   | P     | 1♠   | ??  |

♠ QT4 1  
♥ 3  
♦ KQ43  
♣ AJ972

♠ AT432 2  
♥ KT95  
♦ 3  
♣ AK3

♠ 92 3  
♥ AQ83  
♦ AT32  
♣ K85

♠ KJ4 4  
♥ Q98  
♦ AK87  
♣ J83



# MAKE YOUR CALLS

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
|      |       | 1♥   | ??  |

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| 1♣   | P     | 1♠   | ??  |

 **QT4** 1  
 **3**  
 **KQ43**  
 **AJ972**

**X**

### MOST CHANCES

We do not need to have 4 of the unbid major every time.

 **AT432** 2  
 **KT95**  
 **3**  
 **AK3**

**1♠**

### PRIORITIZE YOUR MAJOR

We will almost always prefer to bid our 5 card majors directly vs. doubling.

 **92** 3  
 **AQ83**  
 **AT32**  
 **K85**

**X**

### 2 SUITED TAKEOUT

4 – 4 in the unbid suits and an opening hand or better (less needed with more shape)

 **KJ4** 4  
 **Q98**  
 **AK87**  
 **J83**

**P**

### WRONG SHAPE

Sometimes you just can't bid (even with good hands).

## TAKEOUT DOUBLES

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♦ ??

**YOU**

♠ **AKQ97**

♥ **AK4**

♦ **3**

♣ **QJ93**

## TWO – STEP PROCESS

Some hands are too strong to overcall with. When we have more than 17 points we can't just overcall. We have to show our extra values with a two step process.

Step 1: **Double** (forcing bid)

Correct Bid:

**X**

## TAKEOUT DOUBLES

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♦

X

P

1 ♥

P

??

### YOU



**AKQ97**



**AK4**



**3**



**QJ93**

## TWO – STEP PROCESS

Some hands are too strong to overcall with. When we have more than 17 points we can't just overcall. We have to show our extra values with a two step process.

Step 1: **Double** (forcing bid)

Step 2: Bid naturally on your next turn

THIS IS THE **“POWER DOUBLE”**

Correct Bid:

1 ♠

## TAKEOUT DOUBLES

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
|      |       | 1♦   | X   |
| 2♦   | P     | P    | ??  |

### YOU



**KQ97**



**AK4**



**3**



**AQJ93**

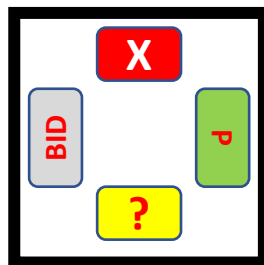
## Doubling again shows extras

While we could bid our clubs now (showing our values as 18+), but double will serve our purposes much better here.

We are showing extra values by doubling again and our shape suggests multiple possibilities for a fit. This is still a takeout double, just showing a bit more than our original opening hand.



Correct Bid:

**X**





# RESPONDING TO TAKEOUT DOUBLES



MINIMUM SUIT RESPONSES TO THE TAKEOUT X

| WEST  | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH   |
|---|-------|------|---|
| 1  | X     | P    | 1  |



= 0 – 8 points / “preference”

| WEST  | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH   |
|---|-------|------|---|
| 1  | X     | P    | 2  |



= 0 – 8 points / “preference”

| WEST  | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH   |
|---|-------|------|---|
| 2  | X     | P    | 2  |

= 0 – 8 points / “preference”

| WEST  | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH   |
|---|-------|------|---|
| 2  | X     | P    | 3  |

= 0 – 10~ points / “preference”

| WEST  | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH   |
|---|-------|------|---|
| 3  | X     | P    | 4  |

= 0 - ?? points / “preference”

## MINIMUM RESPONSES

(point ranges start with 0)

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♣   | X     | P    | 1♥    |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 1♠   | X     | P    | 2♦    |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 2♥   | X     | P    | 2♠    |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 2♥   | X     | P    | 3♣    |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 3♠   | X     | P    | 4♥    |

## OTHER RESPONSES

### JUMPS

(values depend on level)

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♣   | X     | P    | 2♥    |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 1♠   | X     | P    | 4♥    |

### FREE BIDS

(will show some values)

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♥   | X     | 2♥   | 2♠    |
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| 1♦   | X     | 1♥   | 1♠    |

### CUE BIDS

(inv+ & exploratory)

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♣   | X     | P    | 2♣    |

### AFTER A REDOUBLE

(min bids still 0 - 8)

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♥   | X     | XX   | 1♠    |

### NO – TRUMP RESPONSES

(must have values)

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♦   | X     | P    | 1N    |

## RESPONDING TO DOUBLE

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1♥

X

P

??

YOU

♠ 832

♥ 9762

♦ 753

♣ 742

## RESPONDING TO THE TAKEOUT DOUBLE

**New suit at lowest level**

**0 – 8 total pts.**

**preference for that suit**

Correct Bid:

1♠



## RESPONDING TO DOUBLE

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1♥

X

P

??

YOU

♠ AJ3

♥ 842

♦ KJT74

♣ 73

## RESPONDING TO THE TAKEOUT DOUBLE

**Jump in new suit**

**9 – 11 total pts. natural**

Correct Bid:

3♦

## RESPONDING TO DOUBLE

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♣

X

P

??

YOU



KT43



JT94



753



AK

## RESPONDING TO THE TAKEOUT DOUBLE

**Cue - Bid**

10+ pts. forcing “tell me more”

Correct Bid:

2 ♣

## RESPONDING TO DOUBLE

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♦

X

P

??

### YOU

♠ 32

♥ T84

♦ AT93

♣ A872

## RESPONDING TO THE TAKEOUT DOUBLE

**1 No-Trump**

**6 – 10 balanced**  
(no major suit options)

**2 No-Trump**

**10<sup>+</sup> – 12<sup>-</sup> balanced**  
(no major suit options)

Correct Bid:

1N

# RESPONDING TO THE TAKEOUT X

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| 1 ♠  | X     | P    | ??  |

1

♠ 95432

♥ 982

♦ Q96

♣ 52

2

♠ 92

♥ KJ42

♦ AJ3

♣ T983

3

♠ 32

♥ AQ872

♦ 96

♣ AQ72

4

♠ QJ83

♥ K4

♦ JT92

♣ JT3

# RESPONDING TO THE TAKEOUT X

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| 1 ♠  | X     | P    | ??  |

1

♠ 95432

♥ 982

♦ Q96

♣ 52

2♦

You're guessing at what to bid.  
Take the lowest route here.  
This is the best (albeit tiniest)  
chance to find a fit.

2

♠ 92

♥ KJ42

♦ AJ3

♣ T983

3♥

Remember, 2H would be your  
minimum response (0 – 8).  
You are better than that!  
Show your hand correctly.

3

♠ 32

♥ AQ872

♦ 96

♣ AQ72

4♥

You know your level and you  
know you have a fit in hearts!  
You're the captain, bid what  
you know!!

4

♠ QJ83

♥ K4

♦ JT92

♣ JT3

1N

Values and a solid stopper(s)  
position in the opponent's  
suit. This is NOT a minimum  
response.

# RESPONDING TO THE TAKEOUT X

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| 3♥   | X     | P    | ??  |

♠ AT982 1  
♥ 2  
♦ KQ2  
♣ J952

♠ A2 2  
♥ KJ42  
♦ Q73  
♣ T983

♠ 64 3  
♥ 8732  
♦ 96  
♣ QT762

♠ A2 4  
♥ KJT84  
♦ 982  
♣ 832

# RESPONDING TO THE TAKEOUT X

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| 3♥   | X     | P    | ??  |

 **AT982** 1  
 **2**  
 **KQ2**  
 **J952**





4♠

Partner's double shows more values than at lower levels. Adjust your bidding accordingly.

 **A2** 2  
 **KJ42**  
 **Q73**  
 **T983**

3N

Same as problem one. We know partner has more than just a minimum opening hand.

 **64** 3  
 **8732**  
 **96**  
 **QT762**

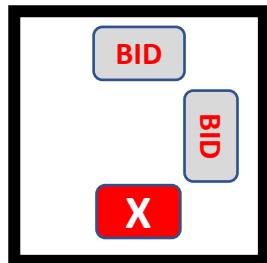
4♣

You are still forced! Do not pass too quickly. Bid when you must and have confidence in partner's choice to X.

 **A2** 4  
 **KJT84**  
 **982**  
 **832**

P

Tough spot but this looks like our best plus score from our perspective.



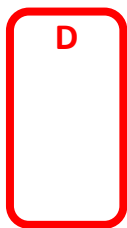
# THE NEGATIVE DOUBLE


OUR “RESPONDING” DOUBLE  
(responder only)



# THE NEGATIVE DOUBLE

1 

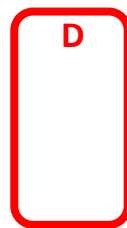


1 

X

8+ TOTAL POINTS  
4+ CARDS IN HEARTS

1 



3 

X

11+ TOTAL POINTS  
4 CARDS IN SPADES

1 



3 

X

13+ TOTAL POINTS  
4+ CARDS IN HEARTS

## THE NEGATIVE DOUBLE

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
|------|-------|------|-----|

1 ♦ 1 ♠ ??

### YOU



32



AJ94



A432



K74

## NEGATIVE DOUBLES

**ALWAYS RESPONDING TO  
PARTNER'S OPENING BID.**

**focused on unbid Major(s) almost exclusively.**

- 1 LEVEL AVAILABLE – 6+ pts.**
- 2 LEVEL AVAILABLE – 8+ pts.**
- 3 LEVEL AVAILABLE – 10+ pts. (inv +)**
- 4 LEVEL AVAILABLE – 13+ pts.**

Correct Bid:

X

**MAKE YOUR BID**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♣

1 ♦

??

**YOU**

♠ J943

♥ KQ76

♦ J65

♣ 532

**MAKE YOUR BID**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♣

1 ♦

??

**YOU**

♠ A952

♥ KT6

♦ 52

♣ JT32

## MAKE YOUR BID

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♣

1 ♦

X

YOU

♠ J943

♥ KQ76

♦ J65

♣ 532

## SPECIAL SPOTS

When we see this auction, we now have a way to show both 4 card majors with this double.

The bid of 1 of a Major by us would just show that major 4+.

# MAKE YOUR BID

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 

1 

??

## YOU

 **J943**

 **76**

 **J65**

 **AJ32**

# MAKE YOUR BID

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 

1 

??

## YOU

 **A9542**

 **T6**

 **Q52**

 **JT3**

## MAKE YOUR BID

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 

1 

1 

YOU

 **A9542**

 **T6**

 **Q52**

 **JT3**

## SPECIAL SPOTS

After one minor and a one heart overcall, the responder has two bids that show spades. We can now assign a special extra meaning to both bids.

- **X** = 6+ pts. & **exactly 4 spades**
- **1S** = 6+ pts. & **5+ spades**

**MAKE YOUR BID**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1♥

1♠

??

**YOU**

♠ 943

♥ 76

♦ AJ65

♣ AJ32

**MAKE YOUR BID**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1♦

1♠

??

**YOU**

♠ T72

♥ AK643

♦ J92

♣ T3

# RESPONDING TO THE DOUBLES

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH    |
|------|-------|------|----------|
| 1♥   | X     | P    | 1♦<br>?? |

♠ A942  
♥ 42  
♦ AJT6  
♣ K95

♠ 42  
♥ JT83  
♦ AJT6  
♣ AQ7

♠ Q52  
♥ 92  
♦ AQJ6  
♣ K983

♠ KJ52  
♥ AT9  
♦ AKT9  
♣ A6



# RESPONDING TO THE DOUBLES

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH    |
|------|-------|------|----------|
| 1♥   | X     | P    | 1♦<br>?? |

 **A942**  
 **42**  
 **AJT6**  
 **K95**

1♠

You've already opened the bidding ☺. Just show your 4 card spade support at the lowest level.

 **42**  
 **JT83**  
 **AJT6**  
 **AQ7**

1NT

12 – 14 balanced  
Stopper in Hearts  
No 4 card spade suit.

 **Q52**  
 **92**  
 **AQJ6**  
 **K983**

2♣

Not ideal, but you have to do something. Showing your 2<sup>nd</sup> suit is your only option.

 **KJ52**  
 **AT9**  
 **AKT9**  
 **A6**

4♠

Don't rebid 2NT when you have a Major suit fit. 3S would be a good 16 – 18. 4S is 19+.

# RESPONDING TO THE DOUBLES

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH    |
|------|-------|------|----------|
| 2♣   | X     | P    | 1♠<br>?? |

♠ AQ942  
 ♥ 42  
 ♦ AQT  
 ♣ 853

♠ A8432  
 ♥ K8  
 ♦ AJT  
 ♣ AQ7

♠ AQ532  
 ♥ Q832  
 ♦ K3  
 ♣ 83

♠ A6532  
 ♥ AT93  
 ♦ AJT  
 ♣ 6

# RESPONDING TO THE DOUBLES

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      |       |      | 1♠    |
| 2♣   | X     | P    | ??    |

♠ AQ942  
 ♥ 42  
 ♦ AQT  
 ♣ 853

2♠

Sometimes you're just stuck.  
Make the least terrible bid in  
these spots.

♠ A8432  
 ♥ K8  
 ♦ AJT  
 ♣ AQ7

3NT

Partner has shown 8+ pts.  
We know we have game and  
do not appear to have a fit.  
We make sure to get there.

♠ AQ532  
 ♥ Q832  
 ♦ K3  
 ♣ 83

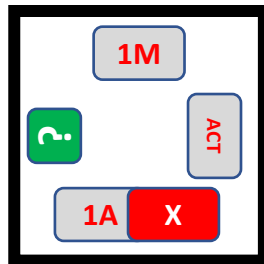
2♥

Normal. Show your heart fit  
at the lowest level with your  
minimum.

♠ A6532  
 ♥ AT93  
 ♦ AJT  
 ♣ 6

3♥

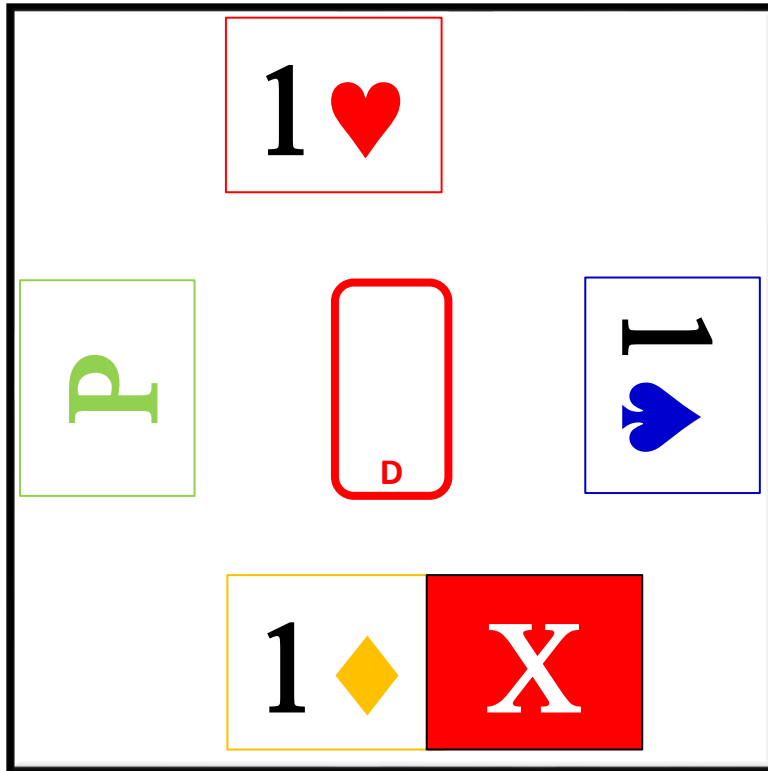
Not quite enough to bid game  
ourselves, but surely more  
than our minimum.



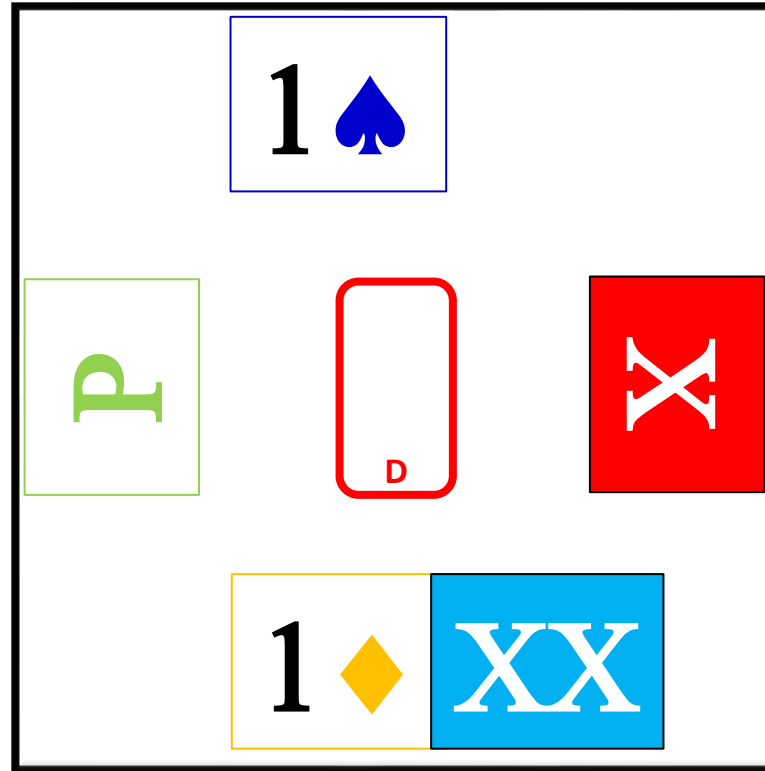
# THE SUPPORT DOUBLE

**OPENER'S WAY TO SHOW 3 CARD SUPPORT**  
**(opener only)**

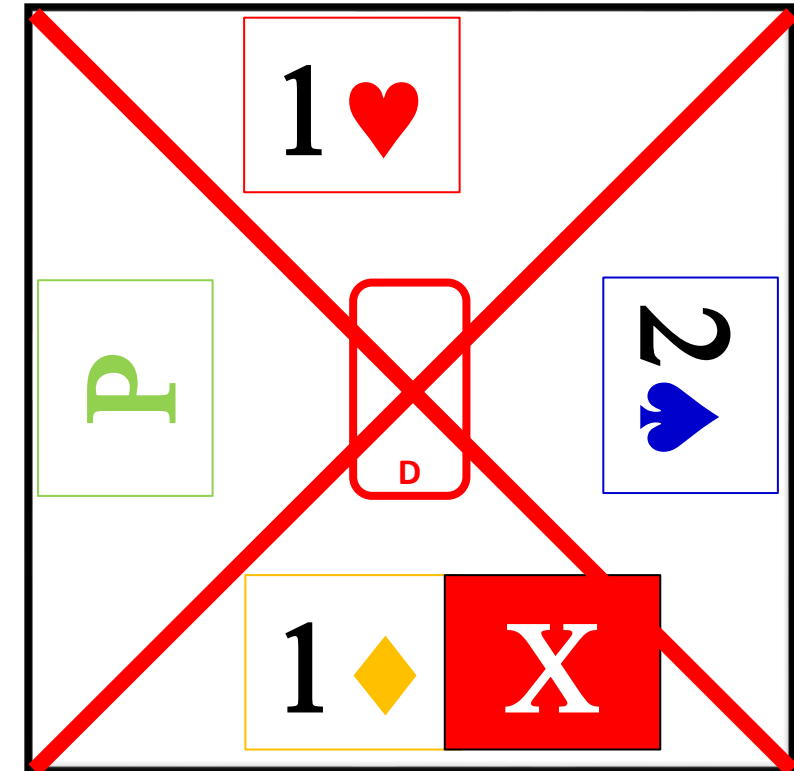
# THE SUPPORT DOUBLE



3 CARD SUPPORT FOR HEARTS  
STILL 12 – 21 pts.



3 CARD SUPPORT FOR SPADES  
STILL 12 – 21 pts.



**\*\*NOT A SUPPORT DOUBLE\*\***

**WE ARE ABOVE THE 2 LEVEL OF  
PARTNER'S SUIT!**

## MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

P

1♥

1♠

??

1♣

## YOU

♠ 984

♥ J83

♦ AK

♣ KQT95

## THE SUPPORT DOUBLE

We double here to show partner exactly 3 hearts (3 card support for their suit)

We may not have a fit, but many times this is the call that confirms or denies it for our side.

Failure to make this bid denies 3 card support.

Correct Bid:

X

## MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

P

1♥

1♠

??

1♣

## YOU



AQ6



Q94



AJ



AQ985

## RULES FOR SUPPORT X's

- The **OPENING BIDDER** is the only person that will ever make a support double.
- We only play support doubles below the 2 level of responder's suit.
- Our range of values is still 12 – 21 (the support double doesn't limit our hand)
- Failure to make a support double always denies 3 card support!

Correct Bid:

X

## MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♣

P

1 ♥

X

??

**YOU**



**AQ6**



**J94**



**86**



**AQ985**

## THE SUPPORT REDOUBLE

This is the **EXACT SAME AS THE SUPPORT DOUBLE**. The only difference is the action taken by the opponent prior to our bid.

When they bid – Double shows 3 cards  
When they dbl – Redouble shows 3 cards

Correct Bid:

**XX**



# THE SUPPORT X & XX

| SUPPORT DOUBLES   |       |      |     |
|-------------------|-------|------|-----|
| WEST              | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|                   |       |      | 1♣  |
| P                 | 1♥    | 1♠   | X   |
| <b><u>YOU</u></b> |       |      |     |
| ♠                 | 984   |      |     |
| ♥                 | J83   |      |     |
| ♦                 | AK    |      |     |
| ♣                 | KQT95 |      |     |

| SUPPORT DOUBLES   |       |      |     |
|-------------------|-------|------|-----|
| WEST              | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|                   |       |      | 1♣  |
| P                 | 1♥    | X    | XX  |
| <b><u>YOU</u></b> |       |      |     |
| ♠                 | 984   |      |     |
| ♥                 | J83   |      |     |
| ♦                 | AK    |      |     |
| ♣                 | KQT95 |      |     |

# RESPONDING TO SUPPORT X'S

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| X    | 1♦    | P    | 1♠    |
|      | XX    | 2♥   | ??    |

♠ **KT864**  
 ♥ **832**  
 ♦ **A43**  
 ♣ **64**

♠ **AT864**  
 ♥ **9**  
 ♦ **KJ4**  
 ♣ **A963**

♠ **K6432**  
 ♥ **92**  
 ♦ **K84**  
 ♣ **A96**

♠ **T864**  
 ♥ **94**  
 ♦ **KJT4**  
 ♣ **A63**

# RESPONDING TO SUPPORT X'S

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1♦    | P    | 1♠    |
| X    | XX    | 2♥   | ??    |

♠ **KT864**  
 ♥ **832**  
 ♦ **A43**  
 ♣ **64**

2♠

### WE FOUND A FIT

This shows a minimum response with a fit.

♠ **AT864**  
 ♥ **9**  
 ♦ **KJ4**  
 ♣ **A963**

4♠

### LEVEL & STRAIN SOLVED

Don't forget, partner opened!  
We found our 8 card fit and with this shape, have game!

♠ **K6432**  
 ♥ **92**  
 ♦ **K84**  
 ♣ **A96**

3♠

### INVITATIONAL

Just like normal. We want to invite partner to bid game in the suit we found a fit in.

♠ **T864**  
 ♥ **94**  
 ♦ **KJT4**  
 ♣ **A63**

P

### NICE OPTION

We have nothing left to say and are lucky to be able to pass the 2H bid.

# RESPONDING TO SUPPORT X'S

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1♦    | P    | 1♠    |
| 2♣   | X     | P    | ??    |

♠ T864  
 ♥ A4  
 ♦ KJT4  
 ♣ KT3

♠ T864  
 ♥ 94  
 ♦ KJT4  
 ♣ K43

♠ J864  
 ♥ A84  
 ♦ K4  
 ♣ 8432

♠ AT9864  
 ♥ 9  
 ♦ KT4  
 ♣ A63

# RESPONDING TO SUPPORT X'S

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1♦    | P    | 1♠    |
| 2♣   | X     | P    | ??    |

 **T864**  
 **A4**  
 **KJT4**  
 **KT3**

2N

**INVITATIONAL ( 11 – 12 )**

We don't have a fit but are still interested in game. Our club stopper allows us to seek NT.

 **T864**  
 **94**  
 **KJT4**  
 **K43**

2♦

**RETREAT**

Here we are signing off in our most likely fit.

 **J864**  
 **A84**  
 **K4**  
 **8432**

2♠

**BEST OF BAD CHOICES**

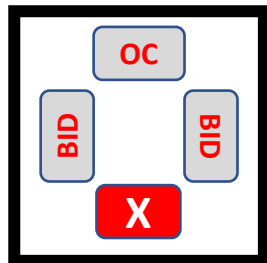
Sometimes we just have to make a bad choice.

 **AT9864**  
 **9**  
 **KT4**  
 **A63**

4♠

**FIT IS HUGE**

Tons of extra shape and trumps. Let's play game!

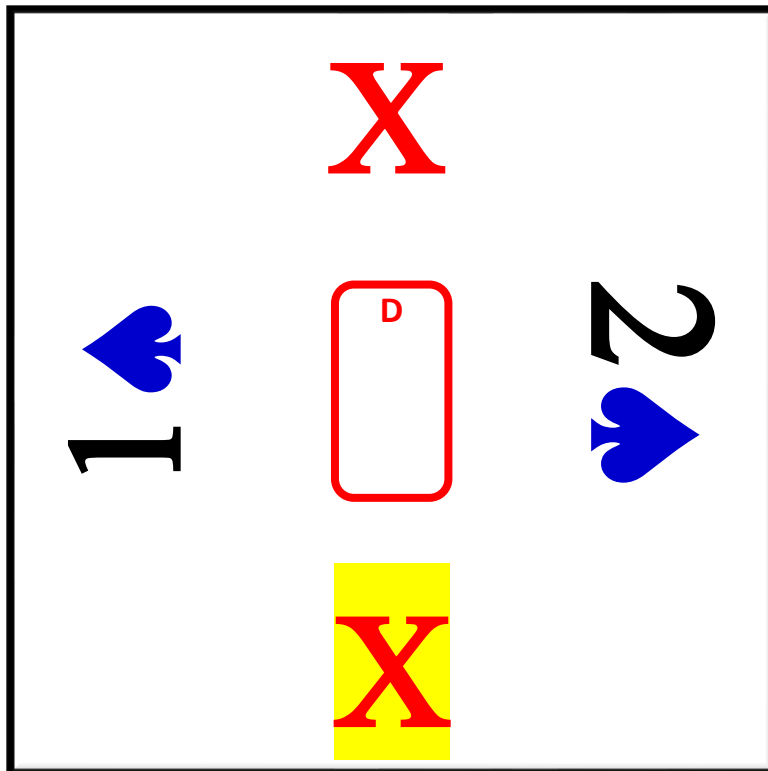


# THE RESPONSIVE DOUBLE

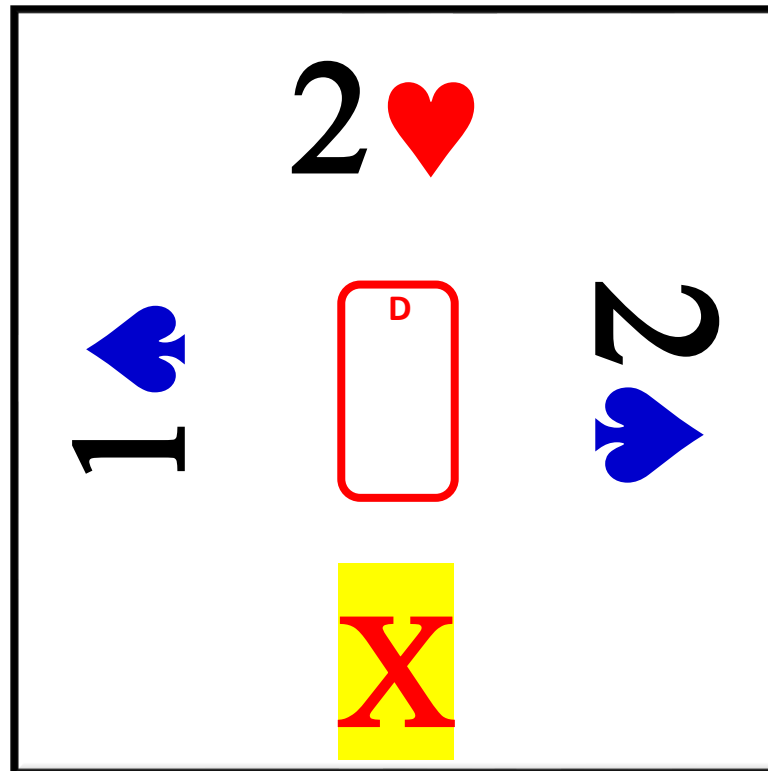
**I HAVE “STUFF” BUT NO BID**

**(responding to partner’s overcall/double)**

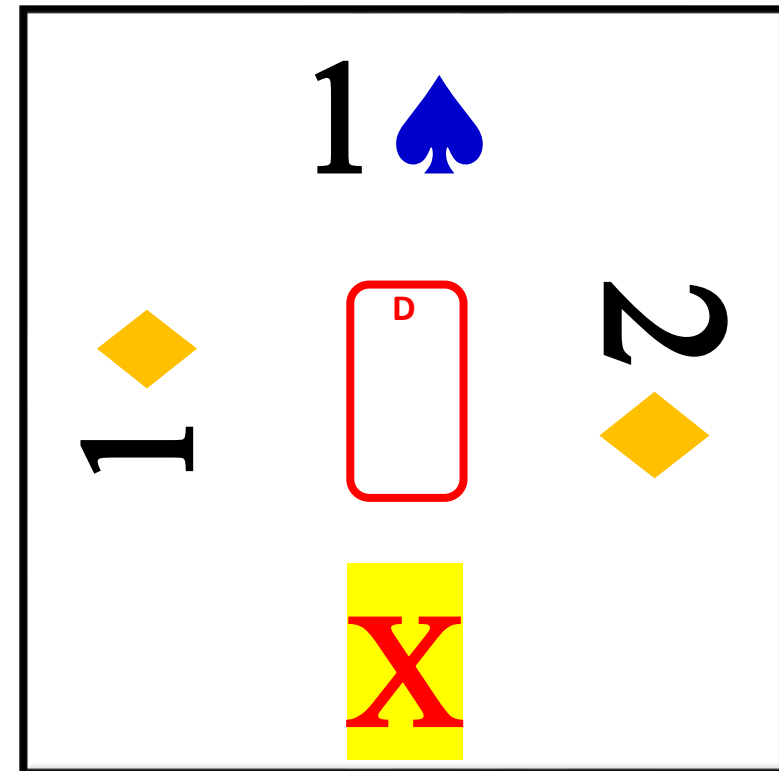
# THE RESPONSIVE DOUBLE



GOOD 8+ POINTS WITH MINOR SUIT INTEREST IN THIS SPOT.



8+ TOTAL POINTS AND NO HEART FIT. THE OTHER TWO SUITS ARE CHOICES.



8+ TOTAL POINTS THE OTHER TWO SUITS ARE LIKELY CHOICES HERE AS WELL.

## MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♦

1 ♠

2 ♦

??

**YOU**

♠ 76

♥ AQ43

♦ 32

♣ QT973

## THE RESPONSIVE DOUBLE

If we choose to pass, our partner will not know anything about our hand and may not balance.

The responsive double gives partner useful information and gives us chances to find fits in 3 suits.

Worst case is we play a 5-2 spade fit at the 2 level on this hand.

Correct Bid:

X



## MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

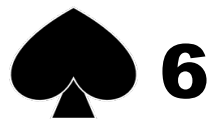
1 ♦

1 ♠

2 ♦

??

**YOU**



6



QJ765



32



KT863

## EXPECT THE WORST

We have wonderful shape in the unbid suits, but partner's most likely response to a double would be 2S.

While double could produce a huge win (finding a fit), the odds are stacked against us.

We pass and hope partner will balance instead.

Correct Bid:

P

## MAKE YOUR CALL

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| 3♥   | 3♠    | 4♥   | ??  |

## YOU

♠ A6

♥ 873

♦ KJT72

♣ Q32

## ACT WHEN NEEDED

We already know partner has a strong hand (they overcalled at the 3 level). When east furthers the preempt it is very important for us to show our values to partner.

The double is ideal for this here. We are OK with any choice partner makes, including spades. Our double denies a spade fit but guarantees it's our hand for partner's benefit.

Correct Bid:

X

## MAKE YOUR CALL

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
|      |       | 3♥   | 3♠  |
| 4♥   | P     | P    | ??  |

## YOU

♠ **KQJ43**

♥ **8**

♦ **A9643**

♣ **K4**

## THE OTHER SIDE

The negative inference of the responsive double can be helpful in situations like this.

We know partner could have made a responsive double but did not. So, this suggests that west's 4H bid may be a good hand.

With all this info, we can't afford to bid again. Too much risk.

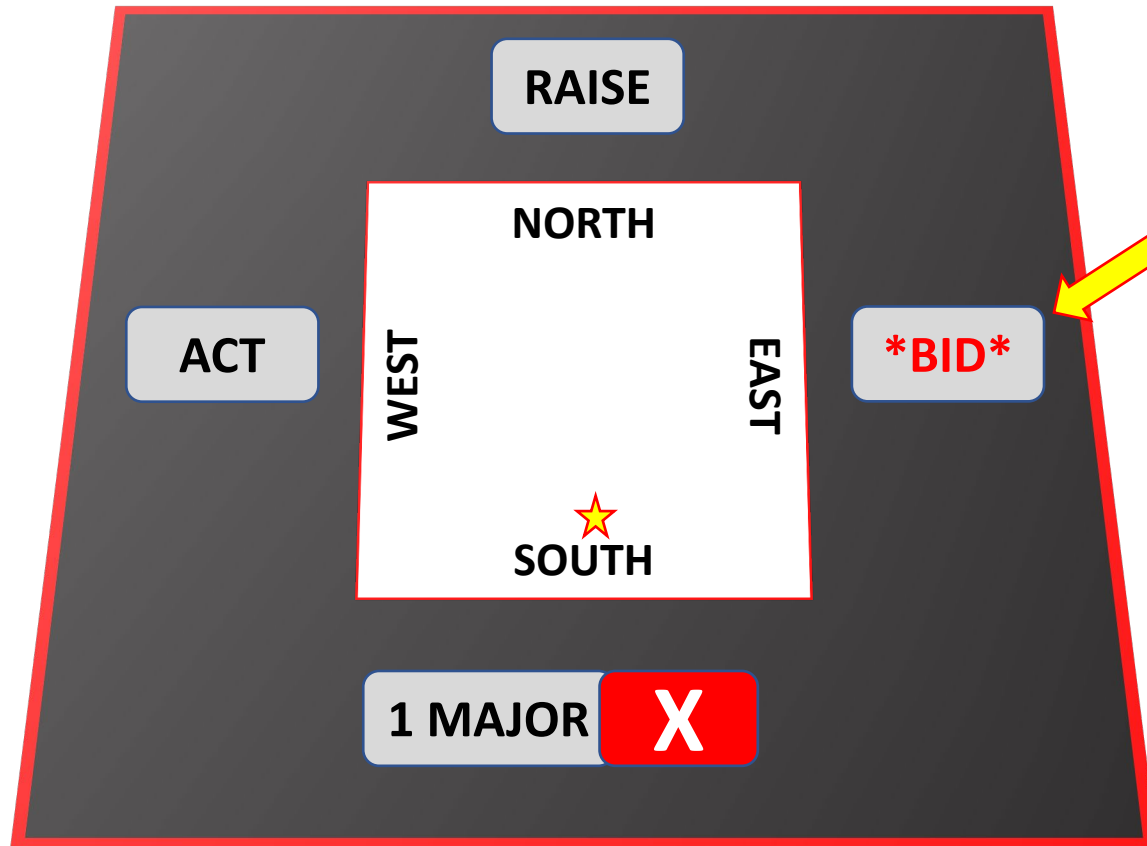
Correct Bid:

P

# **THE MAXIMAL DOUBLE**

**GREAT TOOL FOR COMPETITIVE AUCTIONS**

# THE MAXIMAL DOUBLE



This double is used after our side opens and raises a major suit;

When this bid is directly below 3 of our suit, **X** is invitational in our suit!

When this bid leaves room to bid before the 3 level in our suit, **X** is penalty!

## MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♠

P

2 ♠

3 ♥

??

**YOU**



**AKT85**



**43**



**AKJ2**



**JT**

# THE MAXIMAL DOUBLE

On this auction, there are no bids available between their suit and ours.

When this is the case, the double is our invitational bid.

Correct Bid:

**X**

## MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♠

P

2 ♠

3 ♣

??

**YOU**



**AKT85**



**43**



**AKJ2**



**JT**

## THE MAXIMAL DOUBLE

On this auction, there are bids available between their suit and ours.

When this is the case, the double would be penalty and the bid of a new suit would become our invitational bid.

Correct Bid:

3♦

## MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♠

P

2 ♠

3 ♥

??

**YOU**

♠ AKT875

♥ 43

♦ KJ2

♣ JT

# THE MAXIMAL DOUBLE

The immediate bid of 3 of our Major suit will always be just “competitive”.

Correct Bid:

3 ♠



## MAKE YOUR CALL

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♠

P

2 ♠

3 ♦

??

**YOU**



**JT875**



**AK**



**AKJ2**



**JT**

## THE MAXIMAL DOUBLE

On this auction, there are bids available between their suit and ours.

When this is the case, the double would be penalty and the bid of a new suit would become our invitational bid.

Correct Bid:

**X**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 3♣   | 1♥<br>X | P    | 2♥    |

**MAXIMAL**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 3♣   | 1♥<br>X | P    | 2♥    |

**MAXIMAL**

**or**

**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 3♥   | 1♠<br>X | 2♥   | 2♠    |

**MAXIMAL**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 3♥   | 1♠<br>X | 2♥   | 2♠    |

**MAXIMAL**

**or**

**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 2♠   | 1♥<br>X | X    | 2♥    |

**MAXIMAL**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 2♠   | 1♥<br>X | X    | 2♥    |

**MAXIMAL**

**or**

**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1♥    | P    | 2♥    |
| 3♣   | 3♥    |      |       |

- A. Invitational to game.
- B. 16 – 18 points.
- C. Competitive
- D. None of the above



| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1♥    | P    | 2♥    |
| 3♣   | 3♥    |      |       |

A. Invitational to game.

B. 16 – 18 points.

C. Competitive

D. None of the above

# **THE PENALTY DOUBLE**

**HOW AND WHEN DO WE KNOW WHEN WE CAN USE THIS?**

# TAKEOUT DOUBLES

WE WANT PARTNER TO BID

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU        |
|------|-------|------|------------|
|      |       | 1 ♠  | X          |
|      |       |      | <u>YOU</u> |
|      |       |      | 2 ♠        |
|      |       |      | ♥ AT94     |
|      |       |      | ♦ KJT9     |
|      |       |      | ♣ AQ98     |

# PENALTY DOUBLES

WE WANT PARTNER TO PASS

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU        |
|------|-------|------|------------|
| ..   | ..    | ..   | ..         |
| ..   | ..    | 4 ♠  | X          |
|      |       |      | <u>YOU</u> |
|      |       |      | ♠ AQT98    |
|      |       |      | ♥ AT4      |
|      |       |      | ♦ 532      |
|      |       |      | ♣ Q9       |

# PENALTY DOUBLES

THESE DOUBLES SHOW A STRONG DESIRE TO DEFEND THE CURRENT CONTRACT

## WHY DO WE DOUBLE FOR PENALTY?

- We are confident they are going down in their current contract
  - Doubling provides a higher score when we have this level of confidence.
- Protection against our plus score
  - When they steal our contract

| C   | D | result | Plus | Minus |
|-----|---|--------|------|-------|
| 3♥  | E | =      |      | 140   |
| 3♥  | E | =      |      | 140   |
| 3♠X | N | -2     |      | 300   |
| 3♥  | E | =      |      | 140   |
| 3♠  | N | -2     |      | 100   |
| 3♥  | E | =      |      | 140   |

# PENALTY DOUBLES

THESE DOUBLES SHOW A STRONG DESIRE TO DEFEND THE CURRENT CONTRACT

| WEST              | NORTH | EAST<br>★ | YOU |
|-------------------|-------|-----------|-----|
| ..                | ..    | ..        | ..  |
| ..                | ..    | 4♠        | X   |
| <b><u>YOU</u></b> |       |           |     |
| ♠ AT4             |       |           |     |
| ♥ AK              |       |           |     |
| ♦ A83             |       |           |     |
| ♣ 98532           |       |           |     |

## WHAT TYPES OF HANDS WILL DOUBLE FOR PENALTY?

- Long and strong trumps.
  - Not just length but strength!
- Values/Tricks
  - Based on the level of the contract, our tricks/values suggest they are not making.

# WHEN TO RESIST THE PENALTY DOUBLE

## LONG BAD TRUMPS

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| ..   | ..    | ..   | ..  |
| ..   | ..    | 4♠   | X   |

**YOU**

♠ T6532  
 ♥ AT4  
 ♦ A32  
 ♣ 72

## A PLACE TO RUN

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| 1♣   | P     | 1♠   | P   |
| 2♣   | P     | 2♥   | P   |
| 3♣   | P     | 3♠   | ??  |

**YOU**

♠ AQJT  
 ♥ AT4  
 ♦ 83  
 ♣ 7532

# WHEN IS IT A PENALTY DOUBLE?

When we know one of the hands.

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1♥    | P    | 2♥    |
| 2♠   | X     |      |       |

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1♣    | P    | 1N    |
| 2♥   | X     |      |       |

After 1NT Overcalls

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1♦    | 1N   | X     |

After our side preempts.

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 2♠    | 3♦   | X     |

What else could it be? (after no action)

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♥   | P     | 1♠   | P     |
| 2♣   | P     | 2♦   | P     |
| 2♠   | P     | 4♠   | X     |

After Two Suited Bids.

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1♠    | 2N   | X     |

# WHEN IS A DOUBLE PENALTY?

- AFTER WE REDOUBLE

| WEST<br>★ | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|-----------|-------|------|-----|
| P         | 1♦    | X    | XX  |
| 2♣        | X     |      |     |



# WHEN IS A DOUBLE PENALTY?

- DURING OUR GAME  
FORCING AUCTIONS

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
| P    | 1♥    | P    | 2♣  |
| 2♠   | X     |      |     |

## DOUBLING TWO SUITERS

WEST

NORTH

EAST

YOU

1 ♦

2 ♦

??

YOU

♠ AKT94

♥ KT82

♦ 97

♣ J9

# RULE

When we double their  
2 suited overcalls, we  
are showing the desire  
to defend **at least one**  
of the suits shown.

Correct Bid:

X

# YOUR BID

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
|------|-------|------|-----|

1♥ 2♥ ??

## YOU

 **AQT97**

 **75**

 **A74**

 **T76**

# YOUR BID

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | YOU |
|------|-------|------|-----|
|------|-------|------|-----|

1♥ 2♥ X  
2♠ P P ??

## YOU

 **AQT97**

 **75**

 **A74**

 **T76**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 2♥   | 1♣<br>X | P    | 1N    |

**TAKEOUT**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 2♥   | 1♣<br>X | P    | 1N    |

**TAKEOUT**

**or**

**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 2♥   | 1♦<br>X | P    | 1♠    |

**TAKEOUT**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 2♥   | 1♦<br>X | P    | 1♠    |

**TAKEOUT**

**or**

**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 3♦   | 1♠<br>X | P    | 2♠    |

**TAKEOUT**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**



| WEST | NORTH   | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|---------|------|-------|
| 3♦   | 1♠<br>X | P    | 2♠    |

**TAKEOUT**

**or**

**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 2♦    | 2♥   | X     |

**TAKEOUT**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

SOUTH

2 ♦

2 ♥

X

**TAKEOUT**

**or**

**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 2♥   | P     | 4♥   | X     |

**TAKEOUT**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**

WEST

NORTH

EAST

SOUTH

2♥

P



4♥

X



**TAKEOUT**

**or**

**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH  | EAST | SOUTH   |
|------|--|------|---|
|      | 1  | 1N   |  |

**TAKEOUT**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH  | EAST | SOUTH   |
|------|--|------|---|
|      | 1  | 1N   |  |

**TAKEOUT**

**or**

**PENALTY**

| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♣   | P     | 1♥   | P     |
| 1N   | P     | 2♦   | P     |
| 2♥   | P     | 4♥   | X     |

**TAKEOUT**  
**or**  
**PENALTY**



| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♣   | P     | 1♥   | P     |
| 1N   | P     | 2♦   | P     |
| 2♥   | P     | 4♥   | X     |

**TAKEOUT**

**or**

**PENALTY**