

Correctly Using The Take Out Double...

1. A "TO" double of one Major suit implies possession of at least 4 cards in the other Major.
2. A "TO" X cannot properly be made without support for ALL suits.
3. Vulnerability is a prime consideration in deciding about overcalling.
4. It is not possible to make a "TO X and then bid later on.
5. The opening bidder is not allowed to also make a subsequent "TO" X.
6. A "TO" doubler can't expect his partner to bid if they have no points.
7. If your side is playing weak jump overcalls...there is no way to describe a hand with the strength of a strong jump shift.
8. A "TO" double at the first opportunity by the player immediately behind the opener implies 12+ HCP.
9. It is not possible for a player to make more than one "TO" double with the same hand.
10. It is not possible to pass and then make a "TO" double later on.
11. A double of 1 NT is indeed actually a Penalty Double.
12. It is not possible to bid and make a "TO" X later on.
13. A "TO" double can be made with as few as 7 HCP.

Responding Correctly To Take Out Doubles...

14. A Jump response in a suit promises at least a 5 card suit..
15. A NT response doesn't show any values...just a stopper in the opponent's suit..
16. You should always leave the double "IN" if you hold length in the opponent's suit!
17. With two 4-card suits...bid the stronger suit first...
18. Always bid a 5 card suit ahead of a 4 card suit...
19. Never respond in a 3 card suit...
20. Bidding the opener's suit is a natural bid showing length in that suit...
21. Never respond in a 4-card suit if you have a 6-cards suit also..
22. If I respond with a suit bid...and partner now bids 1 NT, it means he has a minimum hand with no support for the suit I bid.
23. My partner doubles an opening bid of 1 Spade ... I respond 2 Clubs with: **S** Q42 **H** 1086 **D** C KJ75432
24. My partner now bids 2 **H** ... Having only 6 pts, naturally I pass.
25. A jump response promises an honor (or Honors) in that suit!
26. A jump response directly to 4 of a major, promises a 6-card or longer suit!
27. A jump response directly to 4 of a major, promises a strong hand!
28. My bidding should be influenced by the fact...that if Partner doesn't double...he doesn't have the values for an opening bid...
29. If, after I respond in a suit, partner gives a single raise, he is just confirming an opening bid with good support for "our"suit...
30. My Partner doubles an opening bid of 1 **H** I respond 2 **D** on the following hand...**S** J5 **H** 83 **D** Q97643 **C** Q85 Opener rebids 2 **H** ..my partner and RHO passes... Having only 5 HCP I pass also...

Overcalls

31. An overcall in any suit should promise possession of five or more cards in the overcalled suit.
32. An overcall of a preemptive opening 3-bid...indicates the exact same type of hand by the overcaller.
33. The only reason for overcalling is to direct partner to a favorable opening lead.
34. Overcalls cannot be made on hands with which one would not ordinarily open the bidding.
35. Whenever the overcaller holds a hand of opening value or better, some sort of immediate action should be taken.
36. An overcaller holding 5 Hearts and 5 Spades would almost always bid the Hearts 1st...(unless the Spades are a good deal stronger).
37. A 1 NT overcall in the immediate seat shows a hand of opening 1 NT strength with every suit stopped...

The only TRUE answers are #1...#13...#31; All the rest are false...kitchen rules!