

Monday June 2<sup>nd</sup>

## Overcalls and responses to over calls by the Advancer

Requirements for an Overcall...8-16 pts... Good 5 crd suit... (the better the suit the less pts are required...(occasionally lighter w/very good suit) I would overcall with AQXXX...at the 1 level...you really want Pard to lead S!! Needs more pts at the 2 level... need to have 10+

**DO NOT OVERCALL WITH MORE THAN 16 PTS...X AND THEN BID...SHOWING 17 OR MORE**

Reasons to Overcall... ask partner to lead this suit... or perhaps this hand belongs to your side...

When your partner makes an overcall and you are the advancer... your job is to bid as high as you can while telling the truth!!...If Pard Overcalls 1 S and you have "A FIT" in S...answer as if your Pard was the Opening bidder...since they are opening the bidding for your side! The overcaller can get "frisky" but the Advancer ALWAYS tells the truth!!

It is extremely important that you and your partner have a firm clear agreement to what happens if the advancer bids a new suit...Is it forcing...semi-forcing...or just constructive? If it is just constructive...you should have limited support for Pard's suit just in case they have to re-bid it...(Limited means 1 less card than normally required)

**We talked about the definition of a free bid** as a bid that is made when your partner still has a chance to bid...

if you're side is in a competitive auction and your side holds H and they hold S and the bidding gets to the three Spade level and your partner has a chance to bid but passes...they DO NOT have enuf pts to bid game safely...but if **YOU** do choose to bid...their pass leaves the decision entirely up to you... knowing full well that you may go down 1 it is still OK to do so if you feel they are going to make their bid. Many times a "sacrifice" can be a very correct decision!

**Many times when you cannot Overcall...you actually may be able to make a take out double.** It's very important that you remember the doubler counts distribution and they count it as if it were dummy points 5 points for a void 3 points for a Singleton and one point for a doubleton.. The example we had in today's lesson was the hand where the right hand opponents said one club and the next bidder Qxx in S...QJxxxx in D..Kxxx in H VOID in C... 13 support pts...for any unbid suit....PERFECT TAKE-OUT X HAND... As it turned out Pard had 5 S and 12 pts...The hand should have been played in Spades.

What does 1 NT >>> 3 of a minor mean? In Standard American (without transfers) it means I have 10 points and 5 or 6 diamonds... do you wanna play 5 diamonds or three no trump.

However we are playing transfers so 3 diamonds now either becomes **a slam try or a stop bid**... you and your partner should decide which you choose... my suggestion is that you use it to show a hand that cannot bid 2 no trump...less than 8pts and no chance for a game...but this minor suit is a safer place to play this particular hand.