

## BRIDGE – INTERMEDIATE LESSONS I – 08

### RESPONSES TO PARTNER'S SIMPLE OVERCALL

**General Thoughts:** - Do not rush to rescue your Partner who has overcalled in a suit to your disliking, especially when you have nothing of any real value of your own. Do not, without good reason, rush to rescue a Partner who has been “*doubled*” for penalties. Better to “*Pass*” quickly without consternation thereby avoiding conveying the idea to your adversaries that you are in trouble. Rescue a “*doubled*” Partner only if you can be reasonably certain that your suit may be better than his/hers, and that you have considered that your rescue bid may take your team to the next bidding level thereby increasing your trick commitment. It is sometimes better to swallow the bitter pill and let your overcalling Partner go down in a contract of his/her choosing, than to go flying off in a rescuing venture which is, potentially, even more disastrous.

#### TYPES OF RESPONSIVE ACTION

##### A. A RAISE IN PARTNER'S OVERCALL SUIT;

(1) A simple raise of Partner's overcalled suit shows:

- a) 6-10 HCP's
- b) At least a 3-card support (Partner has overcalled with at least a five-card suit).
- c) A HCP count of less than an opening bid (implied is that under no circumstances can this combination produce a Game if the Overcaller has no more than a simple overcall).

Examples: 1H 1S P 2S (or) 1H 1S 2C 2S

(2) A Jump-Raise of Partner's overcalled suit shows:

- a) 0-5 HCP's – A Pre-emptive bid
- b) The number of support pieces which when added to Partner's presumed five equals the number of tricks to which the overcall response bid commits.

Examples: 1H 1S P 3S (or) 1H 1S 2C 4S

**B NO TRUMP RESPONSE TO PARTNER'S OVERCALL** - Constructive in nature showing:

- a) Little interest for Partner's overcalled suit
- b) At least one stopper in the Opponent's bid suit(s)
- c) 8-10 HCP's at the 1-level, and 11-14 HCP's at the 2-level

Examples: 1H 1S P 1-NT (or) 1H 1S P 2-NT

**C. AN OVERCALL OF A NEW SUIT** – Such bids are usually non-forcing upon Partner, and show a good 5-card suit of his/her own.

Examples: 1C 1H P 1S (or) 1D 1S 2D 2C

**D. A CUE-BID OF THE OPPOENT'S SUIT** - An artificial bid of the Opponents first bid suit showing: **This is the only forcing bid, Responder to an Overcaller, can make.**

- a) Trump support for Partner's overcalled suit
- b) At least an opening bid such that Partnership has Game likelihood if the Overcaller also has an opening bid.

Example: 1D 1H P “2D”