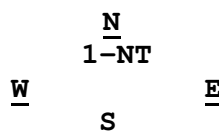


The Varied Meanings of “1-No-Trump”

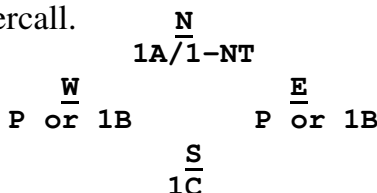
There are a total of 38 different bids in the game of Bridge; i.e., *35 numerical, denominational bids* from “1C” through “7-NT,” a “Pass,” a “Double,” and a “Re-Double.” All of these bids have significantly different meanings dependent upon the following: (1), the actual sequence of the bidding process in which they take part; (2), the position at the bridge table of the Players who are bidding them; and (3), the occasional use of a convention which gives the bid a specific artificial meaning. All of these factors must be taken into consideration in order for the actual meaning of these 1-NT bids to be fully understood as to both the point-count and the distribution held by the individual bidder.

A. 1-NT Bids by an Opener:

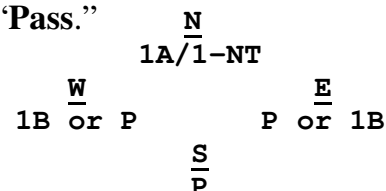
1. An Opening Bid of 1-NT in Any Position: = 15-17 HCP’s in Standard American (S.A.), (12-14 HCP’s in ACOL), a balanced distribution with no singletons, no voids, and not more than one doubleton. Conventional wisdom is that three of the 4-suits need contain at least one “stopper.”



2. An Opener’s Re-Bid of 1-NT Following Responder’s 1-Level Suit Response (With or Without Interference): = 12-14 HCP’s in Standard American, (15-17 in ACOL), a balanced distribution, with the absence of support for Responder’s bid suit, and at least one stopper in the Opponent’s bid suit if there is a competitive, intervening overcall.



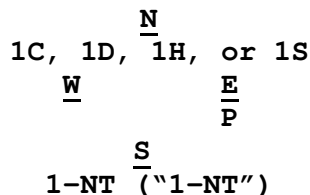
3. An Opener’s Re-Bid of 1-NT Following Either Opponent’s 1-Level Overcall, Absent Any Response From Partner: = 18-19 HCP’s, with a balanced distribution, analogous to a hand that would normally have produced a jump to 2-NT had Partner initially responded other than a “Pass.”



B. 1-NT Bids by a Responder to an Opening Bidder:

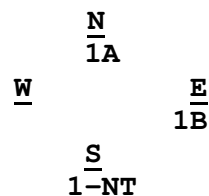
1. Following a Major or a Minor, One-of-a-Suit Bid by the Opener, Absent an Overcall by Responder’s Right-Hand Opponent (RHO): = 6-10 HCP’s (Non-Forcing) without support for Opener and an absence of a

4-card suit higher-ranking than Opener's bid suit, especially a Major suit. (If the Partnership is playing "1-NT Forcing," the "1-NT" call, opposite Opener's 1H or 1S opening bid, would evidence 5-11 HCP's and would force Opener to make a re-bid.)



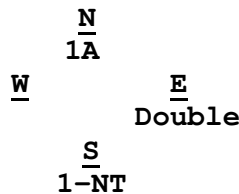
2. Following a Major or a Minor, One-of-a-suit Opening Bid by the Opener, With an Overcall by Responder's Right-Hand

Opponent (RHO): = 8-10 HCP's with at least one stopper in the Overcaller's suit, and absence of primary support for Opener's suit. This bid denies a 4-card, as-yet, un-bid Major suit holding absent the use of a "Negative Double."



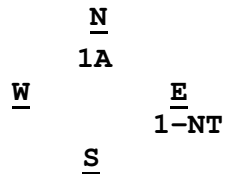
3. Following a Take-Out Double by Responder's Right-Hand

Opponent (RHO): = 6-10 HCP's, without Responder's having either a 4-card or a 5-card Major suit holding (Subject to Partnership Agreement), and without primary support for Opener's bid suit.

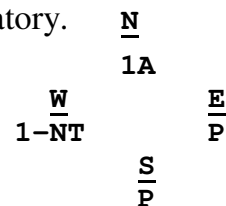


C. 1-NT Bids by an Overcaller or by an Overcaller's Partner:

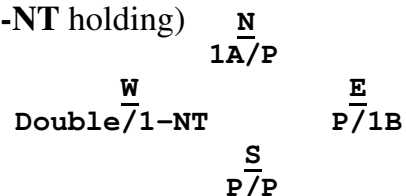
1. An Overcall of 1-NT In the Direct (2nd) Seat: = 15-17 HCP's, balanced with at least one stopper in the Opponent's bid suit. (Same as a strong Opening 1-NT bid with the addition of an added "stopper" in the Opponent's bid suit)



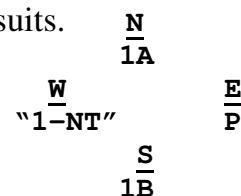
2. An Overcall of 1-NT In the Balancing (4th) Seat: = 10-14 HCP's, and usually balanced. A Stopper in the Opener's bid suit is not mandatory.



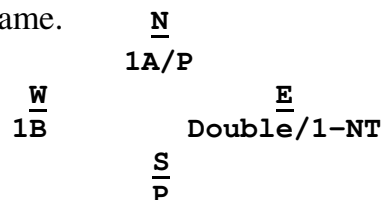
3. An Overcall of 1-NT In the Balancing (4th) Seat as a Re-bid Following the Balancing Player's Initial Take-Out Double: = 15-17 HCP's, balanced, with at least 1-stopper in the Opponent's bid suit, and lack of support for Responder's bid suit. (Equivalent to a strong opening 1-NT holding)



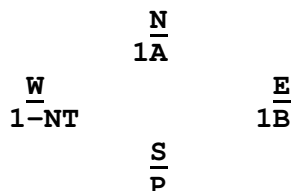
4. An Overcall of 1-NT Following Two Different, 1-Level, Suit Bids by the Opponents: = A "Sandwich NT" An artificial *conventional* 5-5 or longer holding in the two un-bid suits with fewer than opening HCP count values - A *Weak, Distributional Take-Out Double* for the two, as-yet, un-bid suits.



5. An Overcall of 1-NT as a Re-Bid by a "Doubler" Following Partner's Response to His/Her Take-Out Double: = 18 or more HCP's (Stronger than a direct 1-NT Overcall) and Invitational to Game. Lack of support for Responder's bid suit.



6. A 1-NT Response to Partner's Simple Overcall of One-of-a-Suit: = 8-10 HCP's, absent primary support for Partner's overcall suit, absent a 5-card, as-yet, 1-level, un-bid suit of one's own, and at least one stopper in the Opener's bid suit.



7. A 1-NT Bid in Response to Partner's Overcall of a Take-Out Double: = 8-10 HCP's with no 4-card or longer Major or 5-card or longer Minor suit holding, and at least 1-stopper in the Opponent's bid suit.

