

INTERMEDIATE LESSON 10: TEACHER NOTES

Defence to Pre-emptive Openers

Lesson Content

This lesson includes bidding over weak two openers, as well as over 3 and 4-level pre-empts. It first covers the overcaller's options then looks at the responses to each of these.

The direct cue bidding style is the same as taught in Intermediate Lesson 8 Michaels Cue Bids

After a takeout double over a weak two, we have included Lebensohl bids as taught in Intermediate Lesson 4

****New Concepts:**

- a) After a takeout double of 3-minor, a cue bid shows **both majors** and asks for the doubler to choose their better major
- b) RKCB may be a new bid which has not previously been taught, so you may want to cover this in a separate lesson (Will be in Intermediate L13) Otherwise use Blackwood.
- c) After opening a weak 2/3 major or 4♥: 4NT is **both minors** - a new concept.
- d) After a 4 spade opener 4NT: is **any two-suiter** hand - another new concept.

When teaching this lesson, you will need to familiarise yourself fully with the content as some of this may be new for you.

Main Points to Emphasise

The suit bids, takeout doubles and NT bids are natural - responses will have been taught in beginner and improver lessons.

A direct cue bid after 2♦ through to 3♠ are Michaels style as in Intermediate Lesson 8

The new concepts (as above) will need to be covered slowly when they occur in the notes – this includes the new bids and their responses. **NB:** bidding clubs as a pass or correct bid should be made at the level you are prepared to play (up to the 5-level).

Lesson Progression

- Discuss the overcalls after a weak two, or 3-level pre-empt.
- Then review the responses to each of these defensive bids.
- Responses to the takeout double are different at the 2-level from those at the 3-level
- Discuss the sort of hand you may want to pass for penalties after a takeout double
- The responses to a 2NT overcall can include transfers if they have previously learnt these
- Spend extra time on the responses to a cue bid – this has been covered in Intermediate Lesson 8
- Spend time on the 4NT (minors) bid and the level the responder should bid
- After 4 of a minor opening review the overcalls and responses
- After 4♥ opening review the overcalls and responses – 4NT is a new concept
- Discuss the overcalls and responses after a 4♠ opening – 4NT is a new idea
- Explain that if partner doubles 4♠ you will only bid with a very unbalanced hand. Your partner is generally showing a strong balanced hand.
- Phew – that was a lot to cover. Now play the hands.