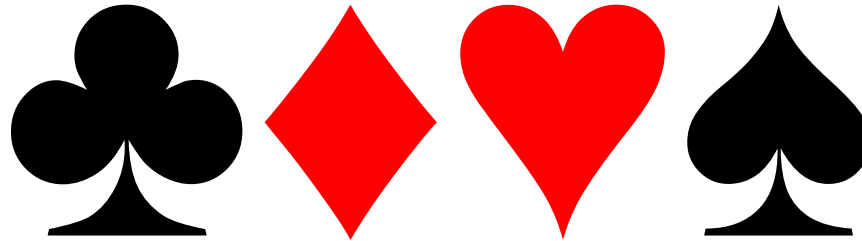




U3A Intermediate Bridge 2025-26



Week 10 Welcome



Steve Bailey



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2025-26



Week 10 Introduction To Doubles

This week we are looking at more **Doubles**.

There are all sorts of doubles, we've looked at:

Take Out Doubles (TOD)
and Penalty Doubles (PD).

This week we will consider:

Negative Doubles, *also called Sputnik Doubles,*
Other doubles, which we will not look for a while:
Protective Doubles, *also called Balancing Doubles,*
Reopening Doubles
Support Doubles,
Lead Directing Doubles,
and Lightner Doubles.



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Recap:

Week 10 Take Out Doubles

After the opposition has bid, you have 3 options:

- **Pass**
- **Overcall**
- **Double.**

For most of the last two years, the U3AIB set hands were chosen to suggest that **Pass** was the right option.

Then we introduced **Simple Suit overcalls**, where you had a long and good (great?) suit that you bid over the opposition suit saying "I reckon we can do ok if we declare in this suit rather than defend in yours". *Sometimes "doing ok" can be a sacrifice where your -50 is better than their game giving you -420.*

And then there are **Doubles**, in particular, Take Out Doubles (TOD).

The basic TOD shows a liking for all suits except theirs and an opening hand point count. It asks your partner to tell you his LONGEST suit (not strongest). It is NOT expected that you will end playing a doubled contract, since the TOD wants a response.

The following **recap** slides show JUST the basic requirements and not any reasons. If you want the reasons, look at a previous sessions' pdfs.



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Recap: Week 10 Simple Suit Overcalls

What do you need for a **suit overcall**?

- a **decent L5+Suit**. *Never a L4Suit.*
- **2+ honours** in your suit.
- for a **1~level** overcall, **8..15Pts**;
for a **2~level** overcall, **11..15Pts**. *for 2+~level, L6+Suit normal*
- **SQOT**: Suit Quality Overcall Test ~ *Gives advice*
Length of your suit + **honours** in suit **>= Tricks** to make your bid.

Ensure your holdings are "good" when vulnerable.

Responding

- 10-Pts: Bid to the level of your fit.
- or 8+ card FIT and Game points: Bid Game.
- or 11+Pts: Make an Unassuming Cue Bid (Bid of Opponent's Suit)



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Recap: Week 10 Overcall of 1NT with 2Suit

After an opening weak 1NT (12..14Pts), to **overcall** with 2Suit you need:

- A good suit with L6 or, rarely, a great suit with L5.
- SQOT should be 8+.
- Points should be 8..11 as a pre-emptive disturbance or 11+ hoping to win the contract.



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Recap: Week 10 Overall of 1Suit with 1NT

After an opening 1Suit (12..19Pts), to compete with an overcall by 1NT bid, you need:

- A **balanced** hand.
- A good stopper in the bid suit, preferably **2 stoppers**.
- **15..18Pts.** *The same as a strong 1NT opening.*

Partner's responses are as for an opening 1NT bid (including Stayman and Transfers etc) but are adjusted downwards 3Pts to allow for 15..18Pts rather than 12..14Pts. *(15-12=3.)*



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Recap:

Week 10 Take Out Doubles

TOD:

- L2- in **their suit**. L1- much **preferred**.
- **L4+** in the **other major**. *N/A if they bid a minor.*
- **L3+** in **unbid suits**.
- 2+hcp in each suit the opposition haven't bid. *SGB requirement.*
- **12+Pts.**



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Recap: Week 10 Take Out Double Responses

Responses for various hand strengths:

0..8Pts	Raise to your longest suit.	<i>A raise can show ZERO.</i>
9..12Pts	Jump to your longest suit.	
13..15Pts	Bid game in your best longest major suit. Or double jump if your suit is a minor.	
16..18Pts	If no long major suit, consider bidding game in a long minor suit.	
11+	Make an Unassuming Cue Bid to ask for more info to get to game. Often to decide between two L4Majors.	

If there is a choice of suit, prefer a major.

No Trump responses are similar to responses to an opening NT response and are rarer.

6..9Pts, bal, 1 stopper	1NT
10..12Pts, bal, 2 stoppers	2NT
13+Pts, bal, 2 stoppers	3NT

Often these are chosen when Double Responder holds no L4+suit in "another" suit, his long ones being those of the opposition suits.

New: If the opposition intervene, you may Pass with 0..5Pts.



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Recap:

Week 10 Penalty Doubles

There are three occasions when a basic Penalty Double is appropriate:

- Doubling No Trumps,
- Doubling part scores,
- Doubling sacrifices.

Doubling of No Trumps, in particular an opening or an overcalling 1NT, is straightforward. There are many examples of this. Doubler's partner should pass.

1NT (Dbl) P (P) / P

Doubling part scores often occurs as

(1D) 1S (Dbl) P / (P) P

which in [old bridge](#) is a **PD (ALERT)** - which is how we played it last week.

However the **Negative Double (Do not alert)** will be studied this time which says that it is a TOD denying both bid suits and showing decent suits in the 2 unbid suits.

Doubling sacrifices is easy to say and very hard to find examples of. I have failed and didn't want to invent auctions or play that don't illustrate it correctly!



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Recap:

Week 10 Doubling No Trumps

After most No Trump bids, doubles are PD (Penalty Doubles).

- Double of an opening 1NT is a PD.
You need 16+Pts. (Evaluate your hand, this can be a good 15hcp.)
- Double of (most) other No Trump bids later in the auction is a PD.
Your pair needs the majority of the points.
- *The exception:*
After 1Suit (P) 1NT a double is a TOD.
- Double of an overcall of your 1Suit by 1NT.
Your pair needs the majority of the points.
Partner has promised 12+Pts, so you need just 9+Pts.
- Doubling a 3NT contract is unusual.
Your pair needs 16+Pts and to know the suits break badly for the other pair.



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Recap: Week 10 Responding to a PD of No Trumps

This is for the doubled pair, *the 1NT bidder*.

After

1NT (Dbl)

or

(1Suit) 1NT (Dbl)

your normal systems (Stayman and Transfers) are turned off, so you have to bid naturally.

Therefore revert to a Weak Take Out such as

1NT (Dbl) 2NewSuit

where NewSuit is L5+ and you are weak (10-Pts).

Rather than calling it a "Weak Take Out", in this context it is often called a "rescue".



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Recap: Week 10 Doubler & Doubler's Partner

Being a Penalty Double, it is expected that Doubler's partner will Pass, assuming that the opposition also passed.

However when the opposition "wriggle", perhaps making a "rescue", then Doubler or Doubler's partner should again make a Penalty Double when they have L4+ in the opposition's rescue suit and the majority of the points.

1NT (Dbl) 2Suit (Dbl)

Don't let them wriggle out of trouble. If you have the majority of the points, then keep them doubled. And keep keeping them doubled, whichever of you has the relevant L4+ suit.



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Recap:

Week 10 Doubling Part Scores

To double a part score, you need BOTH

The majority of the points;

Good trumps (6 Trumps between your pair or L4GoodTrumps yourself).

- When partner opens 1NT and RHO (Right Hand Opponent) overcalls partner is promising L2+Trumps, if you have L4Trumps (even weakish ones) with the majority of the points you can make a PD.

With a balanced hand that meets this criterion, bid the PD rather than raise to 2NT.



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Week 10 Doubling An Overcall

What does 1D (1S) Dbl mean?

The 1D is an opening bid, so 12..19Pts and L4+D.

The 1S is the overcall, at the 1~level, so 8+Pts, L5+S, 2+Sh, SQOT=7+.

Dbl has two meanings, and **you have to decide with your partner** which meaning you use.

- (A) It is a Penalty Double (PD) of a part score. *(Already discussed.)*
It shows your pair has the majority of the points (21+), being Opener's 12+Pts and your (do the sums) 9+Pts **and** good trumps (the overcall suit). Good means at least 6 trumps between you or YOU hold L4+Trumps with a couple of higher cards.
Version (A) needs alerting by doubler's partner.
- (B) It is a Take Out Double (TOD) of a part score. *(New.)*
It says I have a shortage in the overcalling suit and don't want to play in it, but I don't like your (opener's) suit either. I do like BOTH the other two suits, please choose one. **This is a Negative Double.**
Version (B) does NOT need alerting.



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Week 10 Negative Double

Option (B) for an opening bid followed by an overcall is to make a **Negative Double**. 1D (1S) Dbl

It is a TOD. It shows a dislike of both bid suits, inviting Opener to choose an unbid suit.

What do you need for a Negative Double?

- Ideally L4+BothUnbidSuits.

Acceptably L4+UnbidMajor and L3+OtherSuit at 2~level.

L4BothMajors over opening 1C (1D) is preferred.

- 6+Pts

It is saying "If the overcall had not happened, I would have bid 1Major.

In the example 1D (1S) Dbl the Doubler is saying I would have responded 1H to your opening 1D, but the opposition "got in the way".

If Responder had L5UnbidMajor and 10+Pts, he does not need to double and can actually bid 2UnbidMajor. The double distinguishes L4Major and L5Major.

A Negative Double is also called a Sputnik Double.



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Week 10 Negative Double

But if the auction has already reached the 2~level 1D (2C) Dbl

- Ideally L4+BothUnbidSuits.

Acceptably L4+UnbidMajor and L3+OtherSuit.

- 8+Pts

It is saying "If the overcall had not happened, I would bid 1UnbidMajor.

With 1D (2C) Dbl the implied bid could be either 1H or 1S, Opener gets to choose the suit because the Double is a TOD.

Most pairs play this up to and including an overcall by (2S). Above that overcall level the Double reverts to Option (A)'s Penalty Double.

If both majors have been bid, then you need L4OneMinor and L3/4OtherMinor.
Eg 1H (1S) Dbl implies a response of 2C or 2D would have been made, but cannot be made here with only L4C or L4D.



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Week 10 Negative Double

Note that

- | | | | |
|----|-------|-----|---|
| 1C | (1S) | Dbl | is a Negative Double (TOD) showing L4H, 6+Pts and saying "I would have bid 1H". |
| 1C | (#2S) | Dbl | is a Negative Double (TOD) showing L4H, 8+Pts and saying "I would have bid 1H". |
| 1C | (#3S) | Dbl | is a PD. |



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Week 10 Negative Double

1D (1S) ?

♠54
♥K842
♦J76
♣A652

4432
8hcp, 7Pts (i-1;)
Dbl, Negative Double.
"I would have bid 1H".

1D (1S) ?

♠54
♥AK43
♦QJ32
♣K62

4432
13hcp, 13Pts (-)
Dbl, Negative Double. "1H".
Or perhaps 3NT?
"2H" would show L5+H.

1D (1S) ?

♠54
♥K5432
♦832
♣K65

5332
6hcp, 6Pts (l+1; a-1;)
Too weak to bid 2H.
Dbl, Negative Double "1H".

1D (1S) ?

♠54
♥AK432
♦A83
♣652

5332
11hcp, 12Pts (l+1;)
Bid Natural **2H** showing L5+H.



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Week 10 Negative Double

You can use a Negative Double when you hold L4Major and "would have bid it if the opponents had not overcalled".

Although it is nominally a TOD. The "TODness" mostly only applies with 2UnbidMajors or 2UnbidMinors, otherwise the assumption is "the Unbid Major".

You can also use it with L5+Major hands that are too weak to call at the 2~level (9-Pts) when you still want to show the suit.



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Week 10 Responding To A Negative Double

Generally bid whatever you would have bid if the overcall had not happened and Partner had bid "1UnbidMajor".

- | | | | | | | |
|----|------|------|-----|---|--------|--|
| 1D | (1S) | Dbl | (P) | ? | ♠543 | 5431, 14hcp, 15Pts (l+1;) |
| | | "1H" | | | ♥AQ42 | H fit, Re-eval. 15 + 3(L1C,135) = 18 |
| | | | | | ♦AKJ76 | #3H, Not 2H, too strong, jump. |
| | | | | | ♣T | |
| | | | | | | |
| 1D | (1S) | Dbl | (P) | ? | ♠K843 | Without overcall, would have rebid 1S |
| | | "1H" | | | ♥43 | which is not a reverse being at 1~level. |
| | | | | | ♦AQT92 | 13½Pts, not strong enough for 1NT rebid, |
| | | | | | ♣K6 | which would show 15..17. Therefore 2D . |
| | | | | | | |
| 1D | (1S) | Dbl | (P) | ? | ♠KQ5 | 17Pts and a 5332 balanced hand. |
| | | "1H" | | | ♥54 | Can show this with rebid of 1NT , 15..17. |
| | | | | | ♦AQ832 | |
| | | | | | ♣AJ3 | |



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Week 10 Any Questions?

Any Questions





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Week 10 Play

Play

Play as if "Duplicate Pairs".

{NS} have the pair number of their table, {N} has his back to the stage.

{EW} have the pair number of their table plus 8.

Play boards in sequence. Have an incoming pile and an outgoing pile.

Pass outgoing to next lower numbered table – Table 1 to highest table.

Some boards have instructions on card. The appropriate people should read each card at the time it says and follow its instructions.

If you play a board twice, record the second play on the traveller using your pair numbers PLUS TEN (eg 1 v 9 becomes 11 v 19).

If you wish to fill in a personal results card, they are available. They are commonly used at duplicate clubs.

Don't forget to describe partner's bids and plays to the table.

Any questions? Tea / coffee & biscuit. (25p)

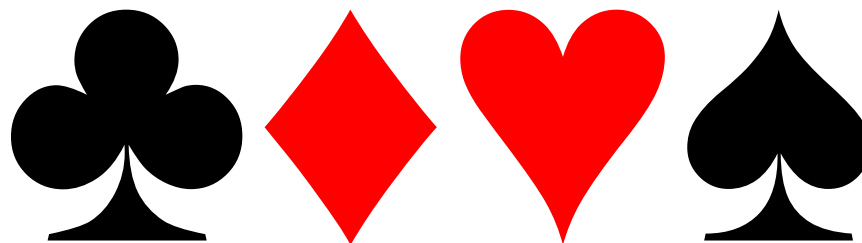
PLAY



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Week 10



The end

Week 10 set hand
references follow.



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Week 10 Set hands

Set hand sources

HBSET 14 Halifax Bridge Club Set hand collection.

AR~BL:DbI Andrew Robson~ Bridge Lessons: Double



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2023-24



Week 10 Set hands

Set hand abbreviations

Dlr	Dealer	(NESW).
Vul	Vulnerability	(None NS EW All).
Rotn	Rotation	Defined by one card, usually A♠. Mostly different to source publication.
Dcl	Declarer	(NESW)
OL	Opening Lead	
Trk	Tricks	(0..13)
NS# EW#		Score for NS or EW
NS% EW%		Percentage of NS and EW
Ref	Reference result	(Sometimes there may be more than one)

Blue results as played.

Red results are reference results.



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2023-24



Week 10 Set hands

1 N None HBSet 14 #11 A♠=E

NS	EW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
1	9	2D=	N	JH	8	90	-	50%	50%
4	12	2D=	N	JH	8	90	-	50%	50%
5	13	2D-2	N	AS	6	-	100	0%	100%
Ref		2D+2	N	JH	10	130	-	100%	0%



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2023-24



Week 10 Set hands

2	E	NS	HBSet 14 #9						A♠=d	
NS	EW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%	
1	9	4H-2	E	10C	8	100	-	100%	0%	
2	10	2H+1	E	10D	9	-	140	12.5%	87.5%	
4	12	4H-1	E	9C	9	50	-	62.5%	37.5%	
5	13	4H-1	E	7C	9	50	-	62.5%	37.5%	
Ref		2H+1	E	10D	9	-	140	12.5%	87.5%	



U3A Intermediate Bridge 2023-24



Week 10 Set hands

3	S	EW	HBSet 14 #12					A♠=N	
NS	EW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
1	9	4S-1	S	AH	9	-	50	0%	100%
2	10	4S+1	N	6C	11	450	-	83.3%	16.7%
4	12	4H-3	W	AS	7	300	-	33.3%	66.7%
Ref		4S+1	S	AH	11	450	-	83.3%	16.7%



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Week 10 Set hands

4 W All HBSet 14 #10 A♠=N

NS	EW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
2	10	4H+1	E	7C	11	-	650	0%	100%
4	12	4H-1	W	10D	9	100	-	100%	0%
5	13	4H=	W	10D	10	-	620	50%	50%
Ref		4H=	W	10C	10	-	620	50%	50%



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Week 10 Set hands

5 N NS HBSet 14 #16 A♠=S

NS	EW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%
1	9	1S=	S	7D	7	80	-	100%	0%
2	10	2D=	W	4S	8	-	90	66.7%	33.3%
5	13	2S-3	S	4H	5	-	300	0%	100%
Ref		1S-2	S	5H	5	-	200	33.3%	66.7%



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Week 10 Set hands

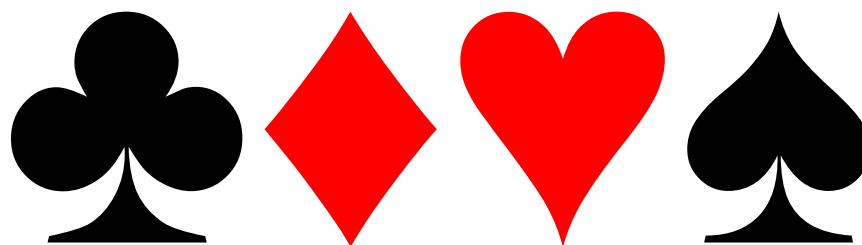
6	E	EW	AR~BL:Dbl #34						A♠=W	
NS	EW	Contract	Dcl	OL	Trk	NS#	EW#	NS%	EW%	
1	9	2H=	S	6C	8	110	-	66.7%	33.3%	
2	10	3H=	S	AS	9	140	-	100%	0%	
4	12	4H-1	S	6C	9	-	50	33.3%	66.7%	
Ref		4S+1	W	3H	11	-	650	0%	100%	



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Week 10



The very end