

BRIDGE LESSON

Conventions You Should Know

- I. Gambling 3NT
 - A. When: Opening bid
 - B. What: 3NT (Alert)
 - 1. Solid 7-card minor, no worse than AKQXXXX
 - 2. No outside Aces or Kings
 - C. Why
 - 1. Jams the opponents
 - 2. Partner can accurately place the contract
 - D. Loss: 3NT opener (you have a workaround)
 - E. Responses
 - 1. Pass
 - 2. 4C, 5C, 6C or 7C is “pass or correct.”
 - 3. 4H, 4S, 5D, 6D or 7D is to play
 - 4. 4D is systemic (alert) asking for shortness
 - a. 4H or 4S is singleton or void
 - b. 4NT is shortness in the minor
 - c. 5C or 5D shows 7222 hand
- II. Modified McCabe
 - A. When: 2M-X-?
 - B. Why:
 - 1. Allows responder to bid a new suit to play
 - 2. Allows responder to raise suit and redirect the lead
 - 3. Allows responder to raise either with or without an honor
 - C. Lose: natural new suit forcing raises
 - D. Responses
 - 1. 2NT response does not change
 - 2. After 2H-X-?, suit bid or XX triggers next suit bid (all alerts except 3H)
 - a. XX relays to 2S (to play or spade lead)
 - b. 2S relays to 3C (to play or club lead)
 - c. 3C relays to 3D (to play or diamond lead)
 - d. 3D is heart raise with at least one of top three honors
 - e. 3H denies a heart honor
- III. Rozenkrantz Double
 - A. When: after partner overcalls and you want to raise
 - B. What: X (alert) to show one of the top three honors
 - C. Why: To help overcaller determine whether to lead his suit
 - D. Loss: Part of Responsive Double
 - E. Examples:
 - 1. 1H-1S-2H-X (spade raise with honor)
 - 2. 1C-1S-X-XX (spade raise with honor)
 - 3. 1D-1H-1S-2H (heart raise without honor)
 - 4. 1D-1H-2D-3D (limit raise plus—silent about honor)
 - 5. 1H-1S-2H-3S (weak raise with four—silent about honor)
 - 6. 1C-2H-2S-X (heart raise with honor)
 - 7. 1C-X-2C-X (still responsive, pick better major)
 - 8. 1S-X-2S-X (still responsive, pick better minor)