Suit Overcalls

Sound, especially at the two level. May be quite strong. Good four card suit possible at the one-level, especially if long in RHO's suit.

New suit responses forcing; cue guarantees fit; new suit jumps fit; jump cue mixed raise.

Notrump Overcalls

2nd position: 15-18 BAL, 4th live: 17-20 BAL. Balancing: 10-14 over 1m, 10-17 over 1M.

Direct 2NT is 5/5 lowest 2 unbid, balancing is 18-20.

Takeout Double

12+ three-suited or 18+ any. In response, cue is 11+ except (1m)-Dbl-(Pass)-2m which may also be a weak 4-4. Balancing: up to 3HCP weaker.

Suit Jump Overcalls

Natural and weak. Intermediate in balancing seat.

Cue Bids

1m-2m = majors, 1M-2M = OM & ♣, both opening strength. Balancing cue is any two suits.

Defense to 1NT

 $2 \implies = \text{majors. If strong } (14+), \text{ Dbl} = \implies + \text{ m.}$

Defense to Preempts

Artificial Strong Openings

Dbl = 5/5 majors, simple NT bid = 5/5 minors

Over Opponent's Take-Out Double

RDbl=10+ hcp; 1NT+ transfers; fit jumps

Special Artificial and Competitive Doubles

1♣-(1♦)-Dbl = 5-7, 5+♥; 1♣-(1♥)-Dbl = ♠/BAL, 8+ Anti-lead directing doubles by a pre-emptor.

Leads, Signals & Discards

Opening Lead Style					
Notrump	Top of honour sequences; 4th & 2nd from length; 3rd & 5th in partner's suit.				
Suit Top of honour sequences. Count pip leads - low from even, high from odd.					
1NT Opening	Lowest if leading actively. Highest affordable pip if leading passively.				
Later	Attitude leads, count returns. Coded 10s and 9s (zero or two higher).				

Leads					
Lead	vs Suits	vs Notrumps			
Ace	Ax+, AK(+)	AK(+)			
King	AK(+), KQ10(+)	AK(+), KQ10+			
Queen	KQ(+), QJ(+)	KQ(+), QJ(+), AQJ(+)			
Jack	KJ10(+), J10(+)	HJ10(+), J10(+)			
10	H109(+)	H109(+)			
9	H98(+), 109(+)	H98(+), 109(+)			
High x	HSx, Sxx	Sx,xSx, xSxx, xSxxx			
Low x	xS, HxxS, xxxS, HxxSx, xxxSx	HxS, HxxS, HxxSx			

Signals In Order of Priority						
	Partner's Lead	Declarer's				
	and Discarding	Lead				
1st	High = Odd	High = Odd				
2nd	High = Discouraging	High = S/P Low Suit				
3rd	High = S/P Low Suit					

Echo in trumps shows the ability to ruff, or suit preference for low suit.

Smith echo (high = good) by either player when honour position in opening lead suit is unclear.

System Category Red (Artificial)
Players Chris Chambers
Ed Colley

NCBO England

System Summary

1 ♣ is either strong (17+) or 11-13 (semi)balanced with a doubleton spade. 1 ♠ is limited with three or four spades; 1 ♦ shows five spades. 14-16 notrump. Lightish opening bid style. We respond very light to one-level openings.

Pre-empts fairly sound except 1st & 3rd NV, when very aggressive. Aggressive WJO all pos & vuln.

Special Bids That May Require Defence
11-13, doubleton spade, BAL/5422 (not 5♥)
or 17+ any shape
10-16, 5+♠

1♠ 10-16, 3/4♠, not 5♥, not 14-16 BAL

2. 12-16, three-suited, short .

2♦ 12-16, 6♦ or 5♦ & 4♥

2♥ 12-16, 6+♣

2NT 12-16, 5+♣ & 5+♦

In response to 1♣, 1♦ shows 0-7 (non-forcing), others are artificial with 8+ HCP (except 3M = 3-7HCP).

1 ♥ -1 ♠ = weak catch-all (not 5 ♠, may have 3 ♥).

Special Forcing Pass Sequences Limit or better raises set up a FP when vulnerable against not and opponents bid to the five level. (3m)-action-(5m)-Pass if vulnerable against not.

Important Notes That Don't Fit Elswehere

In contested 1. auctions, the following are potentially 11-13 balanced (others show 17+): any pass, $1 \, \checkmark$, double of 1. simple NT bid, raise or P/C up to $3 \, \checkmark$ /5m, transfer completion or super-accept.

Call	Art?	Min Lgth	Neg Dbl Upto	Description	Responses	Subsequent Auction	Modifications with passed partner (if any)	
1*	√	-	1♥	Strong (any 17+) or 11-13 (semi)bal with 2♠ Weak hand may be: 22(54), 22(63),	1 ♦ 0-7 any (non-forcing); Unbalanced positives, show the longest suit first. 5/5s start with the higher suit if 5521, the lower if 5530. 1 \checkmark = 5 ♦ (8+) or 8-13 4432, 4333 or 4441; 1 \spadesuit = 8+, \clubsuit or \spadesuit ; 1NT = 8+, \spadesuit ; 2 \clubsuit = 8+, \spadesuit either \spadesuit or equal length short suits; 2 \spadesuit = 8+, \spadesuit , either \blacktriangledown	After $1 - 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + $		
				2344, 23(53), 23(62), 24(43), or 24(52)	or equal length short suits; $2 \lor = 6 \clubsuit$, 6322 or 7222; $2 \spadesuit = 6 \spadesuit$, 6322 or 7222; $2 \land = 14 + 4432$, 4333 or 4441. $3 \spadesuit / \spadesuit = 7 \lor / \spadesuit (222)$; $3 \lor / \spadesuit = $ seven cards, 3-7 HCP.			
1+	√	-	7♠	10-16, 5+♠. May have longer minor.	1 ♥ NAT F1; 1 ♠ catch-all not FG; 1NT 9-11; 2m = NAT F3m; 2 ♥ = 3 ♠, 9+, 2 ♠ = 0-8; 2NT = BAL FG; 3 ♣ = 4 ♠ BAL INV+; 3 ♦ = short ♠ FG; 3 ♥ = any SPL; 3 ♠ PRE; 3NT = majors; 4m = 4 ♠ & 5m; $4 ♥ / ♠ = to play$.	1 ♦ -1 ♥ -1 NT = 11-13 BAL 1 ♦ -1 ♠ -Pass = weak, good suit 1 ♦ -2NT: shortness next	2/1s show a good suit rather than good hand. Fit jumps (4м/5other);	
1♥		5	7♠	10-16. May have longer minor. Spades shorter.	1♠ ART weak; 1NT = 5+♠; 2m NAT F3m; $2 \checkmark = 3 \checkmark 8-10$, $2 \spadesuit =$ weak (3-7); 2NT = BAL FG, $3 \clubsuit =$ BAL raise; $3 \spadesuit =$ short \checkmark FG; $3 \spadesuit =$ any SPL; 3NT = majors; $4m = 4 \checkmark \& 5m$.	$1 \checkmark -1 \triangleq : 2 \triangleq 4 \implies ; 1NT = 4 / BAL / good one-suiter (2 \triangleq enquiry, 9+)$	2NT = balanced raise.	
1 🛦		3	7♥	10-16. 3/4♠, not 5♥, not 14-16 BAL	1NT weak; $2 = NAT (F3) / 10-12 BAL; 2 = NAT F3 $ $= 3 $ $= 4 $ $= 4 $ $= 4-9$; $= 20 $ $= 2$	1♠-2♣: bid major (2♠ with none), now 2M-3M / 2♥-2♠ / 2NT = BAL, others = ♣.	2m = 4m & 4♠ 2♥ = Constructive raise 2♠ = Pre-emptive Fit jumps; 2NT = minors	
1NT		-	4♥	14-16 BAL / semi-balanced; 5M, 6m, 5422 all OK.	$2 = 4 + 4$; $2 = 4 + 4$ (not $4 + 4$ unless weak or slam inv) $2 \sqrt[4]{4} = NAT INV$; $2NT/3 = transfers$, weak or FG no major; $3 = 4$, FG; $3 \sqrt[4]{4} = SPL$; $4 \sqrt[4]{4} = to play 4 \sqrt[4]{4}.$	1NT-2*: $2 \neq = \text{not } 4 \triangleq (\text{now } 2 \neq = 5 + \triangleq; 2 \triangleq = 4 + \forall; 2 \text{NT} + = \text{NAT}$ with $4 \triangleq $); $2 \neq / \triangleq = 4 \triangleq \text{max/min}$ (no game tries). 1NT- $2 \triangleq : 2 \neq : 2 \triangleq = 5 \neq \text{FG}$; 2NT+ = NAT with $4 \neq : 1 \neq 1 \neq 1 \neq 2 \neq 1 \neq 3 \neq 3$		
2*	✓	4	-	12-16HCP, 13(45), 0355, 04(45), 1444, or 1435	$2 \phi / \psi$ = to play; 2NT = ART INV; $3 \phi / \psi$ = PRE; 3ϕ = NAT FG; 3NT/ $4 \psi / \phi$ = to play; 4m = PRE.	2♣-2NT: 3♣ = min; 3♦ = max 5♦; 3♥ = max 4♥; 3♠ = max 1345; 3NT = max, singleton spade K/Q.		
2♦		5	2♠	12-16, 6+♦ or 5♦ & 4♥	$2\Psi/A/3A = NAT F1$; $2NT = ART INV$; $3A = PRE$	2 ♦ -2NT: opener bids shortness next		
2♥	✓	-	-	12-16, 6+*, one-suited	2♠ = ART FG; 2NT = ART INV; 3♣ = weak; 3any = NAT FG	2♠/ NT: opener bids shortness	2♠ = NAT, NF	
2♠		5	-	Weak two (4-9 HCP)	Transfers (weak, fit, or FG); 3♥ = INV raise; 4any = SPL	Slam Approach and Conventions		
2NT	✓	-	-	12-16, 5+♣ & 5+♦	3♣ ART INV; 3♦ weak; 3any NAT FG	RKCB: 0 or 3, 1 or 4, 2 or 5, then asks (either in specific suits		
3♣/♦		5	-	Pre-emptive	New suit NAT F1; 4m-4om = RKCB	of for count of kings, etc.)		
3♥/♠		5	-	Pre-emptive	New suit NAT F1	After intervention: Pass = zero; Dbl = one		
3NT	✓		-	A solid suit, little outside	4♣ P/C; game in opener's suit = to play; others ask.	Generally cue-bid first round controls before second		
4any		6	-	Pre-emptive	New Suit cue, except 4♥-4♠ when NV or 4m-4M any vul	5NT usually pick-a-slam, rarely trump ask		