

# Interference Over 1NT

Last Revised September 17, 2021

By Warren Watson

Kootenay Jewel Bridge Club

<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/aaBidding/1NT.Interference.pdf>

## In a Nutshell (Standard Without Lebensohl):

Over Dbl: Systems on as if Opponent was quiet

Over 2♣: Dbl is Stayman, and all other systems are on as if the Opponent was quiet.

Over 2♦ and higher:

Double is penalty

2 level is natural and to play (Drop dead Please)

3 level is natural and GF

Cuebid is GF Stayman

2NT is invitational with a stopper.

Texas Transfers are on if they interfere with 3♣ or lower.

## The long ago standard system:

Before Transfers when partner opens 1NT:

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 2♣             | Stayman, 8+ HCP` s   |
| 2♦, 2♥, 2♠     | Drop Dead <u>Please</u> Partner, to play (always politely tell partner to drop dead) |
| 2NT            | invitational, 8-9 HCP  |
| 3♣, 3♦, 3♥, 3♠ | Five card suit forcing to game   |
| 3NT            | 10-15 HCP  |
| 4♣             | Gerber, ace asking, 16+ points   |
| 4NT            | Quantitative (stay tuned)  |

## Systems On:

Now transfers are used making the system very versatile. If partner bids or overcalls 1NT, the systems below are on.

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 2♣     | Stayman   |
| 2♦, 2♥ | transfers to hearts and spades  |
| 2♠     | MST, minor suit transfer:<br>Transfer to 3♣, pass or correct to 3♦ which will be passed |
| 2NT    | invitational, 8-9 HCP   |
| 3♣, 3♦ | invitational, 6 card suit, 6-8 HCP, either to play 3m or 3NT                            |
| 3♥, 3♠ | slamish. sets trump suit and starts cuebidding.   |
| 3NT    | 10-15 HCP   |
| 4♣     | Gerber, ace asking, 16+ points  |
| 4NT    | Quantitative, 16-17   |

## Competition:

### If Opponent Doubles Partner's 1NT:

| W   | N   | E    | S   |
|-----|-----|------|---|
| 1NT | Dbl | Rdbl | asks partner to bid 2♣ which is passed or corrected to 2♦<br>2♣, 2♦, 2♥, etc systems on |

### If Opponent overcalls 2♣, natural or artificial:

| W   | N  | E   | S  |
|-----|----|-----|--|
| 1NT | 2♣ | Dbl | Stolen bid. Dbl is Stayman<br>2♦, 2♥, etc systems on |

### If Opponent overcalls 2♦ or higher:

| W   | N  | E          | S  |
|-----|----|------------|--|
| 1NT | 2♦ | Dbl        | Penalty!   |
|     |    | 2♥, 2♠     | to play (drop dead)  |
|     |    | 2NT        | 8-9 (only invitational bid) with a diamond stopper<br>West shows another diamond stopper by bidding 3NT. |
|     |    | 3♣, 3♥, 3♠ | five card suit (minor may be less than five without a stopper), GF                                       |
|     |    | 3♦         | Game Forcing Stayman   |
|     |    | 3NT        | 10-15 with a diamond stopper.  |

|  |
|--|
| 2 Play level (2 level is to play)<br>G Level (3 level is game forcing) |
|--|

Texas Transfers are always on if the player can make a jump to bid them.

**Example: Both Vulnerable:**

N     E     S     W  
P     P     P     1NT  
2♠   ?

2♠ was spades and a minor. What does East bid with: ♠J742 ♥AJ72 ♦QJ ♣764?

What is the hand really worth:

- in 3NT?
- in 4♥?
- defending 2♠x?
- defending 3mx?

What if a void motivated North to get into the auction vulnerable. Do you expect a good split in 4♥?

**Stolen Bids:**

Only over a 2♣ overcall. One needs a penalty double to keep the opponents from interfering at will.

Interference system:

It makes opponents bidding more restricted if one interferes over 1NT as much as safe. Usually not vulnerable. They may lose a lot of invitational bids, they may be unsure about stoppers and the strong hand may become dummy. Although there is a risk of being doubled, you should take note the benefits of competing over 1NT in both lead direction and the restrictions to the opponents system it imposes. Just have a good overcall.

I prefer DONT over strong notrumps and Cappelletti over weak notrumps. Any system which gives partner a choice of two suits at the two-level is good. Capp may get one to the three-level-ouch?

**Quiz:**

The bidding goes 1NT by partner and 2♥ by RHO. What do you bid with the following at hot versus not?

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. ♠J10987 ♥A43 ♦765 ♣43 | 10. ♠542 ♥2 ♦J1098762 ♣32  |
| 2. ♠J10987 ♥654 ♦765 ♣43 | 11. ♠K4 ♥52 ♦QJ109876 ♣J2  |
| 3. ♠J109876 ♥654 ♦765 ♣4 | 12. ♠K4 ♥K2 ♦QJ109876 ♣J2  |
| 4. ♠AQ765 ♥Q54 ♦765 ♣43  | 13. ♠Q4 ♥K2 ♦QJ109876 ♣32  |
| 5. ♠AQJ65 ♥654 ♦K6 ♣543  | 14. ♠K4 ♥K2 ♦QJ109876 ♣K2  |
| 6. ♠AQJ653 ♥654 ♦Q65 ♣4  | 15. ♠54 ♥K32 ♦KQJ109 ♣932  |
| 7. ♠AQ32 ♥K43 ♦6542 ♣32  | 16. ♠K4 ♥632 ♦KQJ1098 ♣K2  |
| 8. ♠AQ32 ♥543 ♦K654 ♣32  | 17. ♠K4 ♥KQ102 ♦KQJ ♣J1098 |
| 9. ♠AQ32 ♥543 ♦KQ54 ♣J2  | 18. ♠K4 ♥J432 ♦K432 ♣Q32   |

Answers:

1. 2♠; 2. Pass; 3. 2♠; 4. 2NT; 5. 3♠; 6. 4♥ (Texas); 7. 2NT; 8. Pass (better) or Dbl and trump leads; 9. 3♥ (GF Stayman) 10. Pass; 11. Pass; 12. 3NT; 13. 2NT; 14. 3NT; 15. 3NT; 16. 3♦; 17. Dbl; 18. Dbl