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2/1 Game Forcing always

3L jump shifts by responder invitational, no fit for partner 2L jump shifts by responder weak

After 2/1

- new suit at 3L shows extra (14+)
- new suit at L2 does not promise extras
- rebid of opening suit is catch all bid over 2+, shows 6 over 2+
- 2NT shows the other two suits stopped any subsequent 3N offers to play, it is not non-serious
- Jump the original suit like 1♠-2♦-'3♠' showing 1-loser in that suit facing a singleton and good hand (16+), 7+ cards
- 2♣ shows balanced hand or clubs, 1◆-2♣ denies 4-card M if balanced
 2♦ relay, any other bids show distribution and better hand
 - 2V Telay, any other blus show distributio

2♥ - 6 clubs or ♣AKQxx

2♠ - weak NT, 12-14 - 2N waiting

2N - 15-17 HCP

3N - 18-19 HCP

3♣ - 7+ clubs or ♣AKQxxx

Examples

- 1♠-2♣-'2NT': 15-17
- 1♠-2♣-'3NT'=18-19;
- After 2/1 in a suit contract:
 - For the opener after 2 over 1 overcall:
 - o 1 2 4 = 3-card support; minimum 11-12.
 - 1♠-2♥-'3♥'= 3-card support; good 13+, he is allowed to signoff at the 4♥ next turn with minimum 13-14
 - o 1♠-2♥-3♥-3♠= natural ♠ support
 - For the responder, similarly:
 - o 1 2 2 4 = 4-card support; minimum 12 or 13.
 - o 1♠-2♦-2♥-'3♥'= 4-card support; 14+
 - For hands with fit:
 - 1 2 2 4 = = showing working minimum (good side suit and 3 card support)
 - 1♠-2♦-2♠-3♠ = other hands go through 3L support; does not promise extras; bidding 4♠ subsequently shows minimum no interest, 3N is non-serious, cue bids are serious.

In NT hands we use the same treatment of 12-14, 18-19 OR 15-17 ranges:

- 1♠-2♦-2♥-'3NT'=15-17;
- 1♠-2♦-2♥-'2NT'= 12-14 or 18-19, waiting;

Meta Agreements

- After 2/1 in competition by responder, 3NT by opener is "to play", about 14-16, e.g. 1 (1 1) 2 3NT.
- When responder bids to L4 with no guaranteed fit, and opener is balanced or last bid 3NT: e.g. $2NT 3 \checkmark 3 \diamondsuit 4 \diamondsuit$, or $1 \diamondsuit (2 \diamondsuit) 2 \checkmark 2 \checkmark 3 \diamondsuit 3NT 4 \diamondsuit$.
 - Direct 4NT is natural, subsequent 4NT is keycard as other bids set trumps, see below.
 - o If responder has shown 2 suits, opener supporting the first suit at L4 sets trumps does not promise or deny extras.
 - Other L4 suit bids are cue bids, showing slam interest in responder's second suit (or responder's only suit).
 - o If responder is 2-suited and rebids his first suit at L4, it suggests to play, e.g. $2NT 3 \checkmark 3 4$ $- 4 \checkmark - 4$.
- Fourth seat $2 / / / \triangleq 10-14$ good 6-card suit. Balancing seat jump $2 / / / \triangleq 14-16$
- After transfer to major as responder's first real action, the same superaccept structure as after 1NT ALWAYS applies.

One No Trump

Opening style (15-17) balanced

After Stayman:

2♠= mild distributional invitation

30M= fit &shortness - relay to find out, show shortness Low/Middle/High

4♣ = balanced ST with fit; 4♦= KC

Garbage Stayman at 2♥

Smolen – GF – 4-level bid is re-transfer showing 6-4, slam interest

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e.g. 1NT-2♣-2♦-3♥ (4-card ♥)-3NT-4♥ (6-♠, 4-♥)

1NT-2♣-2♦-3♠ (4-card ♠)-3NT-4♦ (4-♠, 6-♥).

1NT - 2♣ - 2♦ - 4♦/♥: retransfer (6-4), no slam interest
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4-way Transfers:

After 2♦/2♦ (transfer):

- 3M: 4-card support and 17 HCP;
- 2NT 3-card support but balanced or NT hands; MAX;
- Other suits 2 small in the suit with 4-card support, MAX

Minor transfers: middle step super-accept with 3-cards and honor and good hand

Other

- 3♣= optional puppet
- 3•= GF, 55 in the minors
- 3M= stiff 13(54)

Showing Majors

- 1NT 2♥ 2♠ 3♥: 5-5 majors GF
- 1NT 2♦ 2♥ -:

2♠: artificial, other invite hands with hearts

2NT: semibalanced invite with 5♥

3♥: 6 ♥ - invitational

- 1NT 2♦ 2♥ 2♠: bid 2NT to ask (usually no ♥ fit), or 3♥ or 4♥ with fit
- 1NT 2 2 2 2NT:

3m: 5-5 natural invitational, NF

3♥: 5-5 majors invitational

3♠: 6♥/5♠

3NT: choice-of-game, usually 6 bad ♥, or 5 ♥ with extras, or 5 good ♥ with side A

After interference:

- System on: artificial dbl and 2♣
- 1NT X (pen) XX: forces 2♣ pass/correct for minor suit signoff
- EXCEPTION: After 1NT (2♣ showing majors), system is OFF and UvU applies. Double suggests penalty.
- Lebensohl over 2♦, 2♥, and 2♠
- Texas on through 3♣
- Interference after transfer, opener always steps on the suit with 3 cards, if opener passes it almost always denies 3-cards unless penalty orientated, responder dbl with good hand 9+hcp, new suit is natural GF, no re-transfer, bidding the transferred suit is to play;
- 1N- P -2♣-dbl

Rdbl = desire to play ♣

Bid = suit + stopper in ♠, if responder bids 3♠ it is choice of games (suit or NT)

Pass = waiting - Rdbl = inv or better

2♥ = garbage sign off

1NT - 2 → -(X) - P - XX: try to make responder declare

2♦ = **4**-**♥**

2♥ = 4-♠

2NT = no 4M

Two No Trump

20-21 pts

- Puppet Stayman
 - o 2NT 3♣ 3M:
 - Cheapest OM: sets trump
 - 4m: 4OM + 4+ card minor. Then opener bids 4NT with bad hand for minor, while other bids are keycard responses for the minor (skipping 4NT).
 - 4NT quantitative
 - o 2N 3♣- 3♦ at least one 4-card Major;
 - 4♣ = slam interest 44M
 - $4 \rightarrow$ = no slam interest 44M
 - o 2N 3♣- 3♦ 3M shows other Major
 - $4 \triangleq$ = agreeing trump with good hand for slam, then $4 \nmid /4 \forall$ retransfer
- 55 Ms and no slam interest, transfer to 3♠ and bid 4♥
- 2NT 3♦ 3♥ 3♠: 5-♥ and 4-♠
- 2NT 3♣ 3N 4♥: 4-♥ and 5-♠
- Jacoby transfers and Texas transfers
- System on over dbl and 3♣

- 3♠ = Minor Stayman opener is forced to bid 3NT
 - o 4 ₹ /4 = 45 minors with shortness in the bid Major
 - 4N = no minor slam interest; to play
 - 5m= slam interest; set up trump
 - 4 4 = 6 card suit, slam interest
 - 4N = no slam interest; to play
 - Others = reply to RKC (4NT not included to play, see above)
 - Responder can close the bidding at 4NT; other suit asking for Q, continuation is asking for specific king
- 4 = 5-5 in minors, weak hand, asking opener to choose a minor to play

3NT Opening

• Gambling with no outside A or K

NT Overcalls

- Direct 1NT overcall 15-18, system ON.
- Balancing seat 1NT 11-14, system ON.
- After we X opponent's 1NT: with good hand, usually we should just pass even unbalanced. With weak hands: 2♣ /2♦/2♥/2♠ is natural to play. Running shows usually 0-3 HCP if 15-17 1NT opener, should run with 0-8 HCP and soft long suit if 10-12 1NT opener, etc.
- Overcall strong 2NT/wk2 (16-18), direct or balanced seat: system on Stayman & transfers
- Balance seat jumping 2NT= 18-19 HCP. Sys ON
- After we overcall 3NT over 3L preempts:
 - o 4♣ =Stayman: Garbage Stayman is ON, 4C-4D-'4H'= 5-5 M's.
 - o 4♦/4♥ = Texas transfer,
 - o 4♠ =MSS.

Defense vs. opp's 1NT opening and 1NT overcall

- 1. Vs. Strong NT opening
 - Landy

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1N -2♣ - dbl - PASS -like to play in clubs
Rdbl - pick a suit
2♦ - natural
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- 2. Vs. Weak NT opening
 - 2♣ majors
 - 2♦/2♦ transfers
 - 2♠ weak with spades
 - 2NT minors
- 3. After opp overcall 1NT: we play natural except 2♣ shows both majors (i.e. Landy). (X shows 8+ HCP and penalty)
 - If partner opened 1M promise tolerance in opener's suit

One of a Major

- 1N Forcing and Semi-forcing by passed hand
- 3L jump shifts invitational
- 2-way Reverse Drury
- Jacoby 2NT shortness at L3, 5-card suit with 2 of AKQ at L4; Balanced hands 3♠ 17+; 3N 14-16; 4♠ 11-13
- Non-serious 3NT; if any hand show limited NT range, subsequent 3N bid is to play
- 1M-2M natural game tries
- 1M 3M: limit raise with 4+ trumps
- 1M 3M 3M+1 ask: response NLMH
- 1M 3NT: 33(34), 13-15 HCP
- Splinters double jumps
- 1♥ 1♠ 2♦:
 - o L2 bids standard
 - o 3♦/♥/♠ natural GF
 - o 3♣ artificial, forcing one-round.
 - o With any minimum: opener bids 3 ♦ artificial, so 1 ♥ 1 ♦ 2 ♦ 3 ♦ 3 ♦ 3 M is signoff.
 - With maximum: 3♥ catchall bid; 3♠ 3 card support, 3N max balanced

Strong Jump Shifts

Natural jump shifts:

- 1♠ -1N-'3♥ '= 5-♥
- 1♠ -1N-'3♦ '= 4-♦
- 1♥ 1NT 3 = 5-•

Artificial sequences:

• 1♠ – 1NT – 3♣ – 3♦:

3♠ = long ♠

• 1♥-1NT-3♣-3•:

3♥ = long ♥

3♠ = 4-♣

3NT = 4-◆

4♣ = 5-♣

1♥-1♠-3NT: long ♥, sets trumps

1M – 1NT – 3♣ – 3M: 3-card limit raise

1M - 1N - 2N - 4M- Limit; 3M-weak; Other= Forcing

One of a Minor

2+ ♣ and good 4+♦ unbalanced or trump suited

- 1♣ 2+, most balanced hands
- 1 \dip 4+, tends to be unbalanced or suit oriented.
- 1♣ 1Y 1M: unbalanced
- 1m 1NT: 6-10

- 1m 2NT: 13-15 no 4-card Major; if opener rebids new suit only with unbalanced hand 1m - 3NT: 16-18 Jump raise – mixed raise with or without competition Inverted minors 1m – 2m: 2**∀**= GF 2♠= shortness and minimum; 3m= weakest unbal 2/3om = 14 balanced;2nt= 12-13 bal 3N - 18-19 no slam interest 1♦ – 2♣ 11+ HCP 4-card suit 2♦ – min, non descriptive F 2N/3♣ - 11-12 NF, usually end Other - GF 2**∀**/♠ - GF 2N - 14 +3N - 18-19 3♣ = GF, 3-cards ♣ 3♦ - 6+ cards, GF 3♥/♠ - splinter 4♣ = min 5-5 minors 1 → 2N 13-15 no 4-card Major 3♣ - 3♦ preference 3♥/♠ - fragment 3♥/♠ - 5-4 good hand (strength or distribution) 1♣ - 1M 2♣ - 3L GF 5-5 2 followed by 3 shows 5-4 1♣ - 1♠ 2♣ - 2♥ NF 5-4 1♦ - 1♠ 2♦ - 2♥ natural Forcing 3♣ natural Forcing 1m – 1M 2M - 2NT asking, 3 min/3Max/4min/4Max • Intermediate jump shift L2 1m – 2X – intermediate 8-10 HCP,6-card suit <mark>usually</mark> with 2 top honors, or <mark>bad 7-card suit</mark> o 2X+1 = asking - NLMH o 2N = shows 6-5 in the m and 2X+1 suit New suit = GF if reverse, RF if below 1m - 1M - 1NT: guarantees 2 in major unless 1=4=4=4 After 2NT rebid EXCEPT 1♣ - 1♦ - 2NT o 3♣ relay to 3♦ any bid thereafter is sign off o Other bids are transfers and GF except 3N; 4♣ transfer to ◆ o 3N - to play
- XYZ always on, in competition and by passed hand

1♣ – 1♦ – 2NT: all L3 responses natural and forcing

- o 2♣= F2♦ to play or any inv hand
- o 2♦= GF
- o 2nt= F3♣ to play or GF with 5M4opener's minor and NLH shortness (3♦,♥,♠)
- L3 other: 55 GF
- o L3 responder rebids his suit: GF usually 7+ good suit asks for cue bids
- o If go through 2♦ then rebid suit shows bad good suit; if jump to L4 slam interest
- Responder way to show Major invites
 - o 1♣ 1♥ 1N 2♠ shows 44 M with inv. values
 - o 1♣ 1♥ shows 4-5 when going through XYZ sequence inv. values
 - 1N 2♣
 - 2♦ 2♠
- Distributional 6-4 hands
 - o 1♣ 1♦ 1♥ 2♠ showing 6-4 (GF)
 - o 1♣ 1♦ 1N 2♥/♠ same showing 6-4 GF

Good hands after 1 of a minor opening:

Starting 1m-1M:

- 1m 1M 3M: guaranteed unbalanced or 5422
 - o 3M+1 relay: response SLH (semibalanced-low-high) since balanced not possible
 - o Note: 3NT is a serious try when it is the *asking* bid. 3NT is non-serious if 3♠ is the asking bid. We cannot play 3NT when one hand is unbalanced with 8-card major fit.
- Cheapest available jump= 18-19 balanced or unbalanced GF. The following sequences: 1♣-1M-3♦, 1♦-1♣-3♥, and 1♦-1♥-3♠;
 - o Responder: cheapest bid other than 3M is a relay opener shows NLH (none-low-high)
 - o Responder: shows values with any other bid.
 - o Responder: signs off in 3M with a hand that would not accept strong invitation bad 7 pts from QJ. **Always accept with AK. Or A and trump Q, or 5-card suit and an Ace.**
 - o Note: 3NT should be treated as a serious try when it is the asking bid. 3nt should be offer to play when after 1♣-1M-3♦- as there is the other major available to ask (serious) or another bid to show values.
 - o 1m 1M 4M: 4522.
- 1m 1M 4x = void and (also <math>1 1 3)
- 1m 1M 4m= good hand 64 with controls, something like AKJx x xx AKQxxx.
- The less room there is after 1m 1M 4m, the better the hand needs to be to bid 4m.

Reverses

- 17+ playing strength
- 2M rebid is 1-round force, not GF
- Go through cheaper of 4th-suit or 2NT(Lebensohl) to show a weak hand, all other responses GF
- Direct 4NT = natural slam-invite with secondary values
- 2NT 3♣ 4NT = natural slam-invite with primary values

After 3-suited GF auction

This applies to reverses and 4th-suit forcing auctions.

- 4NT is quantitative if there is room to set trump first, e.g. 1 → -1 → -2 → -3 → -4NT is quantitative, since 4 → is available to set trump.
- 4NT is keycard if the last bid suit is natural, and there is no room to support the suit, e.g. 1♦-1♠-2♥-3♠-3♦-3♠-4♦-4NT is keycard for ♦.

2♣ Opening

Disciplined, 22+ or 9 tricks

2♦ = positive

2♥ = double negative, no A, K nor 2Qs

2♠ = 5 spades with 2 top honors; no other place to play

2N = 2 hearts as above

Kokish: 2♣ -2♦ -2♥: 25+ balanced or hearts. Responder must bid 2S.

- 2♣ -2♦ -2♥ -2♠ -2NT: 25+ balanced, same methods as 2NT opening.
- 2♣ -2♦ -2♥ -2♠: Any other bid shows hearts.
- 2♣ 2♦ 2♥: breaking relay is TRANSFER, showing 6+ card suit that plays for 1-loser opposite Ax or Kx.

2♣ - 2♥ - 2N = 22-24 Puppet + transfers

2♣ - 2♥ - 3N = 25-27 Stayman + transfers

2♣ - 2♥ - 4N = 28+ Natural and Forcing

After interference:

After 2♣ dbl rdbl – negative, pass – GF After interference - dbl – dbl negative; pass – GF

Weak Twos

- 2♦/2♥/2♠ weak 5-10, use rule of 20 to decide open 1 or 2
- 2NT asks for Ogust responses, 3♦ is good suit/bad hand
- Raise only non-forcing; Invite with HCP + trumps >= 17
- New suit NF, OM at L3 is always GF
- After opp X for takeout, transfers; this could be lead directing or to play or to show other type of hands.

RKC

- BUPH, 4NT over 1M opening with or without competition is RKC; in comp over minor shows two places to play. BPH, 4NT in comp is ostensibly two places to play, but may be a great raise of partner's suit.
- 1430 RKC, then after KC response:
 - o Cheapest idle step after 5♣/5♦ asks for trump Q. If this ask is above 5 of our suit, this <u>guarantees</u> all keycards. If responder denies Q, then any subsequent bid suggests to play.
 - o 5NT specific K
 - Other suit bids grand try asking for 3rd round control
- If RKC ask isn't 4NT, for example 1NT-2♣-2♠-4♦, next idle step (skipping trump and NT if we had bid it NT naturally) is Q ask over 14 or 30 response; next next idle step is specific K ask; higher are 3rd-round control asks

- Showing void: don't show void if partner can't figure out where it is
 - o 5th step = even # of KC with void (usually 5NT)
 - o 6th step = odd # of KC with void, and NO trump Q (usually 6♣)
 - o Higher steps = odd # of KC with void, trump Q, and shows specific K if not trump suit

Other Conventions

4th-suit forcing to game, artificial.

Competitive Bidding

Leaping Michaels

Over weak 2M, 4m = 5-m + 5-OM. Over $3\clubsuit$, $4\clubsuit$ = majors 5-5, $4\spadesuit$ = \spadesuit + M 5-5 Over $2\spadesuit$ - $3\spadesuit$ Michaels

XYZ on in comp and BPH

Unusual vs. Unusual

Low cue=low suit

Michaels

After (1M)-2M:

- 2N = constructive for the minor, then 3♣/♦ to play, we can make the higher bids all meaningful in the future, but for now they're just natural with extras
- 3♣ = pass/correct for minor
- 3♦ = constructive raise for the major
- 3M = great hand for major
- 30M = mixed raise

Vs Weak 2

Lebensohl over T/O of weak 2

- (2♦)-3♦: Michaels
- (2M) 3M: Western Cue
- (2♠) Dbl: ranges: 0 to bad 8 go through 2NT; direct 8-11; stronger hands jump or cue
- (2♦/♥) Dbl: ranges for spades (and hearts over 2♦):
 - o **2**♠ **0**-6
 - o 2NT-3♣-3♠ 7-9
 - o Direct 3♠ 10-11, usually 4-5 ♠
 - o Direct 4♠ 12-14 playing strength, 5+♠
 - Stronger hands cue, see below
- (2X) Dbl:
 - o 3X (cue): strain probe without a stopper, usually 4 in OM
 - o 2NT 3♣ 3X (delay-cue): strain probe with a stopper
 - o 2NT 3♣ 3NT: choice of games with 4 in OM
 - o 3NT: to play
 - O Cue or delay-cue followed by new suit: sets trumps, forcing

o Cue then re-cue: sets doubler's suit, forcing, e.g. (2♥)-Dbl-3♥-3♠-4♥ sets spades

Lebensohl

Lebensohl is on if:

- 1. Opponent has bid to 2♦, 2♥, or 2♠
- 2. Our hand hasn't bid, or has only passed
- 3. Partner has only doubled

Examples: $(1 \spadesuit)$ -Dbl- $(2 \spadesuit/ \heartsuit/ \spadesuit)$ -?, or $(1 \spadesuit)$ -Dbl- $(2 \spadesuit)$ -P-(P)-Dbl-(P)-?

Doubles

- Doubles are takeout unless we have a fit, takeout is illogical, or specified elsewhere in the notes. Takeout/Negative/Responsive through 4, higher doubles show convertible values.
- In particular, a double that is takeout by above maxim but doesn't fall into textbook takeout/negative/responsive/reopening situation tends to be card-showing at L3 (and sometimes L2) showing flexibility in strain and majority of HCP (23+), but does not suggest passing unless partner has misfitting or balanced defensive hand that expects to beat the doubled contract.
- Support double/redouble through 2X-1, where X is our suit. Higher doubles just show extras. Exception: no support double of natural 1NT it is penalty.
- Maximal double only when both sides have a fit, and they're below 3 of our suit
- Otherwise when we have a fit, double is penalty-oriented.
- Exception: when we only have 7-card fit via support (re)double, above doesn't apply, e.g. 1♦-P-1♥-Dbl-Rdbl-1♠-Dbl is takeout.
- After 1m 1NT, and opponent (pre)balances 2M
 - Double by opener is penalty, 2NT is takeout for the minors, but can be passed if opener has already passed 1NT.
 - o Double by responder is takeout
- After any value-showing redouble, doubles are for penalty.
- After 1X 1Y 1NT, and 1X (1Y) 1NT, all doubles are penalty.
- If we've promised a particular suit by making a takeout double, doubles of that suit by the opponents are penalty, example 1: (1♠)-Dbl-(1♠)-Dbl. Example 2: P-P-P-1NT- P-P-2♠-Dbl(t/o)- 3♥-P-P-Dbl(penalty).
- After we double 1NT opening or overcall for penalty, we play forcing pass through 2*. If they run to 2* or above, then double is takeout.
- After we open 1NT:
 - o Double and redouble of rarely passed artificial bid by responder shows balanced invite hand or better, sets up forcing pass through 2NT. Double by opener shows 5 cards in the suit.
 - o Double of 2♣ is Stayman unless it shows both majors, in which case the above applies. If they bid 2M over Stayman, double by opener is negative, showing 4 in OM.
 - o Double of natural bid that might possibly promise a lower suit is takeout.
 - Double by unpassed responder of natural bid that promises higher suit, e.g. DON'T, shows 8+ balanced invite hand or better, sets up forcing pass through 2NT; by responder that has already passed 1NT, it suggests penalty.
- 1♣ (2M) Dbl: may have only 3 in OM.
 - $1 (2 \lor) Dbl 2 2NT$: scrambling
 - 1♣ (2♠) Dbl: opener with weak NT hand and no 4♥ should bid 2NT regardless of ♠ stopper.
 Subsequent 3♣/3♦/3♦ by responder is NF scrambling, suggests to play.
- If we double their Michaels or un2NT, does it set up force? If so, to what level?

Forcing Pass

- In forcing pass situation, pass suggests bidding, and high-level pass/pull is a slam try. In low level FP situations: in direct seat Dbl is penalty, pass is takeout; in pass-out seat, Dbl is penalty, otherwise must take it out.
- 1M Dbl Rdbl forces through 2M
- 1m Dbl Rdbl forces through 2NT
- Some other forcing pass sequences are described in Doubles section
- Otherwise, forcing pass only if we've shown game-forcing values, e.g. 2/1, GF splinter or GF cue bid.

Preempts

4♣ (4♦ after 3♣)mod KC 011+22+

Any other bid except 4/5 opening suit is asking bid.

Defense vs Strong Club

- Dbl = Majors
- 1NT = Minors
- Rest = Natural
- After suit bid at L1 and L2: cheapest NT is cue bid

Defense vs Natural/Short Club

- 2♣ natural
- **2** Michaels for the majors

Defense vs Precision Diamond

- 2• Natural
- 2 Weak Michaels for the Majors
- 3 - Strong Michaels for the Majors

General Agreements in Competitive Auctions

• Cue bid higher ranking suit promise support, lower cue is general cue bid

$$1C - 1D - P - 1H$$

1S – 2S promise hear support/2C is general cue with strength

- Jump cue after overcall is mixed raise
- Responder rebidding own suit at L3 is GF, since we play IJS.

Carding

- UDCA
- Standard Smith Echo
- Attitude returns in the middle of the hand
- Standard current count