DEFENSIVE AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING

OVERCALLS (Style: Responses: 1 / 2 Level; Reopening)

Style ; natural
Responses : natural, weak jump raises
new suit forcing if n°3 pass
Jump cuebid : limit raise

1NT OVERCALL (2nd/4th Live; Responses; Reopening)

Vs 1♥/♠ in 1st, 2nd and 4th seat : 1NT = 4 other major and 5+ ♠/♦, 8-15
Response : 2♣ relay
In balancing seat : natural w less than good opening hand

JUMP OVERCALLS (Style; Responses; Unusual NT)

Style : weak natural
2NT : two-suiter

Reopen:

DIRECT & JUMP CUE BIDS (Style; Response; Reopen)

1♥ 2♥ : ♠+♣ (in balancing seat : ♠+♣/♦)
1♠ 2♠ : ♥+♣ (in balancing seat : ♥+♣/♦)

VS. NT (vs. Strong/Weak; Reopening;PH)

Vs Strong : DBLE : ♣/♦ singleton or strong
2♣ : majors
2NT : minors
Same in balancing seat
Vs Weak : 2♣ majors, others : transfers

VS.PREEMTS (Doubles; Cue-bids; Jumps; NT Bids)

Vs weak 2 : 4x = 5x and 5 other major
Vs 3♣ 4♣ = 5+♦ and 5+♥, 4♦ = 5+♥ and 5+♠
Vs 3♦ 4♦ = 5+♥ and 5+♠ Vs 3♥♠ : 4♥♠= 5 OM and 5♣♦

VS. ARTIFICIAL STRONG OPENINGS- i.e. 1♣ or 2♣

OVER OPPONENTS' TAKEOUT DOUBLE

RDBLE : 10 + / 1X : F1 / 2X : NF / 2NT 10-11 w support
Jump in a new suit : weak
Jump raises : preempt

LEADS AND SIGNALS

OPENING LEADS STYLE

	Lead	In Partner's Suit
Suit	High - Low : even	High - Low : even
NT	4th best	High - Low : even
Subseq	NT : 4th best	

LEADS

Lead	Vs Suit	Vs NT
Ace	AKx	AKx, AKJ
King	KQx, AK	3 honors, AKJx
Queen	QJx	QJ10x, QJ9x, KQx
Jack	J10x, KJ10x	J109x, J108x, AJ10x, KJ10x
10	109x, H109x	1098x, H109
9	9, 9x	109xx, 9xx, 9x, 9
Hi-X	even	Xx, Xxx, xXxx, HXx, xXxxx
Lo-X	odd	HxX, HxxX, HxxXx, xxxXx

SIGNALS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY

	Partner's Lead	Declarer's Lead	Discarding
1	High - Low : even	High - Low : even	High - Low : even
Suit 2	H : Encouraging	Suit preference	H : Encouraging
3	Suit preference		
1	High - Low : even	High - Low : even	High - Low : even
NT 2	H : Encouraging	Smith echo	H : Encouraging
3		Suit preference	Suit preference

Signals (including Trumps):
Standard count High - Low : even
A and Q leads ; High : Encouraging

DOUBLES

TAKEOUT DOUBLES (Style; Responses; Reopening)
Can be light if shaped.
Natural responses
Cue bid forcing 1

SPECIAL, ARTIFICIAL & COMPETITIVE DBLS/RDLS

1♣ 1♦ DBLE : no 4 card major
1♣/♦ 1♥ DBLE : no 4 ♠
DBLE from the opener : good hand and support
Lihtner

CONVENTION CARD

OPEN
FRANCE

PIERRE ZIMMERMANN
FRANCK MULTON

SYSTEM SUMMARY

GENERAL APPROACH AND STYLE

5 cards Major – Better minor

1♦ may have 3 cards w 4432
1NT NV : 10-13 / V : 15-17
2♣ : GF or strong in ♥, aces responses, note 1
2♦ : Multi,
2♥ NV : weak 4+♥ and 4+♠ note 2
2♥ V : weak 5+♥ and 4+♣/♦
2♠ : weak : 5+♠ and 4+♣/♦

SPECIAL BIDS THAT MAY REQUIRE DEFENSE

1♣ : transfer responses
Two-suiter overcalls :
1♣/♦ 2♦ : ♥+♠
1♣ 2NT : ♦+♥ / 1♦ 2NT : ♣+♥
1♥ 2♥ : ♠+♣ (in balancing seat : ♠+♣/♦)
1♠ 2♠ : ♥+♣ (in balancing seat : ♥+♣/♦)

1NT strong DBLE : ♣/♦ singleton or strong

SPECIAL FORCING PASS SEQUENCES

Usual slam try in competitive bids.
When Pass is forcing, bid is weaker than Pass then bid.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Opening bids in 3rd seat may be very light w good suit.
3rd and 4th suit forcing one round

PSYCHICS: rare

	artificial	cards	Negative double	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSES	SUBSEQUENT ACTION	PASSED HAND BIDDING
1♣		3	4♠	11+	1♦/♥ : transfers - 1♠ : no 4 M 4+♦ or 5-7 w ♣ 2♣ : natural 11+ F1 - 2♦ : natural GF	1♣-1x-1NT then 2♣ : relay	Jump : natural and support
1♦		3	4♠	11+	1♣/♦ 1NT 2♣ : majors	1♦-1x-1NT then 2♣ : relay	Jump : natural and support
1♥ 1♠		5 5	4♠ 4♥	11+ 11+	2NT : 3 ♥/♠, 10-15 / 3NT : 4 ♥/♠ 10-13 4♣/♦ : Splinters 10-13	1♥/♠-1NT-2NT then 3x : Transfers 1♥-1♠-3NT : 19-21 1♥/♠ Dble or overcall : jump 3x : weak	Jump : natural and support 2♣ : relay then 2♦ ambigous 1♠-2♣-2♥ : weak 2NT : 4♥/♠ + singleton
1NT NV				10-13	2♣ : Stayman 3 steps 2♦ and + : Transfers	1NT-2♦-2♥-2♠ : 5 ♥ and 4 ♠ 1NT Dble (penalty) RDble : 2 4-card suit	
1NT V				15-17	2♣ : Stayman 5 steps 2♦ and + : Transfers	1NT Dble (penalty) then natural 1NT Dble (artificial) than Stayman and Transfers	
2♣ Note 1	x	0		GF or 5+♥ strong	2♦ : no ace / 2♥ : 1 red ace 2♠ : 1 black ace / 2NT : 8+ or 2 kings balanced	2♣-2♦-3♥ : GF 2♣-2♦-2♥-2♠/SA/3♣/♦ - 3♥ : NF	
2♦	x	0		Multi : - weak ♥ or ♠ - NT 22-23 - 5+♦/♠ strong - ♥ Acol	2♥/♠/3♥ : Pass or correct 2NT : relay - 3♣/♦/♠ : F1 - 4♦ : to play 4♥/♠ 4♣ : to play 4♥/♠ then transfer	2♦-2x-3♣ : 5+♠ strong 2♦-2NT -3♣/♦=♥/♠ minimum -3♠/♥ : ♥/♠ maximum 2♦-3♣-3♦ : ♥ mini -3♥ : ♠ mini -3♠ : ♥ maxi - 3NT : ♠ maxi	
2♥ NV Note 2		4		4+♥ and 4+♠, 6-10	2NT : relay	2♥-2NT -3♣ : 5♥/4♠ -3♦ : 5♠/4♥ -3♥ : 4♥/4♠ mini - 3♠ : 4♥/4♠ maxi 2♥-2NT -3SA : 5♥/♠ mini - 4♣/♦ : 5♥/5♠ maxi and single ♣/♦	
2♥ V		5		5+♥ and 4+♣/♦, 6-10	2NT : relay - 3/4♣ : Pass or Correct in ♦	2♥-2NT -3♣/♦ : natural mini -3♥ : 5♣ maxi -3♠ : 5♦ maxi	
2♠		5		5+♠ and 4+♣/♦, 6-10	2NT : relay - 3/4♣ : Pass or Correct in ♦	2♠-2NT -3♣/♦ : natural mini -3♥ : 5♣ maxi -3♠ : 5♦ maxi	
2NT				NV : 19-21 - V : 20-21	3♣ : Stayman -3♦+ : Transfers 4♥ : 5♣+4♦ / 4♠ : 5♦+4♣		
3♣		6		Preempt			
3♦		6		Preempt			
3♥		6		Preempt			
3♠		6		Preempt			
3NT				Full suit	4♣ : ask single in a major / 4♦ : ask single in a minor		
4♣		7		Preempt			
4♦		7		Preempt			
4♥		7		Preempt			
4♠		7		Preempt			
4NT						HIGH LEVEL BIDDING	
						R K C BW : 5 keys	

OPEN – FRANCE – ZIMMERMANN – MULTON

Supplementary sheet

Note 1 : 2♣ : GF or 5+♥ strong

2♣ after overcall : dble = 5+ HCP,
2x = natural 5 cards not so bad
3x = natural 6 cards not so bad

2♣-2♦ : no ace
2♣-2♥ : one red ace => 4♣ = which one ?
2♣-2♠ : one black ace => 4♣ = which one ?
2♣-2NT : balanced, 8+ HCP or 2 kings
2♣-3♣ : 2 aces ♥♦ or ♣♠
2♣-3♦ : 2 aces ♣♦ or ♥♠
2♣-3♥ : 2 aces ♣♥ or ♦♠

2♣ - 2♦ - 3♥ : GF
2♣ - 2♦ - 2♥ - 2♠ => 2SA = F => 3♥ : NF
2♣ - 2♦ - 2♥ - 3♣/♦ - 3♥ : NF

2♣ - 2♥/♠ - 3♥ - 3♠ relay => 3NT : 20-23
4♥ : was GF but now NF
4NT : 24+
2♣ - 2♥/♠ - 4♥ : strong in ♥ not GF => RKCBW, 4 keys

2♣ - 2NT - 3♥ - 3♠ relay => 4♥ : 5+♥ strong not GF

Note 2 : 2♥ NV : 4+♥ and 4+♠, 6-10 HCP
2♥ - 2♠ : to play
2♥ - 3♥ : preempt
2♥ - 2NT relay => 3♣ = 5♥ + 4♠ then 3♦ relay => 3♥ : mini => 3♠ : to play
3♠ : maxi
3♦ = 5♠ + 4♥ then 3♥ relay => 3♠ : mini
3NT : maxi
3♥ = 4♥ + 4♠ mini
3♠ = 4♥ + 4♠ maxi
3NT = 5♥ + 5♠ mini
4♣/♦ = 5♥ + 5♠ maxi and single
2♥ - 3♣ natural forcing
2♥ - 3♣ - 3♦ = mini
3♥ = maxi without support
3♠ = maxi with support
3NT = maxi with ♦ stopper
2♥ - 3♣ natural forcing
2♥ - 3♦ - 3♥ = mini
3♠ = maxi without support
3NT = maxi + ♣ stopper