

Dealing with Interference After Strong 1NT Conventions (Transfer and Stayman)

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1 You open a strong 1NT. Partner transfers (2♦ or 2♥). RHO doubles.

- 1.1 What does the double mean? Usually it is lead-directing.
- 1.2 Possible rebids by opener:
 - 1.2.1 Complete the transfer, showing three-card support.
 - 1.2.2 Super-accept at three level, showing four-card support plus strength.
 - 1.2.3 Pass to deny three-card support. Rebids by responder;
 - 1.2.3.1 Redouble asks for completion of the transfer. Called retransfer.
 - 1.2.3.2 Bidding the suit shows a weak hand with nowhere else to play.
 - 1.2.4 Redouble is to play.
 - 1.2.5 What does bidding another suit or 2NT mean?

2 You open a strong 1NT. Partner transfers (2♦ or 2♥). RHO overcalls.

- 2.1 Completing the transfer is now impossible.
- 2.2 Rebids by opener:
 - 2.2.1 Double for penalty, showing at least four cards in the overcalled suit.
 - 2.2.2 Super-accept with a good hand and at least three-card support.
 - 2.2.3 Pass with less.
 - 2.2.4 What does bidding another suit or 2NT mean?

3 You open a strong 1NT. Partner bids Stayman (2♣). RHO doubles.

- 3.1 What does the double mean? Usually it is lead-directing.
- 3.2 Opener can just bid as usual.
- 3.3 Pass could show a really strong hand with good clubs and neither major.
 - 3.3.1 Responder redoubles with decent clubs and some values.
 - 3.3.2 Responder bids 2♦ with garbage.
 - 3.3.3 Responder bids 2NT or 3NT with appropriate values.
- 3.4 Redouble should be to play. Responder should bid 2♦ with garbage.

4 You open a strong 1NT. Partner bids Stayman (2♣). RHO overcalls a major.

- 4.1 There is no consensus as to what the bids should mean, but everyone seems to say that the only appropriate bids are pass and double.
- 4.2 There is a very close divide between people who prefer double to be penalty or negative.
- 4.3 Another interesting approach is for double to show a specific major, say hearts. In that case double of 4♥ is for penalty, but double of 4♠ is negative.
- 4.4 What if the overcall is at the three-level?