

System Basics

This section ensures that you know what your partnership expects to do in terms of initial actions. Tick the box that applies, and if your answer is other than “always” or “never”, add further description in the space to the right (e.g. “we always open balanced hands with ace-ace-king, but not always with other honour dispersions”).

Distributional notation:

5=3=3=2 means five spades, three hearts, three diamonds and two clubs.

5-3-3-2 means any hand with one five-card suit, two three-card suits and a doubleton.

5M-3-3-2 means any hand with a five-card major, two three-card suits and a doubleton.

5m-3-3-2 means any hand with a five-card minor, two three-card suits and a doubleton.

Balanced hands

We open balanced 11-point hands

Always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

If in range, we open 1NT with 5M-3-3-2

Always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

If in range, we open 1NT with 5M-4-2-2

Always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

If in range, we open 1NT with 5m-4-2-2

Always		
Almost always		
Sometimes		
Almost never		
Never		

If in range, we open 1NT with 6m-3-2-2

Always		
Almost always		
Sometimes		
Almost never		
Never		

If in range, we open 1NT with 4-4-4-1

Always		
Almost always		
Sometimes		
Almost never		
Never		

We upgrade hands to a 1NT opening and downgrade hands from a 1NT opening based on factors such as intermediate cards, distribution etc.

Always		
Almost always		
Sometimes		
Almost never		
Never		

If in range, we open 2NT with 5M-3-3-2

Always		
Almost always		
Sometimes		
Almost never		
Never		

If in range, we open 2NT with 5M-4-2-2

Always		
Almost always		
Sometimes		
Almost never		
Never		

If in range, we open 2NT with 5m-4-2-2

Always		
Almost always		
Sometimes		
Almost never		
Never		

If in range, we open 2NT with 6m-3-2-2

Always		
Almost always		
Sometimes		
Almost never		
Never		

If in range, we open 2NT with 4-4-4-1

Always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

We upgrade hands to a 2NT opening and downgrade hands from a 1NT opening based on factors such as intermediate cards, distribution etc.

Always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

If outside the range for 1NT (and too weak for a strong club or 2NT), we open 4-4-3-2 hands with

1♣	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1♦	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1♣ with four	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1♦ with four	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1♥ with four	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Depends on suit quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Instead of ticking a box, write down your opening bid with the distributions below

1=4=4=4	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4=1=4=4	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4=4=1=4	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4=4=4=1	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Unbalanced hands

We open 1♦ with four diamonds and five clubs

Always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

We open 1♣ with five spades and five clubs

Always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

A hand with a six-card suit in range for a weak two bid but not strong enough for a one-bid will pass

Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

A strong enough hand will open a weak two bid on a five-card suit

Always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost always	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

A strong enough hand will open a weak two bid on a seven-card suit

Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

A hand with a seven-card suit in range for a three bid but not strong enough for a one-bid will pass

Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Almost never	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	

The requirements for an opening two bid in 3rd position are

The same as those in 1 st and 2 nd	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Different from those in 1 st and 2 nd	<input type="checkbox"/>	

The requirements for an opening three bid in 3rd position are

The same as those in 1 st and 2 nd	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Different from those in 1 st and 2 nd	<input type="checkbox"/>	

The requirements for an opening two bid in 4th position are

The same as those in 1 st and 2 nd	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Different from those in 1 st and 2 nd	<input type="checkbox"/>	

The requirements for an opening three bid in 4th position are

The same as those in 1 st and 2 nd	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Different from those in 1 st and 2 nd	<input type="checkbox"/>	