# Bridge Bidding System

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# February 25, 2024

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# 1 1m opening

## **1**♣ - ?

- 1 > 0 6
- 1 = 4 +
- 1♠ = 4+♠
- 1NT = 7-10, no 4M
- 2 = 12-14 BAL or , GF
- $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = 5 + \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$ , **GF**, may have 4**M**
- 2♥ = 5♠ 4♥ 6-9
- 2 = 11 + BAL, no 4M
- 2NT = 11-12 BAL
- 3NT = 15-17 BAL

### **1**♦ - ?

- 1 = 4 +
- 1♠ = 4+♠
- 1NT = 6-10, no 4M, no 4M, no 4M
- 2 = 12-14 BAL or , GF
- $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = \text{no } 4\mathbf{M}, 4 + \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}, \mathbf{GF}$
- 2♥ = 5♠ 4♥ 6-9
- 2 = 11 + BAL, no 4M
- 2NT = 11-12 BAL
- 3NT = 15-17 BAL

### 1 - 2

- $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = BAL$
- 2♥ = 5♣ 4♥ BAL

- $2 \spadesuit = 5 \clubsuit 4 \spadesuit BAL$
- $2NT = 5 \clubsuit 4 \spadesuit BAL$
- 3♣ = ♣ BAL

## **1**♦ - **2**♦

?

- $2 \nabla = \nabla \text{ stopper}$
- $2 \spadesuit = stopper$
- 2NT = both major stoppers
- 3♣ = NAT
- $3 \Rightarrow = \text{sign off (treshold for invite)}$

bidding higher suit denies lower stopper

## $1 \clubsuit - 2 \blacktriangledown$

?

• 2NT = ASK LSF

## 1 -2

?

- 2NT = BAL min
- 3 = 5 + min
- 3 = 5 + 4 GF
- 3 = 1 7, 5 + 4 GF
- 3 = 1 4, 5 + 6
- 3NT = to play

## **1**♦ - **2**♠

- 2NT = BAL min
- 3 = 4 + min
- $3 \blacklozenge = 5 + \blacklozenge \min$

- $3 \mathbf{V} = 1 \mathbf{V}, 5 + \mathbf{OF}$
- $3 \spadesuit = 1 \spadesuit$ ,  $5 + \spadesuit$  **GF**
- 3NT = to play

## Two way checkback

After any  $1\mathbf{x} - 1\mathbf{y} - 1\mathbf{z}$  sequence (except: 1 - 1 = 1 = 1).

# 1x - 1y

- 1z ?
  - 2 =any invite, forces 2•
  - $2 \blacklozenge = \text{any } \mathbf{GF}$

# 2 1<sub>M</sub> opening

### 1♥ - ?

- $1 \spadesuit = 4 + \spadesuit$ , no  $3 \heartsuit$  OR  $5 \spadesuit 3 \heartsuit + \mathbf{GF}$
- 1NT = 5-11HCP, (or 5-7HCP with  $\forall$  fit)
- $2\clubsuit = \text{any } \mathbf{GF}$ , usually no 5-card (or  $5+\clubsuit$ )
- $2 \blacklozenge = 5 \blacklozenge$ , **GF**
- 2 = constructive raise
- $2 = \min \text{ splinter}$
- 2NT = limit raise
- 3♣ = solid 6♣, **INV**
- $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = \text{solid } 6 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}, INV$
- 3 = mixed raise
- $3 \spadesuit = \text{splinter} \spadesuit$
- 3NT = splinter •
- $4\Phi$  = splinter  $\Phi$
- $4 \rightleftharpoons 11$ HCP,  $4 \checkmark$ , no shortness

### **1**♠ − ?

- 1NT = 5-11HCP, (or 5-7HCP with  $\spadesuit$  fit)
- $2\Phi = \text{any } \mathbf{GF}$ , usually no 5-card (or  $5+\Phi$ )
- $2 \blacklozenge = 5 \blacklozenge$ , **GF**
- 2 = 5, **GF**
- 2 = constructive raise
- 2NT = mini splinter
- $3 \clubsuit = \text{solid } 6 \clubsuit$ , **INV**
- $3 \blacklozenge = \text{solid } 6 \blacklozenge, INV$
- 3 = 3 + 4, INV
- $3 \triangleq$  mixed raise
- 3NT = splinter  $\forall$
- $4 \clubsuit = \text{splinter} \clubsuit$
- $4 \blacklozenge = \text{splinter} \blacklozenge$
- $4 \lor = 11 \text{HCP}, 4 \spadesuit$ , no shortness

# 3 1nt opening

1NT opening = (14)15-17 BAL

#### 1NT - ?

- 2 = Stayman
- $2 \blacklozenge = \text{forces } 2 \blacktriangledown$
- $2 \checkmark = \text{forces } 2 \spadesuit$
- 2 = INV or TRSF to  $\Phi$
- $2NT = TRSF \text{ to } \blacklozenge$
- 3♣ = Puppet Stayman
- 3**♦** = 55**♣**
- 3♥ = 3-**♦** 1-**♥**, 54**♣**

- 3♠ = 3-♥ 1-♠, 54♣
- 3NT = to play
- 4 = 55
- $4 \blacklozenge$ ,  $4 \blacktriangledown = \text{Texas}$
- 4NT = quantitative

# 1NT - 2

- 2NT = 14-15(16)
- 3 = (16)17

## 1NT-2NT

?

- 3 superaccept
- $3 \Rightarrow = \text{accept}$

## 1NT - 3

?

- $3 \spadesuit = NAT$
- 3NT = to play
- 4 = exclusion, choose
- 4NT = choose

### Smolen

1NT - 2

$$2 - ?$$

- $2 \checkmark = 5 \checkmark 4 \spadesuit$ , to play
- $2 \spadesuit = 5 \spadesuit 4 \heartsuit$ , to play
- $3 \lor = 5 \spadesuit 4 \lor , GF$
- 3♠ = 5♥ 4♠, **GF**

$$1NT - 2$$

### 1NT - 2

$$2 \spadesuit - ?$$

• 
$$3 \checkmark = 5 4 \checkmark$$
, INV

## 1NT - 2

$$2$$
  $- 2$ 

?

- Pass, 2NT,  $3 \checkmark = to play$
- 3NT,  $4 \checkmark$ ,  $4 \spadesuit$  = to play

### 1NT - 2

?

- PASS,  $3 \spadesuit = \text{to play}$
- 3NT,  $4 \checkmark$ ,  $4 \spadesuit$  = to play

# 4 Overcalls after 1nt opening

## (1NT) - ?

- $\times = 5 + 4$
- $\times$  in balancing position =  $5 \clubsuit + 4 \clubsuit$  or  $6 \clubsuit$
- 2 = 54
- 2 = 6 +
- $2 \nabla = 5 \nabla + 4 \clubsuit$
- $2 \spadesuit = 5 \spadesuit + 4 \clubsuit$

$$(1NT) - \times - (P) - ?$$

• 2 = PASS/correct

- $2 \Rightarrow = \text{show major}$
- 2 = own suit
- 2 = own suit

$$(1NT) - 2 - (P) - ?$$

- 2 
  ightharpoonup = show better major
- $2 \checkmark$ ,  $2 \spadesuit$  = preference

$$(1NT) - 2 - (P) - ?$$

- 2 = PASS/correct
- $2 = INV \text{ with } \forall$

## 5 Checkback 3♣

Checkback  $3\clubsuit$  is not forced and does not promise 5th card of the suit. It does not deny  $3/4\diamondsuit$ .

$$1 - 1$$

$$2NT - ?$$

- $3\Phi$  = checkback
- $3 \blacklozenge = 4 + \blacklozenge$
- 3♥ = 5♠ 4♥
- 3♠ = agreeing ♠

$$1 - 1$$

- $3 = 4 + \clubsuit$
- 3♥ = 3♠ 4+♣
- 3**♠** = 3**♠**
- $3NT = no 3 \spadesuit$ , no  $4 \clubsuit$
- $4 \clubsuit / 4 \blacklozenge / 4 \blacktriangledown = 4 \spadesuit$  cue

## 1♣ - 1♥

## 2NT - ?

- 3 = checkback
- 3**♦** = 4+**♦**
- $3 \lor = 5 \lor 4 \spadesuit$  OR agreeing  $\lor$
- 3♠ = 4♥ 4♠

### **1**♣ - **1**♥

#### 2NT - 3

- 3**♦** = 4+**♣**
- 3♥ = 3♥
- 3♠ = 3♥ 4♣
- $3NT = no 3 \checkmark$ , no  $4 \clubsuit$
- $4 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 = 4$  cue

## **1**♦ - **1**♠

### 2NT - ?

- 3 = checkback
- 3**♦** = 3+**♦**
- 3♥ = 5♠ 4♥
- $3 \spadesuit = agreeing \spadesuit$

## **1**♦ - **1**♠

## 2NT - 3

- $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = 6 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$ , no  $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$
- 3♥ = 3♠ 6♦
- 3♠ = 3♠
- 3NT = no 3 $\spadesuit$ , no 6 $\spadesuit$
- $4 \clubsuit / 4 \blacklozenge / 4 \blacktriangledown = 4 \spadesuit$  cue

## $1 \blacklozenge - 1 \blacktriangledown$

## 2NT - ?

- 3 = checkback
- 3**♦** = 3+**♦**
- $3 \lor = 5 \lor 4 \spadesuit$  OR agreeing  $\lor$
- 3♠ = 4♥ 4♠

## 1 ♦ - 1 ♥

#### 2NT - 3♣

- $3 \bullet = 6 \bullet$ , no  $3 \checkmark 4$
- 3♥ = 3♥
- 3**♦** = 3**♥** 6**♦**
- $3NT = no 3 \checkmark, no 6 \diamond$
- $4 \clubsuit / 4 \blacklozenge / 4 \blacktriangledown = 4 \blacktriangledown \text{ cue}$

# 6 Majors after checkback 3c

## 1♣ - 1♥

## 2NT - ?

- $3 \lor = 5 + \lor 4 \spadesuit$  OR agreeing  $\lor$
- 3♠ = 4♥ 4♠

## 1♣ - 1♥

$$2NT - 3$$

- 3♠ = 4♠
- 3NT = no 44, no 4
- 4 4 = 4, cue

2NT - 3

**3**♠ − ?

- 3NT = agreeing  $\forall$  (6+)
- $4 4 = \text{agreeing } \cdot 4$ , cue
- $4 \forall$  = to play

2NT - 3

?

- $3NT = no 4 \spadesuit$ , no  $4 \heartsuit$
- 4 = agreeing
- $4 \rightarrow = agreeing \ \$

# 7 $1_{\mathrm{NT}}$ - dealing with interference

$$1NT - (2\clubsuit) - ?$$

$$2 \clubsuit = \clubsuit$$

•  $\times$  = Stayman

SYSTEM ON

$$1NT - (2^{A}) - ?$$

$$2 = 5/4$$

- $\times = 8+$
- $2 \bullet$ ,  $2 \blacktriangledown$ ,  $2 \spadesuit$ ,  $3 \spadesuit$  = to play
- 2NT = minors

$$1NT - (2^{\bullet}) - ?$$

$$2 \blacklozenge = \blacklozenge$$

- $\times$  = negative
- $2 \checkmark$ ,  $2 \spadesuit$  = to play

- 2NT = Lebensohl
- $3 = 5 + \forall$ ,  $INV^+$
- $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = 1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$ ,  $INV^+$
- 3 = 5 + 4,  $INV^+$
- 3 = 5 + 4,  $INV^+$
- 3NT = no stopper
- $4 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$ ,  $4 \stackrel{\blacktriangledown}{\bullet} = \text{Texas}$

$$1NT - (2 \stackrel{\wedge}{\diamond}^{A}) - ?$$

- 2 > 6 +
  - $\times = 8+$
  - $2 \checkmark$ ,  $2 \spadesuit$  = to play
  - 2NT = Lebensohl
  - 3 = 5 + •,  $INV^+$
  - $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = 5 + \stackrel{\blacktriangledown}{\blacktriangledown}, INV^+$
  - 3 = 5 + 4,  $INV^+$
  - 3 = 5/5
  - 3NT = to play
  - $4 \blacklozenge$ ,  $4 \blacktriangledown = \text{Texas}$

## $1NT - (2 \checkmark) - ?$

- $\times$  = negative
- 2 = to play
- 2NT = Lebensohl
- 3 = 5 + •,  $INV^+$
- 3 = 5 + •,  $INV^+$
- $3 = 1 V, INV^+$
- 3 = 55 , GF

- 3NT = no vstopper
- 4 = Texas

## 1NT - (2) - ?

- $\times$  = negative
- 2NT = Lebensohl
- 3 = 5 + •,  $INV^+$
- $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = 5 + \stackrel{\blacktriangledown}{\blacktriangledown}$ ,  $INV^+$
- $3 \lor = 55 \diamondsuit$ , **GF**
- 3 = 1 1,  $INV^+$
- 3NT = no stopper
- $4 \blacklozenge = \text{Texas}$

## $1NT - (2NT^{A}) - ?$

### 2NT = $\clubsuit$

- $\times = 10+$
- 3♣ = Stayman
- $3 \blacklozenge = 5 + \blacktriangledown$ ,  $\mathbf{INV}^+$
- 3 = 5 + 4,  $INV^+$

## 1NT - (3 - ?)

- $\times$  = negative
- $3 \blacklozenge = 5 + \blacktriangledown$ ,  $\mathbf{INV}^+$
- 3 = 5 + 4,  $INV^+$
- $3 \spadesuit = 5 + \blacklozenge$ ,  $INV^+$
- 3NT = to play

1NT - (3) - ?

- $\times$  = negative
- 3 = 5 + 4,  $INV^+$
- 3♠ = 5+♥, **GF**
- 3NT = to play

 $1NT - (\times^A) - ?$ 

 $\times$  artificial

SYSTEM ON

 $1NT - (\times) - ?$ 

 $\times$  = penalty

- PASS = forces  $\times \times$
- $\times \times = \text{forces } 2 \clubsuit$
- $2\mathbf{x} = \text{forces } \mathbf{x+1}$

 $1NT - (\times) - P^{A} - (P)$  $\times \times - (P) - ?$ 

- PASS = penalty
  - 2 = 4 + 4x or 4333 or any other edge case
  - $2 \blacklozenge = 4 \blacklozenge + 4 \clubsuit$
  - $2 \checkmark = 4 \checkmark + 4 \spadesuit$

# 8 2nt opening

 $2NT^{A}$  opening = 21-22 BAL, may have 5M

2NT - ?

- 3♣ = Puppet Stayman
- $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} = \text{forces } 3 \stackrel{\blacktriangledown}{\bullet}, \text{ GF}$
- $3 \checkmark = \text{forces } 3 \spadesuit, \text{ GF}$

- $3 \spadesuit = \text{forces } 3\text{NT}$
- 3NT = 5 4 , NF
- 4 = 55 M
- $4 \blacklozenge$ ,  $4 \blacktriangledown = Texas$
- 4NT = quantitative

- 3♥ = =2♥
- $3 = 4 + \forall$ , cue bid
- 3NT = =3
- $4\clubsuit$ ,  $4\blacklozenge = 4+\blacktriangledown$ , cue bid

- 3♠ = =2♠
- 3NT = =3
- 4 4 + 4 = 4 + 4, cue bid

3NT - ?

- 4♣ = 6+♣
- $4 \blacklozenge = 6 + \blacklozenge$
- 4♥ = 54♣ 1-♥
- 4♠ = 54♣ 1-♠

# 9 Drury

 $\mathbf{OFF}$  in competition

!

# $rac{\mathbf{P}-\mathbf{1M}}{?}$

- 1NT = 8-11, no fit
- 2 = 4-fit mixed raise (7)8-10DP OR 3-fit (9)10-11DP
- 2M = 3-fit, 4-8DP
- 2x = (9)10, solid 5x
- 3 = (9)10, **INV**, 6
- $3\mathbf{x} = 4$ -fit, solid  $5\mathbf{x}$
- 2NT = 4-fit, solid 5.
- $3\mathbf{M} = 5$ -fit 4-6DP (or 4 with shortness)
- 3NT over  $1 \spadesuit (3 \spadesuit \text{ over } 1 \heartsuit) = \text{Two Tiered Splinters} = 4 + \mathbf{M}$ , unspecified singleton, (10)11DP
- 4 4 / 4 / 4 = void splinter

## P-1

### **2**♣ - ?

- 2 = no interest in the game
- $2 \Rightarrow INV$
- 2 = ASK LSF, usually 18-20 BAL
- 2NT/3 3 = 55(54) Slam Try (2NT = 1)
- $3NT/3 \spadesuit / 4 \clubsuit / 4 \spadesuit = splinter (3NT = 4 \spadesuit)$
- 4 = to play

### P − 1♠

#### **2**♣ - ?

- 2 = no interest in the game
- $2 \bullet = INV$
- 2NT = ASK LSF, usually 18-20 BAL
- 3 3 / 3 / 3 = 55(54) Slam Try
- $3NT/4 4\sqrt{4} = splinter (3NT = 4 )$

```
    4♠ = to play
    P - 1M
    2♠ - 2M
```

• 3x = NAT, unspecified singleton, +4-fit M support

```
\begin{array}{c} P-1M \\ 2 - 2 \\ \end{array}
```

- $2 \triangledown$  over  $2 \spadesuit$  = Last Train (says nothing about  $\triangledown$ )
- $2\mathbf{M} = \text{SIGN-OFF}$
- 2NT = 11, BAL
- 3M = 4-card support
- $4\mathbf{M} = \text{to play}$
- any other bid = NAT, INV

## 10 Non Serious 3<sub>NT</sub>

After agreeing on  $\bigvee$  ( $\spadesuit$ ), if **GF**, the no-jump  $3\spadesuit$  (3NT) bid is an invite (usually no shortness) to Slam. The (serious) cue bid instead of non serious bid forces partner to show their cue.

# 11 Reverses, jump shifts and jump reverses

1x - 1y - ?

- $2\mathbf{z}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} < \mathbf{z} = \text{reverse}$
- $3\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y} > \mathbf{z} = \text{jump shift}$
- $3\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{y} < \mathbf{z} = \text{jump reverse}$

1m - 1 - ?

- $1 \spadesuit = 4 \spadesuit$ , 12-17
- 2 = 4, (18)19+

## 12 Acol 2.

2♣ opening = 23+ HCP or 9.5 winning tricks

## **2**♣ - ?

- $2 \rightarrow = positive 4+, GF$
- 2 = negative 3
- $2\spadesuit$ ,  $3\spadesuit$ ,  $3\spadesuit$  = own suit 5+
- 2NT = own suit ( ) 5+

## 2 - 2

?

- PASS = good  $\forall$
- 2 = 5+, F1
- 2NT = min, BAL, NF

any other bid = GF

$$2 - 2$$

?

- 2NT = min, BAL
- $2 \lor, 2 , 3 \lor, 3 \lor = 5 +, BAL$
- $3 \checkmark$ ,  $3 \spadesuit$ ,  $4 \spadesuit$ ,  $4 \diamondsuit$  = agreeing suit

$$2 - 2$$

2NT - ?

System as after 2NT opening

$$2 - 2$$

$$2$$
♥ - ?

- $3 \checkmark = \text{fit}$
- $3 \spadesuit = \text{no fit, relay}$

$$2 - 2$$

- 2NT = no fit, relay
- $3 \spadesuit = \text{fit}$

$$2 - 2$$

$$2$$
V $- 2$ 

?

- 2NT = 5 + 4
- 3 = 5 + 4
- 3**♦** = 6+**♥**
- 3 = 5 + 4

$$2 - 2$$

$$2 - 2NT$$

?

- 3 5 + 4
- $3 \blacklozenge = 5 \spadesuit + 4 \blacktriangledown$
- 3♥ = 6+**♠**
- $3 \spadesuit = 5 \spadesuit + 4 \spadesuit$

## Acol interference

$$2 - (x) - ?$$

- $\times$  = negative
- PASS = positive

## 13 Gazilli

# **1♥** - **1**♠

• 
$$2 = 5$$
 • 11-15 OR 16+ HCP **F1**

# **1♥** – **1NT**

- 2 = 5 11-15 OR 16+ HCP **F1**
- 2 = 5 ♥ 4 11-15
- 2 = 11-15
- $2 \spadesuit = 6 \checkmark 5 \spadesuit GF$
- $2NT = 6 \checkmark 5 \checkmark GF$
- 3♣ = 5♥ 5♣ **GF**
- $3 \blacklozenge = 5 \blacktriangledown 5 \blacklozenge \mathbf{GF}$
- $3 \checkmark = agreeing \checkmark GF$

## 1 - 1NT

?

- PASS =  $5332 \ 12-14$
- $2 = 5 = 11-15 \text{ OR } 16 + \text{HCP } \mathbf{F1}$
- 2 = 5 4 11-15
- 2 = 5 4 11-15
- 2 = 11-15
- 2NT = 6 4 5 GF
- 3 = 5 = 5 **GF**
- $3 \blacklozenge = 5 \spadesuit 5 \blacklozenge \mathbf{GF}$
- 3♥ = 6♠ 5♥ **GF**
- $3 \spadesuit = agreeing \spadesuit GF$

### **1♥** - **1♠**

**2**♣ - ?

- **♦** = 8+
- **♥** = 2**♥** 5-7
- $\spadesuit = \text{good } 5 \spadesuit 5-7$

- 2NT = 1 7
- 3 = 6 + 5 = 5 = 7
- 3 > 6 + 5 = 7

## $\mathbf{1}\blacktriangledown - \mathbf{1NT}$

### 2 - ?

- 2 > 8 +
- $2 \lor = 2 3 \lor 5 7$
- 2♠ = 55♣ 5-7
- $2NT = 1 \checkmark 5 7$
- 3♣ = 6+♣ 5-7
- 3**♦** = 6+**♦** 5-7

## 1 - 1NT

#### **2**♣ - ?

- 2 > 8 +
- 2 = 5 = 5 = 7
- $2 \spadesuit = 2 3 \spadesuit 5 7$
- 2NT = 1-45-7
- 3♣ = 6+♣ 5-7
- 3 > 6 + 5 7

### **1♥** - **1♠**

$$2 - 2$$

- 2♥ = 5♥ 4♣ 11-15
- $2 \spadesuit = 5 \heartsuit$ , =  $3 \spadesuit 16 +$
- 2NT = 5332 18-20
- 3♣ = 5♥ 4♣ 16+
- 3 > = 5 4 > 16 +

- 3♥ = 6♥ 16+
- 3♠ = 5♥ 4♠ **GF**

$$1$$
V $- 1$ NT

$$2 - 2$$

?

- $2 \checkmark = 5 \checkmark 4 \stackrel{\bullet}{•} 11-15$
- 2♠ = 5♥ 4♠ 16+
- 2NT = 5332 18-20
- 3 = 5 4 16 +
- 3♦ = 5♥ 4♦ 16+
- 3♥ = 6♥ 16+

$$1 - 1NT$$

$$2 - 2$$

?

- 2♥ = 5♠ 4♥ 16+
- 2♠ = 5♠ 4♣ 11-15
- 2NT = 5332 18-20
- 3♣ = 5♠ 4♣ 16+
- $3 > = 5 \triangleq 4 > 16 +$
- 3♥ = 5♠ 4♥ 16+
- 3♠ = 6♠ 16+

# 14 Mini Splinters

any shortness 9-11, 4-card support, not **GF**!

**1♥** - ?

- $2 = \min \text{ splinter}$
- 2NT = INV + fit

## **1**♠ − ?

- 2NT = mini splinter
- $3 \lor = INV + fit$

## 1 $\vee$ -2

?

- 2NT = ASK LSF
- 1 2NT

?

•  $3 \clubsuit = ASK LSF$ 

## 1♥ - 2♠

2NT - ?

- $3 \clubsuit = \clubsuit$  shortness
- $3 \blacklozenge = \blacklozenge$  shortness
- $3 \lor = 4$  shortness

## 1 - 2NT

3♣ - ?

- 3 = 4 shortness
- $3 \lor = \bullet$  shortness
- $3 \spadesuit =$  shortness
- $3NT = \bigvee \text{shortness } \mathbf{GF} \text{ (max)}$