Generalized 3-way Lebensohl (G3LBS)

O.Y. Chung ♥♠♣♦

June 2023

1 Abstract

Existing variants of Lebensohl focused on 3 cases: 1NT overcalled; double over 2-level open; and non-GF reverse. Some also forgoes invitational cases when suit is lower than opponents' suit. The generalization here extends it to apply whenever the bidding is below 2NT, no better system on (e.g. relays), and the bidding is possible to land on partial and game contracts, resulting in a memory-saving and effective competitive auction approach.

2 The 3-way Plan

Signoff (SO), invitational (GI), and game-forcing (GF) suit bids are generally available in this scheme.

- 1. SO: bid suit at 2-level, or one step below the 3-level suit bid.
- 2. GI: bid 2NT, then stop at the suit at 3-level when it is a non-compulsory bid, GI with a case is included
- 3. GF: bid suit at 3-level, or perform the symbolic GF sequences of Lebenshol:

• no 4M nor stopper: 3NT

• 4M but no stopper: cuebid

• no 4M but stopper: 2NT, then 3NT

• 4M and stopper: 2NT, then cuebid

This can be regarded as a rule to bid 2NT when there is stopper in opponents' suit, with exception when opponents has no suit or \$\display\$ suit.

2.1 Typical Schemes

2.1.1 1NT-2. or 2. X-P-?

| Suit | SO | GI | FG |
|----------|---------------|---------|------------|
| * | 2NT, P | (n/a) | 3. |
| * | 3♣, P | 2NT, 3♦ | 3♦ |
| • | 3♦, P | 2NT, 3♥ | 3♥ |
| 4♥ | 3♦, P | 2NT, 3♥ | (2NT,) 3. |
| no M | (SO at minor) | (n/a) | (2NT,) 3NT |

2.1.2 1NT-2♥-? or 2♥-X-P-?

| Suit | SO | GI | FG |
|----------|---------------|---------|------------|
| * | 2NT, P | (n/a) | 3. |
| * | 3♣, P | 2NT, 3♦ | 3♦ |
| • | 2. | 2NT, 3♠ | 3. |
| 4. | 2. | 2NT, 3♠ | (2NT,) 3♥ |
| no M | (SO at minor) | (n/a) | (2NT,) 3NT |

2.1.3 1NT-2\(\psi\)-? or 2\(\psi\)-X-P-?

| Suit | SO | GI | FG |
|------|---------------|---------|------------|
| * | 2NT, P | (n/a) | 3♣ |
| • | 2♥ | 2NT, 3♥ | 3♥ |
| • | 2. | 2NT, 3♠ | 3♠ |
| 4♥ | 2♥ | 2NT, 3♥ | (2NT,) 3♦ |
| 4. | 2. | 2NT, 3♠ | (2NT,) 3♦ |
| no M | (SO at minor) | (n/a) | (2NT,) 3NT |

2.1.4 1NT-2.-? or 2.-X-P-?

| Suit | SO | GI | FG |
|----------|---------------|---------|------------|
| * | 2* | 2NT, 3♦ | 3♦ |
| • | 2♥ | 2NT, 3♥ | 3♥ |
| ^ | 2• | 2NT, 3♠ | 3♠ |
| 4♥ | 2♥ | 2NT, 3♥ | 3. |
| 4. | 2. | 2NT, 3♠ | 3♣ |
| no M | (SO at minor) | (n/a) | (2NT,) 3NT |

3 Generalizations

-end-

- 3.1 When Opponents Has No Suit or * Suit
- 3.2 Enhance Major Fit Test from 4-card to Sub-optimal Length
- 4 Situations Explained
- 4.1 Opening Overcalled
- 4.2 Relay Break
- 4.3 Michaels Cuebid
- 4.4 Opening overcalled