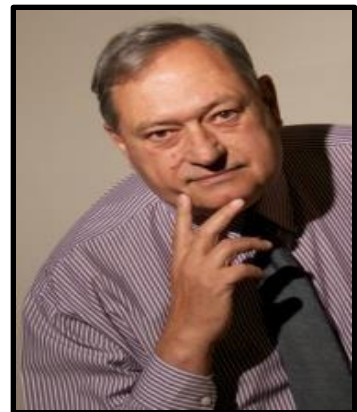


Doubles – Takeout vs Penalty



Learn Bridge
with Tom Snow



Let's Start with a Joke

A little old lady answered a knock on the door one day, only to be confronted by a well-dressed young man carrying a vacuum cleaner.

Good morning," said the young man. "If I could take a couple of minutes of your time, I would like to demonstrate the very latest in high-powered vacuum cleaners."

"Go away!" said the old lady. "I haven't got any money! I'M BROKE!!!" And she proceeded to close the door.

Quick as a flash, the young man wedged his foot in the door and pushed it wide open. "Don't be too hasty!" he said. "Not until you have at least seen my demonstration ..." And with that, he emptied a bucket of horse manure onto her hallway carpet. "If this vacuum cleaner does not remove all traces of this horse manure from your carpet, Madam, I will personally eat the remainder."

The old lady stepped back and said, "Well I hope you've got a damned good appetite, because they cut off my electricity this morning."

NOBODY KNOWS
THE DOUBLES
I'VE SEEN...



Doubles



- **Penalty Doubles:** are made at levels higher than 2NT (unless they have pre-empted) to tell your partner you can defeat the opponents' contract. You get extra points for beating them, but they get extra points if they make it.

There's no easy way to enter the auction.

1H – P – 2H – P

It's your bid with:

♠A74 ♥AJ108 ♦A2 ♣10973

4H – ?

Holding a likely 4 defensive tricks, you should double.

- **Takeout Doubles:** are made at levels below 2NT (or higher levels if they have pre-empted), to ask your partner to bid one of the unbid suits.

When you're getting your side into the auction, it shows at least **overall values (11+ HCPs)** and **3 or more of all unbid suits:**

1D – Dbl

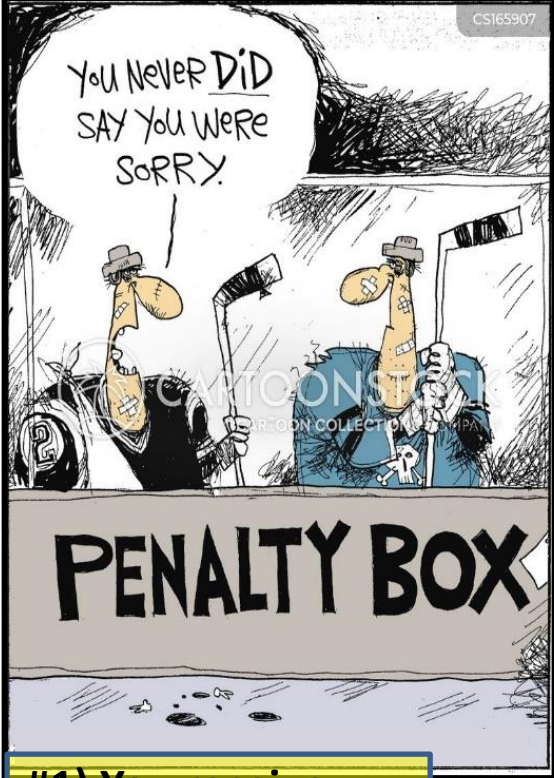
♠KQJ4 ♥AJ5 ♦42 ♣J963

1H – P – P – Dbl

♠AQ43 ♥6 ♦K732 ♣KJ82

1C – P – 1S – Dbl

♠A3 ♥KQ97 ♦QJ93 ♣542



Penalty Doubles

It's important that you double the opponents when they bid over the games you bid intending to make.

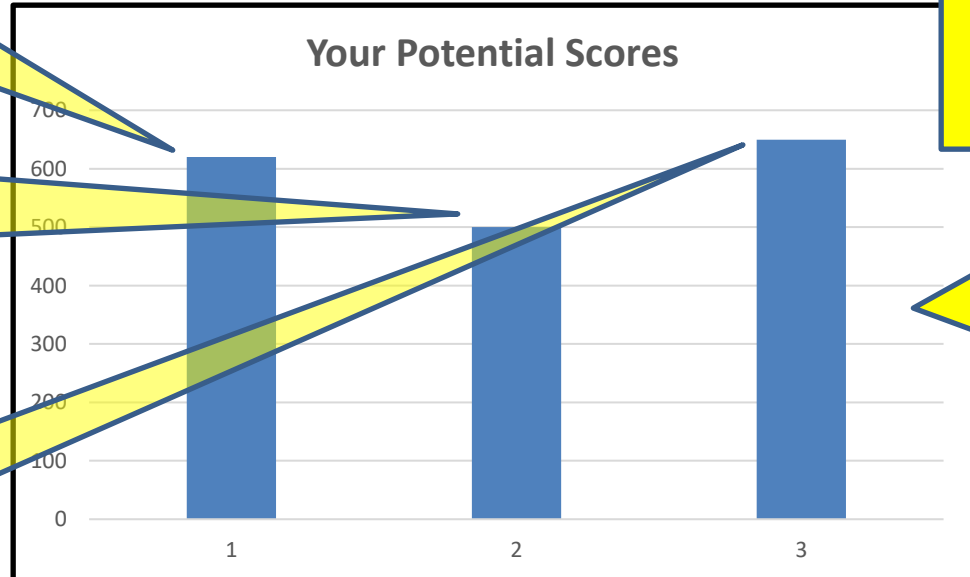
But how do you know if you can beat them? And if they have a good Sacrifice, maybe you can make one more.

Suppose you've bid 4H vulnerable to make, and the opponents bid 4S not vulnerable.

#1) You receive +620 for making 4H Vul.

#2) You may get only +500 for beating them 3 doubled, and NVul.

#3) You get +650 if you can make an overtrick.



There's an old saying in bridge:
 "If you've never had the opponents make a contract that you've doubled, you're not doubling often enough."

These questions can best be answered by using the Law of Total Tricks (another lesson).

Take-out or Penalty Double?



1)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	1C	Dbl		
East	♠KQ106 ♥AQ54 ♦Q43 ♣87			

2)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	1C	Pass	1H	Dbl
West	♠KQ106 ♥A54 ♦AJ43 ♣87			

3)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Penalty	3H	Pass	4H	Pass
	Pass	Dbl		
East	♠Q107 ♥AKJ5 ♦A943 ♣85			

4)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	1S	Pass	Pass	Dbl
West	♠6 ♥AQ54 ♦A943 ♣K987			

5)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	3H	Dbl		
East	♠AQ106 ♥6 ♦KQ43 ♣A874			

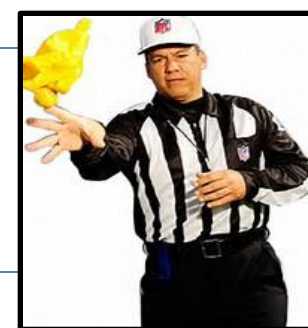
6)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	1D	Pass	1H	Pass
	2H	Dbl		
East	♠AQ107 ♥A5 ♦K93 ♣J852			

7)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	3S	Pass	4S	Dbl
West	♠6 ♥AQ94 ♦AK43 ♣KQ87			

Take-out or Penalty Double? (Cont'd.)



East can convert to penalties with good hearts by passing

8)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	3H	Pass	Pass	Dbl
West	♠KQ106 ♥4 ♦KQ43 ♣AJ87			

9)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	2H	Pass	3H	Dbl
West	♠KQ86 ♥4 ♦AQ43 ♣KQ87			

10)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	Pass 1S	Pass Pass	1C Pass*	Pass Dbl
West	♠107 ♥AKJ5 ♦A943 ♣Q85			

11)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out	1C	Pass	1NT	Dbl
West	♠KQ76 ♥AQ54 ♦A943 ♣7			

12)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Penalty	1D 3C 4C	1S Pass Dbl	1NT Pass	2S 3S
East	♠J9862 ♥A5 ♦K3 ♣AQJ9			

13)

	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
Take-out		1S Dbl	Pass	Pass
East	♠AQ963 ♥AK75 ♦AQ3 ♣9			

*Opened light.

Special Take-out Doubles

BRIDGE
THE MOST FUN YOU CAN
HAVE WITH YOUR
CLOTHES ON



Take-out doubles usually get a partnership into the auction for the first time, unless an Opener re-enters the auction with a double.

14)

North	East	South	West
1D	Pass	Pass	1S
Dbl			

North ♠9 ♥AQ95 ♦AKJ3 ♣AJ75

North has enough values to compete, even though his partner has very little.

When you want to overcall a long suit, but you have 18⁺ HCPs, start with a double, then bid your suit. This is called a Power Double.

15)

North	East	South	West
1D	???		

East ♠KQ9 ♥AKJ1095 ♦3 ♣AJ9

East should start with a double, then bid ♥'s.

Takeout Doubles Quiz

Don't practice till you get it right!
Practice till you can't get it wrong!



<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1C	???	

SOUTH:	1) ♠Q942	♥AQ107	♦QJ52	♣3	Dbl
	2) ♠AQ10	♥K952	♦J1083	♣62	Dbl
	3) ♠QJ103	♥AJ	♦KQ1087	♣52	1D

<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
	1S	???	

SOUTH:	1) ♠4	♥AQ107	♦QJ52	♣A983	Dbl
	2) ♠AJ7	♥KQ52	♦Q8	♣Q62	Pass
	3) ♠A3	♥K976	♦Q1087	♣982	Pass

PLAYTIME

