


Thinking Bridge

Competing after a 1NT opening



After a 1NT Opening

X Penalty (15/16)

You can overcall with a good 5/6 suit holding
But might it be better to defend with this?

Use a convention

- Astro
- Aspro
- Asptro
- Bergen
- Brozel
- Cappelletti
- Dont
- Landy
- Zebulon

93 different systems!

Bergen over Weak NT

X Penalty

Partner relays with 2♦

- 2♣ I have an unspecified long suit
- 2♦ I have ♦ and a major
- 2♥ I have both majors
- 2♠ I have a weak ♠ suit

If it was strong would bid 2♣ first

Using 2♣

NT would have been passed

♠ J 9 2
♥ A J 2
♦ A 10 5 3
♣ Q J 3

♠ 8 7 6 3
♥ 8 7 4
♦ 9 7
♣ A K 10 7

♠ A 5 4
♥ K 9 6 5 3
♦ Q J 6
♣ 9 2

♠ K Q 10	10
♥ Q 10	
♦ K 8 4 2	
♣ 8 6 5 4	

North	East	South	West
1NT	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥		Relay

NS can make 1NT 90
EW minus 1 50 Vulnerability!

Using 2♣

Blocks Stayman

♠ J 9 6 2
♥ A J 2
♦ A 10 5 3
♣ Q J

♠ 8 7 6 3
♥ 8 7 4
♦ 9 7
♣ A K 10 7

♠ A 5 4
♥ K 9 6 5 3
♦ Q J 6
♣ 9 2

♠ Q 10 8 3	11
♥ Q 7	
♦ K 7 4	
♣ A 10 7 4	

North	East	South	West
1NT	2♣	2NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

NS 2NT minus 1
NS would make 3♠

Using 2♣

Blocks Transfer

♠ J 9
♥ A J 2
♦ A 10 5 3
♣ Q J 4 3

♠ K 7 6
♥ 10 8 4
♦ 9 8 2
♣ 10 8 6 5

♠ A 5 4
♥ K 9 6 5 3
♦ Q J 6
♣ A 2

♠ Q 10 8 3 2	10
♥ Q 7	
♦ K 7 4	
♣ K 9 7	

North	East	South	West
1NT	2♣	2♠	Pass

NS will make 2♠ played by South
NS would make 3♠ played by North
EW minus 2 if in 2♥

Using 2♦ Blocks Stayman

♠ J 9 3 2
♥ A J
♦ A 10 5
♣ K J 4 3

♠ K 7 6
♥ 10 8 4 2
♦ Q 8
♣ 10 8 6 5

♠ A 5
♥ K 9 6 5 3
♦ J 9 6 4 2
♣ Q

♠ Q 10 8 4
♥ Q 7
♦ K 7 3
♣ A 9 7 2

11

North	East	South	West
1NT	2♦	2NT	
3NT			

NS will make 3♣
NS minus 2 in NT

Using 2♥ causes disruption!

♠ J 9 3
♥ A J
♦ A 10 5 2
♣ K J 4 3

♠ K 7 6
♥ 10 8 4 2
♦ Q 8 3
♣ 10 8 6

♠ A 8 5 4 2
♥ K 9 6 5 3
♦ J 9
♣ Q

♠ Q 10
♥ Q 7
♦ K 7 6 4
♣ A 9 7 5 2

11

North	East	South	West
1NT	2♥	??	Pass

NS can make 2NT or 3♣ or 3♦
EW minus 1 if in 3♥

Bergen over Weak NT

X Penalty

Partner relays with 2♦

- 2♣ I have an unspecified long suit
- 2♦ I have ♦ and a major
- 2♥ I have both majors
- 2♠ I have a weak ♠ suit

If it was strong would bid 2♣ first