

Cardiff Bridge Tutors

How to use the Flint Pender Defence to 1NT Doubled

What is it?

It is an attempt to escape from a possibly expensive double of a 1NT opening.

West	North	East	South
1NT	X		

In the example above West has opened 1NT showing 12-14 HCP
North's double indicates that they have 15+ points and have decided that the hand plays better in defence than in trying to win a contract.

So we can expect 28 or so points to be held by the first two players. Not much left for East and South!

East may use the Flint Pender Defence if they have a weak hand with a five card (or better) suit.

Why use it?

Like all defences to 1NT Doubled the aim is to bring the opposition into the bidding but if this fails then to play in a long suit.

Flint Pender has the advantage over the Helvic Wriggle that it uses a system like transfers so that the strong hand remains as Declarer.

How it works.

Just like Transfers you bid the suit below the one you wish your partner to play in.

For example

West	North	East	South
1NT	X	2♦	

Says "Partner please bid 2♥"

You ask your partner to play in ♣ by redoubling.

The full responses are therefore:

XX	Partner please transfer to ♣
2♣	Partner please transfer to ♦
2♦	Partner please transfer to ♥
2♥	Partner please transfer to ♠

What if the opposition enter the bidding?

If they do then breathe an inward sigh of relief and PASS!

What if I haven't a five card suit or better?

If you have 8 or more points then let the double stand. You and your Partner have the lion's share of the points and the result may not be too bad.

With fewer than 8 points you will be better playing with a seven card fit than in a Doubled NT contract. The problem is to find a fit!

Try the Redouble which Partner will transfer to ♣. If this is not your 4 card suit then bid your cheapest four card suit.

Partner will know from your rebid that this is an attempt to escape and with three or more cards in that suit they should pass. With only two cards bid the next cheapest suit.