

# Conventional Wisdom

## Filling out the convention card — part 14



JUMP OVERCALL		
Strong	<input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weak
	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**JUMP OVERCALL** When your right-hand opponent opens with a suit-bid at the one level and you make a jump overcall, what kind of hand are you showing? Take a look at these auctions:

RHO	You
1♣	2♦, 2♥ or 2♠
1♦	2♥, 2♠ or 3♣
1♥	2♠, 3♣ or 3♦
1♠	3♣, 3♦ or 3♥

Most pairs treat these jumps as showing a weak hand with a long suit, something resembling a weak two-bid or an opening three-level preempt. If you play this way, check the “weak” box.

If you play that these jumps show strong or intermediate (opening values, but a long suit) hands, check the appropriate box and Alert the opponents.

Items in **RED** on the convention card require an Alert. If the opponents inquire, you must disclose your agreements regarding the meaning of any Alertable call.



**A L E R T**

**OPENING PREEMPTS** An opening bid on the three or four level typically promises a weak hand (below opening strength) with a long suit. A three-level bid normally suggests a seven-card suit, while a four-level bid suggests an eight-bagger. The texture of the long suit can be the deciding factor for some players on whether the hand qualifies for an opening preempt.

The “**Sound**,” “**Light**” and “**Very Light**” boxes help your opponents gauge your preempting philosophy. How are these different categories defined? There’s a certain subjectivity to these three classes; what’s light for one pair may be very light for another. Here is a guideline for determining which box you should select to best reflect your preempting style:

- If you follow the “rule of 500,” meaning that — if doubled — your suit is good enough that you expect to go down no more than two vulnerable or three not vulnerable, check the “Sound” box. This is the most conservative approach.
- If you preempt on most reasonable (*i.e.*, with some honor concentration) seven- or eight-card suits, select the “Light” box.
- If your style is to preempt even with a bad seven- or eight-card suit, or if you will preempt with fewer cards in the suit than is typically expected, check the “Very Light” box.

OPENING PREEMPTS			
	Sound	Light	Very Light
3/4-bids	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conv./Resp.	_____		

### Conv./Resp.

This line is used to describe either conventional uses for preempts or conventional responses to an opening preempt. (Note the **RED** color; Alerts are required.)

If you play, for example, that the opening bids of 4♣ and 4♦ are actually transfers to 4♥ and 4♠ respectively (a treatment called *namyats*), indicate it here.

Another example: If you play that a 4♣ response to a preempt is ace-asking or key-card-asking, describe it on this line.



**A L E R T**