

Weak Jump Overcalls

You pick up a hand with a “nice” six-card suit and plan to open a weak two but RHO opens. The weak jump overcall convention allows you to immediately take action which describes a limited hand, provides partner with a lead suggestion if you defend and takes away bidding space from the opponents.

Weak Jump Overcall Guidelines

Suit Quality:	Using sound preemptive bidding theory, your suit will have 2 of the top 3 honors or 3 of the top 5 honors and at least 5 HCP.
HCP:	5-10 HCP.
Distribution:	6-3-2-2, 6-3-3-1, 6-4-2-1, 6-4-3-0. The 4-card suit is not a Major.
Outside Strength:	The hand should contain no more than an outside Ace or King.

You must be even more aware of vulnerability when making a weak jump overcall versus a weak two opening bid as the opponents have already exchanged some information and are in a better position to penalize undisciplined bids.

Responses to a Weak Jump Overcall

Immediately raise to your combined level of trump, provided you have shape; reduce level by one at unfavorable vulnerability. These raises are *to play*, they are *not invitational*.

With a good hand, investigate game possibilities by bidding a new suit or 2NT (Ogust), a conventional bid which asks Overcaller to further describe her hand.

Responding to Ogust (All Alertable!)

Opener's Rebid	Meaning
3♣	Bad Suit, Bad Hand (5-7HCP)
3♦	Good Suit (2 of top 3 or 6+HCP), Bad Hand
3♥	Bad Suit, Good Hand (8-10HCP)
3♠	Good Suit, Good Hand
3NT	AKQxxx

Responder then places the contract; in particular, a bid below game is to play. A new suit by Responder at the two-level is to play (Alertable!). At the three-level, it is forcing for one-round and asks for support, xxx or Hx. In rare cases, a cuebid of opener's suit asks Overcaller to bid NT with a stopper.

Quiz 7

Both sides are Not Vulnerable, fill in your call when RHO opens 1♥.

	Your Hand	Call		Your Hand	Call
1.	♠ AKJ63 ♥ 64 ♦ 9543 ♣ T8		2.	♠ 42 ♥ 965 ♦ KQT984 ♣ 87	
3.	♠ KQJT82 ♥ 7 ♦ KT5 ♣ 987		4.	♠ AKJ875 ♥ ♦ AQ54 ♣ Q73	

The opening bid by RHO is 1♦, what is your call when Both Vulnerable?

	Your Hand	Call		Your Hand	Call
5.	♠ QJT862 ♥ 92 ♦ 98 ♣ KJT		6.	♠ 6 ♥ 63 ♦ 964 ♣ AKQT643	
7.	♠ AQ ♥ KQJ ♦ AJ9 ♣ KQ742		8.	♠ AJ974 ♥ AQ32 ♦ 2 ♣ K72	