

# Negative Doubles II

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As noted in Part I, you don't give up penalty doubles when playing *Negative Doubles*. Here's how it works: after your partner passes an overcall by your LHO, for example: 1♦ - 2♣ - P - P and, it is your turn. What is your call? Playing *Negative Doubles* your responsibility, with certain hand configurations is to "protect" Responder by doubling. This is a flexible, competitive bid which allows Responder to "convert" it to a penalty double by passing with an appropriate holding. For example, imagine Responder holds this hand and the bidding proceeded as above:

♠AQ6 ♥J98 ♦5 ♣KJT876

Responder wants to penalize the 2♣ overcall, but an immediate double is a *Negative Double* showing 8+HE and at least one major. Instead, Responder passes in tempo (very important) and waits for Opener's rebid, which should be a double, given Responder's holding in ♣s. Now Responder converts it to a penalty double by Passing.

## Requirements

The guideline requirements for a re-opening double by Opener:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Shortness in Overcaller's suit; typically a singleton or a doubleton</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> A hand with two or more quick tricks</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Is not a hand which was opened based solely on a very long suit (7+)</li></ul> |
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Responder must avoid trying to convert re-opening doubles to penalty when holding support for Opener's suit, especially a major, even when holding something of a "trump stack." In other words, as Responder you want a "misfit" with Opener.

Vulnerability is a significant factor in deciding whether to play for a penalty or a game bonus. If the opponents are vulnerable and you are not, a two trick set doubled will be a better score than making game.

If your side makes a *Weak Two Opening* and RHO overcalls, *Negative Doubles* are off; i.e., a Double by Responder is for penalties.

# Quiz 4

Assume your partner opens and RHO overcalls. Fill in your 1<sup>st</sup> Response. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bid column, write in your bid when Opener bids as shown in (a/b/c). If one of Opener's rebid is illegal because of your response, enter N/A. Consider whether your bid(s) would be different if the opponents were vulnerable and you weren't; or, if you had unfavorable vulnerability.

	1 <sup>st</sup> Response	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bid	Your Hand		1 <sup>st</sup> Response		Your Hand
1.	1♠ - 2♥ - ___ - P (X/2♠/3♣) - P - ?	___	♠ 74 ♥ AQ963 ♦ KT42 ♣ 97	2.	1♠ - 2♦ - ___ - P (X/2♠/3♣) - P - ?	___	♠ A9 ♥ AJ94 ♦ T92 ♣ JT54
3.	1♣ - 3♠ - ___ - P (X/4♣/4♦) - ?	___	♠ AQ92 ♥ A853 ♦ A3 ♣ 762	4.	1♣ - 1♠ - ___ - 2♠ (3♣/3♦/3♥) - ?	___	♠ JT63 ♥ QJT6 ♦ J82 ♣ 98
5.	1♣ - 1♠ - ___ - 2♠ (P/3♦/3♥) - ?	___	♠ - ♥ K543 ♦ QJ83 ♣ Q9632	6.	1♠ - 2♦ - ___ - P (X/2♠/3♣) - ?	___	♠ 54 ♥ AQ9843 ♦ KJ64 ♣ 9

You open the bidding and the auction proceeds as shown. What is your rebid?

	Opener's Bids	Your Hand		Opener's Bids	Your Hand
1.	1♠ - 2♦ - P - P ___	♠ AJ872 ♥ AT ♦ T83 ♣ KQT2	2.	1♦ - 1♥ - X - 2♥ ___	♠ 73 ♥ 96 ♦ AKQJ42 ♣ AK4
3.	2♥ - 3♣ - X - P ___	♠ 3 ♥ AJT732 ♦ K632 ♣ T4	4.	1♦ - 2♣ - P - P ___	♠ 65 ♥ QT6 ♦ AKQJ872 ♣ 4
5.	1♥ - 2♦ - P - P X - P - P - 3♣ ___	♠ A62 ♥ AKQ43 ♦ 7 ♣ KJT8	6.	1♥ - 2♦ - X - P ___	♠ T5 ♥ AKJ43 ♦ A876 ♣ JT