



Quantitative No-Trump Bidding

Aims

- To revise bidding in no-trump auctions
- To refine hand evaluation of balanced hands
- To introduce the Quantitative NT Raise to 4NT and how to bid over it

NT auctions

- An opening bid of 1NT or 2NT shows a balanced hand with a specified point range
 - 12 to 14 for 1NT
 - 20 to 22 for 2NT
- After a NT opener, you know whether or not game is on
 - Partscore, if combined score is below 25 points
 - Game, if 25 HCP or more
 - Slam, if 33 HCP or more
- If game is possible should partner be maximum
 - Invite with 2NT response
- If slam is possible should partner be maximum
 - Invite with 4NT response
- Note that you can make an invitational NT bid after Stayman or Transfers

Quantitative no-trump bids

- Quantitative no-trump bids describe the 4NT responses to opening bids of 1NT or 2NT
- This raise to 4NT is called a quantitative no-trump bid
 - It is NOT Blackwood
- This 4NT bid means "*Pass if you are minimum, bid on if you are not minimum*"

♠Q942	N	♠AKJ
♥K82	W E	♥QJ7
♦Q65	S	♦AK92
♣AK5		♣Q92
West		East
1NT		4NT
6NT		Pass

Quantitative NT Bid after Stayman or Transfer

♠K74 ♥QJ8 ♦Q92 ♣A743	N W E S	♠Q8 ♥AK92 ♦AK43 ♣K102
West 1NT 2♦ Pass		East 2♣ 4NT

♠Q97 ♥A872 ♦QJ ♣AJ105	N W E S	♠AKJ54 ♥Q7 ♦AK2 ♣Q92
West 1NT 3♠ 6♠		East 2♥ 4NT Pass

Hand evaluation in NT

- What if you open NT with 13 HCP or with 21 HCP and partner invites game or slam?
 - You think “*I’m 1 HCP short of bidding game (or slam)*”
 - “*Is my hand worth upgrading by 1 HCP*”
- East opens 1NT and West raises to 2NT. Which of hands A, B, C, each with 13 HCP, should pass and which should bid on?

A ♠A742

♥Q52

♦K82

♣KJ5

B ♠K6

♥A52

♦Q42

♣KJ1054

C ♠A1093

♥QJ102

♦Q109

♣KJ

- Hand A has no intermediates and no 5 card suit
- Hand B has a good 5 card suit which can be established
- Hand C is loaded with 10s and 9s – good intermediates

Finding a 4 – 4 fit after a Quantitative NT

- For a small slam we need to make 12 tricks no matter if it is in NT, in a major or in a minor
 - Contrast with number of tricks to make game
- However a 4-4 fit may produce an extra trick in a trump contract
 - So over a quantitative NT it's a good idea to look for a 4 – 4 fit
- West bids 1NT, partner replies 4NT
 - West passes with a minimum or a bad 13 HCP
 - Otherwise West checks on possible 4 – 4 fit by bidding 4-card suits upwards
 - W bids 5♣ to show 4 card club suit
 - With 4 card club support E raises to 6♣, otherwise bids his 4-card suit upwards in turn
 - Partners continue in this way until they know there cannot be a fit
 - When either player knows there is no fit, bid 5NT
 - 5NT can be passed, so if you want to be in 6NT you have to bid it
 - A bid at the 6 level after 4NT, shows a 5 card suit, offering a choice
 - If partner has 3-card support and a doubleton for ruffing values, PASS
 - With only a doubleton in partner's suit, bid 6NT

The Power of the 4-4 fit

	♠ A6 ♥ KQ73 ♦ AQ32 ♣ KJ5	
♠ J92 ♥ A985 ♦ 87 ♣ 10987	N W E S	♠ Q875 ♥ 1062 ♦ 964 ♣ 632
	♠ K1043 ♥ J4 ♦ KJ105 ♣ AQ4	

- South opens 1NT and North, with 19 HCP, bids 4NT
- South, with maximum 14 HCP, bids on to 6NT
- West finds a safe lead of 10♣
- South counts 2 spades, 4 diamonds and 3 clubs and plays on hearts to establish extra tricks
- But the defence can hold up A♥ to beat the J♥
 - And the contract goes 1 off
- Imagine the contract is 6♦
 - This time 2 spades, 2 hearts, 4 diamonds and 3 clubs *and a spade ruff* make 12 tricks
- The 4 – 4 fit made 5 tricks in diamonds, but could make only 4 in NT

Bidding after the Quantitative NT

♠A1074	N		♠K63
♥Q86	♠1094		♠AQJ
♦A5	♥K7		♥QJ64
♣K1053	♦AJ92		♦KQ74
West	♣KQJ4		♣A9
1NT	West		East
5♣	1NT		4NT
Pass	5♣		5♦
	6♦		Pass

1) You open 1NT with these hands. Partner invites game with a raise to 2NT. What is your response?

♠ Q95

♥ A943

♦ K72

♣ KJ5

Pass

♠ K1098

♥ QJ102

♦ A4

♣ QJ9

3NT

♠ K3

♥ A65

♦ A8743

♣ Q53

Pass

♠ Q109

♥ QJ2

♦ 98

♣ AKJ107

3NT

2) How should these pairs of hands be bid?

West is dealer.

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
♠ A95	♠ KJ2
♥ A1092	♥ KQ63
♦ 97	♦ KQJ8
♣ KQ84	♣ A6

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
1NT	4NT
5♣	5♦
5♥	6♥

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
♠ AQ96	♠ J107
♥ Q96	♥ AK42
♦ AJ87	♦ KQ6
♣ J3	♣ AQ7

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
1NT	4NT
5♦	5♥
5♠	5NT
6NT	

3) What is the meaning of the final 4NT bid in these auctions? Is it quantitative or Blackwood?

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
2NT	4NT	1♠	2♦	1♥	2♦	1NT	2♥
		2NT	4NT	2NT	3♥	2♠	3♥
				4♥	4NT	4♠	4NT
quantitative	quantitative	Blackwood	Blackwood			Blackwood	Blackwood

THAT IS ALL FOR THIS WEEK