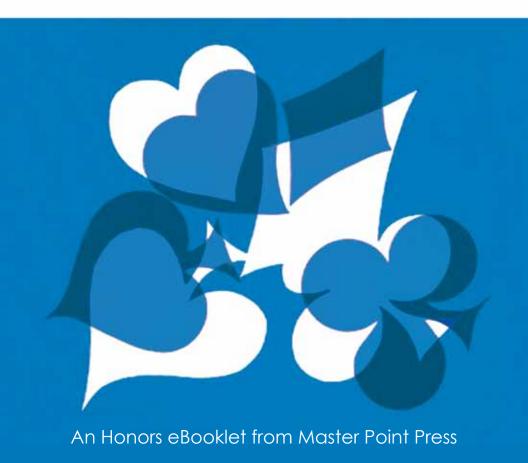
#### WINNING BRIDGE CONVENTIONS

# **DRURY**

## Patty Tucker



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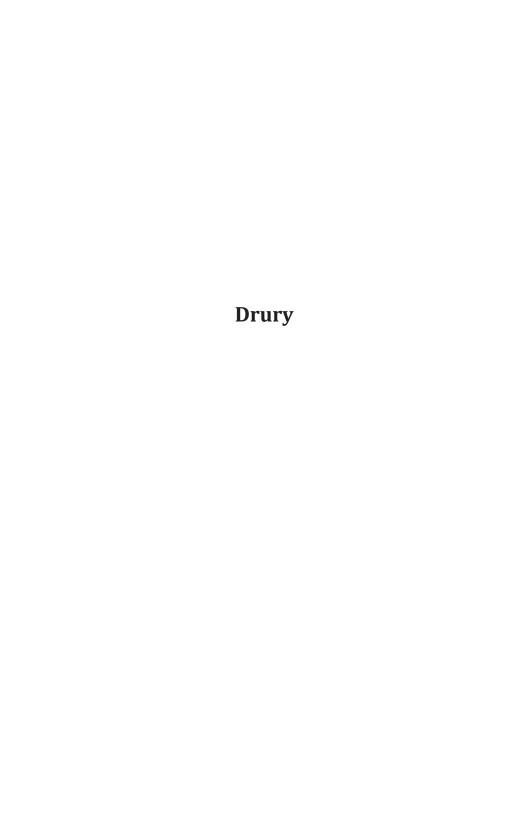
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#### WINNING BRIDGE CONVENTIONS

# **DRURY**

# Patty Tucker





#### **Drury**

Created by Douglas Drury, Drury is a bid designed to allow a passed hand responder to show a limit raise (10+) in support of opener's major (1 $\blacktriangledown$  or 1 $\spadesuit$ ) suit at a low level. *Since responder is a passed hand this means that opener must be opening in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> chair.* The theory is that, in general, we would like partner to be able to open the bidding on marginal hands in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> seat. We'll discuss the Drury bid in the following pages, but first let's look at some hands that your partnership would like to open in third or fourth chair.

A marginal opening bid is a hand with fewer than 12 high card points, but that has some redeeming factors that make opening the bidding attractive. One commonly used method, and my preference, is to count your number of high card points and add that to the number of spades you hold. If the combination equals 15 or more, you would open the bidding. This is based on the Pearson Point Count system and a modification called Cansino Count. It is only used when considering opening the bidding with marginal hands. *If you have a full opening bid or a* 

distributional hand that you would have always opened, you <u>will</u> open the bidding regardless of whether you are the  $1^{st}$ ,  $2^{nd}$ ,  $3^{rd}$  or  $4^{th}$  person to bid.

A few examples of marginal hands that could be opened:

You have only ten high card points, but you also have five spades. 10 + 5 = 15. You would open  $1 \spadesuit$ .

You have only eleven high card points, but you also have four spades. 11 + 4 = 15. You would open 1 - 4.

You have only eleven high card points, you have only two spades. 11 + 2 = 13. You would Pass.

You have twelve high card points. If you had been the first person to bid you would have opened the bidding. Regardless of the number of spades you hold you will open the bidding. Your choice of an opening bid would be 1.

You have eleven high card points. If you had been the first person to bid you would have opened the bidding because you have two long suits, eleven points and your points are concentrated in your long suits. Regardless of the number of spades you hold you will open the bidding. Your choice of an opening bid would be  $1 \checkmark$ .

However, if we want to allow this strategic advantage, we need to have a method that will allow us to keep the bidding at the two-level when we have a non-opening hand opposite a marginal opening hand.

The requirements for Drury to apply are that:

- You must be responder to the opening bidder and have passed originally passed (rather than opened);
- Your partner must have opened either 1♥ or
  1♠;
- You (responder) must have a fit of three cards or more in the major suit opened by partner; and

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### Drury

Bridge students quickly discover that 'basic' bidding' will only get them so far. If they really want to improve, it is necessary to master a certain number of bidding conventions, and be prepared both to play them and play against them. This ebooklet covers the Drury convention.



PATTY TUCKER (Dunwoody, Georgia) is an ABTA Master Bridge Teacher and cofounder of Whirlwind Bridge and Atlanta Junior Bridge. Her success at the bridge table culminated in her victory in the 2000 Baldwin Flight A North American Open Pairs with long-time bridge partner KevinCollins. Patty and Kevin were married in 2006.

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