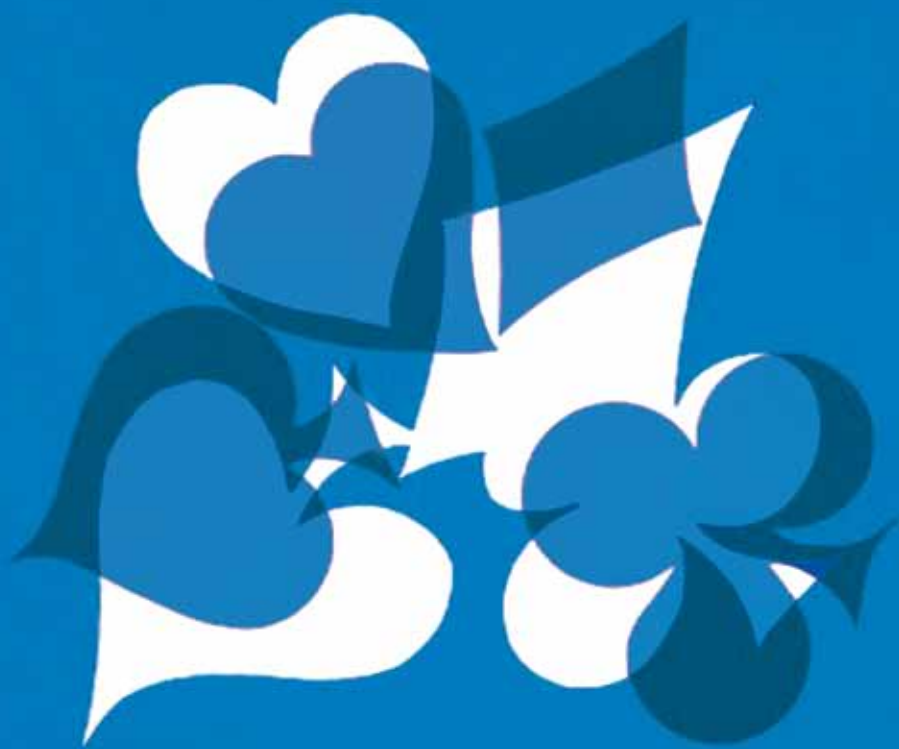


WINNING BRIDGE CONVENTIONS

JACOBY TRANSFERS

Patty Tucker



An Honors eBooklet from Master Point Press

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eBooklets on Conventions After a Notrump Opening

Stayman

Jacoby Transfers

Texas Transfer

Smolen

Four-Suit Transfers

Three-level Responses to a 1NT Opening Bid

Three Spades over 2NT

Lebensohl

These booklets may be purchased as a single volume in digital or paper format under the title *Competitive Bidding*, one of eight books in Patty Tucker's Winning Bridge Conventions Series.

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Introduction

There are several different conventions that you can play in response to a one notrump opening bid or overcall. Conventions that will allow you to show:

- Weaker hands;
- Stronger high card point hands;
- More distributional hands;
- Hands with a four-card major;
- Hands with a five-card or longer major; and
- Hands with a six-card or longer minor.

There are tools that allow you to force the notrump opening bidder to become declarer, thus allowing responder to more fully describe their hand and conceal the stronger hand. They allow the opening lead to be made by the opening notrump bidder's left-hand opponent, in and of itself, a valuable advantage.

Some of those conventions and tools are discussed fully in this book. As you might expect, they are the conventions and tools I have found most useful.

Always remember that every time you add a convention you expect to lose some other bid AND that the additional conventions that you choose to adopt influence the rules of other conventions. You might ask, "Why would I do that? Why should I lose a

natural bid, to add an artificial bid?” The answer is simple...because it is valuable. As you work your way through this book you will find that the rules of the simplest and most common conventions – Stayman and Jacoby Transfers – will be adjusted as you add other conventions.

For example:

If you choose to adopt Smolen, then responder’s rebid after the initial Stayman bid, when he holds a five-card and a four-card major suit changes; or

If you choose to adopt Texas Transfers, then responder’s rebid after the initial Jacoby Transfer shows a different strength of hand; or

If you choose to adopt Four-Suit Transfers, then responder’s rebid after the initial Stayman bid will change on one specific type of hand.

As you add conventions to your toolbox, you and partner will need to decide which “tools” work best for you. What bids you are both willing to “lose” in order to better describe your hand when you decide to adopt different conventions.

I’ve included the conventions that I believe are worth the extra effort to learn and are worth the few bids that are lost.

Jacoby Transfers

Jacoby Transfers

Jacoby Transfers, developed by Oswald Jacoby, have made several desired bidding sequences possible:

- To create a situation in which the notrump bidder would be declarer, which means that the opening lead would be coming into the strong hand and that the strong hand would be concealed;
- To enable responder, when he has a good two-suited hand, to show both of his suits; and
- To make three-level bids over notrump available to show special (usually distributional) hands.

A Jacoby Transfer is:

- Used by responder to show a five-card or longer major;
- An instruction, a “relay” telling partner to bid the suit directly above the suit responder bid;
- An artificial bid. Responder is not showing or denying any holding in the suit that he has bid;
- An unlimited bid. Responder may have 0-25 points. He simply requires partner to bid the major suit he has shown; and
- Once agreed upon, is always played. Jacoby Transfers, a 2♦ bid or a 2♥, bid will no longer be

a natural bid by responder after an opened or overcalled notrump bid.

Note: If you have 8+ HCPs, a five-card or longer major and a four-card major, bid Stayman - not Jacoby.

<u>Hand 1</u>		<u>Hand 2</u>	
North	South	North	South
1NT	2♦	1NT	2♥
2♥		2♠	

Hand 1 – 2♦ is a Jacoby Transfer, it is a relay to 2♥. Opener **must** bid hearts.

Hand 2 – 2♥ is a Jacoby Transfer, it is a relay to 2♠. Opener **must** bid spades. A Jacoby Transfer does not ask opener if he has:

- Three or more spades (or hearts); or
- A long suit; or
- The values of a minimum or maximum notrump; or
- A desire to play in two of a major.

A Jacoby Transfer simply **requires** opener to make the forced bid - 2♥ or 2♠.

Jacoby Transfers are used:

- After a 1NT opening bid or overcall;
- After a 2NT opening bid or two-level (non-jump) overcall of NT;
- After a 3NT opening bid or three-level (non-jump) overcall of NT - by agreement with partner;
- After a Strong 2♣ opener and a NT rebid;
- After an opponent's double of opener's NT bid; and
- After an opponent's overcall of 2♣, when 2♣ was a conventional (artificial) bid.

Jacoby Transfers cannot be used:

- After a 1NT or 2NT rebid by opener;
- After an artificial NT bid by opener or overcaller; or
- After a suit is overcalled by an opponent (other than the artificial 2♣ bid referenced above).

Responder's second bid will show the strength of his hand, the length of his suit and sometimes the distribution of the remainder of his hand.

The *'Winning Bridge Conventions'* Series

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Jacoby Transfers

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 Jacoby Transfers 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 Kevin Collins. Patty and Kevin were married in 2006.