

*The sequel to 'Practice Makes Perfect'*

*more*

# CONVENTIONS

BARBARA SEAGRAM  
& DAVID BIRD

*more*

# PRACTICE



*more*

**CONVENTIONS**

*more*

**PRACTICE**

Text © 2018 Barbara Seagram and David Bird

All rights reserved. It is illegal to reproduce any portion of this material, except by special arrangement with the publisher. Reproduction of this material without authorization, by any duplication process whatsoever, is a violation of copyright.

Master Point Press  
214 Merton St. Suite 205  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
M4S 1A6 (647)956-4933

Email: [info@masterpointpress.com](mailto:info@masterpointpress.com)  
Websites: [www.masterpointpress.com](http://www.masterpointpress.com)  
[www.teachbridge.com](http://www.teachbridge.com)  
[www.bridgeblogging.com](http://www.bridgeblogging.com)  
[www.ebooksbridge.com](http://www.ebooksbridge.com)

## Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Seagram, Barbara, author

More conventions, more practice / Barbara Seagram and David Bird.

Issued in print and electronic formats.

ISBN 978-1-77140-047-3 (softcover).--ISBN 978-1-55494-643-3 (PDF).--  
ISBN 978-1-55494-688-4 (HTML).--ISBN 978-1-77140-887-5 (Kindle)

1. Contract bridge--Bidding. I. Bird, David, 1946-, author II. Title.

GV1282.4.S41955 2018 795.41'53 C2018-905376-3  
C2018-905377-1

**Canada** | We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.  
| Nous reconnaissons l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.

Editor Ray Lee  
Copy editor/interior format Sally Sparrow  
Cover and interior design Olena S. Sullivan/New Mediatrix

1 2 3 4 5 6 19 18 17 16

*The sequel to 'Practice Makes Perfect'*

*more*

# CONVENTIONS

**BARBARA SEAGRAM  
& DAVID BIRD**

*more*

# PRACTICE

Master Point Press • Toronto, Canada



# CONTENTS

Introduction	7
--------------	---

## SECTION 1: LEARN THESE FIRST

1. Cappelletti Defense to 1NT	11
2. Flannery Two Diamonds	16
3. Bergen Raises	21
4. Responding to Three-bids	26
5. Four-suit Transfers	31
6. Gambling 3NT	36
7. D.O.N.T. Defense to a Strong 1NT	41
8. Namyats	46

## SECTION 2: MORE COMPLICATED

9. More About Stayman	53
10. Exclusion Blackwood	58
11. Ingberman	63
12. Weak Jump Shifts	68
13. Support Doubles	73
14. Fit-showing Jumps	78
15. DOPI, ROPI and DEPO	83
16. Puppet Stayman	88

## SECTION 3: SOPHISTICATED STUFF

17. Inverted Minor Raises	95
18. Leaping Michaels	100
19. The Forcing 1NT	105
20. Ace-and-King (Italian) Cuebidding	110
21. Unusual over Unusual	115
22. SOS and Other Redoubles	120
23. Pick-a-slam 5NT	125
24. Snapdragon Doubles	130
25. Multi-colored Two Diamonds	135



# INTRODUCTION

The book *25 MORE Bridge Conventions You Should Know*, by Barbara Seagram and David Bird, was a follow-up to the best-selling classic, *25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know*, by Barbara Seagram and Marc Smith. *Practice Makes Perfect*, a playbook accompanying the original title, proved popular and there were many requests for a playbook to accompany the follow-up book. Here it is!

Each of the 25 chapters begins with a summary of an important bidding convention. This is followed by four deals in which the convention is put to instructive use. There is further interest in the play or defense of the final contract. A bridge teacher might use such deals after explaining a particular convention to her students. Alternatively, you will be able to try the various problems yourself, as you read the book. You may be asked, for example: ‘Look at the West hand for a moment. What would you lead against 4♠?’ Once you have made up your mind, the text may continue: ‘Right, now take the South cards and see if you would have made the contract.’

Your overall aim here is the same as with most such books — to improve your game and to enjoy yourself at the same time. Good luck!

Barbara & David



**LEARN THESE**

**1**

**FIRST**



# 1

## CAPPELLETTI DEFENSE TO 1NT

The Cappelletti defense to 1NT includes a penalty double and is therefore particularly effective against a weak 1NT. It is not attractive to play two different defenses, so many players use Cappelletti against a strong 1NT too.

Double	For penalties
2♣	A single-suiter in any of the four suits
2♦	Both major suits
2♥	Hearts and an undisclosed minor
2♠	Spades and an undisclosed minor
2NT	Both minor suits

When you bid 2♦, 2♥ or 2♠ your two-suiter may be 4-5 or 5-4. The 2NT overall should be based on a hand that is at least 5-5 in the minor suits. Since you will usually begin with a double on a hand of 15 points or more, the range for the five bids is around 9-14 points.

♠ 10 3   ♥ K Q 10 7 5 2   ♦ 9 5   ♣ K J 3

You overcall 2♣, showing a single-suiter somewhere. Partner will usually respond 2♦, asking which suit you hold, and you will rebid 2♥. If instead you held six diamonds, you would pass.

♠ K Q 10 4   ♥ J 7   ♦ A 10 9 8 5   ♣ 7 2

Here your call would be 2♠, showing spades and a minor. Partner may respond 2NT to ask which minor you hold.

When partner doubles 1NT for penalties, you will usually pass, unless you are weak and have an escape suit of at least five cards:

♠ 6 4   ♥ J 9 8 5 2   ♦ 8 5   ♣ 10 9 6 2

You pull the double to 2♥. Realizing that you are very weak, partner will be wary about bidding any further.

# PLAY DEAL 1-1

Neither Vul. Dealer East.

	♠ —											
	♥ J 8 4 3											
	♦ K 7 5											
	♣ J 10 7 6 4 3											
♠ 10 7 4 ♥ Q 6 5 2 ♦ J 10 9 4 ♣ Q 2	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A Q 9 3 ♥ A K ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ K 9 8 5	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ K J 8 6 5 2											
	♥ 10 9 7											
	♦ A Q 8											
	♣ A											

West	North	East	South
all pass		1NT	2♣

**The Bidding:** South overcalls with a Cappelletti 2♣, showing a single-suiter in any of the four suits. North is virtually certain that his partner's suit is spades, particularly as West has not competed in that suit. He decides to pass 2♣, hoping that this will be a better fit. There is no further bidding.

**The Play:** West leads the ♦J and declarer wins in his hand, retaining the diamond entry to dummy. To make the contract he must aim to lose three heart tricks and only two trumps. He plays the ♣A and crosses to dummy with the ♦K to play another trump. Which trump should he play? Any card will be good enough if clubs break 3-3. To give himself a chance against a 4-2 break, he should lead a low club next. This will work well when a defender holds a doubleton honor.

West wins with the bare ♣Q and plays another diamond to declarer's queen. After a spade ruff in dummy, declarer plays the ♣J to East's king. East cannot safely play spades and does best to cash the ♥AK and exit with a trump to dummy's ♣10. Declarer can then set up an eighth trick in hearts for the contract.

Playing in the alternative contract of 2♠, declarer would have three heart losers and at least three trump losers. He would have to play well to escape for one down.

# PLAY DEAL 1-2

N-S Vul. Dealer East.

<p>♠ 6 ♥ 9 8 5 4 ♦ 8 5 3 2 ♣ 10 9 6 5</p>	<p>♠ 10 7 2 ♥ A J 2 ♦ K J 10 6 ♣ J 4 2</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ K 9 5 ♥ Q 10 6 ♦ A Q 9 4 ♣ A Q 7</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	<p>♠ A Q J 8 4 3 ♥ K 7 3 ♦ 7 ♣ K 8 3</p>											

West	North	East	South
		1NT	2♣
pass	2♦	pass	2♠
pass	3♠	pass	4♠
all pass			

**The Bidding:** East opens 1NT and South bids a Cappelletti 2♣ to show a single-suiter in any of the four suits. When South rebids 2♠ over 2♦, North sees the chance of a vulnerable game and raises to 3♠. South is willing to take a shot at ten tricks and closes the auction with a bid of 4♠.

**The Play:** What is your plan when West leads the ♣10 and East plays the ♣7?

You can see three losers in the minors and must avoid any further losers in both spades and hearts. Relying on a finesse of the ♥J is not attractive and you may be able to set up a discard on dummy's diamond suit.

After winning with the ♣K, you lead a diamond to the jack. East wins with the ♦Q and cashes the ♣A and ♣Q. His partner will have played a high spot-card in diamonds to show an even number of diamonds. East therefore exits with the ♠5, rather than trying to cash the ♦A. You win with dummy's ♠7 and lead the ♦K for a ruffing finesse though East. When East covers with the ♦A, you ruff in your hand. You cross to the ♥A, discard a heart on the established ♦10 and finesse the ♠J to pick up the trump suit. The game is yours.

# PLAY DEAL 1-3

E-W Vul. Dealer East.

<p>♠ 9 6 ♥ Q 10 5 4 ♦ 8 5 3 2 ♣ 8 6 5</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ Q 10 7 2 ♥ J ♦ A J 10 6 ♣ Q 9 4 2</p>	<p>♠ A K J 5 ♥ 9 8 6 ♦ K Q 9 4 ♣ A 7</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	<p>♠ 8 4 3 ♥ A K 7 3 2 ♦ 7 ♣ K J 10 3</p>											

West	North	East	South
pass	2NT	1NT	2♥
all pass		pass	3♣

**The Bidding:** South bids a Cappelletti 2♥, showing hearts and a minor. With no liking for hearts, North wants to play in South's minor suit. He bids 2NT to discover which minor partner holds and South's bid of 3♣ ends the auction.

**The Play:** Take the East cards now and see if you can beat the contract. West leads the ♠9, covered by dummy's ♠10. You win with the jack and cash the two top spades, West throwing the ♦2 on the third round. You have three defensive tricks already and the ♣A will be a fourth. How should you defend to conjure the setting trick?

If you play a fourth round of spades, hoping to promote a trump trick for West, you will not succeed. Nor can you score an eventual diamond trick. South is known to hold nine cards in hearts and clubs and has shown three spades in addition. He is marked with a singleton diamond and is therefore poised for a crossruff in hearts and diamonds. To beat the contract, you must play ace and another trump at this stage.

Declarer can score three more winners in the red suits and four trump tricks on a crossruff, but that will be only eight tricks in total. Your partner's last trump will prevent the ♠Q from scoring a trick.

# PLAY DEAL 1-4

Neither Vul. Dealer West.

<p>♠ A 9 2 ♥ J 4 3 ♦ K Q 6 ♣ A Q 10 6</p>	<p>♠ K J 10 3 ♥ A 10 8 7 2 ♦ 9 2 ♣ J 5</p>	<p>♠ 6 5 4 ♥ Q 9 6 ♦ A 10 8 5 ♣ 9 8 3</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; text-align: center;"> <p>N W     E S</p> </div> <p>♠ Q 8 7 ♥ K 5 ♦ J 7 4 3 ♣ K 7 4 2</p>
---	--	---	--

West	North	East	South
1NT	2♦	pass	2♠
all pass			

**The Bidding:** North uses a Cappelletti 2♦ to show both major suits. South has longer spades than hearts and therefore chooses 2♠. It is often better to play in a 5-2 fit rather than a 4-3 fit, but it's not the case here. In 2♥ you would lose a spade, a trump and two tricks in each minor.

**The Play:** How will you play 2♠ when West leads the ♦K and ♦Q, following with the ♦6?

It is not attractive to shorten the four-card trump holding in dummy and you should discard the ♣5 on this trick. East wins with the ♦A but you now have only one club loser and the ♦J is worth a trick. East switches to the ♣9, won with West's ♣Q, and his low trump switch runs to your ♠7.

You play the ♥K and ♥A and ruff a heart with the ♠Q, all following. You then play on trumps, ruffing West's ♣A return when he takes the trump ace. You draw the remaining trumps and score the last two tricks with dummy's ♥108.

It was fortunate to find both major suits breaking 3-3. Sometimes you need a bit of luck!

## CONTACT US



Master Point Press  
214 Merton St. Suite 205  
Toronto, ON M4S 1A6  
(647) 956-4933

### **Master Point Press on the Internet**

[www.masterpointpress.com](http://www.masterpointpress.com)

Our main site, with information about our books and software, reviews and more.

[www.teachbridge.com](http://www.teachbridge.com)

Our site for bridge teachers and students — free downloadable support material for our books, helpful articles and more.

[www.bridgeblogging.com](http://www.bridgeblogging.com)

Read and comment on regular articles from MPP authors and other bridge notables.

[www.ebooksbridge.com](http://www.ebooksbridge.com)

Purchase downloadable electronic versions of MPP books and software.

# YOU ASKED FOR MORE!

Following the runaway success of *Practice Makes Perfect*, bridge teachers asked the authors to produce a similar companion book to *25 More Bridge Conventions You Should Know*. And here it is — a brief summary of each of those 25 more conventions, together with example hands that can be dealt out and used to apply your new knowledge.



**BARBARA SEAGRAM** (Toronto, Canada) is one of North America's best-known bridge teachers, and is a popular speaker on cruise ships and at bridge events throughout the world. There are well over half a million copies of her various books in print.



**DAVID BIRD** (Southampton, UK) is perhaps the most prolific bridge writer of all time, with over 135 books to his name. He also contributes regularly to bridge magazines around the world and provides commentary on high-level events on BBO. His most recent MPP book is *Trick One*.



MASTER POINT PRESS