

# Franklin Bridge Club

## 2025 BRIDGE LESSONS



**Your Teacher:** Maureen Nelson

**Email:** [lessons@franklinbridgeclub.com](mailto:lessons@franklinbridgeclub.com)

**Website:** [www.franklinbridgeclub.com](http://www.franklinbridgeclub.com)



# Lesson Eight

## Takeout Doubles



# Recall... Reasons for Overcalling

- To get into the bidding and make life difficult for your opposition
- Express a genuine desire to play in a suit
- Suggest a lead for your partner



# Recall... Rules for Overcalling...



- You **MUST** have a good 5+ card suit with at least 2 honour cards
- Your HCP count should be close to opening values if overcalling at the 2-level

**KNOW THE RULES!**



# Overcalling a suit 1 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
		1♣	

E HER

S YOU



# Overcalling a suit 2 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
		1♣	1♥

E HER

S YOU



# Overcalling a suit 3 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
		1♣	1♥

South has an Opening Hand  
with a **GOOD** 5-card suit  
(at least two honours in the suit)

E HER

S YOU

9♠ 8♠ 7♠ AKJ98♥ 87♣ A75♦



# Recall... Rules to Overcall in No Trumps

- You need to have **BETTER** points than opening 1NT (16–18 HCP)
- **MUST** have a cover in the opposition's suit

**KNOW THE RULES!**





# Overcalling INT I of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
		1♦	

E HER

S YOU

K♠ Q♠ J♠ K♥ 9♥ 8♥ A♣ 9♣ 6♣ 3♣ A♦ J♦ 7♦



# Overcalling INT 2 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
		1♦	1NT

E HER

S YOU

K♠ Q♠ J♠ K♥ 9♥ 8♥ A♣ 9♣ 6♣ 3♣ A♦ J♦ 7♦



Overcalling  
INT  
3 of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
		1♦	1NT
18 points balanced hand with a Diamond hold			

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

K♠ Q♠ J♠ K♥ 9♥ 8♥ A♣ 9♣ 6♣ 3♣ A♦ J♦ 7♦



# WHAT HAPPENS when your hand doesn't meet this criteria?

- No 5-card major
- Can't overcall No Trumps because you don't have a hold in the opposition's suit
- Can't overcall No Trumps because your hand is not strong enough

**Use a Takeout DOUBLE**



N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
		1♣	

W HIM

E HER

S  YOU

K♠ 7♠ 6♠ K♥ Q♥ 5♥ 4♥ J♣ 6♣ A♦ 9♦ 6♦ 2♦

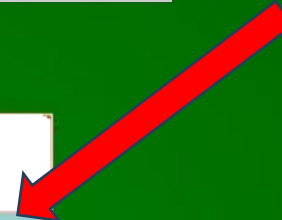
N	PARTNER																			

**Takeout  
Double**



W	N	E	S
		1♣	X

13 points, no 5-card major  
 - can't bid a suit  
 - can't bid 1NT  
 (not strong enough)



W	HIM																			

E	HER																			

K	7	6	K	Q	5	4	J	6	A	9	6	2	
♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♥	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦
S		YOU											

# Takeout Double shows the following:

- At least 3 cards in each of the **unbid** suits
- Shortage in the opponent's suit
- Opening hand (12+ points)
- ✕ asks partner to choose the best contract

**DO NOT DOUBLE**  
with 4+ of the opponent's suit



# Choices (in order) when Overcalling

1. FIRST CHOICE - Overcall a major
2. SECOND CHOICE - Overcall INT
3. THIRD CHOICE - Use the takeout X
4. FOURTH CHOICE- Overcall a minor

**REMEMBER:** Majors are more important than the Minors or No Trumps

Follow the next four examples...





# Takeout Double 1 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM


W	N	E	S
		1♣	

E HER

S YOU

# Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER



W HIM



W	N	E	S
		1♣	X

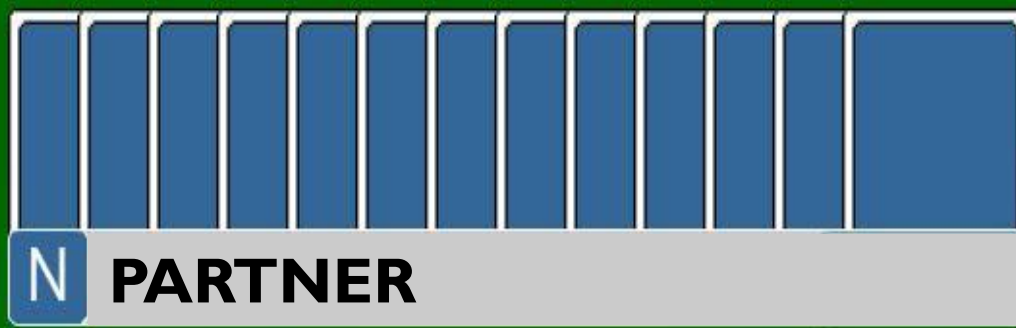
E HER



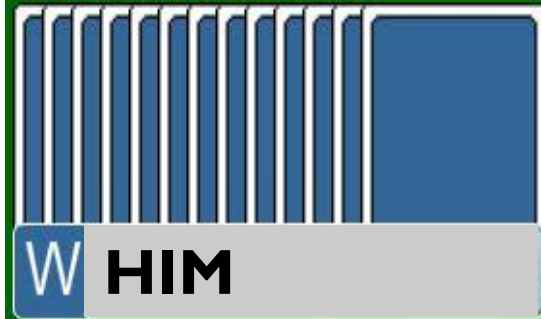
S YOU



# Takeout Double 3 of 3



W	N	E	S
		1♣	X
12+ points 3+ cards in each of the unbid suits Shortage in opposition suit			



# Takeout Double 1 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
	Pass	1♦	

E HER

S  YOU

A♠ 6♠ 5♠ 4♠ A♥ K♥ 6♥ A♣ Q♣ 10♣ 4♣ 10♦ 9♦

# Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER



W HIM

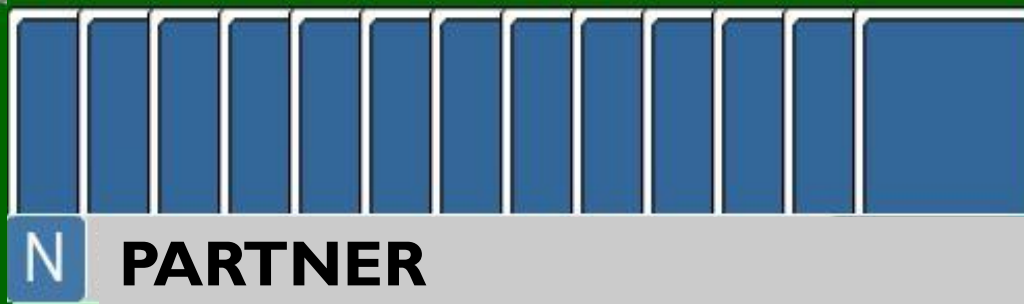
W	N	E	S
Pass	Pass	1♦	X

E HER

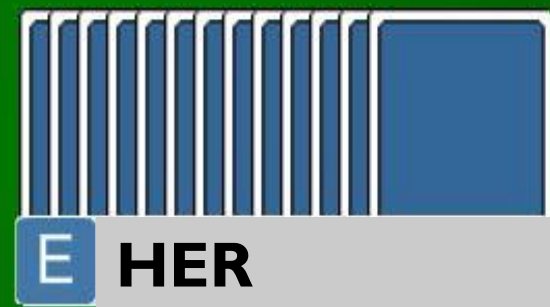
S YOU

A♠ 6♠ 5♠ 4♠ A♥ K♥ 6♥ A♣ Q♣ 10♣ 4♣ 10♦ 9♦

# Takeout Double 3 of 3



W	N	E	S
Pass		1♦	X
12+ points			
3+ cards in each of the unbid suits			
Shortage in opposition suit			



# Takeout Double 1 of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
		1♣	


W HIM

E HER

S YOU

# Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER




W	N	E	S
		1♣	X

W HIM



E HER

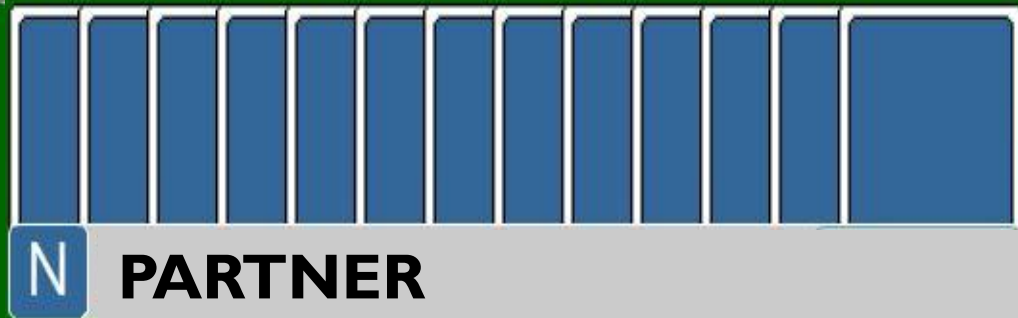


S YOU



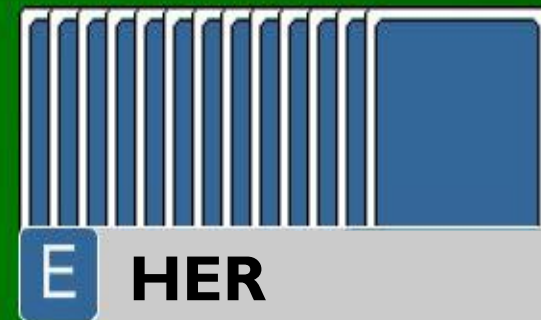


# Takeout Double 3 of 3

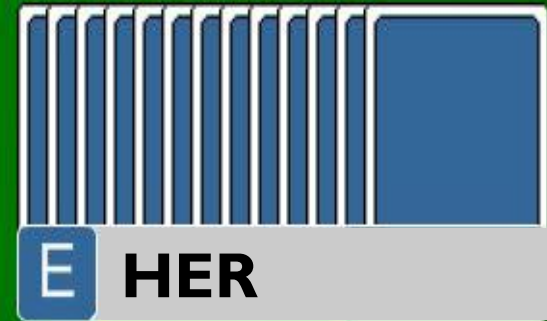
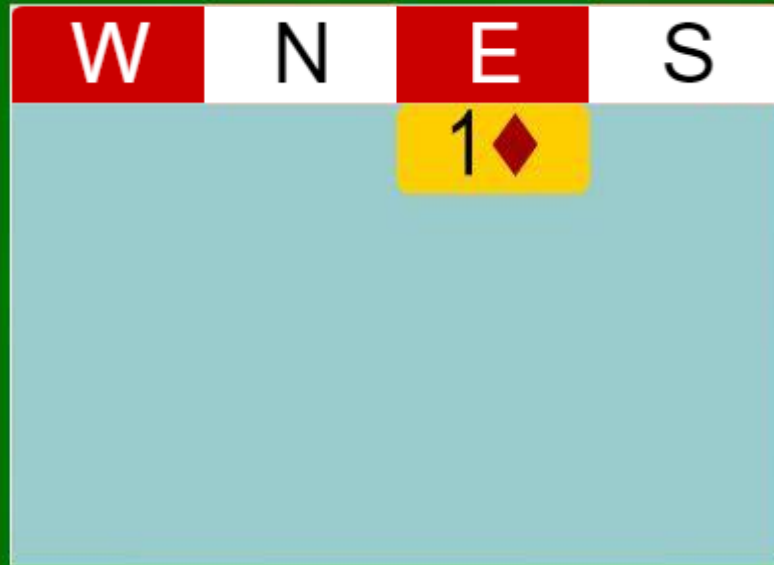
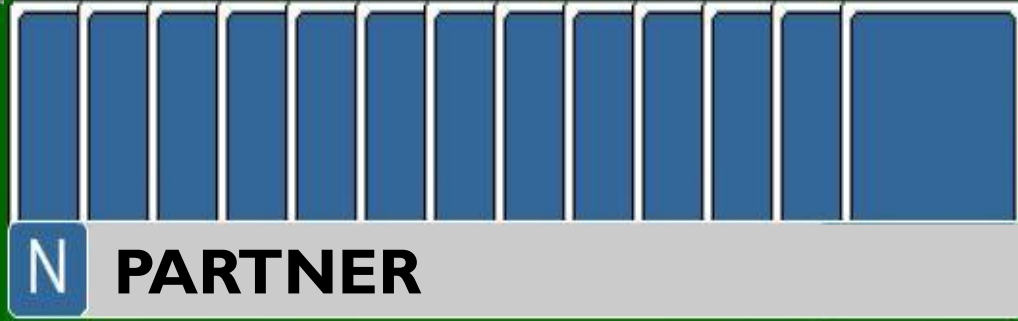


W	N	E	S
		1♣	X

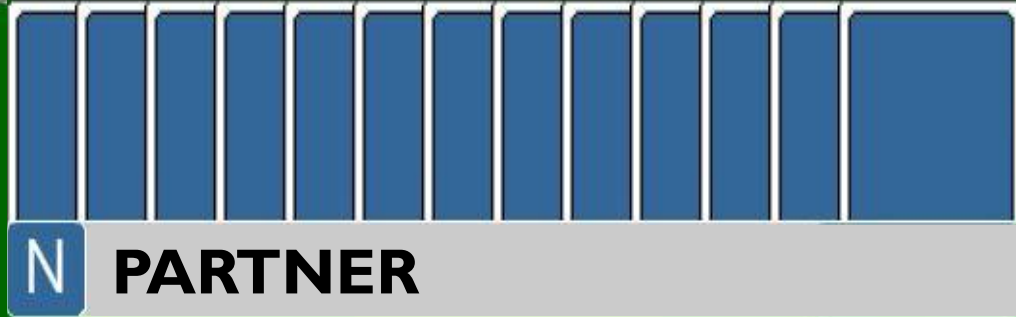
12+ points  
3+ cards in each of  
the unbid suits  
Shortage in opposition suit



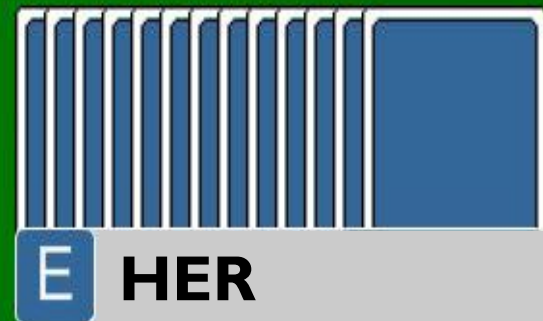
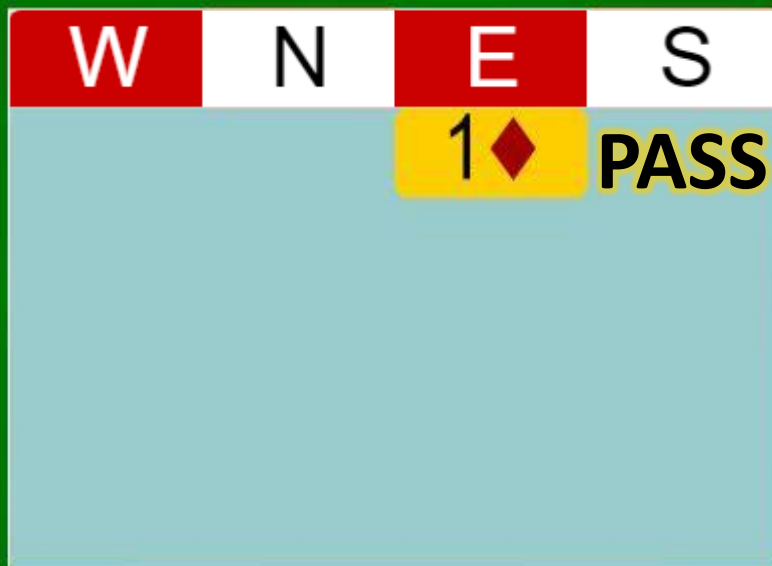
# Takeout Double 1 of 3



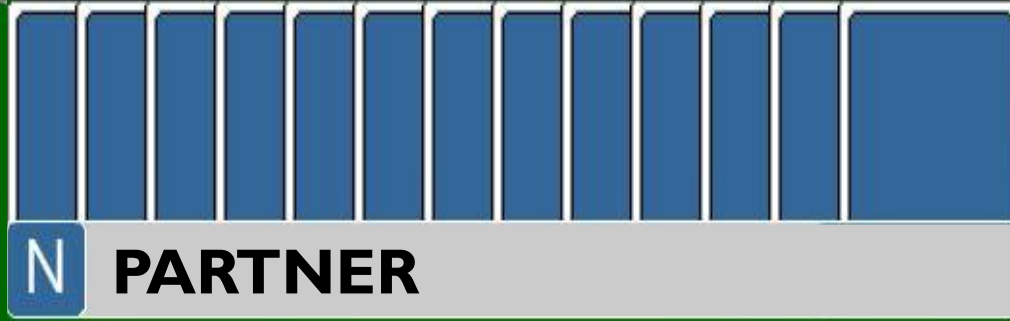
Takeout  
Double  
2 of 3



PASS



**Takeout  
Double  
3 of 3**

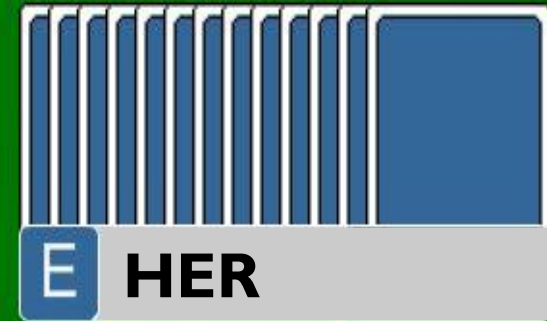


**PASS**



W	N	E	S
		1♦	PASS

15 points  
BUT only 1 club and not  
balanced so must PASS



# Takeout Double 1 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
	Pass	1♣	

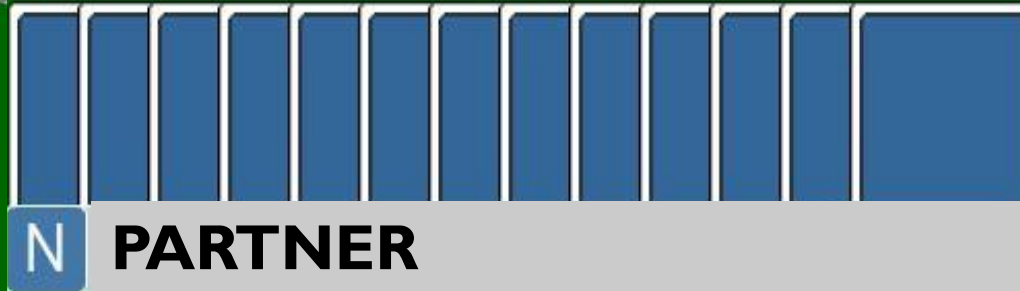
E HER

S  YOU

J 10 5 4 J 4 A Q 8 A Q 10 8

♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

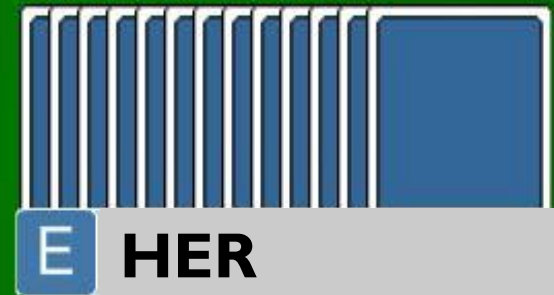
Takeout  
Double  
2 of 3



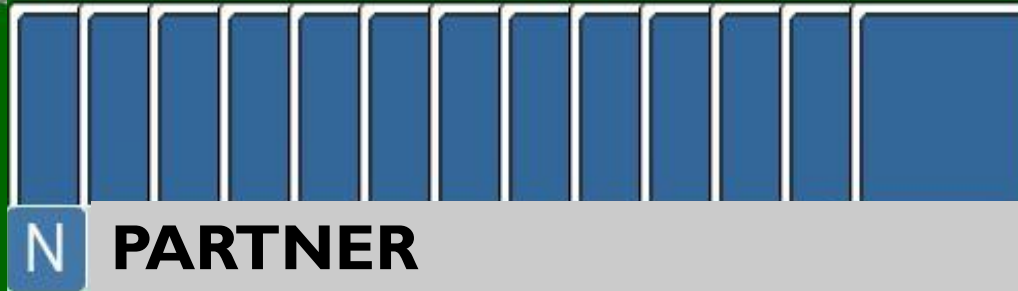
PASS



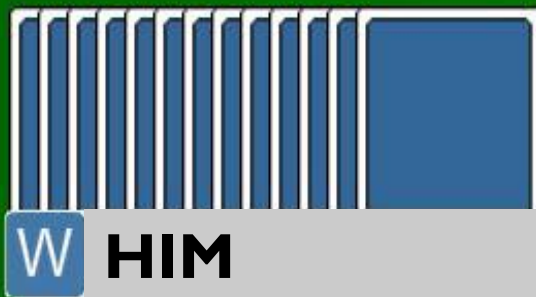
W	N	E	S
	Pass	1♣	PASS



Takeout  
Double  
3 of 3

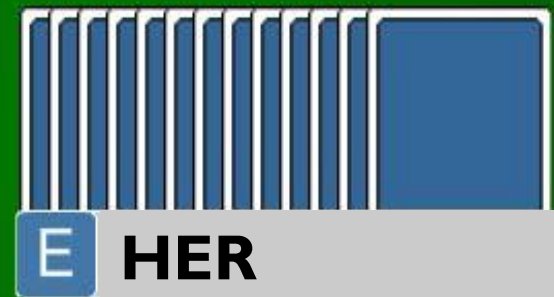


PASS



W	N	E	S
	Pass	1♣	PASS

14 points BUT only 2 hearts  
Balanced hand but cannot  
bid 1NT because there are  
not enough points so must  
PASS



# Response to a Takeout Double

If your Right Hand Opponent passes...

**YOU MUST BID**



- even if you have no points!
- even at the 2-level if necessary
- REMEMBER: partner has promised that they can handle any other suit

**IMPORTANT:** You do not have to Bid after an opponent calls





# Response to a Takeout Double

1. FIRST CHOICE – Prefer a major
2. SECOND CHOICE - Bid INT
3. THIRD CHOICE - Give preference to a minor

**IMPORTANT:** You do not have to  
Bid after an opponent calls



# Response to a Takeout Double

GAME	13+	Jump to GAME Suit (5+) or 3NT
INVITATIONAL	10-12	Jump in a suit (4+) Bid 2NT (with a stop)
MINIMUM	0-9	Bid your own suit (4+) Or INT with 6-9 points



# Response to a Takeout Double

- If the opponent's bid **BEFORE** you are forced to bid, you can now **PASS**
- Therefore a bid from you now shows 8+ points ... it is a **CONSTRUCTIVE** bid

**IMPORTANT:** You do not have to  
Bid after an opponent calls



# Response to the Takeout Double 1 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
1♣	Dbl	Pass	

E HER

S  YOU

AQ839765Q6952

♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦

# Response to the Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
1♣	Dbl	Pass	1♥

E HER

S  YOU

A♠ Q♠ 8♠ 3♠ 9♥ 7♥ 6♥ 5♥ Q♣ 6♣ 9♦ 5♦ 2♦

# Response to the Takeout Double 3 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
1♣	Dbl	Pass	1♥

Bid your lowest  
4 -card major  
With less than 10 points, bid at  
the lowest level possible

E HER

S YOU

# Response to the Takeout Double 1 of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♠	Dbl	Pass	

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

A 10 2 7 6 Q J 10 8 9 7 3 2

♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

# Response to the Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♠	Dbl	Pass	1NT

W HIM

E HER

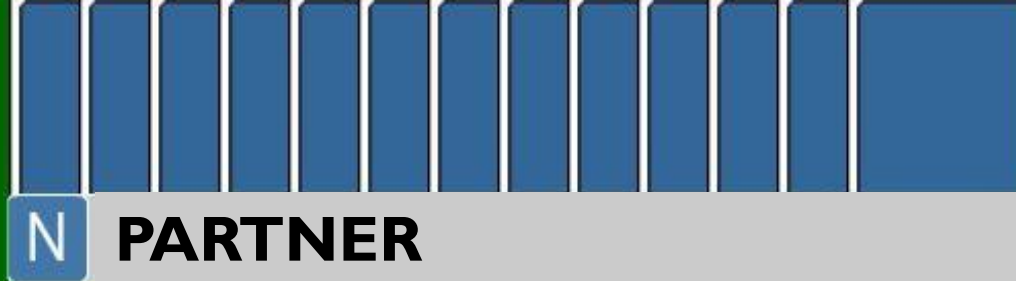
S  YOU

A 10 2 7 6 Q J 10 8 9 7 3 2

♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦



# Response to the Takeout Double 3 of 3



W	N	E	S
1♠	Dbl	Pass	1NT
6 – 9 points no 4-card major, balanced with with a Spade hold ... therefore bid 1NT			



# Response to the Takeout Double I of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1 ♣	Dbl	1 ♥	

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

# Response to the Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♣	Dbl	1♥	PASS

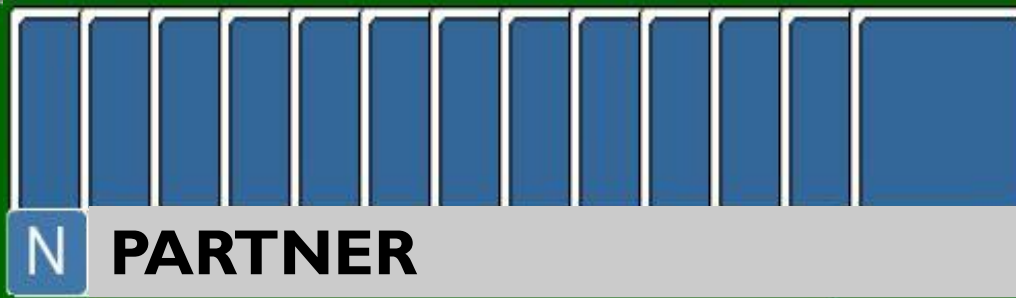
W HIM

E HER

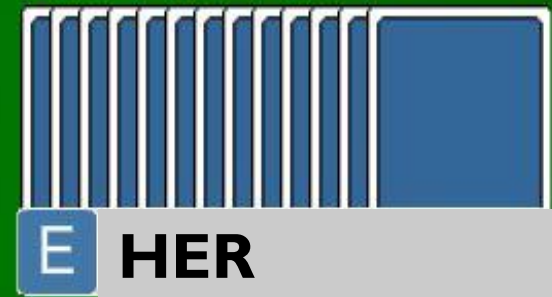
S  YOU

10♠ 7♠ 2♠ 7♥ 6♥ Q♣ J♣ 10♣ 8♣ 9♦ 7♦ 3♦ 2♦

# Response to the Takeout Double 3 of 3



W	N	E	S
1♣	Dbl	1♥	PASS
East has bid so you now don't have to bid With less than 8 points - <b>PASS</b>			



# Response to the Takeout Double I of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♦	Dbl	Pass	

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

8♠ 3♠ 2♠ Q♥ 10♥ 7♥ 3♥ 2♥ J♣ 8♣ 9♦ 5♦ 4♦

# Response to the Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♦	Dbl	Pass	1♥

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

8♠ 3♠ 2♠ Q♥ 10♥ 7♥ 3♥ 2♥ J♣ 8♣ 9♦ 5♦ 4♦

# Response to the Takeout Double 3 of 3

N PARTNER

W N E S

1♦ Dbl Pass 1♥

Bid your major at the  
lowest level

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

8♠ 3♠ 2♠ Q♥ 10♥ 7♥ 3♥ 2♥ J♣ 8♣ 9♦ 5♦ 4♦

# Response to the Takeout Double 1 of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♠	Dbl	Pass	

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

8♠ 3♠ 2♠ Q♥ 10♥ 7♥ 3♥ 2♥ J♣ 8♣ 9♦ 5♦ 4♦



# Response to the Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♠	Dbl	Pass	2♥

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

8♠ 3♠ 2♠ Q♥ 10♥ 7♥ 3♥ 2♥ J♣ 8♣ 9♦ 5♦ 4♦

# Response to the Takeout Double 3 of 3

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♠	Dbl	Pass	2♥
Bid your major at the lowest level			

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

8♠ 3♠ 2♠ Q♥ 10♥ 7♥ 3♥ 2♥ J♣ 8♣ 9♦ 5♦ 4♦

# Response to the Takeout Double I of 2

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♦	Dbl	1♠	

W HIM

E HER

S YOU

8♠ 3♠ 2♠ Q♥ 10♥ 7♥ 3♥ 2♥ J♣ 8♣ 9♦ 5♦ 4♦

# Response to the Takeout Double 2 of 2

N PARTNER

W	N	E	S
1♦	Dbl	1♠	PASS
You do not have to bid			

W HIM

E HER

S  YOU

8♠ 3♠ 2♠ Q♥ 10♥ 7♥ 3♥ 2♥ J♣ 8♣ 9♦ 5♦ 4♦

# Questions?



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