

WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

We offer our thanks to Washington Bridge league as we, present a copy from their 2014 May -June bulletin columnists > Ron Zucker and Shawn Stringer. Read original - [Here](#)

Double trouble : taKeout doubles , part 3: TaKeout doubler s second bid

We have been discussing defensive bidding, specifically takeout doubles. Now return to the question of what happens after partner responds to our takeout double.

1. After a minimum response by partner, what does a raise show?

In a non-competitive auction (opponents do not bid again), the raise of a minimum response shows 15-17 support points and four trump, while a jump raise shows 18-20 support points and four trump.

In a competitive auction, where opener bids again or his partner has bid, then a raise is just competitive (known as a courtesy raise.) In competition, the Takeout Doubler must double again to show a big hand. Compare these three auctions:

A

RHO	YOU	LHO	PARTNER
1 Diamond	X	Pass	1 Spade
Pass	2 Spade*		

*shows a 15-17 support point hand, with four spades

B

RHO	YOU	LHO	PARTNER
1 Diamond	X	Pass	1 Spade
2 diamond	2 Spade*		

*2 Spade is merely competitive with four spades

c

RHO	YOU	LHO	PARTNER
1 Diamond	X	1 Heart	1 Spade
2 diamond	2 Spade*		

*2 Spade is merely competitive with four spades

2. What does a Takeout Double followed by 1NT show?

A Takeout Double followed by 1NT shows a balanced 19-21 HCP. Remember that with 15-18, the overcaller could have bid 1NT.

3. What does a Takeout Double followed by another double show?

RHO	YOU	LHO	PARTNER
1 Club	X	1 Heart	Pass
2 Club	X		

The second double shows either extra strength or extra shape, or a little of both... a hand such as these:

- a. ♠AQxx ♥Kxx ♦AQxxx ♣x
- b. ♠AKJx ♥Ax ♦KJxxxx ♣x