

Franklin Bridge Club

2026 BRIDGE LESSONS



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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

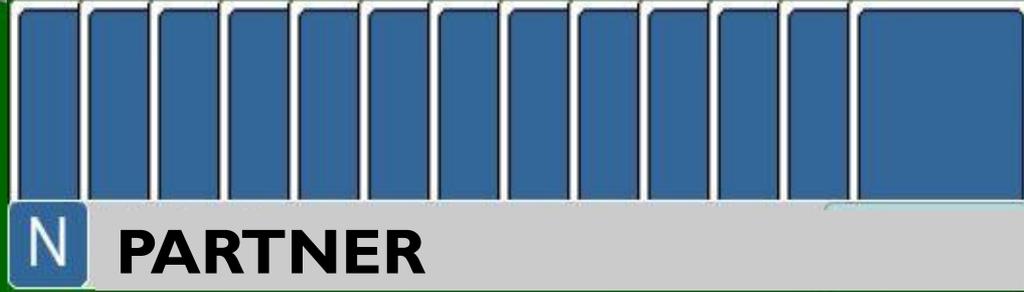
W	N	E	S
		1♣	1♥

E HER

S YOU

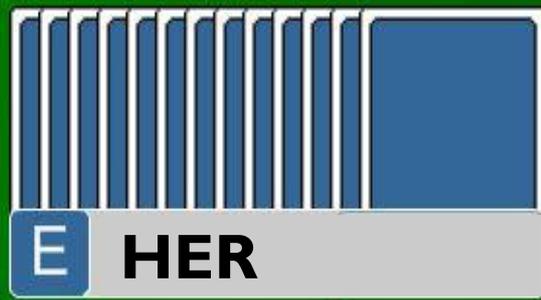


Overcalling a suit 3 of 3



W	N	E	S
		1♣	1♥

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



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

K76 KQ54 J6 A962

♠♠♠♥♥♥♥♣♣♦♦♦♦♦

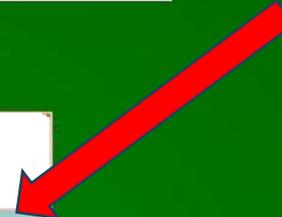
N	PARTNER											

**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

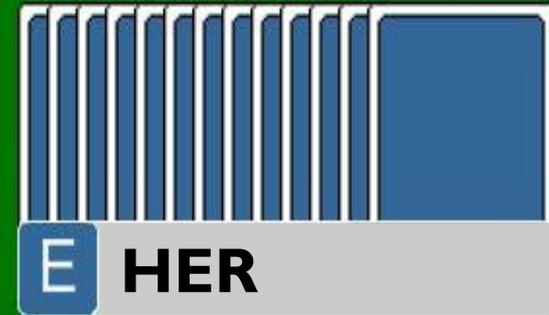
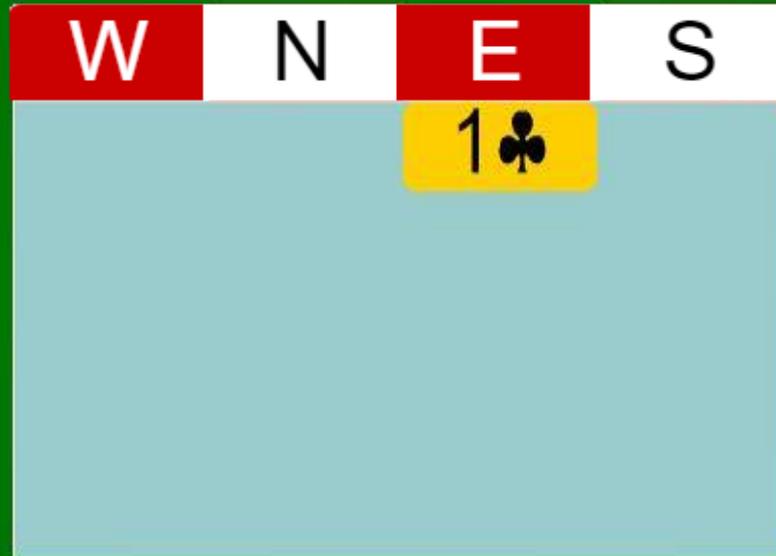
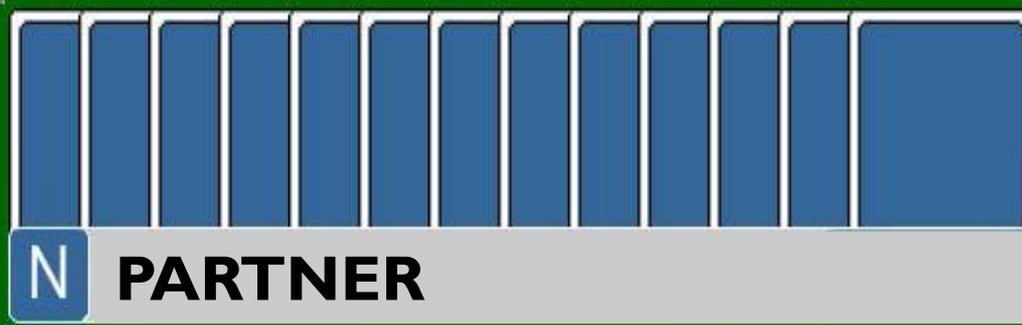
1. FIRST CHOICE - Overcall a major
2. SECOND CHOICE - Overcall INT
3. THIRD CHOICE - Use the takeout X
4. FOURTH CHOICE- Overcall a minor

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

Follow the next four examples...



Takeout Double 1 of 3



Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER



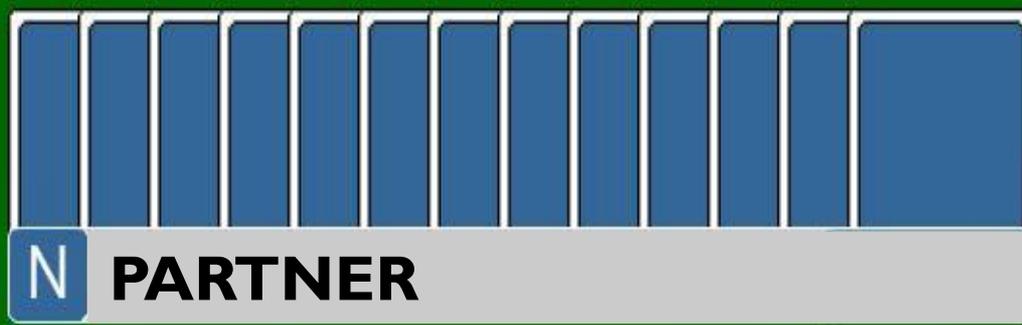
W HIM

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

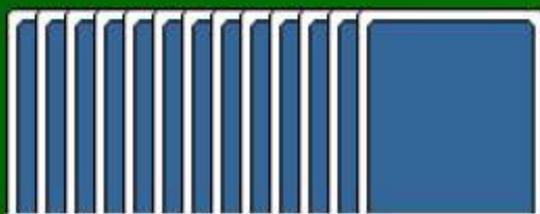
A♠ 6♠ 5♠ 4♠ A♥ K♥ 6♥ A♣ Q♣ 10♣ 4♣ 10♦ 9♦

Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER



W HIM



W	N	E	S
Pass	Pass	1♦	X

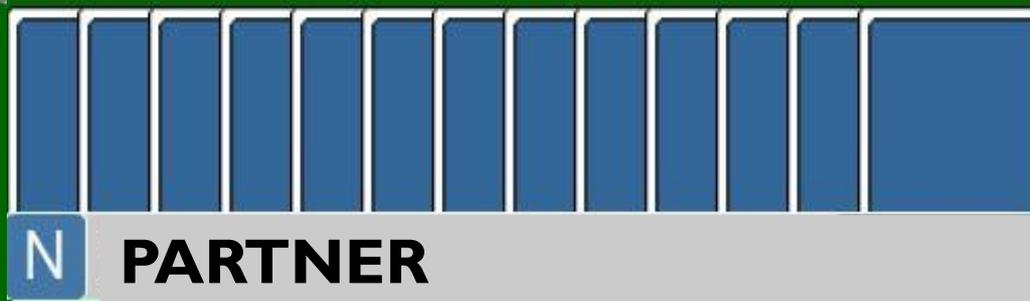
E HER



S  YOU



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

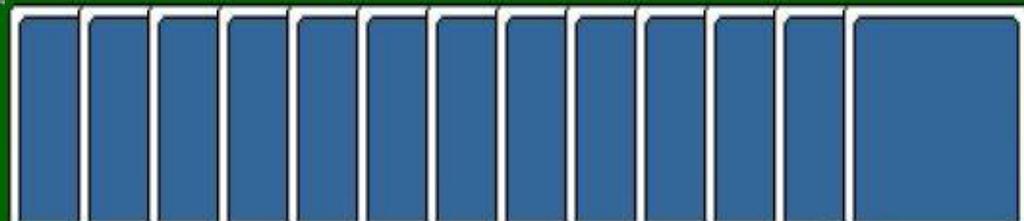
W HIM

E HER

S YOU

Takeout Double 3 of 3

N PARTNER



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

W HIM



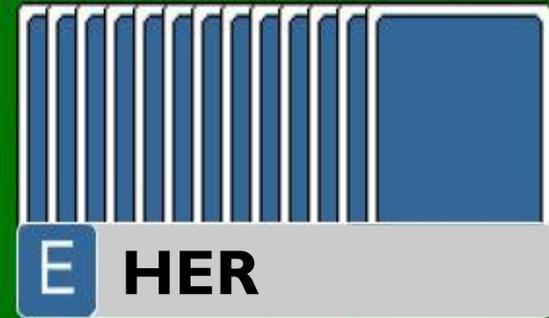
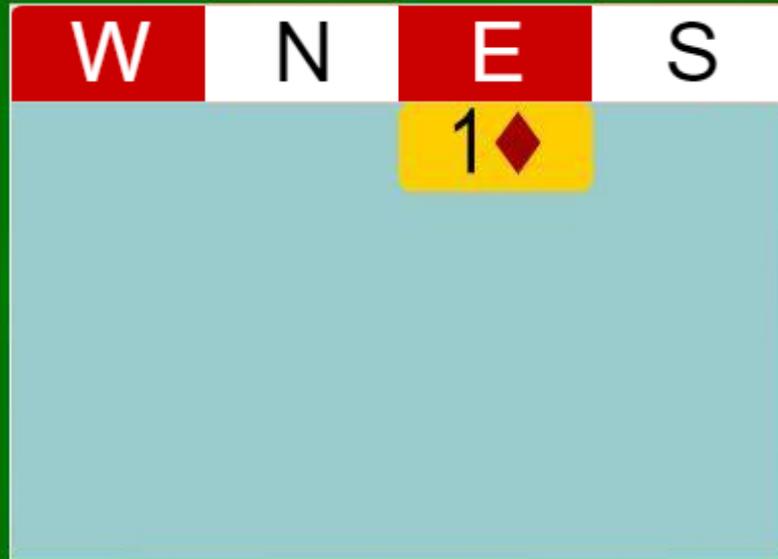
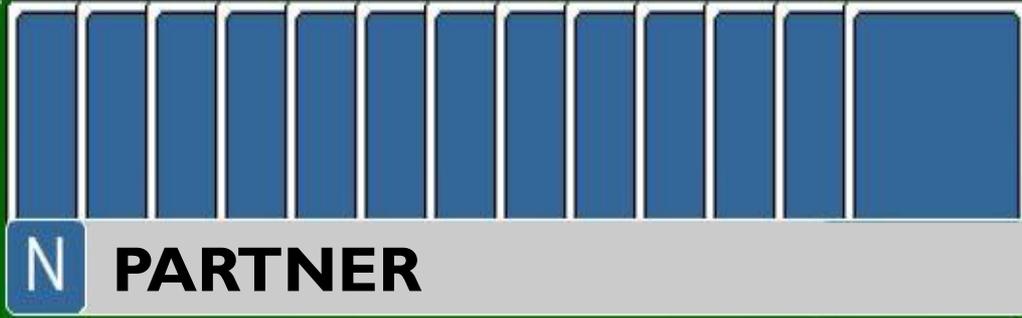
E HER



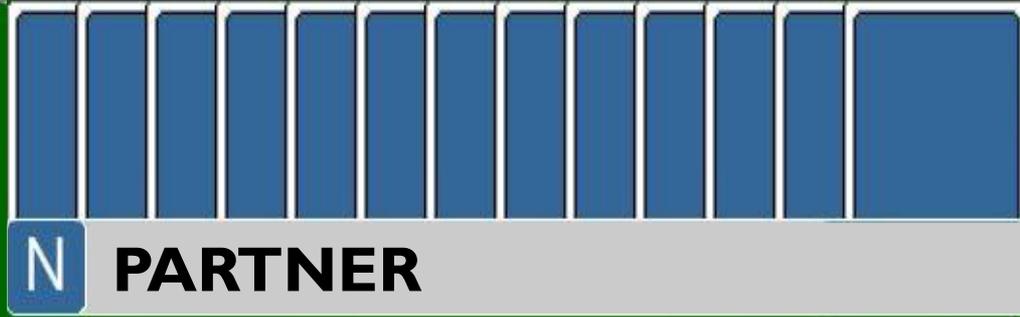
S YOU



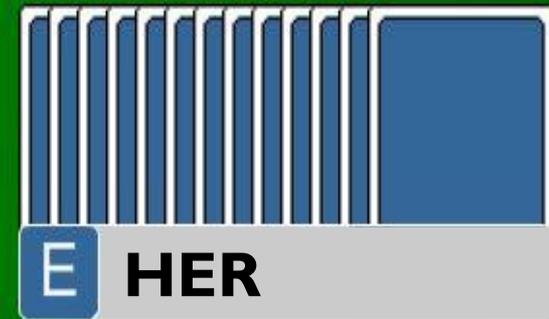
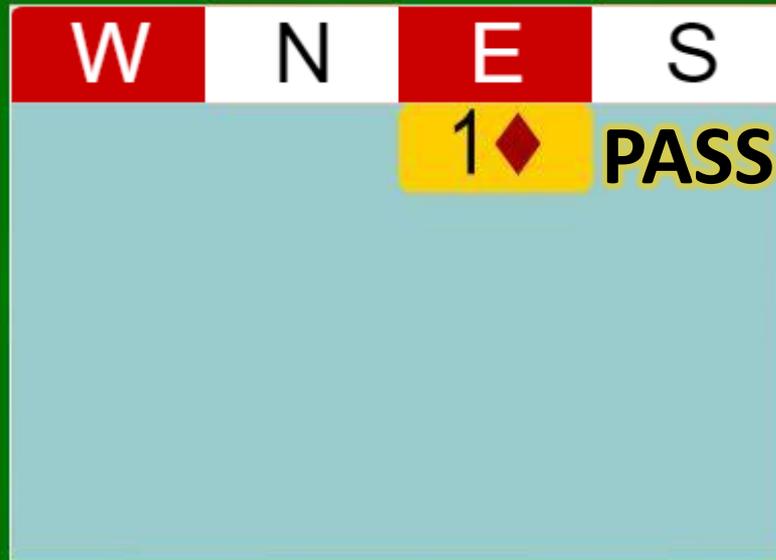
Takeout Double 1 of 3



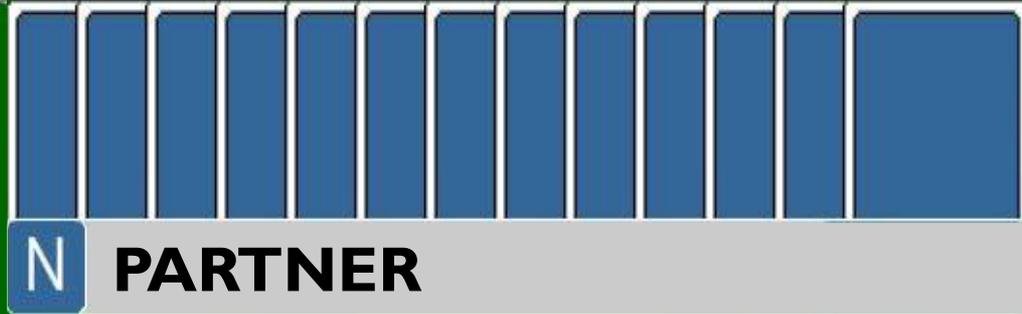
Takeout
Double
2 of 3



PASS



**Takeout
Double
3 of 3**

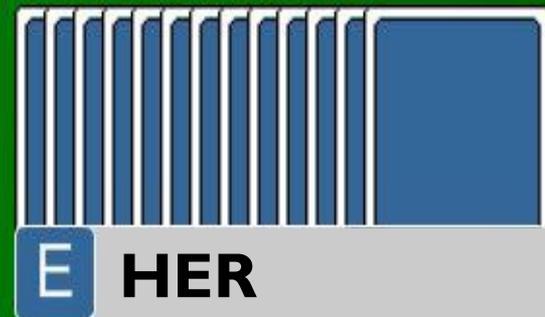


PASS



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♣	

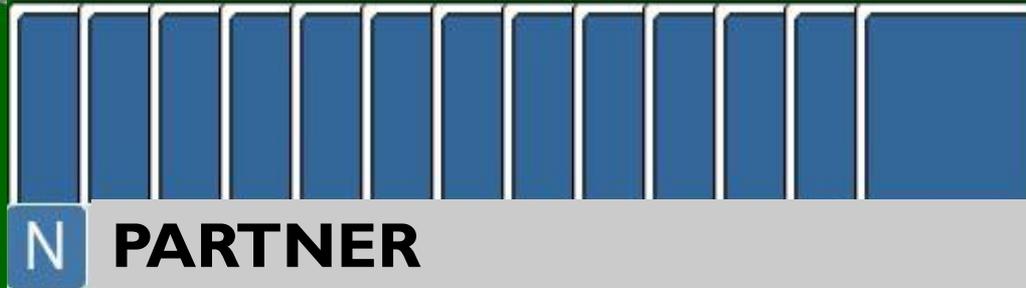
E HER

S  YOU

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

♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

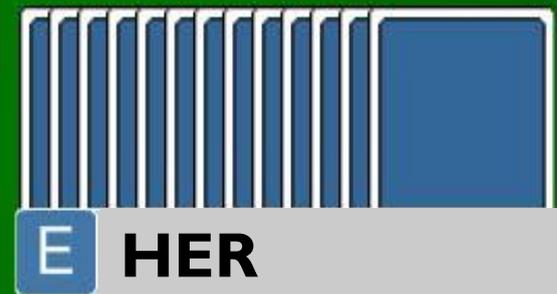
Takeout
Double
2 of 3



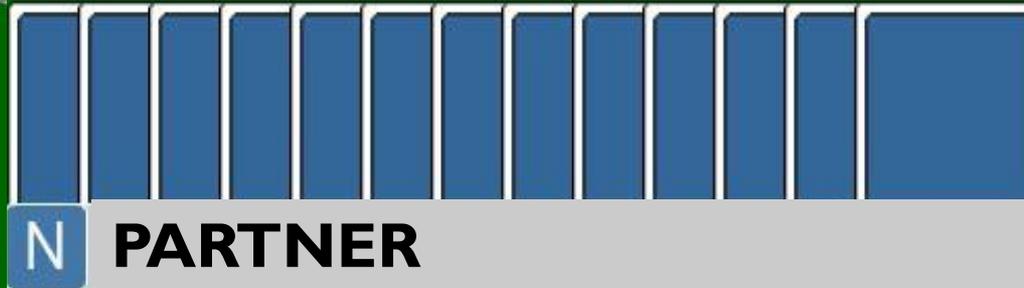
PASS



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 I of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
1♣	Dbl	Pass	

E HER

S  YOU

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

Response to the Takeout Double 2 of 3

N PARTNER

W HIM

W	N	E	S
1♣	Dbl	Pass	1♥

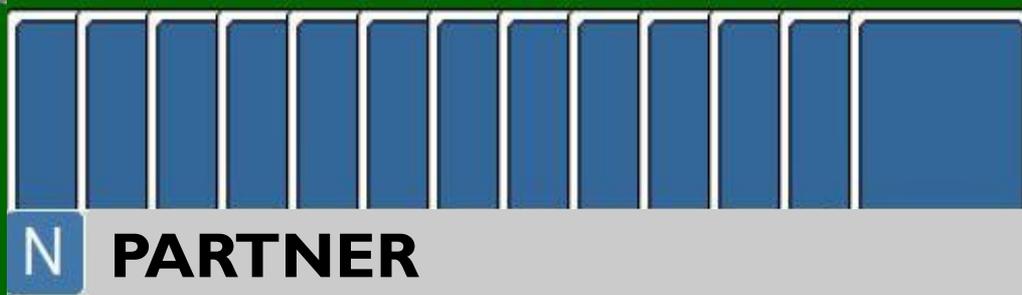
E HER

S  YOU

AQ839765Q6952

♠ ♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦

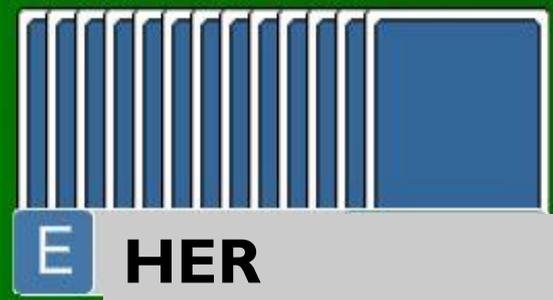
Response to the Takeout Double 3 of 3



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



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

N PARTNER

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

E HER

W HIM

S  YOU

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

♠ ♠ ♠ ♥ ♥ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♣ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

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

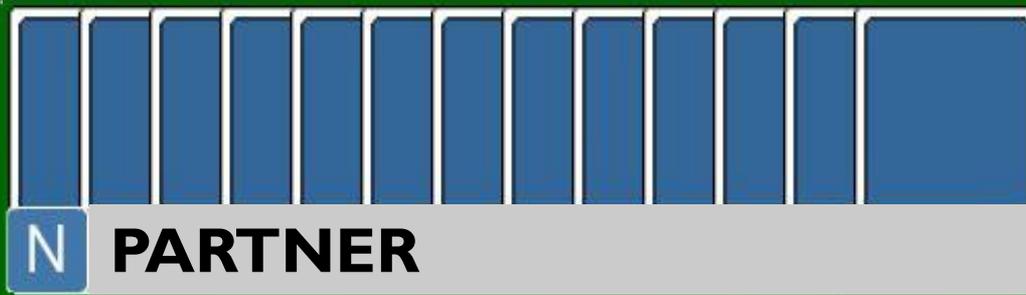
W HIM

E HER

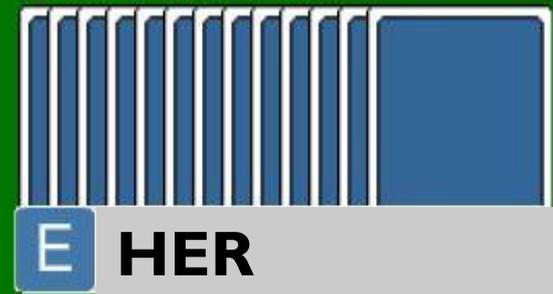
S  YOU

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 - PASS			



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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