



GETTING INTO THE BIDDING

A BRIDGE TOOLKIT

BILL TREBLE

Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	7
<i>Chapter 1: Principles of Competing and Basic Tools</i>	9
Distributional Types	10
Losing Trick Count (LTC): Use this tool with care	12
Takeout Doubles	14
Overcalling	19
Two Bids or One?	25
The Dos and Don'ts of Negative Doubles	27
Better Late than Immediately or Never: Delayed Actions	32
Oh, for the Good Old Days of the Penalty Double	33
<i>Chapter 2: How High Can You Fly?</i>	41
Preemptive bidding	41
Jump Overcalls	51
A Wrap-up on Strategy	53
<i>Chapter 3: Two! Two! Two Suits in One Bid!</i>	61
Michaels	62
The Unusual 2NT (U2)	69
<i>Chapter 4: Bidding as the Auction Progresses</i>	79
In the Sandwich Position: What to Do?	79
Free Bids in Competition	82
Responding to Partner's Opening Bid after a Takeout Double	84
Third-Seat Openings	86
Balancing — An Overview	87
<i>Chapter 5: Notrump Auctions</i>	101
What to Play over Their 1NT Opening?	101
The Simple Option — Landy	103
The Popular Option — Cappelletti	104
The Aggressive Option — DONT	107

The Penalty Double and its Continuations	111
When They Interfere with Your 1NT	113
<i>Chapter 6: Claiming Your Share of the Turf</i>	125
Embarking on a Hunting Expedition	126
Redoubler's Continuations	129
Card-Showing Doubles	130
Responsive Doubles	133
<i>Chapter 7: Navigating in the Stratosphere — High-Level Decisions</i>	143
The Law of Total Tricks: Is It a Cure-All?	144
Raises in Competition	148
How to Identify Forcing Situations in a High-Level Auction	153
Fit-Showing Jumps	157
Lead-Directing Bids	160
Lebensohl over Doubles of Weak Two-Bids	162
<i>Chapter 8: Six Partnership Discussion Topics</i>	173
Negative Doubles 201	173
'System On' — Yes or No?	175
'Free' Acceptances of Transfers over a Double	177
Drury by a Passed Hand Responder	178
Jump Shifts by a Passed Hand	181
When is a Cuebid not a Cuebid?	181
<i>Chapter 9: Extras and Refinements</i>	191
More Defenses to 1NT	191
Negative Doubles 301 — Free Bids and the Competitive 2NT	192
OBAR BIDS	194
Support Doubles	196
Unusual versus Unusual When We Open a Major Suit	197
Leaping Michaels	199
<i>Chapter 10: Final Quiz</i>	208

ONE-STOP SHOPPING FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING

In the modern game of bridge, the majority of auctions see both sides involved in the action, and every improving player needs to acquire the basic tools to handle this kind of bidding.

This book covers all the basic building blocks of competitive bidding (takeout and negative doubles, preempts, overcalls, competing over their notrump openings and dealing with competition over your own, forcing pass auctions, the Law of Total Tricks, and more). It also describes a number of useful conventions and gadgets with which you need to be familiar (whether or not you play them yourself), and suggests other optional treatments for partnership discussion. Each chapter ends with a review quiz, and the final chapter is a summary quiz covering all the material.



BILL TREBLE (Winnipeg, Canada) is an expert bridge player who has been a bronze medalist in the Canadian Teams Championship. His wife Sue, a bridge teacher, wishes Bill would pay more attention to the excellent advice in this book.



MASTER POINT PRESS
978-1-55494-183-4