

ANNOUNCEMENT & ALERT SUMMARY

Announcements:

- only apply on the first round of bidding i.e. the first (non-Pass) bid and the next three calls
- apply equally over intervention and to advancer's bids i.e. partner of overcaller
- never apply to overcalls
- do apply above 3NT
- always extend with fuller description where appropriate

Please be tolerant if opponents alert when they should announce or announce when they shouldn't.

Opening Bid	Description	Announcement
1♣ / 1♦	Non-forcing, may be fewer than 3 cards	"May be X" where X is 0, 1 or 2. Extend e.g. "May be X and may have up to 5♦"
1NT	Natural, non-forcing	"12 to 14" (or appropriate range) and extend e.g. "may contain a low singleton"
2 suit	Natural, may or will have just one suit	"Weak", "Intermediate", "Strong, non-forcing", "Strong, forcing"
2NT/3NT	Natural, strong, non-forcing	No Announcement (or Alert)

Response to 1 suit	Description	Announcement
New suit (including jumps below game)	Natural, forcing	No announcement or alert
	Natural, non-forcing (not passed hand, not over 1NT overcall)	"Natural, non-forcing"
	Natural, game forcing	"Natural, game-forcing"
	Artificial or natural, with support	ALERT
	Artificial, showing another single suit	Announce: name the suit shown
	1♣ – 1♠: denying a major	"No major"
1NT	Non-forcing, up to 10 HCP	No announcement or alert
	Non-forcing, may be > 10 HCP	"Up to 11", "Up to a bad 12", etc.
	Forcing – does not show specific suit or suits	"Forcing" Extend e.g. "may have weak raise"
	Artificial, showing another suit	Announce: name the suit shown

Response to 1NT / 2NT	Description	Announcement
2♣ / 3♣	Asking for 4-card majors	"Stayman" Extend e.g. "at least invitational"
New suit (including jumps below game)	Natural, non-forcing	"Natural, non-forcing"
	Natural, forcing	"Natural, forcing"
	Artificial, showing another suit	Announce: name the suit shown

DOUBLES

Bid that is doubled	Meaning of double	Announcement / Alert
ONLY ON THE 1ST ROUND OF BIDDING:		
Natural 1NT opening bid	Not penalties	ALERT
	Penalties, but may be based on a balanced hand with less than 15HCP	ALERT
Suit bid showing the suit	Penalties	ALERT
1NT response	Penalties	ALERT
ANY	Shows a single suit (different from the suit bid i.e. a Proxy)	Announce: name the suit shown
AFTER THE 1ST ROUND OF BIDDING:		
ANY	Takeout or Penalty	No announcement or alert
AT ALL STAGES OF THE AUCTION:		
ANY	An unexpected specific message e.g. number of controls; relates to another suit; shows weakness in bid suit; Lightner	ALERT

REDOUBLES

Bid that is redoubled	Meaning of Redouble	Announcement / Alert
ONLY ON THE 1ST ROUND OF BIDDING:		
ANY	Shows a single suit (different from the suit bid i.e. a Proxy)	Announce: name the suit shown
AT ALL STAGES OF THE AUCTION:		
ANY	General strength or desire to play	No announcement or alert
	Other	ALERT

ALERTS

Unless mentioned above, below 3NT continue to alert artificial calls and those with a specific unexpected meaning. In addition alert:

- Natural opening bids, or responses in a new suit, that have a second suit or support for partner
- Lead-directing Passes above 3NT