

# ETM System Outlines

## Part 1 – Complex Systems – rich in detail

### ETM Gold

General Approach: Natural or weak balanced 1♣, natural 1♦, 1♥ and 1♠ openings, strong notrump, 2♣ 18-21 balanced, 2♦ game force, 2♥ and 2♠ good weak twos, 2NT 21/22-24 balanced.

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Natural or weak balanced.	1♣ is either: 1) Natural, an opening bid or stronger with ♣s. With 5♣s & 4♦s, open 1♣ if less than 17, but open 1♦ if 17+ but not enough to force to game. 2) 11/12-14 balanced. If 11/12-14 balanced can be as short as 2♣s, and can have longer ♦s than ♣s, or a 5 card major with 2 or 3♣s (5-3-3-2 shape). Balanced hands can include 2=2=5=4 or 2=4=5=2, if opener chooses so.
1♦	Natural	5♦s & unbalanced hand, or 4=4=4=1 exactly, or 1=4=4=4 exactly with extras (15+), or with 4♦s & 5♣s and 17+. Forcing.
1♥	Natural	5+♥s, never a 5-3-3-2 (open 1♣ or 1NT etc.). 11 or more HCP or 10 if a 5-5+ hand.
1♠	Natural	5+♠s, never a 5-3-3-2 (open 1♣ or 1NT etc.). 11 or more HCP or 10 if a 5-5+ hand.
1NT	Strong	14/15-17 balanced, can have a five card major.
2♣	Balanced	17/18-21 balanced, can have a five card major.
2♦	Big	Any game force, can be 24/25+ balanced.
2♥	Good Weak 2	6+♥s, not 4+♠s, a hand that would be considered a good weak two or a minimum opening bid, about 7/8-12 HCP. Can have good or great playing value, and can have a second suit if a minor, which can be quite long itself.
2♠	Good Weak 2	6+♠s, not 4♥s, like 2♥ but with ♠s.
2NT	Balanced	21/22-24 balanced or semi-balanced.

3♣, 3♦	Preemptive	Great six card suit or decent seven or longer suit, wide ranging preempt. In third seat not-vulnerable vs. vulnerable anything goes, including a great five card suit with little on the outside. In 4 <sup>th</sup> seat a minimum opening bid with a good seven card suit.
3♥, 3♠	Preemptive	Six or longer suit (often seven), 0-9, if 8-9 not good suit (open 2M). In third seat wide ranging. In 4 <sup>th</sup> seat a minimum opening bid with a good seven card suit.
3NT	Preemptive	Gambling, in first or second seat a long solid/almost solid seven card or longer minor (headed by AKQ or AKJ), in third or fourth seat to play with usually a source of tricks in a long suit, often a minor.
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, not much outside.
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Preemptive, wide ranging.
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held.
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king.

### ETM Gold Notrump Ladder

Range	Opening	Notes
0-11	Pass	11s that have a five card suit should be treated as 11/12
11/12-14	1♣	14s that have a five card suit should be treated as 14/15
14/15-17	1NT	
17/18-21	2♣	17s should have a five card suit and good controls to be 17/18
21/22-24	2NT	
24/25+	2♦	

## ETM Victory

General Approach: Hybrid 1♣, natural 1♦, 1♥ and 1♠ openings, weak notrump, 2♣ 18/19-20 balanced or GF, weak two 2, 2♥ and 2♠ openings, 2NT 20/21-22 balanced.

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Hybrid	Hybrid, clubs or balanced, 11-22, one of: 1) Clubs unbalanced, 11-22. 2) Balanced 16/17-18, 2+♣s, can have a five card major. 3) Balanced 14/15-16, with exactly 2♦s, 3+♣s, no five card major.
1♦	Natural	Diamonds, can be: 1) 4+♦s, natural, unbalanced, 10/11-22. 2) Balanced 14/15-16 with 3+♦s, may have longer ♣s, no five card major.
1♥, 1♠	Natural	5+ in M, 10/11-22. Not 5-3-3-2 if 3 in other major and 11-13. Not 5-3-3-2 if 17/18+ (system does not provide 2NT rebid).
1NT	Weak	11/12-14, balanced, can have a five card major if 3 in the other major and 11-13. 5-4-2-2 possible with a five card minor. A six card minor can be held.
2♣	Strong	18/19-20 balanced (can have five card major) or 22/23+ balanced (can have five card major) or any GF without a five card major. Asks for a four card major.
2♦	Strong or Multi	When Multi not allowed it shows a GF with a five card major (not balanced) or any GF with a rebid plan. Asks for controls. When Multi allowed it shows a weak two in a major, five or longer suit, 3/4-9, or a GF with a five card or longer major, unbalanced.
2♥, 2♠	Weak/ Intermediate	5 or 6 card suit 4/5-10. If five card suit good suit. Can be 6-5 hand planning on rebidding second suit. If Multi allowed it shows a 6 card or longer suit, 8/9/10-13, if 8-9 solid suit or seven card suit. Can have second suit.
2NT	Balanced	20/21-22 balanced.
3♣, 3♦	Preemptive	Six or longer suit, 4/5-9, not solid seven card suit (open 3NT).
3♥, 3♠	Preemptive	Seven card suit, 3/4-9. Not 9 if 2♥ or 2♠ opening shows 8/9/10-13.
3NT	Preemptive	Seven card suit to the AKQ or, if a minor, AKJ, little outside.

4♣	Artificial	Unknown long major, too much playing value for 4♥ or 4♠ opening.
4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, weak hand.
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Long major suit, not great playing value since no 4♣ opening.
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held, 6♣ shows just club ace.
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king.

### ETM Victory Notrump Ladder

Range	Opening	Notes
0-11	Pass	
11/12-14	1NT	Weak notrump – not normally 14 with a five card or longer suit.
14/15-16	1♦, 1♣	Open 1♦ unless 2♦s, then open 1♣
16/17-18	1♣	
18/19-20	2♣	
20/21-22	2NT	
22/23-24	2♣	
24/25+	2♣	

## Part 2 – Advanced Systems – comprehensive

### ETM TOPS

General Approach: Hybrid 1♣, featherweight and limited 1♦, 1♥ and 1♠ openings, mini notrump @B (brave, usually vulnerable), strong notrump @A (active, usually not vulnerable), 2♣ for good hands, 2♦ natural and good, intermediate 2♥ and 2♠ openings.

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Hybrid	Clubs or balanced, 10+ no upper limit. If balanced can be 22+ or one of the following: 1) 13-14 with 2♦s exactly 2) @B 15-17 3) @A 10-12 with 3+♣s (then can have longer ♦s). If balanced can have five card major if 15-17 or 22+.
1♦	Light Limited	Diamonds, 8-16. If balanced, no five card major, and 13-14 with 3+♦s (can have longer ♣s), or 10-12 with exactly 2♣s.
1♥	Light Limited	Hearts, 8-16 HCP. 5+♥s and usually exactly 5♥s if 10-13.
1♠	Light Limited	Spades, 8-16 HCP. 5+♠s and usually exactly 5♠s if 10-13.
1NT	Strong/Mini	@A 15-17, @B 10-12 often 3+♣s. @A 3-3-2-5 & 14 opens 1NT too.
2♣	Artificial, Good	Several good hand types: 1) 18-19 balanced (can have five card major), 2) Five+ major, 16-22, if 16 must have six or longer in suit, 3) Almost GF with long diamonds, 4) Absolute GF, unbalanced and clubs not longest suit.
2♦	Natural, Good	Diamonds, 15/16-22, not forcing. 5+♦s or 4-4-4-1 exactly.
2♥	Intermediate	8/9/10-13, 6+♥s, usually exactly 6. Great or long suit if just 8/9 HCP.
2♠	Intermediate	8/9/10-13, 6+♠s, usually exactly 6. Great or long suit if just 8/9 HCP.
2NT	Natural	20-21 Balanced. Can have five card major.

3♣, 3♦	Preemptive	6 or longer or suit, less than 10 HCP if 3♣, less than 8 HCP if 3♦.
3♥, 3♠	Preemptive	6 or longer suit, less than 8 HCP.
3NT	Gambling	Gambling, seven card or longer minor headed by AKQ or AKJ, no outside ace or king.
4X	Preemptive	Standard preempt.
4NT	Asking	Ace asking

## ETM TOPS – Notrump Ladder

Range	Opening	Notes
0-9	Pass	Have to pass sometime.
10-12, 3+♣s	1♣@A, 1NT@B	Mini-notrump when Brave, open 1♣ when Aware.
10-12, 2♣s	1♦ or 1NT@B	Opening 1♦ helps find a major fit, and with 2♣s opener at least 3-3 in the majors. @B prefer to open 1♦ instead of 1NT(10-12) with two clubs but if the hand looks notrump then bid it.
13-14, 3+♦s	1♦	Can have longer clubs. Having 3♦s allows responder to compete with 5+♦s.
13-14, 2♦s.	1♣	Opener has 4 or 5♣s and 3 or 4 in each major, or 4-4-2-3 exactly. However with 3-3-2-5 and 14 open 1NT when Aware.
15-17	1NT@A, 1♣@B	Strong notrump when Aware, open 1♣ and rebid 1NT when Brave. Can have five card major, even if opening is 1♣.
18-19	2♣	Common system sequence: 2♣-2♦-2NT. Can have five card major.
20-21	2NT	Can have five card major.
22-24	1♣	1♣-1♦-2NT the most common sequence.
25-27	1♣	1♣-1♦-3NT the most common sequence.
28-30	1♣	1♣-1♦-4NT.
31-32	1♣	1♣-1♦-5NT.

## Part 3 – Plug and Play Systems – designed to get to the fun fast

### ETM Savage

General Approach: System with 8+ openings when holding a major (10+ when vulnerable. Defines Quasi-Balanced – somewhat balanced, can have singleton if not five card major or not 5-5+ or long suit. 1♣ is Mini QBal with a 4 card major or Big Any QBal or any GF, 1♦ is Catch All, 1♥/1♠ is 5 card major or not vulnerable only 8-9 QBal with 4 or 5 in major, 1NT is 15-17 QBal no singleton, 2♣ and 2♦ natural 7/8-13, 2♥ and 2♠ 5 card major non-QBal 7/8-12.

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Mini or Big	1) Mini-QBal with a four or five card major and 10-12 2) Both majors 4-4+ with 10-12 3) 18+ Big-QBal 4) Any GF (but use 2NT if distributional one suiter)
1♦	Catch-all	1) Weak-QBal with 13-14 and no five card major 2) Weak-QBal 12 with a 5 or 6 card minor and no four card major (can also open 2♣ if 4-4/5-4/4-5 in minors) 3) 15-17 QBal without a five card major, not a 1NT opening 4) 13/14+ to near GF with a minor, not QBal
1♥, 1♠	Natural	1) 12/13+ to near GF with 5 or longer in the major, can be QBal if 5 in major and 13-17 2) Not vulnerable only, Poor-QBal with a four or five card major and 8-9
1NT	Strong	15-17 QBal with no five card major and no singleton
2♣	Natural	1) 6+♣s, 7/8-13. Prefer 3♣ if hand is minimum and just about ♣s 2) 4-5♣s & 4-5♦s, no four card major, 11-12 QBal
2♦	Natural	5+♦s, 7/8-13, not QBal and if just 5♦s then 5-5 in minors
2♥, 2♠	Natural	5 or longer major, 7/8-12, not QBal, not 4+ in other major
2NT	Big	Ace asking, game force, often a very distributional hand with a one suiter
3X	Preemptive	Random, but a decent suit promised if vulnerable
3NT	To play undoubled	Any sort of hand that wants to take a try at 3NT undoubled – might have a long suit with stoppers, or a few stoppers, or no stoppers, or two suits that might be a source of tricks, or just a bunch of points. Partner is not to pull 3NT if it is not doubled, unless has own long suit in a very distributional hand.
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, not much outside
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Preemptive, wide ranging
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king

## ETM Savage QBal Ladder with a four/five card major

Range	Opening	Notes
0-7	Pass	Have to pass sometimes
8-9	1♥, 1♠, Pass	Pass if vulnerable, open major if not vulnerable
10-12	1♣	The mini-QBal part of the 1♣ opening
13-14	1♦, 1♥, 1♠	Open 1♦ if a four card major, 1♥/♠ if five
15-17	1NT, 1♦, 1♥, 1♠	Open 1♥/♠ if a five card major, 1NT if no singleton and not a five card major, and 1♦ if a four card major and a singleton
18-19	1♣ then 1NT	
20-21	1♣ then 2♣	
22-23	1♣ then 2♦	
24-25	1♣ then 2NT	
25/26+	1♣ then 2♥	

## ETM Savage QBal Ladder without a four/five card major

Range	Opening	Notes
0-10	Pass	
11-12	2♣, 1♦	Pass if 3-3-3-4 or 3-4-3-3 exactly, or balanced 5-3-3-2 with a five card minor and just 11. Open 2♣ if 4-4/5-4/4-5 in minors to block one level major overcalls. Open 2 $\mathbf{m}$ if 6 card minor and just 11.
13-14	1♦	QBal with 12 and a 5 or 6 card minor can upgrade to 1♦
15-17	1NT, 1♦	Open 1NT if no singleton and 1♦ if a singleton
18-19	1♣ then 1NT	
20-21	1♣ then 2♣	
22-23	1♣ then 2♦	
24-25	1♣ then 2NT	
25/26+	1♣ then 2♥	

## ETM Storm

General Approach: Big club with mini spade showing opening. 1♣ is 15+ or 18+ with a five card major, 1♦ is 10-14 with 4/5♠s, 1♥ is 4/5♥s 11-17, 1♠ is 5♠s 12-17, 1NT is 11/12-14, 2♣ and 2♦ natural with 5+ suit 10/11-14, 2♥ and 2♠ 5 or longer 9/10-13.

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Big	15+ without a five card or longer major, or 17/18+ any. With 5♠s and 4♥s exactly & 17 open 1♣. Not a 2NT opening type.
1♦	Mini Spades	1) 4♠s & 10-14, can have longer second suit (if 5+♥s maximum of 13), not balanced if 13-14 2) 5♠s & 10-13, too balanced for 2♠ opening 3) 5♠s & 4♥ exactly, 10-11
1♥	Natural	1) 5+♥s, 11-17, if shape for a 2♥ opening then more than a 2♥ opening (13/14-17). With exactly 4♠s & 5/6♥s, open 1♦ if 10-13 (13 only if just 5♥s). 2) 4♥s and 11-14 with 4+♦s but without 4♠s. If balanced can decide to open 1NT instead
1♠	Natural	5+♠s, 12-17 or 10-11 with 5-5+/6-4+ in majors. If shape for a 2♠ opening then more than a 2♠ opening (13/14-17).
1NT	Weak	11/12-14 balanced, can be a 5-4-2-2 with a five card minor
2♣	Natural	5+♠s, 10/11-14, not 4+♠s, not 5+♥s, if just 5♠s a 5-4-3-1 shape
2♦	Natural	5+♦s, 10/11-14, no four card or longer major, if just 5♦s either 3-1-5-4/1-3-5-4 or 5-5 in minors
2♥, 2♠	Natural	5 or longer in <b>M</b> , 9/10-13, not 4+ in <b>OM</b> , if just 5 in <b>M</b> then 5-5+ or a 5-4-3-1/5-4-4-0 shape with shortness in <b>OM</b> .
2NT	19/20-21	Balanced
3X	Preemptive	Random, but a decent suit promised if vulnerable
3NT	To play undoubled	Any sort of hand that wants to take a try at 3NT undoubled – might have a long suit with or without stoppers, or a few stoppers, or no stoppers, or two suits that might be a source of tricks, or just a bunch of points. Partner is not to pull 3NT if it is not doubled, unless has long suit, very distributional hand.
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, not much outside
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Preemptive, wide ranging
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king

## ETM Storm Balanced Ladder

Range	Opening	Notes
0-9	Pass	
10	Pass, 1♦	Open 1♦ if 4/5♠s
11-12	Pass, 1♦, 1♥, 1NT	11s can upgrade to 1NT. 4/5♠s open 1♦ (including 4-4 in majors). 5♥s or 4♥s with 4+♦s can open 1♥.
13-14	1NT, 1♥, 1♠	1NT on most hands. 5♥s or 4♥s with 4+♦s can open 1♥, or 5♠s can open 1♠. Note that 1♦ is not opened if 13-14 balanced.
15-17	1♣ then 1NT 1♥, 1♠	1♣ on most hands but five card major balanced opens 1♥/1♠.
18-19	1♣ then 1♥	
19/20-21	2NT	
21/22+	1♣ then 2NT	

## ETM Express

General Approach: Big club with one diamond handling all 13/14-16 with no five card major. 1♥ and 1♠ 5 card majors 10/11-16. 1NT 10/11-13. 2♣ and 2♦ 5+ opening with 10/11-13. 2♥ and 2♠ 6/7-10 with five or longer.

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Big	16/17+ any hand except 19/20-21 balanced
1♦	Intermediate	13/14-16 without a five card major
1♥, 1♠	Natural	Five card or longer major, 10/11-16
1NT	Weak	10/11-13 balanced, includes 5-4-2-2s with a five card minor. No five card major.
2♣	Natural	5+♣s, 10/11-13, no five card major. If just 5♣s must be a 5-4-3-1 shape.
2♦	Natural	5+♦s, 10/11-13, no five card major. If just 5♦s must be a 5-4-3-1 shape or 5-5 in minors
2♥, 2♠	Natural	5 or longer major, 6/7-10, not 4+ in other major, 6 or longer major if less than 8.
2NT	19/20-21	Balanced
3X	Preemptive	Random, but a decent suit promised if vulnerable
3NT	To play undoubled	Any sort of hand that wants to take a try at 3NT undoubled – might have a long suit with stoppers, or a few stoppers, or no stoppers, or two suits that might be a source of tricks, or just a bunch of points. Partner is not to pull 3NT if it is not doubled, unless has own long suit in a very distributional hand.
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, not much outside
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Preemptive, wide ranging
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king

Note that 4-4-4-1s and 5-4-4-0s with a five card minor, when less than 13, pass then bid next time. With 13 points upgrade these to a 1♦ opening.

### ETM Express Balanced Ladder without a five card major

Range	Opening	Notes
0-10	Pass	
10/11-13	1NT, Pass	10/11-12 can decide to pass instead, 13 can be upgraded to 1♦
13/14-16	1♦	
16/17-19	1♣ then 1NT	
19/20-21	2NT	
21/22+	1♣ then 2NT	

### ETM Express Balanced Ladder with a five card major

Range	Opening	Notes
0-10	Pass	
10/11-16	1♥/1♠	
Rest	1♣	As without a five card major

## ETM ABOMBS Club

General Approach: Two-way 1♣: 17+ any or 11-13 balanced with a four card major. 1♦, 1♥, 1♠ and 2♣ natural with 10/11-16, major openings 5 or longer or 14-16 with 4 in major & ♣s. 1NT 13/14-16.

### ETM ABOMBS Club Opening Bid Overview

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Big or 11-13 balanced with a 4 card major	a) 11-13 with a four card major, no singleton/void (so balanced/semi-balanced) or 4-4-1-4 exactly – if hand has ♦s they are at most 4 and not a good suit; OR b) 17+ any, except not hand for 2NT opening.
1♦	Natural	4+♦s, 10/11-16, if balanced 11-13. Can have 4♦s with 5♣s.
1♥, 1♠	Natural	Five card or longer major, 10/11-16, OR four in the major with 14-16 & unbalanced with 4+♣s.
1NT	13/14-16 Balanced	13/14-16 balanced, includes 5-4-2-2s with a five card minor. Can have a five card major. 5♣s balanced with 13 opens 1NT.
2♣	Natural	5+♣s, 10/11-16, not a four card major if 14-16. If only 5♣s must have a four card major (and thus will be 11-13).
2♦	Natural	5+♦s, 6/7-10, can have a four card major.
2♥, 2♠	Natural	5 or longer major, 6/7-10, can have four in the other major, 6 or longer major if less than 8
2NT	20-21	20-21 Balanced
3X	Preemptive	Random, but a decent suit promised if vulnerable
3NT	To play undoubled	Any sort of hand that wants to take a try at 3NT undoubled – might have a long suit with stoppers, or a few stoppers, or no stoppers, or two suits that might be a source of tricks, or just a bunch of points. Partner is not to pull 3NT if it is not doubled, unless has own long suit in a very distributional hand.
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, not much outside
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Preemptive, wide ranging
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king

### ETM ABOMBS Club Balanced Ladder

Range	Opening	Notes
0-10	Pass	
11-13	1 of a suit, Pass	Open 1♦ if 4+♦s (or if a four card major and only 4 not good ♦s then 1♣). Open 1M if a five card major. Otherwise open 1♣ if a four card major. Pass if 11-12 with just ♣s and no other suit, or 13 and 3-3-3-4 exactly.
13/14-16	1NT	With 5♣s and 13 open 1NT.
17-19	1♣ then 1NT	
20-21	2NT	
22-24	1♣ then 2NT	
25+	1♣ then 2♥	

## ETM SOB Club

General Approach: Two-way 1♣: 17+ any or 10-13 with 4♠s. 1♦ Intermediate 14-17. 1♥, 1♠ 10-17 five card majors. 1NT 11/12-14. 2♣, 2♦ 5 or longer suits 10-13, can have 4♥s but not 4♠s.

### ETM SOB Club Opening Bid Overview

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Spades or Big	a) 10-13 with exactly 4♠s, not balanced if 12-13, fewer than 5♥s; OR b) 17+ unbalanced; OR c) 17/18+ balanced except not 20/21-22 balanced
1♦	Intermediate	14-17, either: a) 14-16 unbalanced without a five card major, OR b) 14/15-17 balanced
1♥, 1♠	Natural	Five card or longer major, 10-17 (17 only if balanced), can have a longer minor
1NT	Weak	11/12-14 balanced, includes 5-4-2-2s with a five card minor. No five card major.
2♣	Natural	5+♣s, 10-13, not five or longer ♥s, not 4 or longer ♠s. If just 5♣s must be a 5-4-3-1 shape with a 4 card red suit.
2♦	Natural	5+♦s, 10-13, not five or longer ♥s, not 4 or longer ♠s. If just 5♦s must be a 5-4-3-1 shape or 5-5 in minors
2♥, 2♠	Natural	5 or longer major, 6/7-10, not 4+ in other major, 6 or longer major if less than 8.
2NT	20/21-22	Balanced
3X	Preemptive	Random, but a decent suit promised if vulnerable
3NT	To play undoubled	Any sort of hand that wants to take a try at 3NT undoubled – might have a long suit with stoppers, or a few stoppers, or no stoppers, or two suits that might be a source of tricks, or just a bunch of points. Partner is not to pull 3NT if it is not doubled, unless has own long suit in a very distributional hand.
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, not much outside
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Preemptive, wide ranging
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king

**ETM SOB Club Balanced Ladder without a five card major**

Range	Opening	Notes
0-9	Pass	
10-11	Pass, 1♣	Open 1♣ with 4♠s, pass otherwise
11/12-14	1NT	
14/15-17	1♦	
17/18-20	1♣ then 1NT	
20/21-22	2NT	
22/23-24	1♣ then 2NT	
24/25+	1♣ then 2♥	

**ETM SOB Club Balanced Ladder with a five card major**

Range	Opening	Notes
0-9	Pass	
10-17	1♥/1♠	
17/18+	1♣, 2NT	As without a five card major

## ETM A

General Approach: Natural 3+ minors (only balanced if 11/12-14), 10/11-21 five card majors, 14/15-17 1NT, 2♣ as 18-19 balanced or 22+ Any. 2♦ The Intermediate Multi. 2♥ and 2♠ heavy weak-twos.

### ETM A Opening Bid Overview

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Natural	Either 10/11-21 4+♣s unbalanced OR 11/12-14 balanced with 3-5♣s
1♦	Natural	Either 10/11-21 4+♦s unbalanced OR 11/12-14 balanced with 4/5♦s or 4=4=3=2 exactly
1♥, 1♠	Natural	Five card or longer major, 10/11-21. If six or longer in major and a poor 16 or less, then must have a second suit and if a 4 card minor second suit then not a great major suit.
1NT	14/15-17 Balanced	14/15-17 balanced, includes 5-4-2-2s with a five card minor. Can have a five card major.
2♣	Big	18-19 balanced or 22+ any.
2♦	TIM	The Intermediate Multi, great 11 to a poor 16, and either: a) 7 or longer in either major; or b) 6 in either major and no second suit (so a 6-3-3-1 or 6-3-2-2 type hand); or c) 6 in either major and a 4 card minor second suit, but the major is great, playable opposite a singleton.
2♥, 2♠	Heavy Weak Two	5 or longer major, 7/8 to a poor 12, if 11-12 will always have exactly six in the major.
2NT	20-21	20-21 Balanced
Rest	Preemptive	The usual

### ETM A Balanced Ladder

Range	Opening	Notes
0-11	Pass	
11/12-14	1 of a suit	
14/15-17	1NT	
18-19	2♣	
20-21	2NT	
22+	2♣	

## ETM BASH

General Approach: Opens all 10+ hands, most 8+ hands. 1♣ multi-way 10-13 balanced, 10-14 4-4-4-1s, 15+ ♣s, 16+ major, 17+ balanced. 1♦ 3+ 8-16, if balanced 8-10. 1♥ and 1♠ 8-15, can be balanced 8-13. 1NT 14-16. 2♣ 9/10-14 5+♣s. 2♦, 2♥, 2♠ 6/7/8-10.

### ETM BASH 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Seat Opening Bid Overview

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Somewhat big or 10-13 balanced or 10-14 4-4-4-1	a) 10-13 balanced/semi-balanced with no five card major, can be 10 only if 2 or fewer ♦s; OR b) 10-14 with any 4-4-4-1 (exactly 4-4-1-4 if 10); OR c) Unbalanced, and 15+ with any 4-4-4-1 or long suit ♣s, 16+ with a five card or longer major, or 17+ if ♦s; OR d) 17+ balanced, but not 20-21.
1♦	Natural	3+♦s, 8 to 16. If 8 to 10 then balanced or semi-balanced (can have longer ♣s), or a 4-4-4-1 with 4♦s. If 11-16 then 5+♦s and not balanced.
1♥, 1♠	Natural	Five card or longer major, 8 to 15. If 8 to 10, balanced or semi-balanced, without 4 in other major, or 10 can be part of 10-15 with 5-4+ in the majors. If 14-15 not balanced.
1NT	14-16 Balanced	14-16 balanced, includes 5-4-2-2s with a five card minor. Can have a five card major.
2♣	Natural	5+♣s, 9/10-14, can be 5-4 in the minors or have a major.
2♦	Natural	5+♦s, 6/7/8-10, can have a four card major, 6 or longer decent ♦s if 6-7
2♥, 2♠	Natural	5 or longer major, 6/7/8-10, can have four in the other major if not 10, and 6 or longer decent major if 6-7
2NT	20-21	20-21 Balanced
3X	Preemptive	Random, but a decent suit promised if vulnerable
3NT	To play undoubled	Any sort of hand that wants to take a try at 3NT undoubled – might have a long suit with stoppers, or a few stoppers, or no stoppers, or two suits that might be a source of tricks, or just a bunch of points. Partner is not to pull 3NT if it is not doubled, unless has own long suit in a very distributional hand.
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, not much outside
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Preemptive, wide ranging
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king

Note: some partnerships, when vulnerable, may increase opening requirements by 1 point

### ETM BASH 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Seat Balanced Ladder

Range	Opening	Notes
0-7	Pass	
8-9	1♦, 1♥, 1♠, Pass	Open 1♥ or 1♠ if five card major, 1♦ if 3+♦s, and pass otherwise
10	1 of a suit	Open 1♥ or 1♠ if five card major, 1♦ if 3+♦s, and 1♣ if 4/5♣s and just 2♦s
11-13	1♣, 1♥, 1♠	Open 1♥ or 1♠ if five card major, 1♣ otherwise
14-16	1NT	
17-19	1♣ then 1NT	
20-21	2NT	
22-24	1♣ then 2NT	
25+	1♣ then 2♥	

### ETM BASH 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Seat Opening Bids and Responses

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Any 18+	Responder is to bid naturally above 1♦ if 7+. If 0-6 responder bids 1♦, and now 1NT=18-20, 2NT=23-24, suits are natural non-forcing, 2♥ is GF in ♥s or balanced (2♠ asks which, 2NT=balanced), other suit jumps natural and game forcing.
1♦	Natural	3+♦s, 8 to 17, can be balanced, can have longer ♣s. Responder is to make a non-jump suit bid with either a 5 card or longer major, or 6+♣s, or 5+♦s. Otherwise with 7-9 responder is to bid 1NT.
1♥, 1♠	Natural	4 or longer in major, 8 to 17, can be balanced. Responder is to make a non-jump suit bid with either the OM (1♠ over 1♥ shows 4+♠s, 2♥ over 1♠ shows 5+♥s), or 6 or longer minor. If 5-9 bid 2M with 4 card support. Otherwise with 6-9 responder is to bid 1NT.
1NT	Balanced 0-17 in 3 <sup>rd</sup> seat not vulnerable, 13-17 in 4 <sup>th</sup> seat or if vulnerable	No conventions are played over this (i.e. no Stayman, no transfers etc.). Responder usually passes or bids a five card or longer suit (3♣ shows 6+♣s), or bids 2♣ which is natural with 3 or longer and 8-9 points – over 2♣ opener bids naturally, passing if ♣ fit and not 15-17, and jumping to show top maximum. Since rescue systems are not allowed when 1NT is 0-17 (allowed when 13-17), if just 4-4 in two suits consider opening a suit to find a fit instead of 1NT.
2X	Natural	5 or longer in suit opened, no chance of game if responder passes this. Responder is to raise the suit opened with a 6+ points and a 3 card or better fit.
2NT	20-21	21-22 Balanced
3X	Preemptive	Random
3NT	To play undoubled	As by unpassed hand
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Random
Games	To play	Preemptive, wide ranging
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two aces held

## ETM CANDY

General Approach: Two-way 1♣: 17+ any or 11-13 with a five card major. 1♦ 11-16 no four card major (can have five or longer if 13/14-16). 1♥, 1♠ 11-16 four card majors, often longer second suit. 1NT 14-16. 2♣ Majors 10-13, 2♦, 2♥, 2♠ 5 or longer suits, 9/10-13.

### ETM CANDY Opening Bid Overview

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	11-13 5 card major balanced/semi or 17+	Either: a) 11-13 with a five card major, no singleton/void (so balanced/semi-balanced) and not 4 in <b>OM</b> ; b) 17+ any, except not hand for 2NT opening.
1♦	Limited, no four card major exactly	11-16, no four card major (exactly). If balanced will be 11 to 13 without a four card or longer major. If unbalanced, no four card major (exactly), and only a five card or longer major if 13/14-16 together with a 4 card or longer minor.
1♥, 1♠	4 Card Majors	Four card major, 11-16, can have longer second suit, or six or longer major 13/14-16, or if 1♠ opening 5-5 in majors 13/14-16. Balanced only if 11 to 13 with a four card major. 1♥ opening only has longer ♠s if 13/14-16.
1NT	14-16 Balanced	14-16 balanced, includes 5-4-2-2s with a five card minor. Can have a five card major.
2♣	Majors	10-13, 5+♠s and 4+♥s
2♦	Natural	9/10-13, 5+♦s, no 3 card or longer major
2♥, 2♠	Natural	5 or longer in <b>M</b> , 9/10-13, not 4+ in <b>OM</b> , if just 5 in <b>M</b> then must have a singleton
2NT	20-21	20-21 Balanced
3X	Preemptive	Random, but a decent suit promised if vulnerable
3NT	To play undoubled	Any sort of hand that wants to take a try at 3NT undoubled – might have a long suit with stoppers, or a few stoppers, or no stoppers, or two suits that might be a source of tricks, or just a bunch of points. Partner is not to pull 3NT if it is not doubled, unless has own long suit in a very distributional hand.
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, not much outside
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Preemptive, wide ranging
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king

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## ETM Spry

General Approach: Big club with mini spade showing opening. 1♣ is 18+ any or 15+ without 5♥s (except if 5+♠s), 1♦ is 10-14 with 4♠s, 1♥ is 4♥s 10-14 or 5+♥s 13/14-17, 1♠ is 5+♠s 10-14, 1NT is 11/12-14, 2♣ and 2♦ natural with 5+ suit 10-14 and four card major, 2♥ is 9/10-13 with 5+♥s, 2♠ is 5 or longer ♠s 5-9.

### ETM Spry Opening Bid Overview

Opening	Style	Description
1♣	Big	15+ without 5♥s (except if opener has 5+♠s) or 18+ any. Not a 2NT opening type.
1♦	Mini Spades	4♠s & 10-14, can have longer second suit. If balanced 10-11 only
1♥	Natural	1) 4♥s and 10-14, not 4♠s, can have longer minor. If balanced 10-11 only. 2) 5+♥s, 13/14-17, not 5-3-3-2, can have 4♠s if 15-17. 3) Exactly 5♥s and 10-11, no singleton, not 4♠s.
1♠	Natural	5+♠s, 10-14, can have longer second suit
1NT	Weak	11/12-14 balanced, can be a 5-4-2-2 with a five card minor. Can have 5♥s (but not 5♠s) with a no singleton hand.
2♣	Natural	5+♣s, 10-14, no four card or longer major, if just 5♣s either 3-1-4-5/1-3-4-5
2♦	Natural	5+♦s, 10-14, no four card or longer major, if just 5♦s either 3-1-5-4/1-3-5-4 or 5-5 in minors
2♥	Natural	5 or longer in ♥s, 9/10-13, not 4+♠s, if just 5♥s then 5-5+ or a 5-4-3-1/5-4-4-0 shape
2♠	Weak	5-9, 5+♠s
2NT	19/20-21	Balanced
3X	Preemptive	Random, but a decent suit promised if vulnerable
3NT	To play undoubled	Any sort of hand that wants to take a try at 3NT undoubled – Partner is not to pull 3NT if it is not doubled, unless has long suit, very distributional hand.
4♣, 4♦	Preemptive	Long broken suit, not much outside
4♥, 4♠	Preemptive	Preemptive, wide ranging
4NT	Asking	Specific ace asking, bid 5♣ with no ace, otherwise bid suit with ace, 5NT shows two or more aces held
5♣, 5♦	Preemptive	Very long minor suit, no outside ace or king

### ETM Spry Balanced Ladder

Range	Opening	Notes
0-9	Pass	
10-11	Pass, 1♦, 1♥/♠	Pass if no major, 1♦ if 4♠s, 1♥ if 4 or 5 ♥s, 1♠ if 5♠s
12-14	1NT, 1♠	11s can upgrade to 1NT. Open 1♠ if 5♠s, 1NT otherwise
15-17	1♣ then 1NT	
18-19	1♣ then 1♥	1♥ usually gets a 1♠ reply, and then opener bids 1NT
19/20-21	2NT	
21/22+	1♣ then 2NT	