



The lebensohl convention

Le Lebensohl convention is used by the responder, after his partner opened 1 NT and an overcall by the opps. we describe here a simple version of the convention which is not used in Ibridge exercises.

- If you have enough strength to bid game and a stopper in the opps suit : your response is a cue bid (Stayman), 3 SA (without a card Major), or bidding a suit at the 3 level (with a card Major or a) card minor
- Without a stopper in the opps' suit bid 2 NT forcing bid transfer for ♣, or a suit at the level (natural bid, weak)
- Finally, a double is punitive/li>

S	W	N	E
		1 NT	2 ♥
2 NT			

K	J	8	10	9	5	A	6	5	J	10	9	8
♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦	♦

Problème E5617

2 NT that shows the lack of a stopper in ♥

S	W	N	E
		1 NT	2 ♥
3 NT			

K	J	8	A	J	9	5	10	6	5	J	10	9
♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦

Problème E5618

3 SA that shows the ♥ stopper and enough strength to play game (and debies 4 cartes in ♠).



The lebensohl convention

The 2 NT bid

It shows:

- An ambiguous strength , Game is possible, but not certain.
- and, a lack of stopper in the suit of the overcall

After that bid, will rectify to 3♣ and the responder will :

- Pass with 6 cards in ♣
- bid 3♦ with 6 cartes in ♦
- Cue bid = Stayman
- bid 3♥ ou 3♠ : naturel avec 5 cartes
- bid 3 NT, natural ...without a stopper in the suit of the overcall.

S	W	N	E
		1 NT	2♥
2 NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥			

A	J	8	3	10	9	5	A	6	5	J	10	9
♠	♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦

[Problème E5622](#)

3♥ Stayman for ♠

S	W	N	E
		1 NT	2♥
2 NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass			

K	J	3	10	9	K	J	8	6	5	3	J	10
♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦

[Problème E5623](#)

PASSGame is unlikely...



The lebensohl convention

With a stopper in the opps's suit and strength to bid game

as if the opps had remained silent you will investigate what the best game is

- The cue bid is a Stayman
- 3 SA to play them
- 3 level bids are natural and forcing : they show 5 cards in the Major or 6 cards in the minors

S	W	N	E
		1 NT	2 ♥
3 ♠			

K ♠	J ♠	10 ♠	9 ♠	8 ♠	K ♥	J ♥	9 ♥	10 ♣	6 ♣	J ♦	10 ♦	9 ♦
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Problème E5619

3 ♠ Forcing, the opener will conclude at game: 3 NT with the ♠ fit, or 4 ♠ with the fit.



The lebensohl convention

Xith a weak hand

With no possibility of a competitive bid...you must pass !

Otherwise : you can bid at the 2 level with a 5 card suit. It is purely a competitive bid and the opener will pass (in general..).

S	W	N	E
		1 NT	2 ♥
2 ♠			

Q ♠	J ♠	10 ♠	9 ♠	8 ♠	J ♥	9 ♥	10 ♣	6 ♣	5 ♣	J ♦	10 ♦	9 ♦
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Problème E5620

2 ♠ Non forcing bid that shows a weak hand and 5 cards in ♠ with no ♥ stopper