Power Dutch Doubleton

Last update: 26-Oct-2002

**Opening Bids**

1 bluff: 11-20, 2+ card
1 : 11-20, 4+ card
1 / : 11-20, 5+ card
1NT: 16-18 (Stayman, Jacoby, 2 - minor suit Stayman)\(^1\)

2 bluff: semi-forcing in / , or 23+ hand, or weak 2 in
2 : Multi: weak 2 in a major or 25-26 balanced
2 / : Muiderberg, 6-11, 5-card plus 4+ card in a minor
2SA: 21-22, (Niemeijer\(^2\), 3 - minor suit Stayman)
3SA: solid 7 card minor with no other values\(^3\)

**Special Responses**

1 / / - / 2: 10-12, any distribution, denies any biddable 4-card suit on 1-level.

- Opener rebids 2 with a minimum
1 / / / - 2: 10+, 4+ card support, forcing
1 / / / - 2: 13+, GF, any distribution without a 6-card major
1X – jump shift in a new suit to 2-level: 13+, GF, good 6-card
1X – jump shift in a new suit to 3-level: NF, 6-10 HCP, 7-card
1X – 3X: preemptive raise, 4+ card support, 5-9 HCP
1X – 4X: preemptive raise
1 / - 2NT: 8-12, 5-5 minors
1 / - 2NT: GF splinter (3 relay: asks for singleton / void)
1X – double jump shift in a new suit: splinter (1 -3SA is singleton )
1 -3 or 1 -3SA: splinter with void, 4 card support, 12-15 HCP (next bid asks for void)
1 /-3 : splinter with void, but 1 /-3 : splinter with singleton

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\(^1\) I still have to meet the people who play here 1NT 16-18… most play 15-17, some 14-16; 16-18 is very rare. Most Dutch play NF Stayman after 1NT (also with weak hands with 4-4 or 5-4 in the majors they bid 2 to play in 2 /2 ).

\(^2\) Niemeijer is a variant of Puppet Stayman, named after Mr. Chris Niemeijer from the Netherlands. The major difference with Puppet Stayman is that 2NT-3NT means 5 +4 (the combination you cannot show with transfers without going above 3NT).

\(^3\) Most Dutch pairs allow up to Q outside the minor suit.
**NT rebids following 1-over-1**

E.g. 1 -1 -1NT: 12-15.

Most invitational sequences begin with 2; 2 are weak (6-9); 2NT is puppet.

1 -1 -1NT-2. Opener rebids:
- 2: 12 or bad 13 points.
- 2 / NT: 13-14 with feature in the bid suit (4-card or 3-card support).
- 3X: 15, GF.

1 -1 -1NT-2 / : 6-9, NF.

1 -1 -1NT-2NT: puppet for 3 (weak with )

1 -1 -1NT-3 / : invitational, 5-5 or 6-5.

1 -1 -1NT-3 : invitational with 4+ card support.

1 -1 -1NT-3 : invitational with 6+ card.

1 -1 -1NT-2 : reverse by responder, 4+, invitational.

1X-1Y-2NT: 19-20, GF, unbid 4-card major suit or support is possible, subsequent bidding is natural.

It is not necessary to open 1NT with a 5-card major suit. After 1 the opener can support with 3-card or rebid a strong 3-card minor.

**Opener rebids following 1x-2**

2: any minimum.

2NT: 14-15, balanced.

Other non-jump bids: 14+ HCP

3 / NT: 5-4-4-0 distribution, high shortage first, e.g.:

1 -2 -?:
- 3: 0-4-5-4
- 3: 4-0-5-4
- 3NT: 4-4-5-0
- 4: 4-4-5-0, too strong for 3NT

**Opener rebids following 1x-2**

All non-jump bids are natural, 2NT - 12-15

3 / NT: same as after 2 response.

1 -2 -2: 5-card, may have another 4-card suit

1 -2 -3: 5-5

But: 1 -2 -3: 5 and 4+!
Setting the trump suit after opener shows a 3-suiter

4 is a terminator puppet, opener must bid 4 and pass any subsequent bid. Other bids set the bid suit as trump and are RKCB. 4NT set the void suit as trump, and a bid in the void suit set as trump.

Opener rebids following 2 – 2NT

3♣: minimum, weak 2 in
3 : minimum, weak 2 in
3 / : maximum, weak two in the bid suit

Opener rebids following 2 / – 2NT

3♣/ : 4/5-card
3 / : 6-card ∆/

Slam bidding
RKCB (0/3, 1/4, 2 without trump Q, 2 with trump Q). Following RKCB, 5NT asks for kings, and a new suit is an asking bid for control in that suit.

The responses for an asking bid (following RKCB) are stepwise:

- 1<sup>st</sup> step – no control or AKQ
- 2<sup>nd</sup> step – Q or AK
- 3<sup>rd</sup> step – K or AQ
- 4<sup>th</sup> step – A or KQ

Following RKCB and 5♣/ response, the next step asks for trump Q (denied by the cheapest bid in the trump suit).

5NT as a response for 4NT (RKCB): 2 keycards and an unspecified void.

A jump to 5-level in a new suit is Exclusion Blackwood (Voidwood): asks for keycards except for A in that suit (response scheme as for RKCB).

Cue bid: asks for control in that suit; 1<sup>st</sup> step denies it, other steps confirm it and are RKCB responses.

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4 Many Dutch pairs reverse here the rebids in case of a maximum weak 2 (that is, rebid 3 with a maximum weak 2 in and 3 with a maximum weak 2 in ), assuming that the situation is already GF – so that the known (and weaker) hand becomes dummy.

5 Currently (summer 2004), the 1430 response-scheme for RKCB is much more popular in the Netherlands than 0314.

6 Another popular response in the Netherlands for RKCB with a void is that 6X (below the trump suit) is an uneven number of keycards + a void in the bid suit, and 6-trump is an uneven number of keycards + a void in a suit above the trump suit. Some pairs, however, switch between these and 5NT (that is, 5NT is an uneven number of keycards and a void and 6X/trump is 2 key cards and a void, as above).
In GF situations where a major trump suit is set on 2-level or 3-level, 2NT or 3NT is RKCB.
In GF situations where a minor trump suit is set on 2-level or 3-level, a bid of 4 in that suit is RKCB.