

1♥ Opening showing 5+ Spades, 11-21 HCP

Rating: Minimum 6 boards per segment/round

Defense:

Treat the transfer opening of 1♥ as a Standard American 1♠ opening and use regular defensive methods, including a double which is takeout of spades.

NOTE: After a 1♥ transfer opening, the intervening side's cue bid is spades, not hearts.

1♥ - Double = Takeout of spades, use methods as after a Standard American 1♠ - DBL, special consideration must be given to two situations:

1♥ -Double - Pass = An advancer who would have passed for penalties after a Standard American 1♠ opening and a second seat double cannot afford to pass without a willingness to defend 1♥X (based upon intervenor's presumed length). A pass by advancer thus shows a penalty pass of 1♠, but also a willingness to defend 1♥X. With a penalty pass of 1♠, but an unwillingness to defend 1♥X, advancer must bid an appropriate number of NT. In all other respects, use the same methods as after a Standard American 1♠ opening.

1♥ -Double - 1♠ = Since intervenor will get a second chance, advancer is no longer under any obligation to act, so all new suits are semi-constructive (about 6-9). Double is for penalties. In all other respects, the methods are the same as after a Standard American 1♠ - Double - Pass. If 1♥- Double - 1♠ is passed back around to intervenor, a second double is also takeout.

1♥ - 1♠ = 5+ hearts and 5+ in a minor, weak, a sort of mini-Michael's. Advancer can bid any number of hearts to play or bid 1NT to ask intervenor to bid his minor; new minor suit bids are natural and non-forcing; 2♠ is invitational in hearts; 2NT is natural and invitational; game bids are to play. After advancer's 1NT, new suits and raises by advancer are non-forcing, 2♠ is invitational in intervenor's minor and 2NT is natural and invitational.

If responder bids over 1♠, advancer's NT bids are natural and NF; 2m, 3m and 4m (unbid minor) are pass or correct; and cue bids (spades or a suit bid naturally by responder) agree hearts.

- 1♥ - 1NT = 16-18 balanced, use methods as after a Standard American 1♠-1NT
- 1♥ - 2♣/2♦/2♥ = Natural and limited, use methods as after a Standard American 1♠-2♣/2♦/2♥
- 1♥ - 2♠ = Hearts and a minor, use methods as after a Standard American 1♠-2♠
- 1♥ - 2NT = Minors, use methods as after a Standard American 1♠ - 2NT
- 1♥ - 3♣/3♦/3♥ = Natural with a long suit and weak hand, use methods as after a Standard American 1♠ - 3♣/3♦/3♥
- 1♥ - 3♠ = Asking for a stopper, usually based upon a source of tricks, use methods as after a Standard American 1♠ - 3♠
- 1♥ - Pass - 1♠ = Fourth hand acts as if the opening bid were a Standard American 1♠ on his right.
- 1♥ - Pass - 1♠ - Pass - Pass = Treat this as 1♠ - Pass - Pass, thus a balancing position. Since second hand had a chance to act over 1♥, he will not have a strong hand. Double is strictly takeout (not a good, single suited hand), 1NT is about 11-14, and new suits show less than a direct overcall would.