

# COMPETITIVE BIDDING

(see pages 163-168 in Teach Me To Play Bridge)

In every hand there is one **OPENER** and then there is one **RESPONDER**  
BUT...there are 2 other people at the table that may want to bid !!!

## OVERCALLS

An overcall is a bid made after one team has already opened the bidding. When this happens there is a BIDDING WAR to see which team will be the declarer and which team will defend!

Requirements to **OVERCALL**:

- 5 cards or + in the suit you bid and at least 2 honors in the suit
- 8 + points at the 1 level
- 10 + points at the 2 level
- 15-17 points and a balanced hand bid 1 No Trump

WHY DO I **OVERCALL**?

- Tell partner what suit to lead
- Tell partner that you have some points and a long suit
- Make it harder on the other team to bid

## TAKE OUT DOUBLES

A take out double is NOT a penalty double! A take out double says I want to get into the bidding.

Requirements to bid a Take out Double:

- 13 or + points (an opening hand)
- cards in all the suits except the one the opponents have bid.
- No more than 2 cards in the opponents suit

WHY DO I BID A **TAKE OUT DOUBLE**?

- You have points but no long suit to bid
- You want your partner to bid his good suit
- You want to describe the suits in your hand