

Stolen Doubles

*It is really annoying when the opposition overcalls the suit that you were going to bid as an **artificial bid**. This is common after 1NT. Take this auction;*

Partner	Opposition	Your Hand	Notes
1NT	2H	♠ A6432 ♥ 632 ♦ 9632 ♣ 4	You were going to bid 2H as a transfer to Spades. What to do now? Ans Double

*One defence against this type of interference is to double. It says that I would have bid an artificial bid of 2H's requiring you to transfer to spades. As the opposition has stolen your bid then it is called a **STOLEN DOUBLE**. In this example you can bid 2S to show an invitational hand with 5 spades.*

*You can also use the stolen double if the opposition bid 2C stealing your stayman bid. A double here would say I would have bid 2C if it were not for the b***** opposition.*

Partner	Opposition	Your Hand	Notes
1NT	2C	♠ A643 ♥ A732 ♦ 9632 ♣ 4	You were going to bid 2C as Stayman. What to do now? Ans Double

The same applies if you had opened 2NT and the opposition bid 3C,D or H