

CONVENTION CHARTS

As novice players, we start with counting points and natural bids; if we have mostly clubs, we bid clubs. Soon we start to hear about - and then learn - conventions which use artificial bids. First Stayman, then Jacoby transfers; two Clubs becomes a question, two hearts means we have spades. Next Gerber, Blackwood, Michaels, Cappelletti, maybe even Tuttle - many of them bearing the name of their inventor or promoter. At times, it seems that a bid can have any exotic meaning that a pair agrees on and notes on their convention card.

The ACBL has imposed some restrictions on the conventions that may be used in ACBL-sanctioned games at various levels of play. These restrictions are detailed in four "Convention Charts" which were updated in November 2018. See ACBL website [CHARTS](#) for more information.

LBC has adopted the ACBL Basic+ convention chart for our club games with masterpoint limits of 200 or fewer. For our Open and 0-500 games, the ACBL Open convention chart applies. While the Basic+ chart is more restrictive, most commonly used conventions (including all those named above) are allowed on both these charts.

Most commonly used conventions are allowable under both of these charts, although the Basic+ chart is more restrictive. If you are in doubt about a convention, send a description of it to Al Edwards or Bruce Moor and we will work with you to confirm its status under those charts.

Multi 2 Diamonds Disallowed

A few of our advanced players have previously used a bid know as Multi Two diamonds. In its simplest form, this opening bid shows a weak two in one of the Majors. Before Nov. 2018, this bid was allowed in Open competition only with a pre-alert and providing the approved written defense to the opponents.

When ACBL changed the convention charts in Nov. 2018, this bid was removed from all pairs games and restricted to team games at the highest level, still with the requirement to pre-alert and provide a written defense. LBC continued to allow the bid, with those requirements, in Open games only. In the virtual club BBO environment, it is not possible to satisfy those requirements, so the bid is no longer allowed.