**Negative Doubles**

Negative Doubles or sometimes called Responders Doubles are as common as Stayman and Blackwood. At one time Negative Doubles was treated as a penalty double, but in the late 50’s the name changed as well as the meaning- used to be called Sputnik after the Russian Satellite launched in 1957 – today, Negative or Responders Double is common.

**What is a Negative Double Today?**

After opener (partner) bids one-of-a-suit and the next player overcalls in a suit, responder’s double shows:

 Support for the unbid suits

 Enough strength to compete.

You Hold as **South**: S 62

 H KJ109

 D KQ94

 C 983

**North** (partner) **East**  **South** (you)

1♣ 1♠ DBL

* This is not a penalty double.
* This double promises hearts and diamonds particularly four (4) hearts.
* It promises inability to bid freely.
* In this sequence if you freely bid hearts, you are usually promising 5 in the heart suit.
* Minimum of 6 points at the one level. Minimum of 8 points at the two level. As the level increases the point requirements increase.

**Openers Rebid After A Negative Double**

 With a minimum hand, 13-16, opener chooses a rebid at the cheapest level.

 With a medium hand, 17-18, opener jumps a level.

 With a maximum hand, 19-21, opener gets the partnership to the game level.