

ALERT REGULATIONS (SUMMARY)

Alerting is compulsory.

Calls and bids are divided into three categories:

- Non Alertable (natural) bids
- Alertable bids
- Self Alertable bids

Non Alertable or Natural bids are self explanatory.

Alertable bids are any bids that do not show a willingness to play in that suit, or that give additional information to partner.

Self-Alertable Bids include all cue bids of opposition's suit, bids above 3NT and all doubles and redoubles.

Skip Bids

All skip bids below 3NT will be classified as 'natural' (not alertable) or 'artificial' (alertable).

NOT-ALERTABLE Natural Skip Bids:

Bids that show at least 5 x cards in the named suit, and will not show a second suit:

- Opening 2H, 2S; not alertable whether weak or strong, providing only one suit is shown.
- Jump overcalls in a suit are not alertable, providing only one suit is shown.

A skip to 2NT or 3NT will show a willingness to play in NT:

- 1H - 2NT, or 1H - 3NT is not alertable if it shows a willingness to play in NT.

A skip raise of a partner's suit will be natural except when it can be made on less than 8 HCP:

- Jump raise with 3+ of a partner's suit or of his overcall is not alertable unless it can be done on less than 8 HCP.

ALERTABLE Artificial/Conventional Skip Bids

- 1H - 3S (splinter)
- 1H - 3C (raise of partner's suit)
- Transfer Pre-empts
- Opening two bids showing more than one suit, such as the 'Multi', 'Optimal' and 'Mixie' systems
- All skip bids showing more than one suit such as the 'Blue Club'

SELF-ALERTABLE Cue Bids

Cue Bid is now defined as a bid of a suit named by an opponent or of a suit shown by an opponent's call, e.g.:

- 1C (Precision) 2C is a bid of opponent's suit and therefore is self-alertable
- 1D (MOSCITO showing a Spade suit): a bid now of 1S or 2D will be a cue bid of opponent's shown suit (spades or named suit (diamonds), so either bid will be self-alertable