

Chapter 10: Higher Level Openings

KLP uses at the 3 level or higher standard preempts with the exception of 3NT and 4♣/♦, which is Gambling and NAMYATS respectively. At the 3 level, all new suits are forcing one round. Also, like in the 2 of a major chapter, LTC is used to determine whether or not a preempt should be made.

To open 3NT, it must be a solid minor with no losers, and it must lack an outside control. Responder answers this way:

Pass → willing to play here
4♣ → pass or correct
4♦ → asking for short suit
4♥/♠ → to play

NAMYATS is used only in 1st or 2nd seat. Responder will relay with the intermediate step to ask partner to bid the known major to play. If responder wants to make a slam try they will bid the known major immediately, which becomes a RKC ask in the major.

Opening 4NT is extremely rare, and infers a powerful hand that needs to ask responder for the number of aces, so treat this as a regular Blackwood ask. The hand most likely is a strong one suited hand with tremendous shape.

Opening 5 of any suit is also rare, and asks responder to bid on to slam with control. The suit should be self-contained and sufficient.