Defense to Cappelletti (or Multi Landy).

If partner's 1NT opening is overcalled with a natural bid then it is generally best to play double as penalties and all other bids as natural (Lebensohl).

The one case where I like to differ from this philosophy is when it's a 2♣ overcall. Over a natural 2♣ overcall I like to play double as Stayman and systems on (2♦ = transfer to ♥'s etc.). Over any higher overcall then double is penalties and systems are off.

But when the opponents overcall is artificial (often the case these days) then things are different. For example there is little point in doubling an artificial bid for penalties and little point in bidding Stayman if RHO has shown both majors.

Here is a scheme for combating Cappelletti (and with a minor change, Multi-Landy): -

Cappelletti bid	meaning	responder's bid	meaning
2♣	single suited hand	pass	generally less than invitational values
		dbl	Stayman
		3♣	natural and forcing
		other	basically natural (Lebensohl)
2♦	both majors	pass	generally less than invitational values
		dbl	can penalise at least one major
		3♦	natural and forcing
		other	basically natural (Lebensohl)
2♥/♠	5 ♥/♠'s an a minor	pass	generally less than invitational values
		dbl	penalties for the major bid.
		3♥/♠	three of the major = game forcing Stayman
		other	basically natural (Lebensohl)
2NT	♣'s and ♦'s	pass	generally less than invitational values
		dbl	can penalise at least one minor
		3♣	Stayman, not game forcing
		3♦	Stayman, game forcing.
		3♥/♠	natural and game forcing

If the defenders play Multi Landy then make the obvious changes to the 2♣/♦ overcalls. This defence to Multi-Landy is printed out in a separate document.

Note that over 2♦ (or 2♣ against Multi Landy) there is no need for Stayman (dbl says at least one major).

The 'generally less than invitational values' over 2♣/♦/NT may be stronger but just waiting to see what the opposition say.

Lebensohl is explained in another document.

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