

Fifth Chair



New Minor Forcing

Based on the 1NT = 15-17, the new minor forcing rebid by responder is used after bidding has been opened with a minor suit, followed by a major suit bid by responder and a one NT rebid by opening bidder.

NOTE: Never rebid 1 no trump with a singleton. Prepare your opening bid so this will be avoided.

A. EXAMPLE: x AJxx Jxxx AKxx

Open 1D not 1C, for ease of bidding, since you have a singleton, you can bid 2D after a 1S bid by partner.

To use NMF, Responder must have either game invitational values (+ to 11 HCP), with a 5 card major or a game forcing hand in partner's minor or the other minor.

Opener's response to NMF shows three things: 3 card support, no three card support, and point count.

B. EXAMPLE:

Opener: Ax Kxx Axx Qxxxx

Responder: Kxxxx A10x Jxx Kx

Opener Responder

1C 1S

1NT 2D (NMF, opener alerts)

2NT

The auction is over as far as opener since it shows a minimum hand up to 14 points and only 2 spades. If game should be bid, then responder will have to bid again.

C. EXAMPLE:

Opener Qxx Kxxx Ax Axxx

Responder Kxxxx Axx Jxx Kx

Opener Responder

1C 1S

1NT 2D (NMF, Opener Alerts)

2S Pass

Again the auction is over since opener has again shown a minimum hand, 14 points, but this time with three card support.

D. EXAMPLE:

Opener: Qxx KJxx K10X AJxx

Responder: Kxxxx Axx Jxx Kx

Opener Responder

1C 1S

1NT 2D (NMF)

3S 4S or 3 NT

Opener rebid of 3S, a jump in your major, showed extra values (14 points) and 3 card spade support. Use your judgment about playing 4 spades or 3NT.

Remember that partner knows you have guaranteed 5S and can correct 3NT to 4S if he thinks that is a better contract.

E. EXAMPLE:\

Opener Q10 Kxxx K10x Axx

Responder Kxxxx AQJx Jxx Kx

Opener Responder

1C 1S

1NT 2D (NMF)

2NT 3NT

Opener rebid of 2NT showed minimum values (11 - 12 HCP and only 2 spades. Responder bids the game in NT since 14 opposite 11 and the five card suit should produce game.

If, for example, opener had 13 or 14 hcp, Opener should bid 2H, showing a better hand, encouraging responder to go to game with 11 hcp.

F. EXAMPLE:

Opener Q10x Ax Axx Kxxx

Responder Kxxxx Kxxx x Qxx

Opener Responder

1C 1S

1NT 2H

2S

Responders rebid is non-forcing and non-invitational. Since responder did not make a NMF call he wishes to play the contract in one of his suits at this level. He also has the opportunity to play a 4/4 heart fit at a low level in case partner has a hand like. In order for this bid to be forcing, responder **MUST** jump to 3 hearts, which makes it game forcing.

Jx, A10xx, Qxx, AKxx

Remember, even holding 14HCP you must not bid again. Partner has not made an invitational bid! He is just looking for a place to safely play this contract.