

Presentation Wednesday 10th October 2018

Jump response of 2NT

This was the hand played on Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th October

♠ J 5 4 3
♥ Q 10 9
♦ 8 5 4 2
♣ 8 7

♠ A 8 7
♥ 7 4 3
♦ J 9 7 6 3
♣ A Q

♠ K 6 2
♥ A J 6 5 2
♦ 10
♣ K J 10 6

3rd Oct Hand 8

Dealer West

Vul None

♠ Q 10 9
♥ K 8
♦ A K Q
♣ 9 5 4 3 2

Double Dummy Analysis

East/West can make 10 tricks in Hearts or 7 tricks in anything else

Results

| Wednesday Board 8 - Love all | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|----------|----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| NS | EW | Contract | By | NS | EW | MPs | |
| 3 | 3 | 2H-1 | E | 50 | | 10 | 4 |
| 2 | 1 | 2NT+1 | W | | 150 | 0 | 14 |
| 1 | 4 | 2NT-1 | W | 50 | | 10 | 4 |
| 5 | 2 | 2NT-1 | W | 50 | | 10 | 4 |
| | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 8 | 1NT-2 | S | | 100 | 6 | 8 |
| 7 | 6 | 3H= | E | | 140 | 3 | 11 |
| 6 | 9 | 4H-3 | E | 150 | | 14 | 0 |
| 10 | 7 | 2H+1 | E | | 140 | 3 | 11 |

On Wednesday we find a variety of inefficient contracts have been played and some of the tricks made were a little awry too.

| Tuesday Board 8 - Love all | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----------|----|----|-----|--------|----|
| NS | EW | Contract | By | NS | EW | MPs | |
| 2 | 2 | 2H+1 | E | | 140 | 8 | 4 |
| 1 | 7 | 3H+1 | E | | 170 | 2 | 10 |
| 7 | 5 | 2H+1 | E | | 140 | 8 | 4 |
| 6 | 3 | 3NT-1 | E | 50 | | 1 2 | 0 |
| 5 | 1 | 3H= | E | | 140 | 8 | 4 |
| 4 | 6 | 3H+1 | E | | 170 | 2 | 10 |
| 3 | 4 | 3H+1 | E | | 170 | 2 | 10 |

On Tuesday all but one of the pairs found the sensible contract of a part score in Hearts.

Obviously I don't know how they got there but I do know how I would have got there if I had been playing with my regular partner.

Playing standard Acoll an opening bid of 1♥/♠ is either:

- an unbalanced hand with a wide range of HCPS and a variety of hand shapes
- a balanced hand with 15-19 HCPS

Responder doesn't know at first which of the above his partner has but the first response could be critical. With 6-9 HCP and 3-card support for the major it is nearly always best to bid two of the major. The exception would be a very flat hand with rubbish values in the major. The follow hands are described by Andrew Robson in his piece titled "The Three Card raise of 1M to 2M"

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| ♠ K 8 2 | ♠ J 3 2 | ♠ 8 6 2 | ♠ 8 6 2 |
| ♥ 7 3 | ♥ A 7 6 2 | ♥ 3 | ♥ K 10 7 4 |
| ♦ Q 8 2 | ♦ Q 9 7 5 2 | ♦ K Q 4 2 | ♦ Q 4 2 |
| ♣ K 5 4 3 2 | ♣ 2 | ♣ Q 8 4 3 2 | ♣ Q 10 2 |

He recommends always making a three-card raise 1♥/♠ to 2♥/♠ (when the alternative is 1NT) unless you have three small cards in a very flat hand.

So raise 1♠ to 2♠ with the first three of these, only bid 1NT with the last

This is all very well for responding hands with 6-9 HCPs but what about stronger hands?

Over twenty years ago Chris and I used to read Tony Forrester's article in the Daily Telegraph. He described a 2NT response bid that showed a good raise in partner's major suit when you had a balanced hand but with 3 cards of partner's suit. The principle is to fully describe your hand in one go and let the opener choose where to play.

The same method was outlined in the computer bidding tutorial system called 'Blue Chip bridge. This came as a disk with a set of hands and the ability to practice both the bidding and the playing of them.

Blue Chip Bridge called the method Jacoby 2NT but I have noticed that it is difficult to find references these days to Jacoby 2NT other than suggesting that it promises 4-card support. Trends change in bridge over the years and it seems this is one such example.

Chris and I have always played this method and have found it to be most useful as a means to find both the right contract and the right level to play it in. Also, I like the fact that you can use this method to show 3-card support:

- Balanced is a common hand shape so you are likely to find this useful more often than not.
- You are more likely to have 3 cards of partner's bid suit than 4 so the bid is more likely to be useful.
- When you have 3 cards of partner's bid suit there is an 89% probability that partner has more than 4 cards otherwise he will have a balanced more stronger hand.
- You should always strive to find major suit 8-card trump fits as this is the "holy grail of bridge"
- In one bid you are saying enough about your hand to enable partner to make a sensible decision regarding the joint capability of your two hands

Method - the jump to 2NT bid is:

A limit bid that requires opener then to bid the final contract

the bid promises:

- 10-12 HCPs
- Balanced shape
- 3 card support for opener's Major
(2 card support if using a 5-card Major system)

Original opener has to decide the final contract whether it is Game or a part score and bid it – there will be no more bids from responder

So with our example hand the auction would go

| North | East | South | West |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| | | | Pass |
| Pass | 1♥ | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 3♥ | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | | | |

East assumes West to have a balanced hand valued as if an 8-loser so should sign off in 3♥ because his own hand is at minimum value. Here you might make 4♥ if you get everything right although most didn't.

At pairs it is generally considered best not to bid 'thin' Games. Obviously good advice here

