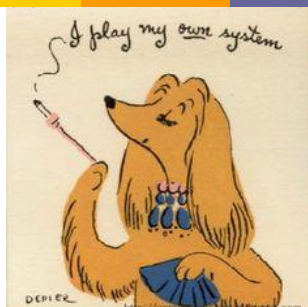


New Minor Forcing & Support Double

Finding a Fit in complex auctions



Complex auctions occur when partner could have a 4 or a 5 card major and you are not sure if you should raise with 3 card support.

The "Support Double" is a way of telling partner that you have "3 card support".

"New Minor Forcing" is a way of telling partner that you have a 5 card major so that partner can raise with 3.

Both of these auctions occur when partner has opened the bidding and responder has bid 1 of a major. Neither of these conventions apply at any other time.

Both Support Doubles and New Minor Forcing alertable.

Expert players raise responder's one of a major with 3 card support quite often - especially if there is any distribution, such as a doubleton or singleton in their hand, and there is not a clear re-bid.

Support Doubles are very straight forward. They occur only when Responder bids a major at the 1 level and RHO opponent interferes with an over call. Opener Doubles or Redoubles to show 3 card support.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♦	PASS	1♠	2♣
Double	PASS	? - with 5♠, limit your hand 2, 3 or 4♠	
With 4♠	limit your hand with 2♦ or 2♠ with a minimum		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> with 10/11 Invite (2NT) or new suit 2 level Bid 3NT with 12+ with ♣ stopped, or else bid a new suit 		

Beginning bridge players should consider raising partner with 3 card support immediately. If opener bids a minor and responder bids a major, the question to ask is "Could responder have 5?" The answer is "Yes". Therefore raise with 3 when your hand is in the minimum range, 12-14 hcp.

If opener bids a minor and re-bids a major, can Opener have 5? The answer is "No", because he would have opened a 5 card major. Therefore do not raise with 3 card support partner's 2nd bid suit.

New Minor Forcing is also quite simple. It only occurs when responder has 10+ hcp with a 5 card major and Opener has rebid 1 No Trump.

WEST	NORTH	WEST	SOUTH
1♣	PASS	1♠	PASS
1NT	PASS	2♦	PASS
?			

- With 3♠ and 12/13 hcp bid 2♠
- With 3♠ and 14 hcp bid 4♠
- Without 3♠ and 12/13 hcp bid 2NT
- Without 3♠ and 14 hcp bid 3NT

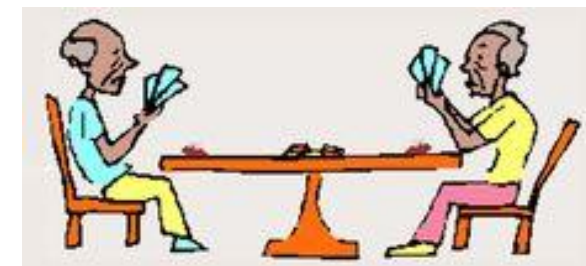
Must alert 2♦ as asking for 3 card support first OR 4 of the other major, and says nothing about ♦.



NMF 4SF and Support X Tournament Series #19

www.bridgewebs.com/borderlinebridge

#1 – Bridge Bidding Basics	#11 – Strips and Squeezes
#2 – Six Basic Conventions	#12 – Blackwood
#3 – Play of the Hand	#13 – Cue-bids
#4 – Defense	#14 – Flannery
#5 – Intermediate Bidding	#15 – Carding
#6 – Advanced (Two over One)	#16 – Four Suit Transfers
#7 – Stayman and Transfers	#17 – Weak No Trump
#8 – Lebensohl	#18 – Wolf Sign-off & XYZ
#9 – Doubles and Overcalls	#19 – Unusual/NMF/4SF
#10 – Online Bridge	#20 – One Level Transfers



Grafton Duplicate Bridge Club

Thursday Noon – Ameriprise Financial Bldg
Stratified Pairs – Bridge lessons at 11am
Director – Michael Leighton (701) 520-0753

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Monday 6:30pm – GF Senior Center
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Friday 12:30pm – EGF Senior Center
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Ambassador Bridge Club Winnipeg MB

Tuesday 12:15pm – MB Bridge Centre
Stratified Pairs
Wednesday 7pm – MB Bridge Centre
Invitational Pairs and Swiss Teams
Thursday 1pm – (0 – 200) Temple Shalom
Play and learn
Saturday 12:30pm – MB Bridge Centre
Swiss Teams
Director – Bill and Sue Treble (204) 669-1458

Fourth Suit Forcing and Unusual vs Unusual Bidding Options



Fourth Suit Forcing occurs when no other bid is appropriate, yet you have the values in high card points to force the auction.

There are many agreements possible. Some play it as a limit valuation (10+) Others play it as game force (12+) Most play it as a Game Force by responder and a 1 round Force by opener.

4SF is alertable - State whether it is a one round force or a Game Force and that it says nothing about the suit bid. Depending on the rest of the auction, there is an inference that the 4SF bidder does not have a stopper in the 4SF.

For more information on Fourth Suit Forcing go to
http://www.bridgebum.com/fourth_suit_forcing.php

For more information on the Unusual No Trump and Unusual vs Unusual
http://www.bridgebum.com/unusual_2nt.php
http://www.bridgebum.com/unusual_vs_unusual.php

4SF, as a rule is for "game going" hands and you're not sure what to bid next or the proper strain.

You do not have an obvious re-bid such as

- A 6 card suit (you hate rebidding 5 carders)
- You don't have a stopper in the 4th suit, so you are uncomfortable bidding No Trump
- You are a good partner, you don't raise partner's 2nd suit with only 3
- You don't have adequate delayed support for partner's 1st bid suit

The best reason for 4SF is that sometimes 4SF is used prior to a jump raise of partner's suit to show extra values and slam interest.

WEST	EAST
1♣	1♦
1♥	1♠ Fourth Suit Forcing is OFF

Rule Exception

WEST	EAST
1♣	1♦
1♥	2♠ Fourth Suit Forcing in ON

Unusual vs Unusual

Unusual vs Unusual is a defensive bidding scheme against the Unusual No Trump.

Similar to takeout doubles, if you double and bid, you have extra values, 17+ playing points. The same is true for the Michaels Cue Bid and the Unusual No Trump. Except that the raise is more pre-emption and not similar to Double and Bid

It is best to over call by bidding the higher ranking suit and then bidding the lower ranking suit with opening values of 12-15 hcp's. Bid 2NT with less than opening and then PASS or with extra values Bid 2NT and bid again.

Fourth Suit Forcing is OFF when

- Responder is a PASSED hand
- The opponents make a take-out double
- All bids are at the 1 level
- Opener shows a strong hand (reverse)
- Responder has made a 2/1 response
- Responder Jump Shifts

When showing strength - the bid suits are real and 4SF is OFF

Unusual No Trump

2NT over call shows the 2 lowest unbid suits

1♣ - 2NT Shows 5♦/5♥

1♦ - 2NT Shows 5♥/5♣

1♥ - 2NT Shows 5♠/5♦

1♠ - 2NT Shows 5♣/5♦

- Partner of the 2NT bidder, usually bids his longest suit of the 2 that are shown
- Jumps by responder are pre-emptive
- Cue bids by responder are strong and forcing

Re-bids by the 2NT bidder are pre-emptive when raising and strong when bidding anything else.

Unusual vs Unusual

The defensive scheme over 2NT

Double = Penalty

3♣ = Game Force in the other major

3♦ = Limit Raise or better of Partner's Suit

3♥ = Constructive (7-10 hcp) raise of ♥
or natural non forcing bid after 1♠

3♠ = Constructive (7-10 hcp) raise of ♠
or natural non forcing bid after 1♥

With 5-card support, responder should only use Unusual vs. Unusual with game-forcing values.

With less than 12 points, it's normal to simply jump directly to 4♥ or 4♠ with 5 card support for partner's opener.