

The Gazzilli Convention

By Neil H. Timm

The 2/1 Game Force System is an improvement over the Standard American System. The advantage of the 2/1 System is that it allows the partnership to know that game is possible with only a single 2-level suit bid. The 2/1 auctions are: 1♦-2♣, 1♥-2♣, 1♥-2♦, 1♠-2♣, 1♠-2♦, and 1♠-2♥ and are game force (GF) bids.

However, what is one to do over a MAJOR suit bid if it is followed by a 1-level bid (1-over-1 bids)? More precisely how do you make a forcing 2/1 bid with the bidding sequences: 1M-1NT or 1♥-1♠.

One may play the Gazzilli convention; in both of these bidding sequences, a 2♣ rebid by opener is a 2-way bid showing one of two types of hands:

- 17+HCP, any distribution
- less than 17HCP

Responder is required to make the relay bid of 2♦ with 8+HCP and any distribution. Any other bid shows less than 8HCP and is natural. In general preference should be given to the major with only a doubleton and less than 8HCP.

Opener will now clarify his hand:

After 1M-1NT-2♣-2♦ or 1♥-1♠-2♣-2♦, opener rebids 2M with the weak version. Any other bid shows 17+HCP and makes the auction a GF. Bidding TWO of the other major shows a 3-card support and makes finding a 5-3 or 6-2 fits easy.

After any weak bid, opener will usually pass. With 16-17HCP and a misfit he'll also pass. With a very strong hand opener may bid a new suit. With a fit he can still invite or bid game.

The basic structure of the bids after opener's bid of 2♣ is:

- 2♦ 8+HCP
- 2M <17HCP, (semi) natural clubs
- 2oM 17+HCP, any hand with 3 of the other major
- 2NT 17+HCP, balanced, without 3 of the other major
- 3m 17+HCP, natural, without 3 of the other major
- 3M 17+HCP, natural, without 3 of the other major
- 3oM 17+HCP, 4 of the other major
- 2M <8HCP, 2-3M
- 2oM <8HCP, natural, 0-1M

2NT <8HCP, minors, 0-1M
3m <8HCP, natural, 0-1M

The Gazzilli convention is very useful for hands too weak for a 3-level GF reverse but too strong for a minimum rebid at the 2 level: especially those 15-17 hands with a bad suit, that do not want to jump rebid at the 3 level.

Using Gazzilli, one may give up puppet/muppet bids for strong 1NT(15-17) hands with a 5 card major, since the rebids are no longer a problem.

Many pairs in Italy use the Gazzilli 2♣ for ALL strong 1M openings: that frees the jump to 3 of a suit and 2NT rebid for distributional hands.

Sample bidding sequences (provided you do not play Kaplan interchange/inversion bids)

1♥-1NT-2♣-2♠ <8HCP with 3♠ and both minors (55/54).

1♥-1NT-2♣-2♦-2♠=17+HCP with 4♠.

1♥-1NT-2♠ <17HCP, but 6-5 in ♥-♠.

1♠-1NT-2♣-2♦-2♥=17+HCP with 3/4♥.

1♠-1NT-2♣-2♦-3♥=17+HCP with 5♥.

For a complete discussion of all the Gazzilli bidding sequences visit the site:
www.bridgeguys.com/pdf/GazzilliND.pdf developed by **Mr. Sudhir Aggarwal**

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Gazzilli

Playing a so-called standard bidding system, the player opens one of a Major suit and, without competition, the partner responds 1 No Trump. Now if you have a Major single suiter game-forcing hand, there is no convenient bid in several of the standard bidding systems. The player might jump to three of a Minor suit to force the bidding, but that will mean that the responder will not know whether the new suit contains 3 or 4 or 5 cards. Also when the player jumps to the three level with a game-forcing holding with 5-4-3-1 distribution, it becomes difficult to find the fit in your 3-card suit if the responder has that suit in a weak holding. The jump rebid has consumed much of the bidding space, which is of paramount importance for exploring and finding the correct and maximum contract.

Similarly another problem area for standard bidders is balanced holdings of 15-17 high card points containing a 5-card Major suit. If the player opens one of a Major suit, there is a rebid problem with these holdings. Many of the players today open 1 No Trump with a 5-card Major suit to solve this problem. However this creates an additional problem as the partnership might miss out on a 5-4 or a 5-3 Major suit fit on borderline holdings.

To solve all these difficulties and also to allow non-forcing jumps to the three level with fewer high card points (14-16), the Gazzilli conventional method has been developed. The exact origin is somewhat clouded, but the agreement is that this method was devised in Italy.

A) What is Gazzilli

Gazzilli is an artificial bid of 2♣ by the opener generally after an opening bid of 1♥ or 1♠ and a response of 1♠ or 1NT. The 2♣ response is forcing, but the partnership will normally not play in a Minor suit unless no other option is available. The 2♣ bid is employed for the following kinds of holdings:

5-3-3-2 hands of 12-14, 15-17 and 18-20 high card points.

5 of a Major suit and 4 plus Clubs with 11-16 high card points.

Generally all other hands of 17 plus high card points (single suiter, two-suiter etc.)

The one feature about the Gazzilli conventional method is that the significance of the individual bids and responses may also be decided, altered, modified, or varied by the partnership. This feature also pertains to the meanings of the continuances.

Note: The Gazzilli conventional method may also be played over Minor suit openings, and the Minor suit bidding sequences are shown following the Major suit openings and continuances.

B) Opener's Rebids After a 1 Heart Opening

Since Gazzilli covers most of the holdings containing 17 plus high card points, it allows the partnership a great deal of flexibility with Precision-like jumps. The jumps are no longer forcing and simple bids at the two level (except 2♣) are narrower in high card points. This certainly has an advantage as the responder no longer needs to keep the bidding open. The following are opener's rebids after a 1♥ opening and a 1♠ or 1 No Trump response.

Note: The attempt has been made to present the bidding sequence and the significance of the bids and responses in bold letters in order to assist the reader.

The rebids of the opener, without competition, after the bidding sequence of 1♥ - 1♠ are as follows. The rebids are generally natural in nature, but the introduction of the Gazzilli conventional method is forcing and, via the continuances, the holding is clarified further.

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1♠	
1NT		This shows a balanced holding with 12-14 high card points.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention.
2♦		Natural; promises 5 Hearts and 4 plus Diamonds, and 11-16 high card points
2♥		Natural; promises 6 Hearts and shows 11-14 high card points.
2♠		Shows 3 or 4 card support and 11-14 high card points. (The Limit Raise is part of the bidding system, but does not distinguish between a 3-card and a 4-card support. The individual partnership may add such a feature.)
2NT		This rebid may be played as a Splinter; as showing 4-card support for partner's suit; as showing a 6-card Heart suit and a 3-card Spade suit as support for partner's suit; but only shows 14-16 high card points by whichever agreement.
3♣		Natural; promises a 5-card Heart suit and a 5-card Club suit; shows 14-16 high card points.
3♦		Natural; promises a 5-card Heart suit and a 5-card Diamond suit: shows 14-16 high card points.
3♥		Natural; promises 6 Hearts and denies 3-card Spade support for partner; shows 14-16 high card points.
3♠		Promises 4-card Spade support and a close distribution of 4-5-2-2; shows 14-16 high card points.
4♣		Promises 6 Hearts and 4 Spades in support of partner's suit. Shows a singleton in Clubs (or possible void?).
4♦		Promises 6 Hearts and 4 Spades in support of partner's suit. Shows a singleton in Diamonds (or possible void?).

The rebids of the opener after the bidding sequence, without competition, of 1♥ - 1NT are as follows. The 1 No Trump response can have a definite range according to the partnership agreement. One option is to play standard 6-9 high card points and a second option is to play the 1 No Trump Forcing conventional method used in the Two Over One bidding system with a range between 5 plus and 12 minus high card points.

A feature of the Gazzilli conventional method is that a first response of 1 No Trump is generally considered to be forcing for one round. If the partner has previously passed, then the opener may pass this 1 No Trump first response if the contract cannot be improved.

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1NT	<p>The Gazzilli convention.</p> <p>Natural; promises 4 plus Diamonds; shows 11-16 high card points</p> <p>Natural; promises 6 Hearts; shows 11-14 high card points.</p> <p>Promises a 5-card plus Heart suit and a 4-card plus Spade suit; shows 17 plus high card points.</p> <p>Not assigned. This rebid may be played as showing a 6-card plus Heart suit and any 4-card side suit, with values of 17 plus high card points, to which 3♣ by the responder would be a game-forcing relay.</p> <p>Natural; promises a 5-card Heart suit and a 5-card Club suit; shows 14-16 high card points.</p> <p>Natural; promises a 5-card Heart suit and a 5-card Diamond suit; shows 14-16 high card points.</p> <p>Natural; promises a 6-card plus Heart suit; shows 14-16 high card points.</p> <p>Promises a 6-card Heart suit and a 5-card Spade suit.</p> <p>Promises a 6 Hearts - 5 Clubs distribution; shows 14-16 high card points.</p> <p>Promises a 6 Hearts – 5 Diamonds distribution; shows 14-16 high card points.</p>
2♣		
2♦		
2♥		
2♠		
2NT		
3♣		
3♦		
3♥		
3♠		
4♣		
4♦		

C) Opener's Rebids After a 1 Spade Opening

The rebids after a 1 Spade opening and a first response of 1 No Trump are similar to the structure after a 1 Heart opening and are shown below:

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♠	1NT	
2♣		The Gazzilli convention.
2♦		Natural. Promises 3 plus Diamonds; shows 11-16 high card points.
2♥		Natural. Promises 4 plus Hearts; shows 11-16 high card points.
2♠		Promises a 6 plus Spade suit; shows 11-14 high card points.
2NT		Promises a 6 plus Spade suit and any 4-card side suit; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♣		Natural. Promises a 5 plus Spade suit and a 5 card Club suit; shows 14-16 high card points.
3♦		Natural. Promises a 5 plus Spade suit and a 5 card Diamond suit; shows 14-16 high card points.
3♥		Natural. Promises a 5 plus Spade suit and a 5 card Heart suit; shows 14-16 high card points.
3♠		Promises a 6 plus Spade suit; shows 14-16 high card points.
4♣		Natural. Shows a 6-5 distribution of 6 Spades and 5 Clubs; shows 14-16 high card points.
4♦		Natural. Shows a 6-5 distribution of 6 Spades and 5 Diamonds; shows 14-16 high card points.
4♠		Natural. Shows a 6-5 distribution of 6 Spades and 5 Hearts; shows 14-16 high card points.

Following the bidding sequence: 1♠ - 1NT – 2NT, the rebids of the responder are shown as below:

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♠	1NT	
2NT		Promises a 6 plus Spade suit and any 4-card side suit; shows 17 plus high card points.
	3♣	This is a relay rebid and requests the information as to which 4-card side suit. This rebid is game forcing.
3♦		Promises a 4-card Diamond suit.
3♥		Promises a 4-card Heart suit.
3♠		Promises a 4-card Spade suit.
		Continuances after 2NT
	3♦	To play if first rebid.
	3♥	To play if first rebid.
	3♠	To play if first rebid.

In this particular bidding sequence only the 3♣ rebid by the responder is game forcing.

D) Responder's Rebids and Further Developments After a 1 Heart Opening

As soon as the Gazzilli conventional method has been initiated, then generally the forcing bid is **2♦**, which the responder rebids as a relay to request additional information and shows, at the same time, around 7/8 high card points. As soon as the opener has clarified his holding promising 17 plus high card points, then a game force has been established.

The first obligation of the responder is to then limit his holding as quickly as possible via the following guidelines and according to the following bidding sequences.

If the bidding sequence begins with **1 Major - 1 Major** - 2 Clubs (Gazzilli) - 2 Diamonds (game-forcing action), then these continuances are shown first.

For the bidding sequence **1 Major - 1 No Trump** - 2 Clubs (Gazzilli) - 2 Diamonds (game-forcing action), then the continuances are shown following.

Note: As a reminder the bidding sequence is in bold letters to assist the reader.

Bidding Sequence: 1♥ - 1♠ - 2♣ - 2♦

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1♠	<p>The Gazzilli convention. A relay rebid creating a game forcing auction. Shows around 7/8 plus high card points.</p>
2♣	2♦	
2♥		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 3 plus Clubs; shows 11-16 high card points
2♠		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 3 plus Spades; shows 17 plus high card points.
2NT		Promises 5 Hearts, a distribution of 5-3-3-2; shows 16-17 high card points
3♣		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 4 plus Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♦		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 4 plus Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♥		Promises 6 plus Hearts and 17 plus high card points without a 3-card Spade suit.
3♠		Promises 5 Hearts and 4 Clubs and 3 Spades; shows 15-16 high card points.
3NT		Promises 5 Hearts and a distribution of 5-3-3-2♠ (Spades); shows 18-19 high card points.
		Continuances after 2♣ Gazzilli
	2♥	Shows 2 or 3-card Hearts support and is to play. Shows no additional values.
	2♠	Shows 5 plus Spades, shortness in Hearts, and is to play. Shows no additional values.
	2NT	Shows 5 plus Diamonds. This is a sign-off.
	3♣	Shows a 5 plus Club suit. This is a sign-off.
	3♦	Shows 5 Spades and 5 Diamonds, and 8-10 high card points.
	3♥	Limit Raise showing at least 3 Hearts and 4 or more Spades
	3♠	Invitational with 6 plus Spades.

Bidding Sequence: 1♥ - 1♠ - 2♣ - 2♦ - 2♥ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1♠	
2♣		The Gazzilli convention.
	2♦	A relay rebid creating a game forcing auction. Promises around 7/8 plus high card points.
2♥		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 3 plus Clubs; shows 11-16 high card points.
	2♠	This is a game-forcing relay.
2NT		Shows a distribution of 2-5-2-4.
3♣		Shows 5 Hearts and 5 Clubs.
3♦		Shows 5 Hearts, 4 Clubs and 3 Diamonds.
3♥		Shows 6 Hearts and 4 Clubs.
3♠		Shows 5 Hearts, 4 Clubs and 3 Spades
3NT		Shows a distribution of 5-3-3-2, and 14-15 high card points.
		Continuances after 2♥
	2NT	Shows an invitational holding.
	3♣	To play.
	3♦	This rebid by responder is Fourth Suit Forcing and is forcing to game.
	3♥	Establishes the trump suit and requests cuebidding.
	3♠	Shows 6 plus Spades.
	3NT	To play. Sign-off.

Bidding Sequence: 1♥ - 1♠ - 2♣ - 2♦ - 2♠ (17+ & 3+S) – 2NT - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1♠	
2♣		The Gazzilli convention.
	2♦	A relay rebid creating a game forcing auction. Promises around 7/8 plus high card points.
2♠		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 3+ Spades; shows 17 plus high card points.
	2NT	Shows an invitational holding.
3♣		Promises 5 Hearts, 3 Spades and 4 Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♦		Promises 5 Hearts, 3 Spades and 4 Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♥		Promises 6 Hearts and 3 Spades; shows 17 plus high card points
3♠		Promises 5 Hearts and 4 Spades; shows 17 plus high card points.
3NT		Shows a distribution of 5-3-3-2 with 3♠ (Spades); shows 17-19 high card points.
4♣		Promises 5 Hearts and 4 Spades and either a singleton or void in Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
4♦		Promises 5 Hearts and 4 Spades and either a singleton or void in Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.

Bidding Sequence: 1♥ - 1♠ - 2♣ - 2♦ - 2NT (16-17 hcps) - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1♠	
2♣		The Gazzilli convention.
	2♦	A relay rebid creating a game forcing auction. Promises around 7/8 plus high card points.
2NT		Promises 5 Hearts, a distribution of 5-3-3-2, and 16-17 high card points
	3♣	Shows 4 Spades and 5 plus Clubs.
	3♦	Shows 4 Spades and 5 plus Diamonds.
	3♥	A single Heart (limit) raise with doubleton honor; game-forcing.
	3♠	Shows 6 plus Spades; game-forcing.
	3NT	This is a sign-off.

Bidding Sequence: 1♥ - 1 No Trump - 2♣ - 2♦

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1NT	Denies a 4-card Spade suit.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention.
	2♦	A relay rebid creating a game forcing auction. Promises around 7/8 plus high card points.
2♥		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 3 plus Clubs; shows 11-16 high card points.
2♠		Promises 5 Hearts and 4 Clubs and/or Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
2NT		Promises 5 Hearts and a distribution of 5-3-3-2; shows 16-17 high card points.
3♣		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 5 Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♦		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 5 Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♥		Promises 6 plus Hearts and 17 plus high card points
3♠		<i>(This rebid has no assigned meaning)</i>
3NT		Promises 5 Hearts and a distribution of 5-3-3-2; shows 18-19 high card points.
		Continuances After 2♣ Gazzilli
	2♥	Shows 2/3 Hearts and is to play.
	2♠	Shows at least a 5-4 distribution in both Minor suits, Diamonds are the longer suit. This is a sign-off.
	2NT	Shows both Minor suits. This is a sign-off.
	3♣	Shows a 5 plus Club suit. This is a sign-off.
	3♦	Shows a 6 plus Diamond suit. This is a sign-off.
	3♥	Limit Raise with 3 Hearts. Note: does not have to be 4 Hearts.
	3♠	Shows 5 plus Clubs and a singleton Spade: shows 8 plus high card points.
	3NT	Shows 5 plus Clubs and a singleton Heart; shows 9-10 high card points.

Bidding Sequence: 1♥ - 1 No Trump - 2♣ - 2♦ - 2♥ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1NT	Denies a 4-card Spade suit.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention.
2♥	2♦	Shows 2/3 Hearts and is to play.
		Promises 5 plus Hearts and 3 plus Clubs and 11-16 high card points.
	2♠	Shows 4 plus Clubs and 10-11 high card points.
	2NT	Shows a balanced holding with 10-11 high card points.
	3♣	Shows 5 plus Clubs and 8-9 high card points.
	3♦	Shows 6 plus Diamonds and 8-10 high card points.

Bidding Sequence: 1♥ - 1 No Trump - 2♣ - 2♦ - 2♠ (17+ and 4♣/♦) - 2NT - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1NT	Denies a 4-card Spade suit.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention.
	2♦	A relay rebid creating a game forcing auction. Promises around 7/8 plus high card points.
2♠		Promises 5 Hearts and 4 Clubs and/or Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
	2NT	Shows both Minor suits. This is a sign-off.
3♣		Promises 5 Hearts and 5 Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♦		Promises 5 Hearts and 4 Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♥		Promises 6 Hearts and 4 Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♠		Promises 6 Hearts and 4 Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.

Bidding Sequence: 1♥ - 1 No Trump - 2♣ - 2♦ - 2NT - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♥	1NT	Denies a 4-card Spade suit.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention.
	2♦	A relay rebid creating a game forcing auction. Promises around 7/8 plus high card points.
2NT		Promises 5 Hearts and a distribution of 5-3-3-2; shows 16-17 high card points.
	3♣	Shows 5 plus Clubs and is game forcing.
	3♦	Shows 5 plus Diamonds and is game forcing.
	3♥	This is a Heart raise with an honor doubleton, and is game forcing.
	3♠	Shows both Minor suits.

If the opening is 1♠ and the Gazzilli conventional method is initiated **and** the 2♦ relay bid is employed creating a game forcing action, the following continuances are used:

Bidding Sequence: 1♠ - 1 No Trump - 2♣ - 2♦ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♠	1NT	Denies a 4-card Spade suit.
2♣	2♦	The Gazzilli convention. A relay rebid creating a game forcing auction. Promises around 7/8 plus high card points.
2♥		Promises either 5 plus Spades and 4 Clubs and shows 15-16 high card points OR promises 5 Spades and either 4♣/♦/♥, and shows 17 plus high card points.
		Note: the following continuances pertain only to the clarification of the 2♥ bid by opener.
	2♠	This is a relay bid and asks the opener to clarify his holding.
2NT		Promises 5 Spades and 4 Clubs; shows 15-16 high card points.
3♣		Promises 5 Spades and 4 Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♦		Promises 5 Spades and 4 Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♥		Promises 5 Spades and 4 Hearts; shows 17 plus high card points.
		Continuances after 2♦ Relay for Opener
2♠		Promises 5 plus Spades and 3 plus Clubs; shows 11-14 high card points.
2NT		Promises 5 Spades, a distribution of 5-3-3-2; shows 15-17 high card points.
3♣		Promises 5 plus Spades and 5 Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♦		Promises 5 plus Spades and 5 Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♥		Promises 5 plus Spades and 5 Hearts; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♠		Promises 6 plus Spades, 17 plus high card points, and denies 3 Hearts.
3NT		Promises 5 Spades, a distribution of 5-3-3-2, and 18-19 high card points.

E) Responses and Rebids After a Minor Suit Opening

As long as the partnership agreement is that the Gazzilli conventional method is included, then if the opening bid is a Minor suit on the one level, then the partnership may not employ the 2♣ rebid as a natural bid, which some partnerships may view as a disadvantage. The agreement is: **after opening one of a Minor suit, the rebid of the other Minor suit on the two level is Gazzilli.**

Requirements: the 2♣ or 2♦ Gazzilli rebid is employed for the following kinds of holdings:

shows so-called normal holdings with a single-suited Minor and 17 plus high card points.

shows a 4-card Major suit support for partner with 17 plus high card points. (Note: some partnerships agree on 18-19 hcps).

shows an unbalanced holding with 17 plus high card points with a 5-card plus Minor suit.

As a resulting, possibly unintentional side-effect, direct Splinter bids therefore become, per agreement, reserved for all 4-4-4-1 distributional holdings.

Following are several examples of bidding sequences, which are presented with continuances.

1. Bidding Sequences After a 1 Diamond Opening

Bidding Sequence: 1♦ - 1♥ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♦		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♥	Shows a 4-card plus Heart suit.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
3♣		Promises 5 plus Diamonds and 5 plus Clubs; shows 14-16 high card points.
3♦		Promises 6 plus Diamonds and shows 14-16 high card points.
3♥		Promises 4 plus Heart support and shows 14-16 high card points.

Remember: All other rebids and responses are the same if the Gazzilli conventional method has not been triggered, and per partnership agreement.

Remember: The continuances, after Gazzilli has been initiated, may also be per partnership agreement and/but should adhere as closely as possible to the guidelines of a Major suit opening.

Bidding Sequence: 1♦ - 1♥ - 2♣ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♦		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♥	Shows a 4-card plus Heart suit.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
	2♥	Shows 5 plus Hearts, and is to play.
	2♠	Relay, one-round force.
	2NT	Shows 4 plus Clubs. This is a sign off.
	3♣	Shows 4 plus Clubs and shows invitational values.
	3♦	Shows 4 plus Diamonds and shows invitational values.
	3♥	Shows 6 plus Hearts and invitational values.
	3♠	Shows 6 Hearts and 5 Spades; game forcing.

Bidding Sequence: 1♦ - 1♥ - 2♣ - 2♠ (Relay) - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♦		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♥	Shows a 4-card plus Heart suit.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
	2♠	Relay, one-round force.
2NT		Promises 5 plus Diamonds and 4 plus Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♣		Promises 5 plus Diamonds and 4 plus Clubs and shows a maximum of 16 high card points.
3♦		Promises 6 plus Diamonds and 17 plus high card points.
3♥		Promises 4 Hearts and 18-19 high card points.
3♠		Promises 5 plus Diamonds and 4 Hearts; shortness in Spades; shows 17 plus high card points.
4♣		Promises 5 plus Diamonds and 4 Hearts; shortness in Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.

Bidding Sequence: 1♦ - 1♥ - 2♣ - 2♦ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♦		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♥	Shows a 4-card plus Heart suit.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
	2♦	To play. (Note: not necessarily a sign-off)
2♥		Promises a 3-card Heart support, shortness in Spades; shows 14-16 high card points.
2♠		Promises 5 plus Diamonds and 4 plus Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
2NT		Promises 6 plus Diamonds and shows 19 plus high card points.
3♣		Promises 5 plus Diamonds and 5 plus Clubs; game forcing.
3♦		Promises 6 plus Diamonds; shows 17-18 high card points and is invitational.
3♥		Promises 4 Hearts in support of partner's suit, and shows 18-19 high card points.
3♠		Promises 5 plus Diamonds and 4 Hearts; shows shortness in Spades; shows 17 plus high card points.
4♣		Promises 5 plus Diamonds and 4 Hearts; shows shortness in Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.

Bidding Sequence: 1♦ - 1♠ - 2♣ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♦		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♠	Shows a 4-card plus Spade suit.
2♣		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
	2♦	To play.
	2♥	Relay; one round force.
	2♠	To play.
	2NT	Shows 4 plus Clubs; sign off.
	3♣	Shows 4 plus Clubs and is invitational, not forcing.
	3♦	Shows 4 plus Diamonds and is invitational, not forcing.
	3♥	Shows 5 plus Spades and 5 Hearts; invitational.
	3♠	Shows 6 plus Spades; game forcing.

2. Bidding Sequences After a 1 Club Opening

If the opening bid is 1 Club, then the rebid of 2 Clubs cannot be the introduction of the Gazzilli conventional method. In this bidding sequence the rebid of 2 Diamonds must therefore act as triggering the Gazzilli conventional method.

Although there are some similarities in the continuances between a Diamond suit opening and a Club suit opening, there are definite discrepancies. The requirements for initiating Gazzilli is repeated here for the convenience of the reader.

Requirements: the 2♣ or 2♦ Gazzilli rebid is employed for the following kinds of holdings:

shows so-called normal holdings with a single-suited Minor and 17 plus high card points

shows a 4-card Major suit support for partner with 17 plus (some partnerships agree on 18-19) high card points

shows an unbalanced holding with 17 plus high card points with a 5-card plus Minor suit

As a resulting, possibly unintentional side-effect, direct Splinter bids therefore become, per agreement, reserved for all 4-4-4-1 distributional holdings.

Bidding Sequence: 1♣ - 1♥ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♣		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♥	Shows a 4-card plus Heart suit.
2♦		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
3♣		Promises 6 plus Clubs and shows 14-16 high card points.
3♦		This is a Splinter bid in Diamonds showing a distribution of 4-4-4-1; promises 18 plus high card points.
3♥		Promises 4 Hearts support for partner's suit; shows 14-16 high card points.

Remember: All other rebids and responses are the same if the Gazzilli conventional method has not been triggered, and per partnership agreement.

Remember: The continuances, after Gazzilli has been initiated, may also be per partnership agreement and/but should adhere as closely as possible to the guidelines of a Major suit opening.

Bidding Sequence: 1♣ - 1♥ - 2♦ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♣		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♥	Shows a 4-card plus Heart suit.
2♦		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
	2♥	Shows 5 plus Hearts; to play.
	2♠	Relay bid; one-round force.
	2NT	Shows 4 plus Diamonds; sign-off.
	3♣	Sign-off.
	3♦	Shows 5 plus Hearts and 4 plus Diamonds; game forcing.
	3♥	Shows 6 plus Hearts, invitational, not forcing.
	3♠	Shows 6 Hearts and 5 Spades; game forcing.

Bidding Sequence: 1♣ - 1♥ - 2♦ - 2♠ (Relay) - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♣		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♥	Shows a 4-card plus Heart suit.
2♦		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
	2♠	Relay bid; one-round force.
2NT		Promises 5 plus Clubs and 4 plus Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♣		Promises 6 plus Clubs and shows 17 plus high card points.
3♦		Promises 6 plus Clubs and 5 Diamonds; game forcing.
3♥		Promises 4 Hearts support for partner's suit, balanced to semi-balanced distribution; shows 18-19 high card points.
3♠		Promises 5 plus Clubs and 4 Hearts; shortness in Spades; 17 plus high card points.
4♣		Promises 5 plus Clubs and 4 Hearts; shortness in Diamonds; 17 plus high card points.

Bidding Sequence: 1♣ - 1♠ - 2♦ - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♣		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♠	Shows a 4-card plus Spade suit.
2♦		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
	2♥	Relay bid.
	2♠	Shows 5 Spades; to play.
	2NT	Shows 4 plus Diamonds; sign-off.
	3♣	This is a sign-off.
	3♦	Shows 5 plus Spades and 4 plus Diamonds; game forcing.
	3♥	Shows 5 plus Spades and 5 Hearts; game forcing.
	3♠	Shows 6 plus Spades; game forcing.

Bidding Sequence: 1♣ - 1♠ - 2♦ - 2♥ (Relay) - ?

Opener	Responder	Meaning
1♣		Denies a 5-card Major suit.
	1♠	Shows a 4-card plus Spade suit.
2♦		The Gazzilli convention. See above requirements.
	2♥	Relay bid.
2♠		Promises 3 Spades, 5 plus Clubs and 4 plus Diamond; shows 17 plus high card points.
2NT		Promises 5 plus Clubs and 4 plus Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♣		Promises 6 plus Clubs; shows 17 plus high card points.
3♦		Promises 6 plus Clubs and 5 Diamonds; game forcing.
3♠		Promises 4 Spades support for partner's suit; balanced to semi-balanced distribution; shows 18-19 high card points.
4♦		Promises 5 plus Clubs and 4 Spades support for partner's suit and shortness in Diamonds; shows 17 plus high card points.
4♥		Promises 5 plus Clubs and 4 Spades support for partner's suit and shortness in Hearts; shows 17 plus high card points.