

# **Responses to 2 CLUB Opening Bids by Partner**

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**There are four different systems that are played in our Lincoln club in response to partners opening bid of 2 CLUBS. Each system has good points and certain drawbacks. I will attempt to outline the four systems being used and indicate some of the pluses and minuses of each system. At some later date I will go through each of the systems in detail and get into not only the responders calls, but the rebids by the opener and then the responders follow up bids.**

**The first two systems (I will call A1 and A2) both indicate information about the responders suits and tell the opening bidder if they have a bust\*.<sup>1</sup> The next two systems (B1 and B2) both indicate information about either point count or numbers of aces and kings that responder has, but says nothing about the suits responder has.**

## **1A – TWO DIAMONDS THEN THREE CLUBS IS A DOUBLE NEGATIVE**

**After an opening 2 CLUB bid by partner – responder bids 2 of any suit that they have 5 cards in, with at least two of the top three honors, otherwise they bid 2 DIAMONDS (waiting). This says nothing about the DIAMOND suit. After openers response, a bid of 3 CLUBS by responder says I have a bust\*. All other bids (except 2 diamonds followed by three clubs) are natural.**

## **2A – TWO HEARTS IS A DOUBLE NEGATIVE**

**After an opening 2 CLUB bid by partner – responder bids 2 HEARTS with a bust – they bid 2 of any other suit that they have 5 cards in, with at least two of the top three honors, and 2 DIAMONDS with any other hand. If you have 5 hearts with two of the top three honors you bid 2 NOTRUMP.**

## **1B – POINTS SHOWING RESPONSES (STEPS)**

**After an opening 2 CLUB bid by partner – responder bids**

**2 Diamonds with 0 – 3 high card points (may pass any other bid opener makes)**

**2 Hearts with 4 – 6 high card points (game forcing)**

**2 Spades with 7 – 9 high card points (game forcing)**

**2 No-Trump with 10 or more high card points (game forcing)**

**2B – CONTROL SHOWING RESPONSE Ace = 2controls, King = 1 controls**

**2 Diamonds shows 0 or 1 control; 2 Hearts shows 2 controls; 2 Spades shows 3 controls; 2 NT shows 4 controls**

**S AKQJ10 76**

**H AQ5**

**D x**

**C xx**

**S AKxx**

**H AKxx**

**D AKx**

**C Ax**

- 
- Bust – no aces, no kings, not two queens