



Neapolitan Club

online bridge magazine – Double first!

Walsh No Trump Notes, by Rhoda Walsh. Chapter V. Part I. 1NT-2♠: Minor suit Stayman

The “Walsh Notrump Notes” is the Rhoda Walsh’s study on No Trump openings with their developments either in uncontested and contested auctions. We have parted it in nine chapters; in the first chapter there is a concise terminology.

Chapters already published:

I. 1NT opening. Stayman and Smolen (with terminology). Published on 26th January 2014

II. FITS after Stayman. Published on 25th March 2014

III. Opponents' interference over Stayman. Published on 7th June 2014

IV. Jacoby Transfer and Walsh Relay

Part I: Opener initial responses and Responder’s initial rebids

Part II: Opener’s further rebids. The Walsh Relay

Part III: Opener’s further rebids but the Walsh Relay

Part IV. Opponents’ interference over Jacoby Transfer

V. Part I: 1NT-2♠ - Minor suit Stayman

To be published in future:

V. PART II: 1NT-2NT - Club Bust or 4-4-4-1 game force

VI. 1NT-Natural suit jump 3♣/♦/♥/♠. Game invitational

VII. 1NT-Four level responses. Texas, quantitative, key card asking

VIII. Opponents' interference over 1NT

IX. 20-21 2NT and artificial 3NT openings

Chapter V. Part I: 1NT-2♠ – Minor suit Stayman

In General: 2♠ Minor Suit Stayman (1NT-2♠) is used to describe four distinct types of hands:

A Club-Diamond Bust: Five+ five+ in the minors. 0 to 6 HCP. NO game interest.

A Diamond Bust: Six+ diamonds. 0 to 6 HCP. Signoff.

A Distributional Club-Diamond Game Forcing+ Hand: Five+ four+ in the minors. No four card major. A singleton or void major. 9+ HCP. Game forcing. May have slam interest.

A Balanced Club-Diamond Slam Interest Hand: 2-2-[5]-[4] distribution. 15 to 16 HCP. Game forcing. Slam invitational.

OPENER'S INITIAL RESPONSES. Opener treats the 2♠ bid as Minor Suit Stayman (asking for a four card minor), and responds as follows:

1NT – 2♠

2NT: Denies a four card minor. Forcing one round.

3♣: Four+ clubs. May have four diamonds. Nonforcing.

3♦: Four+ diamonds. Denies four clubs.

Exception: With four clubs and five diamonds, opener responds 3♦, ignoring the four card club suit. Nonforcing.

RESPONDER'S REBIDS

Holding a Club-Diamond Bust: Five+ five+ in the minors. 0 to 6 HCP. No game interest.

1NT – 2♠

2NT (Denies a four card minor. Forcing one round).

Responder rebids 3♣: Five+ five+ minors. 0 to 7 HCP. Pass or correct.

1NT – 2♠

3♣/3♦ (Four+ clubs/diamonds. Nonforcing)

Responder rebids Pass: Five+-five+ minors. 0 to 7 HCP. Signoff.

Holding a Diamond Bust:

1NT – 2♠

2NT/3♣: Opener denies a four card minor; forcing one round/ Has four+ clubs. Nonforcing.

Responder rebids 3♦: Six+ diamonds. 0 to 6 HCP. No game interest. To play.

1NT – 2♠

3♦: (Four+ diamonds. Nonforcing).

Responder rebids Pass: Signoff.

Holding a Distributional Club-Diamond Game Forcing+ Hand:

1NT – 2♠

2NT/3♣/3♦ – 3♥/3♠: Heart/spade splinter. 9+ HCP. Minimum of five-four in the minors. Game forcing+.

1NT – 2♠

3♣[3♦] – 4♣[4♦]: 1430 RKCB in clubs [diamonds]. 18+ PSP. Forcing to 5♣[5♦].

Holding a Balanced Club-Diamond Slam Interest Hand:

1NT – 2♠

2NT/3♣/3♦ – 4NT: Quantitative. 2-2-[5]-[4] distribution. 15 to 16 HCP. Slam invitational. Nonforcing.

OPENER'S & RESPONDER'S FURTHER REBIDS

Responder Rebids 3♥ or 3♠

1NT – 2♠: Minor Suit Stayman.

2NT: No four card minor.

Responder rebids 3♥/3♠: Heart/spade splinter. 9+ HCP. Minimum of [five]-four] in the minors. Game forcing+.

3NT: Heavy values in responder's Splinter suit. To play.

Over 3NT, Responder rebids:

– Pass: No slam interest. Signoff.

– 4♥/4♠: Heart/spade void Splinter. 14+ HCP. Minimum of five-five in the minors. Slam invitational.

Follow-up: Opener either signs off by bidding 4NT or five of a minor, or jumps to six of a minor. Signoff.

– 4♣/4♦: Five clubs / five diamonds. Continuing slam interest. Forcing to 4NT or 5♣/5♦.

Over Responder's 4♣/4♦, Opener rebids:

4♦/4♥/4♠: Control-bid for club [diamond] slam.

Note: A Control-bid by Opener of Responder's singleton or void major promises the ace of that major.

4NT/5♣/5♦: No slam interest. To play.

1NT – 2♠: Minor Suit Stayman.

3♣/3♦: Four+ clubs/ four+ diamonds.

Responder rebids:

– 4♣/4♦: Minorwood. 1430 Minor Suit RKCB in clubs/diamonds. Forcing to 4NT or 5♣/5♦.

– 3♥/3♠: Heart/spade splinter. 9+ HCP. Minimum of [five]-[four] in the minors. Game forcing+.

Over Responder's 3♥/3♠, Opener rebids 3NT: Heavy values in responder's splinter suit. To play.

Over 3NT, Responder rebids:

– Pass: No slam interest. Signoff.

– 4♥/4♠: Heart/spade void Splinter. 14+ HCP. Slam invitational.

Follow-up: Opener either signs off by bidding 4NT or five of a minor, or jumps to six of a minor. Signoff.

– 4♣/4♦: Continuing slam interest. *Note:* Not Minorwood. Forcing to 4NT or 5♣/5♦

Over 4♣/4♦, Opener rebids:

4♦/4♥/4♠ Control-bid for club [diamond] slam. *Note:* A Control-bid by opener of responder's singleton or void major promises the ace of that major.

4NT/5♣/5♦: No slam interest. To play.

1NT – 2♠: Minor Suit Stayman.

2NT/3♣/3♦: No four card minor [four+ clubs/four+ diamonds].

Responder rebids 3♥/3♠: Heart/spade Splinter. 9+ HCP. Minimum of [five-four] in the minors. Game forcing+.

4♣[4♦] Light values in responder's splinter suit. Game forcing. *Note:* Opener rebids his longest minor (or 4♣, if equal in the minors).

Responder rebids: 4♥/4♠: Control-bid up-the-line (bypassing the diamond suit). Slam invitational.

Follow-up: Opener either signs off by bidding 4NT or five of a minor, or jumps to six of a minor. Signoff.

4NT: 1430 RKCB in clubs / diamonds.

5♣/5♦: No slam interest. Signoff.

In competition

In General: The convention is off in competition.

Me Opp You

1NT 2♦/♥ 2♠: Natural. Competitive. Non invitational.

Exception: The convention is on if "System" is on; i.e., over opponent's One or Two-Suited Double or Non-Landy type 2♣ Overcall of 1NT.

ME

OPP

YOU

1NT

Dbl/2♣

2♠: Minor Suit Stayman. Artificial. Forcing one round.

Passed hand bidding: The convention is on regardless of whether or not responder is a passed hand.