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This Week in Bridge

(426) Special 2-Major & 2NT Rebids in 2/1 GF Auctions

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Level: 10 of 10 (6 of 6)

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General

When we are in a regular partnership, we often develop sophisticated 2/1 GF auction agreements – like “2-Major Waiting” and “3-level rebids show extra values”. This “2-Major Waiting” agreement allows Opener to rebid 2-Major more often than “natural” bidding (and preserves bidding space). We can actually take these agreements further, creating a structure where our rebids give more shape and strength information to our partner. To do this we will define “rebidding our Major” as showing exactly a 5-card suit with a minimum hand and use a rebid of 2NT to show a 6+card Major. Let’s look at these agreements in detail and see how they help us better describe our hand.

2NT Rebid Showing a 6+card Major Suit

In a 2/1 GF auction we can introduce a conventional agreement that a rebid of 2NT by the opening bidder shows a 6th card in our Major suit.

Example 1

♠ AQ9542

♥ 9

♦ Q93

♣ A43

1♠ 2♥

___?

A 2NT* rebid shows a 6+card ♠ suit. It also usually denies 3-card ♥ support. This 2NT* rebid is a conventional agreement we make with partner.

2NT* is our rebid with this hand but could also be used with a stronger hand.



Example 2

♠ KQ9542

♥ A

♦ K93

♣ AQ3

1♠ 2♥

___?

Here we rebid 2NT* to show our 6th ♠ and later make a strong bid to show our extra values.

Note: A jump to 3-Major still shows a very strong suit and thus rebidding 2NT denies a self-sufficient suit.

2-Major Rebid – Showing a 5-card Suit and a Minimum

We combine using 2NT* to show an extra card in our long suit with using 2-Major to deny having a 6-card suit and show a minimum valued hand.

Example 3

♠ AQ954

♥ A9

♦ Q93

♣ 843

1♠ 2♥

___?

Here we rebid 2♠, which denies 3+card ♥ support and shows exactly 5-card ♠ with a minimum hand. This can be a balanced hand or a hand with a 4+card minor.

Example 4

♠ AQ954

♥ A

♦ 932

♣ Q843

1♠ 2♥

___?

Here we rebid 2♠ as well. We do not have enough values to show our ♣ suit.



Other Shapes and Strengths

We can use these new 2NT* and 2-Major rebid agreements to effectively describe many hands – shapes and strengths.

Example 5

♠ KQ954

♥ A

♦ KJ32

♣ K43

1♠ 2♥

___?

Here we rebid 3♦, showing 4+card ♦ and at least 14 points – extra values. This bidding usually denies having a 6-card ♠ suit as we would rebid 2NT with that hand.

Example 6

♠ K9

♥ AQ8732

♦ 2

♣ K432

1♥ 2♦

___?

Here we rebid 2NT to show our 6+card ♥ suit. This does not limit our hand in values, but it shows our extra ♥ and keep the auction at a relatively low level.

Conclusion

If you have a partnership that likes to add a lot of structure to your constructive bidding agreements, then these 2/1 GF methods are an expert modern approach. They take a little practice getting used to, but once you do you are able to describe your hand well, in terms of strength and shape, in your 2/1 GF auctions. Give it a try if you and your partner are up for it!