

3)Response to 1NT with majors 5-5 and competitive, inviting or forcing hand.

When partner opens 1NT and we have a 2 suited hand with majors 5-5, one thing is sure: we have no intention to pass.

We need however to be able to differentiate competitive (0-6) , inviting(6-7) and G.F(8+) hands.

With a competitive hand such as:

S

♠ K 10 9 8 5

♥ Q 8 6 4 2

♦ 2

♣ 4 5 3

we bid first the ambiguous 2♣. If North rebid is 2♥ or 2♠, we shall be happy to pass. If instead North bids 2♦, we would bid 2♥ showing a competitive hand with 5 ♥ and 4+♠ . North would then pass with a cards support in ♥, or correct to 2♠ with 2

cards support in ♥ and 3 cards support in ♠, rightly choosing to play in a sure 4-3 fit, that could turn out to be a 5-3 fit, rather than playing in 5-2 fit in ♥. In either case N-S will play at 2 level with a 5-3 fit.

With an inviting hand bidding would go differently:

S

♠ K J 10 9 8

♥ Q J 6 4 2

♦ 2

♣ 4 5

In this case, South bids first 2♦ as transfer for ♥ and then bids 2♠ showing exactly a 5-5 major 2 suiter with 6-7 HCP. North, with a maximum hand, will conclude at 4 in the major of his choice, while with a minimum hand and a weak fit will pass over

2♠ or correct to 3♥ depending on his fit.

Let us now see how things would go with a G.F. hand:

S

♠ A K J 10 9

♥ Q J 6 4 2

♦ 2

♣ 4 5

With this hand, South certainly wants to go to game. He bids first 2♥ as transfer to ♠ and then bids 3♥, thus showing exactly a 5-5 major 2 suiter with G.F. hand. North will then decide to conclude

the bidding at 4♥ or 4♠ according to his fit.