

(8) 4NT is Blackwood

(9) 5NT is the grand slam force.

### RESPONSE TO FLANNERY 2 DIAMONDS

Sign-off bids are    2 hearts  
                              2 spades  
                              3 clubs  
 or pass 2 diamond opening

Invitational bids are    3 hearts  
                                      3 spades

Sign-off bids in game are    4 hearts  
                                      4 spades  
                                      3 no trump

They are two exploratory bids    2NT and 3 diamonds

### THE 2NT RESPONSE

3 clubs    =    exactly 3 clubs (4-5-1-3 distribution)  
 3 diamonds =    exactly 3 diamonds (4-5-3-1 distribution)  
 3 hearts    =    Doubletons in both minors, minimum HCP (11 to a poor  
                              14 HCP)  
 3 spades    =    Doubletons in both minors, maximum HCP (good 14 to 16  
                              HCP). Strength in the majors  
 3NT         =    Doubletons in both minors, maximum HCP; honors in  
                              both minors QX or better  
 4 clubs     =    Four clubs (4-5-0-4 distribution)  
 4 diamonds =    Four diamonds (4-5-4-0 distribution)

Rule:        After a 2NT response to Flannery, opener can never pass  
 responder in four of a minor.

### WHEN RESPONDER BIDS 4 CLUBS (STRENGTH ASKING)

After bidding 2NT and receiving a 3 club or 3 diamond response, responder will know whether the hands fit well, but still may not know whether the partnership holds sufficient strength for slam. Remember, the 3 clubs and 3 diamonds responses show as few as 11, and as many as 16 HCP. To find out opener's strength, responder simply bids 4 clubs.

Opener rebids as follows:

4 diamonds = minimum (11 to a poor 14)  
 4 hearts = maximum (14 good to 16).

### THE 3 DIAMOND RESPONSE

A 3 diamond response to a 2 diamond opening, ask for major suit controls. Controls are defined as the ace, king or queen. Opener's first bid shows the number of controls that he possesses in spades. If responder wants to inquire about opener's heart controls, he bids

the next step, i.e. the lowest possible bid over opener's response to the 3 diamond inquiry.

### THE SPADE CONTROL INQUIRY

Opener	2 diamonds 3 hearts (2) 3 spades (3) 3NT (4) 4 clubs (5)	Responder	3 diamonds (1) one spade control two spade control three spade control no spade control
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### THE HEART CONTROL INQUIRY

Opener	2 diamonds	Responder	3 diamonds
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If opener responds:

3 hearts	then 3 spades asks for the heart controls
3 spades	3NT asks for the heart controls
3NT	4 clubs asks for the heart controls
4 clubs	4 diamonds asks for the heart controls

Opener's responses to the heart control inquiry are analogous to his responses to the spade control inquiry, i.e. a four step process with the first step showing one control, the second two controls, the third step three controls and the fourth step no controls.

#### Example:

<u>Opener</u>	<u>Responder</u>
A J 10 6	8 3 2
A J 9 7 2	K 8 6
Q 6	K 3
J 8	A K Q 9 5
2 diamonds	3 diamonds (1)
3 hearts (2)	3 spades (3)
3NT (4)	4 hearts (5)

- (1) asking for the number of spade controls
- (2) one spade control
- (3) asking for hearts control
- (4) one heart control
- (5) sign off.

#### Example:

<u>Opener</u>	<u>Responder</u>
K J x x	A Q x
A Q 10 x x	K x x x
x x	A K J x x
Q x	x
2 diamonds	3 diamonds (1)
3 hearts (2)	3 spades (3)
4 clubs (4)	4NT (5)
5 diamonds	6 hearts

- (1) asking for the number of spade controls
- (2) one spade control
- (3) asking for heart controls
- (4) two heart controls
- (5) Blackwood

### THE 4 CLUB AND 4 DIAMOND RESPONSES

- ) A 4 club response to a 2 diamond opening bid is a transfer to 4 hearts;
- ) A 4 diamond response to a 2 diamond opening bid is a transfer to 4 spades.

### INTERFERENCE OVER 2NT (FLANNERY 2 DIAMONDS)

Opener's response after opponent overcalls with three of a minor are the 2NT inquiry bid.

- 3 hearts = one card in opponent's suit
- Pass = minimum hand and two cards in opponent's suit
- Double = three or four cards in opponent's suit
- 3 spades = maximum hand (4-5-2-2)
- 3NT = maximum hand with honors in the minors.

Bidding the other minor shows a void in opponent's suit.

Responder's rebid after opponent doubles opener's 3 clubs or 3 diamonds response to a 2NT inquiry bid.

Responder's rebid of 4 clubs is no longer a strength asking bid. It now becomes a transfer bid.

- 4 clubs transfers to 4 hearts
- 4 diamonds transfers to 4 spades.