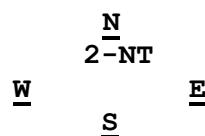


The Varied Meanings of “2-No-Trump”

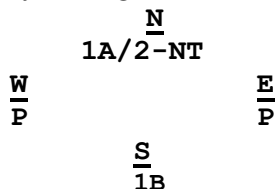
Just as there are numerous 1-NT bids with significantly different meaning dependent upon the actual sequence of the bidding process in which they become a part, the position at the Bridge table of the Players who are using them, and the possible presence of any conventions which might be employed by the individual Partnerships involved; the same situation exists with 2-NT bids, as well. **Note:** Some Conventional bids like “*Jordan*,” “*Jacoby 2-NT*,” “*Multi-Purpose 2-NT*,” and others, are herein omitted.

A. 2-NT Bids by an Opener:

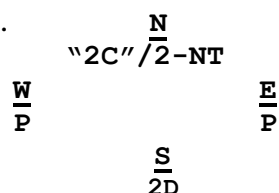
1. An Opening Bid of 2-NT in Any Position: = 20-21 HCP’s in **American Standard**, a balanced hand with no singletons, or voids, and not more than one doubleton. Conventional wisdom is that three of the 4-suits need be stopped. (Note: Some Partnerships use 20-22 or 21-22 HCP ranges, but this is simply based upon Partnership agreement.)



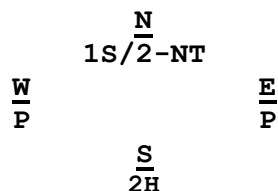
2. An Opener’s Jump Re-Bid of 2-NT, After Responder Bids a New Suit at the 1-Level: = 18-19 HCP’s, an evenly balanced hand, absent primary support for Responder’s Major suit response, and the absence of any as-yet, un-bid Major suit, as well. It shows a hand slightly stronger than a strong opening 1-NT.



3. An Opener’s Re-Bid of 2-NT After Previously Opening With a Strong, Artificial, and Forcing “2C”: = 23-24 HCP’s, an evenly balanced hand, slightly stronger than an opening bid of 2-NT.



4. An Opener’s Re-Bid of 2-NT After Partner Responds With a New Suit at the 2-Level: = Opening count with minimum opening values, and lack of support for Responder’s suit. (One King netter than minimum values in the “*2/1 Game-Forcing*” bidding system)



B. 2-NT Bids by a Responder:

1. A Responder's Bid of 2-NT Following a Major Suit Opening Bid by Partner: = By Partnership Agreement, either 11-12 HCP's (Invitational to Game), or 13-15 HCP's (Game-Forcing). Either one shows no support for Opener's Major suit. (If the Partnership is playing either "*Jacoby 2-NT*" or "*Multi-Purpose 2-NT*" Conventions, then a bid of "2-NT" has specialized meaning other than what is, herein, presented.)

	<u>N</u>	
	1H or 1S	
<u>W</u>		<u>E</u>
		<u>P</u>
	<u>S</u>	
	2-NT	

2. A Responder's Bid of 2-NT Following a Minor Suit Opening Bid by Partner: = 11-12 HCP's, invitational to Game, balanced with no 4-card as-yet, un-bid Major suit, and no support for Opener's Minor suit.

	<u>N</u>	
	1C or 1D	
<u>W</u>		<u>E</u>
		<u>P</u>
	<u>S</u>	
	2-NT	

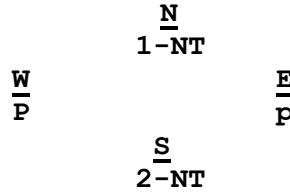
3. A Responder's Bid of "2-NT" Following Partner's Opening, Pre-Emptive 2-Level Bid: = 15 or more HCP's or its equivalent. This bid is both artificial and forcing, seeking a possible or assured Game-level contract. The Opener, by Partnership agreement, *must* show either a "*Feature*" (An outside Ace or King), if present, *or* describe his/her hand further using either the "*Ogust*" or the "*Klinger Ogust*" Convention.

	<u>N</u>	
	2D, 2H, 2S	
<u>W</u>		<u>E</u>
		<u>P</u>
	<u>S</u>	
	"2-NT" (Forcing)	

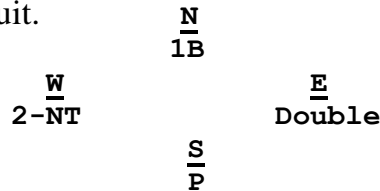
4. A Responder's Bid of 2-NT Following the Bidding Having Reached the 2-Level: = 11-12 HCP's, Natural, and invitational to 3-NT with lack of support for Opener's suit(s) and at least one "*stopper*" in the as-yet, un-bid suit(s).

	<u>N</u>	
	1D/2C	
<u>W</u>		<u>E</u>
<u>P/P</u>		<u>P/P</u>
	<u>S</u>	
	1H/2-NT	

5. A Responder's Bid of 2-NT Following Partner's Opening Bid of 1-NT:
 = 9-10 HCP's (8 HCP's with a 5-card Minor suit), Invitational to 3-NT (12-13 HCP's in *ACOL*)

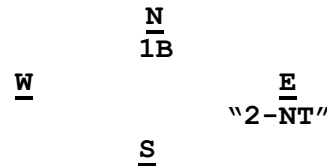


6. A Responder's Bid of 2-NT in Response to an Overcaller's Take-Out Double: = 10-12 HCP's This bid is natural and invitational to Game with at least 1-stopper in the Opener's bid suit.

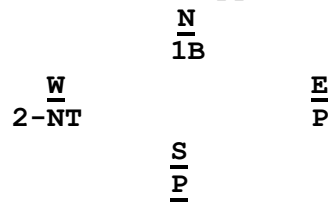


C. 2-NT Bids by an Overcaller:

1. An Overcall of 2-NT in the Direct (2nd) Following an Opponent's Opening Bid of One-of-a-Suit: = An "*Unusual No-Trump*" bid, showing 5-5 or longer in the two lower-un-bid suits, either very weak, (5-10 HCP's), or very strong, (16 (+) HCP's).



2. An Overcall of 2-NT in the Balancing (4th) Following an Opponent's Opening Bid of One-of-a-Suit: = A balanced, very strong (18-20 HCP) hand with No-Trump distribution, and at least one "*stopper*" in Opener's suit.



3. An Overcall of 2-NT In the Direct (2nd) Seat or in the Balancing (4th) Seat Following an Opponent's Opening Weak 2-Level Preempt = 15-17 HCP's equivalent to an strong opening 1-NT balanced hand with no voids, no singletons, and not more than one doubleton, with at least one "*stopper*" in the Opener's bid suit.

