

JACOBY 2NT RESPONSES TO 1 MAJOR

Assume partner opens 1♥ the other responses are:

2♥ - limit bid 5 – 8 points (or 9+ losers)

3♥ - limit bid 11 – 12 points (or 8 losers)

2NT – Jacoby response – 13 + points with trump support (see below)

4♥ - pre-emptive 7 – 10 points

Splinter bids (3♠, 4♣, 4♦) – singleton or void plus trump support.

If not using ‘losing trick count’, with 9 – 10 points change suit and show delayed support.

3NT – balanced 13+ points no heart support (three cards or less). (This could of course be passed if responder also has a balanced hand, particularly in pairs). A bid to avoid.

2NT (Jacoby response):

Shows 13 + points – game forcing – support for major (4+ cards - 4-card major; 3+ cards with honour - 5-card majors). This hand usually controls the contract thereafter.

The opener’s responses focus on showing shape as follows (assume 1♥ opening):

3♣, 3♦, 3♠ - singleton or void in the suit 13+ points.

4♣, 4♦, 4♠ - secondary good four/five card suit – a source of tricks

3NT – intermediate hand 15-16 points, with no singleton or void.

3♥ - strong hand 17+ points, with no singleton or void.

4♥ - all other minimum hands (12-14 points).

Note:

- with a minimum (11 pts.) opening bid, and a singleton or void, don’t show the feature.

If responder is particularly strong he can bid again.

- with a good secondary four/five card suit and a singleton or void, give preference to

showing the four/five card suit (remember this also probably implies a singleton or void).

- same applies for 1♠ opening

Examples:

a)	♠ 2	♠ A73
	♥ KJ984	♥ Q1072
	♦ AJ872	♦ KQ
	♣ A8	♣ K953
	1♥	2NT
	4♦ (5 card suit)	4NT (RKCB)
	5♦ (3 key cards)	6♥

Over the 2NT, opener shows his second suit. Responder’s ♦KQ are now very useful. With one key-card missing, settle for the small slam.

b)	♠ AK2	♠ QJ3
	♥ KQ984	♥ AJ72
	♦ QJ72	♦ 84
	♣ 8	♣ KQJ3
	1♥	2NT
	3♣	4♥

Opener shows the singleton club, which is not to responder's liking. Settle for 4♥. With a better hand he may progress.

c)	♠ AJ2	♠ KQ3
	♥ K10984	♥ AJ72
	♦ QJ72	♦ 84
	♣ 8	♣ A973
	1♥	2NT
	4♥	pass

Opener shows a minimum hand rather than showing the singleton. With ♦A instead of ♦Q (13 points), show the singleton club.

d)	♠ A2	♠ KQ3
	♥ KQ984	♥ AJ72
	♦ AK73	♦ 84
	♣ 86	♣ A973
	1♥	2NT
	3NT	4♣ (cue)
	4♦ (cue)	4♥
	4♠ (cue)	4NT (RKCB)
	5♦ (3 key cards)	6♥

Action Over Opposition Bid Over 2NT

Example - 1♥ - pass - 2NT - 3♣

Double	- singleton (in clubs)
4♣	- void in clubs
3♥	- 17+ points with a club stop (A, Kx, Qxx)
3NT	- 15-16 points with a club stop
4♥	- 11-14
Pass	- forcing (any strength)