

## 6 CARD MINOR WHEN PARTNER OPENS 2 NT

KQJ8	
AQJ	DEALER – 2 NT
J5	3 NT
KQJ5	4 NT

64 K9542 Pass K82 Pass 1063 Pass	A10752 1076 Pass 74 Pass 984 Pass
---	--

94	
83	3 Spades
AQ10963	4 Diamonds
A72	Pass

When opener learns that South has a long, strong diamond suit and an interest in slam, he/she has to decide whether to accept or decline the slam invitation. It's not important whether North has 20 or 21 points, nor is it important whether North has a good diamond fit. What is important is whether North has controls – Aces

KJ62	DEALER – 2 NT
A6	3 NT
AKJ4	4 Diamonds
A85	5 Diamonds (3)

94 Pass KQJ3 Pass 10952 Pass 632	Q1075 Pass 10975 Pass Q873 Pass 10 Pass
---	--

A83	3 Spades
842	4 Clubs
6	4 NT
KQJ974	6 Clubs

Using the 3 spade relay and then bidding 4 clubs over opener's forced 3 NT, shows that South has a long strong club suit and enough points or distribution to invite a slam. North doesn't need to worry about having 20 or 21 points, not about having a good minor suit fit. What North DOES need in order to accept the slam invitation, is a hand with Aces rather than KQs or KJs. With KQs and KJs, North would turn down the invitation by signing off in 4NT (or 5 of South's minor). On this hand, North has 3 of the 4 aces and does not want to sign off. To show this to South, North cue bids his/her cheapest Ace – in this case 4 diamonds. South uses RKC or can cue bid A of spades. 6 NT goes down, 6 clubs makes.

AK10 DEALER – 2 NT  
 AJ5 Pass  
 AKJ2  
 J76

Q9843		J75	Pass
42	Pass	KQ986	Pass
1094		Q765	
Q92		4	

62  
 1073 3 NT  
 83  
 AK10853

South again has an excellent 6 card minor suit. However, with only 7 HCP, the chances of making a slam are very, very slight. Even so, South certainly wants to be in game, either 3 NT or 5 clubs. It would be wrong to go through the 3 spade relay to tell North about the clubs because this would also tell North that South was interested in a slam. It would also take NS pass 3 NT. The correct decision on this hand is to bid 3 NT over 2 NT.

AQ5 DEALER – 2 NT  
 KQJ4 Pass  
 J4  
 AK83

J10943		K87	
A108	Pass	962	Pass
A96		10	Pass
J6		Q109542	

62 5 Diamonds  
 753  
 KQ87542  
 7

When South jumps to 5 diamonds, North knows that he/she has long diamonds. However, if South had any thoughts about a slam, he would have gone through the 3 spade relay and then bid 4 diamonds. By jumping immediately to 5 diamonds, South is saying that he simply wants to play 5 diamonds.

---

The hand you want to use the 3 spade relay is a great 6 card suit, usually around 10 HCP, but it could be less with great distribution, with a distinct possibility of making a slam in the minor suit. You can't transfer or Texas, if you want to play 5 of your minor bid 5 of your minor.