

2♦ Alternative Bids - Multi 2♦ and Mini Roman



Mini Roman

Shows a hand with 12-14 hcps with 4/4/4/1 distribution. By ACBL rule, you must know 1 suit, therefore generally the known suit is ♦, but you can agree on a different suit with partner.

Mini Roman must be alerted and would be something like "12- 14 hcps; 4/4/4/1 with an unknown singleton and 4♦."

There is a lot more to Flannery than appears in this brochure.

If you decide to make Flannery a part of your convention card, it is recommended that you read "Flannery" by William Flannery for a better understanding of the convention and how to defend against it.

Mini Roman Response

2♥ is the escape with less than a limit raise. With ♥ Opener **PASSES**.

If ♥ is the singleton, opener re-bids 2♠ and responder **PASSES** with ♠ or places the contract in the best minor.

With 12+ hcps 2NT is the forcing response and asks Opener to bid their singleton. Responder then places the contract.

When alerting the 2NT forcing of Mini Roman only say that it is "forcing" when asked. Partner then alerts your response as a "Singleton". To alert that it is asking for a singleton would be table talk and guiding the bidding.

Multi 2♦

Another option is the Multi 2♦ which shows 1 of 3 hands.

- Weak hand with ♥
- Weak hand with ♠
- 4/4/4/1 hand with 17-24 hcps

The vast majority of the time, it is a weak hand. For more information read http://www.bridgebum.com/multi_2d.php

The Multi 2♦ is not permitted by rule in some venues. At top levels it is very popular.

2♦ Flannery/Multi/Mini Roman Tournament Series #14



www.bridgewebs.com/borderlinebridge

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Flannery 2♦ - a minimum opening hand with 5♥ and 4♠ Bidding Options



Flannery

An alternative use of 2♦ is Flannery which shows a minimum range opening hand with 5♥ and 4♠.

Flannery is an attempt to describe a specific distribution and strength quickly.

With 5♥ and 4♠; and 11 - 16 high card points the Flannery conventional bid of 2♦ is used as an Opening Bid.

There is very little pre-emptive value when bidding a weak 2♦.

When 2♠ is used as a pre-empt the opponents must start their bidding at the 3 level. With 2♥, if the next bidder doesn't have ♠, it's the 3 level again. With a 2♦ pre-empt either a 4 or 5 card major often makes action available and has had little or no pre-emptive value.

Flannery Responses with Support

With 3+♥ or 4♠ and therefore a known 8 card fit, responder makes the same limiting bids as SAYC.

- 2♥/2♠ is a minimum 0-9 hcps and is to play
- 3♥/3♠ is a limit raise 10-11 hcps and invites game
- 4♥/4♠ is to play with no slam interest

With Support and Slam Interest

- 4♣ names ♥ as trump
- 4♦ names ♠ as trump

The 2♦ opener bids the named trump suit which then allows responder to go ace asking with Blackwood.

Many bridge players reject Flannery because it describes the hand distribution so clearly for the defense.

But they agree that there is very little pre-emptive value to 2♦; so they use 2♦ in other ways, such as Mini Roman or the "Multi 2♦".

Flannery Responses without Support

Just like a 2NT response is forcing to a weak 2 pre-empt; 2NT is forcing to Flannery.

- 3♣ = 3♣ and 1♦
- 3♦ = 3♦ and 1♣
- 3♥ = 2/2 in the minors & 11-13
- 3♠ = 2/2 in the minors & 14-16
- 3NT = 2/2 in the minors and both Minors Stopped

Responder needs opening values 12+ to bid 2NT without support; however with support responder can use 2NT responses to evaluate a possible slam hand distribution, much the same as a splinter or a Jacoby 2NT response tells the fit.

Flannery limits the opening hand immediately, much the same as 1NT.

Responder is the "captain" and places the contract following the forcing 2NT. About the only time that opener has an option is after the limit raise. PASS with 12-13 and raise to game with 14-15 hcps.

Although the technical range for Flannery is 11-16 hcps. 11 and 16 are rare. The 11 has be "all working", meaning points in the majors, and the 16 has to be quacks (Queens and Jacks) and doubleton minors. Normal Flannery opening count is 12 -15 hcps.