

Reverses & Fourth Suit

Patrick, June 2018

Storyboard for tonight

- what defines a “reverse”
- responses to a reverse
- different fourth suit positions
- responses to FSF

<play some hands and discuss>

<break>

- A bit more on - squeezes

<play some hands and discuss>

<any questions>

PART 1

“REVERSES”

Definition

- Where a second suit bid will force preference at the 3-level
- Implications
 - extra values or it would be unsafe
 - extra shape or it would be unsafe

but why this name ?

Examples

W	N	E	S
	1♦	P	1♠
P	2♥		

N	North
♠	A2
♥	KQ105
♦	AKQ54
♣	32

W	N	E	S
	1♣	P	1♠
P	2♥		

N	North
♠	A2
♥	KQ105
♦	32
♣	AQ954

More examples

W	N	E	S
	1♦	P	2♣
P	2♥		

N	North
♠	A2
♥	KQ105
♦	AKQ54
♣	32

W	N	E	S
	1♥	P	2♦
P	3♣		

N	North
♠	A2
♥	AKQ54
♦	32
♣	KQ105

Reverse by responder

W	N	E	S
	1♣	P	1♥
P	2♣	P	2♠

S	South
♠	AK43
♥	AQ543
♦	43
♣	65

W	N	E	S
	1♣	P	1♥
P	1NT	P	2♠

S	South
♠	AK43
♥	AQ543
♦	43
♣	65

Not (imho) a “reverse”

W	N	E	S
	1♦	P	1♥
P	2♠		

N	North
♠	KQ105
♥	A2
♦	AKQ54
♣	32

W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	X
P	2♥		

N	North
♠	A2
♥	KJ32
♦	KJ543
♣	76

Key points

- Extra values because level is higher
- Game forcing if responder bids at 2-level
- Tricky points
 - when not Game Forcing, which bids are forcing ?
 - how does an initial pass change things ?

In competition

- Important to get shape over
 - so used a bit more liberally
- But still forcing one round+

Inventing a reverse

W	N	E	S
	1♣	P	1♠
P	2♦		

N	North
♠	A32
♥	32
♦	KQ5
♣	AKQ54

W	N	E	S
	1♥	P	2♦
P	3♣		

N	North
♠	32
♥	AKQ54
♦	A32
♣	KQ5

The three card suit would normally be a reverse, safe here because it is forcing

Responding to a Reverse

- You might be weak
- You might be Game Forcing
- LEBENSOHL type solution
 - aka BLACKOUT
 - 2N on weak hands
 - bids at 3L are game force

Weak Responding Hands

W	N	E	S
	1♣	P	1♠
P	2♦		
Bid 2N and pass 3C			
S South			
♠ A532			
♥ 765			
♦ 1098			
♣ Q32			

W	N	E	S
	1♣	P	1♠
P	2♥		
Bid 2N and then 3H			
S South			
♠ K8732			
♥ J1098			
♦ 65			
♣ J2			

Strong Responding Hands

W	N	E	S
	1♣	P	1♠
P	2♦		

Bid forcing 3C

S South

♠ A532
♥ 765
♦ KQ9
♣ Q32

W	N	E	S
	1♣	P	1♠
P	2♥		

Bid forcing 3H, no leap needed in case partner invented

S South

♠ K8732
♥ KQ98
♦ 65
♣ Q2

♠ AQT7

♥ 543

♦ Q87

♣ AQ3

♠ K

♥ AQ87

♦ AKT543

♣ K6

DEALER
EAST

W		E
		1♦
1♠		2♥
3♦ <i>(forcing)</i>		4♣
....		

5/6 in small
slam

♠ AQ3

♥ 543

♦ Q8

♣ AQT73

♠ K6

♥ AQ87

♦ AKT543

♣ K

DEALER
EAST

W		E
		1♦
2♣ <i>(2-level)</i>		2♥ <i>(game forcing)</i>
2N		3♦
....		

Another useful trick ...

- Applies only to 1C opener rebidding 2D
- Problem hands ...

S	South
♠	43
♥	K64
♦	K5
♣	AKJ1076

S	South
♠	43
♥	AQ
♦	K5
♣	AKJ10765

S	South
♠	4
♥	AK3
♦	K5
♣	AKJ10765

Solution for big club hands

- Start with a reverse into 2♦
- Partner know it is two way, so bids 2♥ to ask
 - 2♠ now says normal diamond reverse
 - continue as 2N with weak hands
 - others all say massive hand with long clubs

PART 2

FOURTH SUIT FORCING

Principles

- Unlikely to be a sensible destination
- Better used to elicit information
- Today nearly all – GAME FORCING
 - almost

When not Game Forcing?

- When fourth suit as fourth bid ... is GF
- But what about as fifth bid ...

W		E
		1♣
1♥		2♣
2♦		2♠

*Forcing but not
game forcing*

- And by passed hand

*Forcing but not
game forcing*

What is FSF asking ?

- Not just a stop for NT
- Asking to say something descriptive

♠ K

♥ AQ87

♦ AKT543

♣ K6

W		E
		1♦
1♠		2♥
3♣		?
....		

Key usage

- To show game forcing support ...

W	N	E	S
	1♦	P	1♥
P	1♠	P	2♣
P	2NT	P	3♠

S	South
♠	KJ65
♥	A7652
♦	A8
♣	Q2

*This is how to
show game
forcing support,
below game*

Three special cases

- Stuck for a bid ?
- Jump in Fourth Suit ?
- Repeat of Fourth Suit ?

Stuck for a bid ?

- Must avoid : long think then reluctant bid
- Answer : lowest suit bid totally neutral

W	N	E	S
			1♦
P	1♠	P	2♣
P	2♥	P	?

S	South
♠	K
♥	765
♦	A8743
♣	AQ32

W	N	E	S
			1♦
P	1♠	P	2♣
P	2♥	P	?

S	South
♠	K76
♥	5
♦	A8743
♣	AQ32

Jump in the Fourth Suit

- Promises 55 shape and GF values ...

– this only applies below 3N

W	N	E	S
	1♦	P	1♠
P	2♣	P	?

S	South
♠	KQJ65
♥	A7652
♦	A8
♣	2

Repeat of Fourth Suit

- aka Fifth Suit Forcing
- says “continue the description”
 - denies knowing the denomination ...

♠ AQT72

♠ 3

♥ Q98

♥ K4

♦ Q8

♦ AJT53

♣ 543

♣ AQ872

W		E
		1♦
1♠		2♣
2♥		3♣
3♥		3N

KEY POINTS ON REVERSES

- Forcing one round
- Game force over response at 2-level
- After 1-level response & reverse
 - use 2N on limited hands
 - suit at 3-level is Game Forcing

KEY POINTS ON FOURTH SUIT

- Best played as Game Forcing
- Remember
 - lowest suit bid if stuck for a bid
 - Jump in fourth suit is 55, natural, GF
 - Rebid of fourth suit – asks again

LET'S PLAY SOME HANDS NOW (BOARDS 1-3)

Tea break before / during / after but
not all at once ... all done by 45
minutes from now

PART 3

Looking at Squeezes

Key Points to Note

- Many squeezes are just about being careful
- You need to envisage the opponent's difficulty

Today just some simple squeezes

Key Points to Note

- Many squeezes are just about being careful
- You need to envisage the opponent's difficulty
- Works best if you have all but one of the tricks
- You might need to unblocks suits first

Today just some simple squeezes

Squeeze 2

W	N	E	S
	1♠	P	P
2NT	P	3NT	P
P	P		

W West

♠ A43
♥ KQ
♦ AKQ1092
♣ 32

E East

♠ J10
♥ J5432
♦ J63
♣ AJ10

Squeeze 2

D



N North

♠ KQ987

♥ A98

♦ 7

♣ KQ54

W	N	E	S
	1♠	P	P
2NT	P	3NT	P
P	P		

W West

♠ A43

♥ KQ

♦ AKQ1092

♣ 32

E East

♠ J10

♥ J5432

♦ J63

♣ AJ10

Squeeze 2

D

N

North

♠

KQ987

♥

AQ8

♦

7

♣

KQ65

W	N	E	S
	1♠	P	P
2NT	P	3NT	P
P	P		

W

West

♠

A43

♥

K6

♦

AKQ1092

♣

J4

E

East

♠

J10

♥

J5432

♦

J63

♣

A32

LET'S PLAY SOME HANDS NOW (BOARDS 4-6)

Just what we have time for

HAPPY TO TAKE QUESTIONS

On what we have done, or what we
have not done