

Church Minshull & District Bridge Club



Beyond the Basics

McKendrick 2♠

Description: *McKendrick* 2♠ is a *convention* invoked by responder after partner's 1NT opening bid. It is a multi-function bid that can indicate *intent* for either;

- An invite to 3NT with precisely 11 hcp
- Or, a minor suit weak take-out.

Opener will make their re-bid as if it a balanced hand with 11 hcp (i.e. reject or accept the invite to 3NT), but must make an artificial acceptance bid that allows responder to pursue either *intent*!

Opener must **Alert** partner's **[2**♠**(A)]** bid; *'Either a balanced hand with 11hcp or a weak minor suit take-out'*. Opener will then either;

- Reject the invite (with less than 14 hcp) and bid [2NT].
- ❖ Or, accept the invite and bid [3♣(A)] ~ not 3NT!

As responder, if your intent was an invite to 3NT, with 11hcp, you either;

- ❖ [NB], when opener bid 2NT
- Or, alert opener's 3♣ bid 'Relay' and convert to [3NT]

Otherwise, alert and **sign-off** in your intended (6+card) weak minor suit at the 3-level.



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Examples Partner (West) has opened a weak 1NT 12-14 hcp.

★ K 9 7
 ★ K J 6
 ★ K 10 7 3
 ★ Q 8 2
 ★ A 10 3
 ★ J 6
 ★ K J 6 4 3

Responder with 11hcp bids [2•(A)] Intent is a 3NT invite.

Opener, with < 14 hcp, replies [2NT] Responder will [NB]



Responder with 11hcp bids [2♠(A)]

Intent is a 3NT invite.

Opener, with = 14 hcp, replies [3♠(A)]. Responder will convert to [3NT]



Responder with 7hcp bids [2♠(A)]

Intent is a weak take-out into ♠-suit.

Opener, with < 14 hcp, replies [2NT].

Responder will bid [3♠] (sign-off)



Responder with 7hcp bids [2♠(A)]

Intent is a weak take-out into ◆-suit.

Opener, with =14 hcp, replies [3♠(A)].

Responder will bid [3♦] (sign-off)

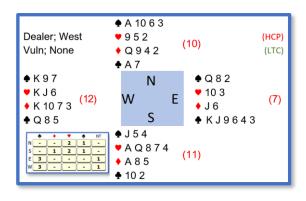


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Notes;

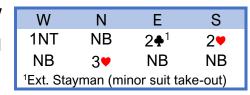
- If you, as responder to 1NT, have a balanced hand with 12 hcp, you bid [2NT(A)] 'A balanced hand with 12hcp', inviting opener to consider accepting your invite to 3NT with 13/14 hcp.
- The McKendrick convention uses up bidding space. The full hand from example 3 shows how this can work to your advantage:-



When using McKendrick, it will require an intervention bid at 3-level! You can score +110.

If using Stayman, it may allow opponents to bid in ♥-suit! You only score +50.





- ◆ Of primary concern, is for opener to remember fo make the artificial 3♣ 'invite acceptance' re-bid, hence leaving room for a minor take-out intent ... rather than make a potentially expensive 3NT bid.
- It is usually used when playing Stayman and Transfers, where the minor suit weak take-out bids of 2♣ and 2♦ are not available