

# Bidding With 2 5-Card Majors Over 1 NT Openings

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# Beginner's Card Over 1NT

3 ♣



3 ♦



3 ♥



3 ♠



# After Problems with 2 suited hands

3♣ WK 5-5 minors

3♦ Puppet Stayman

3♥ WK 5-5 majors

3♠ STR 5-5 majors

extended Stayman

Wise Advice from AI

“Minor suit slams are the  
keys to the kingdom”

AI Fultz

# Card for Minor Suit Slams

3♣ 6 w/2top3, slam try

3♦ 6 w/2top3, slam try

3♥ 1-/3-/45+♣♦

3♠ 3-/1-45+♣♦

2♣ >♦ : 4♣/4♦ >♥/♠

# Now What About 5-5 Majors?

How do we deal with

1. Weak 5-5
2. Invitational 5-5
3. Game Force 5-5
4. Possible Slam 5-5

# Weak 5-5 Majors

## With Less than 7 HCP

- Bid 2♦ to transfer to 2♥ and then bid 2♠
- Opener will pass or correct to 3♥
- Unless he has 4-card support and maximum values in which case he will super accept by bidding 3♥ over 2♦ or raise 2♠ to 3♠
- Opener

# Invitational 5-5 Majors

With 7-8 HCP + 2 distribution points

- Bid 2♥ to transfer to 2♠ and bid 3♥
- Opener should pass or correct to 3♠ with minimum values
- With maximum values opener can bid game in either major
- The downside is that responder will play heart contracts



# Game Force 5-5 Majors

With 9-12 HCP + 2 distribution points

- Bid 2♦ to transfer to 2♥ and then bid 3♠
- Opener chooses between game in ♥ or ♠ or NT
- Opener can express slam ambitions by
  - Super Acceptance ( bids 3♥ over 2♦)
  - Cue bids minor to accept ♠ as trumps
  - Responder must have maximum and void to accept

# Slam Try 5-5 Majors

With 13+ HCP and 2 distribution points

- Bid 2♥ to transfer to 2♠ and then bid 4♥
- Opener is not allowed to pass 4♥ - must bid 4♠ or 5♥ with minimum
- Any bid other than 4N is a cuebid
- If opener Super Accepts begin cue bidding!
- Note – AVOID opening 2-2-X-Y with 1NT!

# Why Not Use 3♣ or 3♦ ?

- While using minor suit 3-bids would facilitate major suit exploration, it would prevent showing major-minor 2-suiters
- You gain something and lose something – Few conventions come without giving up something or introducing more confusion!

Joe Pike Presented TONTO

Now we need the Lone  
Ranger to deal with  
TONTO!

# Lone Ranger Versus TONTO

- TONTO and Suction can make both Lebensohl and natural auctions awkward since bidding the overcalled suit appears to be a cue bid.
- Suction is not permitted in events governed by ACBL's General Convention Chart and users must provide written suggested defenses in higher level events.

# Suggested Actions

- Double to show 8+ and cards in both non-  
implied suits (like negative double).
- Bid one of the non-implied suits to show 5+  
cards in it and 8+ points.
- Cue bid one of overcaller's implied suits to  
show 10+ and a stopper in that suit.
- Bid 3NT with 10+ and stoppers in both implied  
suits or 2NT with 8-9 and stoppers.
- Pass otherwise – Maybe partner will double.