

Transfers over 1♣

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Playing 2/1 and opening a minor many pairs open the better 3-card minor. An alternative which some employ is the non-forcing 1♣ bid announced as may be short and non-forcing. Pairs playing the “short” club also play that the bid of 1♦ ensures a 5-card suit. Neither bid requires a pre-alert and the bid of 1♦ need not be alerted, but the short club bid must be announced.

Playing a short club, many pairs employ transfer bids discussed in some detail in the book by Lyle Poe (2019), “Transfers Responses to the One Club with Relays”, Master Point Press.

Playing a short club, most pairs open 1NT=15-17 points. I have below a sequence of bids I play if opening a forcing short club playing 2/1.

1♣	May be short 11+
1♦/1♥	6+ points 4+ cards in ♥/♠
1♠*	No 4-card major 6+points
1NT*	Clubs 10+ points
2♣*	Diamonds weak or strong
2♦*	Weak 6-card major 10-12 or 4441with 17-24
2♥*	Flannery 5H - 4S
2♠*	5S and 4H Reverse Flannery
2NT*	Both minors and Balanced GF (without a major)
3♣	Preemptive
3♦*/3♥*	Transfer Preempts
3♠*	Transfer to 3NT
3NT	To play 13-15 points

Rebids by opener:

1♥/1♠	4+♥/♠ 11+
1NT	1NT no-4-card major
2♣	5+clubs 11+ points
2♥	4-card suit 14+ points
2♠	4-card suit 14+ points
3m	To Play
2NT	Over 2♣ 11-14 points balanced, but over 2♦* 2NT is a multi-ask bid
3M	Invitational
3NT	To Play

4M To Play

Opener's rebids over the artificial 2NT inquiry are as follows.

Opener's Rebid	Meaning
3♣*	Weak two-bid in hearts, good hand.
3♦*	Weak two-bid in spades, good hand.
3♥*	Weak two-bid in hearts, bad hand.
3♠*	Weak two-bid in spades, bad hand.
3NT*	Strong three-suited hand (17-24 HCP) with a singleton club.
4♣*	Strong three-suited hand (17-24 HCP) with a singleton diamond.
4♦*	Strong three-suited hand (17-24 HCP) with a singleton heart.
4♥*	Strong three-suited hand (17-24 HCP) with a singleton spade.

*=alert

For a very complete system of bids over the short club see the System developed by Sudhir Aggarwal in the Delhi Bridge Association Newsletter (2018). A link to the pdf follows.

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/dba/Transfer%20Responses%20over%201C.pdf>

