

Your choice: Thursdays at 9:30am or 4:15pm

- **Jan 8: Filling out the Convention Card**
- **Jan 15: Signaling (Carding), Etiquette, Procedures & Leads**
- **Jan 22: Bergen raises**
- **Jan 29: Jacoby 2NT**
- **Feb 5: New Minor Forcing**
- **Feb 12: Recap Negative, Takeout + Support Doubles**
- **Feb 19: 4th Suit Forcing**
- **Feb 26: Recap Rules of 7, 11, 15, 17, 22 + more**
- **Mar 5: Recap Cue Bids**

What is New Minor Forcing?

- **New Minor Forcing (NMF) is a conventional bid used by responder after a 1NT rebid by opener.**
- **And it's ALERTABLE**
- **It applies when opener starts with a minor, responder bids a major, and opener rebids 1NT.**

Purpose of New Minor Forcing

- **To see if opener has 3 cards in responder's major or a 4/4 fit in the other major**
- **To distinguish between invitational and game-forcing hands**
- **To explore notrump or major-suit games accurately**

When Does NMF Apply?

- **Auction pattern:**

Opener 1♣ or 1♦

Responder 1♥ or 1♠

Opener 1NT

- **Responder's bid of the other minor is artificial, forcing and alertable.**

Forcing Nature of NMF

- **NMF is forcing for one round**
- **It promises at least invitational strength (a “good” 10+ HCP)**
- **It does NOT promise length in the other minor bid**

Opener's Responses to NMF

- **Opener typically shows:**
- **3-card support for responder's major. If not, then 4-card support for the unbid major**
- **If neither, bids 2NT or rebids a minor**

Example 1: Finding a 5-3 Fit

Opener 1♦

Responder 1♠

Opener 1NT

Responder 2♣ (NMF)

Opener 2♠

Opener shows 3-card spade support and a minimum opening hand

Example 2: No Fit

Opener 1♣

Responder 1♥

Opener 1NT

Responder 2♦ (NMF)

Opener 2NT

Opener denies 3♥ or 4♠ and a minimum opening hand

Invitational Continuation

Opener 1♦

Responder 1♠

Opener 1NT

Responder 2♣ (NMF)

Opener 2♠

Responder 3♠ (Invitational)

Opener decides whether to accept.

Game Example

Opener 1♣

Responder 1♥

Opener 1NT

Responder 2♦ (NMF)

Opener 2♥

Responder 4♥ (opening points so bids game)

Partnership Agreements

Important to agree on:

- **Minimum strength for NMF**
- **Whether NMF can be passed (never!!)**
- **Meaning of opener's 2NT response**

Opener bid 1♣, responder bid 1♥,
opener rebids 1NT.

What does responder bid now?

1. ♠KQT ♥AQJ73 ♦Q32 ♣32
2. ♠32 ♥AKT42 ♦QJT2 ♣32
3. ♠AKJ ♥AKJ42 ♦A32 ♣32
4. ♠A32 ♥QT32 ♦432 ♣432
5. ♠A32 ♥KQ32 ♦432 ♣432
6. ♠A32 ♥KQJ432 ♦2 ♣432

Invitational vs Game Forcing Hands

After NMF:

- **Invitational hands can invite game**
- **Stronger hands can force to game**
- **Responder clarifies strength on the next bid.**

Common Mistakes

- **Forgetting NMF is artificial**
- **Using NMF with weak hands (less than a “good 10”)**
- **Confusing NMF with Fourth Suit Forcing (my class on Feb 19)**

Summary

- **NMF is a valuable constructive tool**
- **Helps find 5-3 and 4-4 major fits**
- **Improves game and part-score decisions**
- **Best used with clear partnership agreements.**

Next Thursday Feb 12

**Recap of Negative &
Takeout Doubles +
Support Doubles**