

The LoHi / LoHiNo (LoHiBoth) principle:

LoHi and LoHiNo are acronyms for Lowest/Highest and ..None. It is used when the captain asks for a feature (frequently shortness) that can be in either one out of two specific suits.

LoHiBoth is only used in the very special case where opener shows a strong 2 No Trump (2 NT rebid after 2 \heartsuit -2 \spadesuit or 2 \heartsuit -2 \clubsuit) and over the 3 \heartsuit investigation responds 3 NT. 4 \heartsuit from responder is now LoHiBoth for 4 card Minor suits, so the 4 NT answer shows (3)-(2)-4-4.

As the name suggests, LoHi and LoHiNo implies that:

1st bid shows the feature in the Lowest ranking suit

2nd bid shows the feature in the Highest ranking suit

3rd bid shows the feature in None of the suits (if that is possible)

An extension which may be employed, if no bidding space is wasted, is the following:

4th bid shows an extra feature (void / extra length) in the Lowest ranking suit

5th bid shows an extra feature (void / extra length) in the Highest ranking suit

There is, however, a very important and frequent adjustment to the above:

The "None" feature is never shown above the current "ceiling", so if the ceiling is one of the first two bids the "None" answer is moved down to the ceiling.

The LoHi and LoHiNo principles are used in several situations:

after the Minor suit relay when opener shows 11-16 hcp and a specified side suit, we use LoHiNo for shortness (combined with MaxFirst)

if the 2 \heartsuit opener shows 4-4 in the Majors, we use LoHiNo for length in the Minor suits.

if the 2 \heartsuit opener shows at least (5)-(4) in the Majors, we use LoHiNo for shortness in the Minor suits.

for the 2 \heartsuit opening that shows 5-5 in \heartsuit plus another, the strong hand may employ LoHi to find the short suit.

for the 2 NT opening that shows 5-5 in \heartsuit plus an unknown Major, the strong hand may employ LoHi to find the short suit.

if opener shows a strong 2 NT and over the 3 \heartsuit investigation denies a 5 card suit (3 \heartsuit /3 \spadesuit /3 NT response), 4 \heartsuit from responder is LoHiNo (or LoHiBoth) for 4 card Minor suits.