Glen Ashton

Goldilocks Two Bids

“Not too big, not too small, just right”
2♥, 2♦: 8/9/10-13, 6+ in M. If 9 HCP and only six in M, AKQ in suit or KQ in suit & an outside ace. Otherwise if 8/9 HCP, 7+ in M and some defensive values.

**Goldilock Responses**

**New suit:** natural, F, 5+ in suit or if 3m mild GI in M and values/length in m. After opener's rebid, 3M rebid by responder GI but NF. Over 3m opener bids 4m if would accept mild GI in M and has at least two cards in m; now 4M shows GI hand, and other bids are cuebids with GF and length in m. 2M-3m-4M shows good extras but short in m. Other than 2M-3m-4m and 2M-3m-4M as just described, all other bids are very natural.

Example: 2♥-2♦-3♠(raise)-4♣(cued for Spades)-etc.

2NT: asks, see next.

3M: mild GI (use 2NT if good GI), but use 3M if concentrated values/length in m.

3NT, 4M: to play jump suits: splinters, slam interest.

4NT: RKCB.

**[2NT asks]**

After 2M-2NT:

3♠: promises singleton or void in some suit, neither 4 in OM or maximum with 4+ in a minor. After 3♠:

- 3♠ GF re-ask, 3♥ showing singleton OM, 3♠ singleton Club, 3NT and above natural with short ♠. After 3♥ or 3♠ singleton showing bid cheapest suit bid asks for four card minor, 4M show 7+ M and no four card minor, other free bid (3NT, short suit etc.) showing 6-3-3-1.
  e.g. after 2♥-2NT-3♠-3♦-3♥ (singleton Spade)-3♠-?, 3NT=1-6-3-3, 4M=6+Hearts & 4 in m, 4M=7+Hearts.

- 3M asks opener to pass if minimum.

- 3OM asks opener to bid OM with 3 in OM & minimum, cuebid with 3 in OM & maximum, or otherwise bid 3NT or M.

3♥: no singleton or void, 6 in M. Except for 3OM, 3M etc. as over 3♠.

3OM re-ask, GF unless responder passes opener's rebid:

After 2♥-2NT-3♠-3♥:

3NT: 9/10-11. 4♠ asks, 4♠=3 Diamonds, 4♥=3 Clubs, 4♦=3 Spades.

4♠: 12-13, 3 in m.

4♥: 3 Spades, 12-13.

After 2♥-2NT-3♠-3♥:

3♠: minimum, not 3 Hearts.

3NT: maximum, not 3 Hearts.

4♠: cuebid with 3 Hearts, extras.

4♥: 3 Hearts, no desire to cuebid.

After 2♥-2NT-3♠-3♥ or 3NT-4♠ asks: 4♠ =3 Diamonds, 4♥ =3 Clubs.

3♥: 6+ in M, 4 in OM.

3♠: 6+ in M, 4 Clubs, maximum. 4♠ sets Clubs as trump, other bids for M.

3NT: 6+ in M, 4 Diamonds, maximum. 4♠ set Diamonds as trump, other bids for M.

4X: 6-5 two suiter, likely minimum (or would have open 1M).

4M: 7-2-2-2 shape.
Note after 3♣ or 3♦ response and re-ask, 4NT is always RKCB for M, and cuebids imply support for M.
When playing Double Roman Keycard Blackwood, it is on if opener has shown a 6-4 or better two suiter, or if has shown a 6-3-2-2, with the 3 card suit the second suit.

[Goldilocks 2M in competition]

Over double:
- Responder redoubles with values looking to double opponents, or passes first, then double to show optional double (more balanced hand type).
- Suit bids are transfers showing lead directional values or length in suit above (e.g. 2♥ =Dbl=3♣ shows diamonds or lead directional diamond values), with 2NT showing suit just above opening bid (e.g. 2♦-Double-2NT shows Spades or lead directional Spades).
- Suit below 3 of M is GI in M.
- Jump bids are fit showing and lead directional.
- 3M, 3NT is to play.

Over suit and NT bids:
- Double for penalty, except if a suit bid just below 3M – then double is GI in M. (e.g. 2♣-3♥-Double).
- Transfer bids if suit overcall below 3M. A suit transfers to the suit above it, with the suit below 3M showing a GI in M; an immediate bid of 3M is just to play. Suits transferred to may be natural or just lead directional values.
- New suits above 3M or below 3M after a NT overcall are intended as natural and forcing, but are often just lead directional.
- 3M, 3NT to play.
- 2NT if available transfers to Clubs.
- Jump bids are lead directional and fit showing.

[Goldilocks can't bear it double]

If responder raises M directly or makes a GI in M and the opponents bid OM then a direct double of OM by opener at the second turn to bid shows a hand with a strong ratio of offense to defense outside of M.

Examples:
- 2♥-Pass-4♥-4♠-Double: Little or no defense to 4 Spades except perhaps in Hearts.
- 2♦-Pass-3♠-4♥-Double: Can’t bear it for Hearts.
- 2♥-2♦-3D-4♠-Double: 2NT invited in Hearts, Double is can’t bear it.
- 2♣-Double-3♥-4♥-Double: 3♥ was GI in Spades. Double is can’t bear it.

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