# Standard with Transfer Responses to 18 

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## Introduction:

This system is based on a 15-17 notrump with 5-card majors. Our abbreviation for it is SOS which is short for "Standard on Steroids."

The 1* opening borrows heavily from Transfer Responses to $1 \boldsymbol{1}$ with Relays by Lyle Poe. We extend the transfer idea to responder's rebid.

Other influences are from Polish Club International (Jassem) and transfer-Walsh. Many of the other responding structures are found in the author's book, "Strong Club, Unbalanced Diamond" which is referred to as SCUD here. They are used either exactly as written in SCUD or modified slightly. These include:

- The SCUD responding structure to 1 M openings.
- TAPS when responding to $1 \mathrm{NT} / 2 \mathrm{NT}$.
- A modified TARC when opener rebids 2 NT after a $1 \boldsymbol{2}$ start and a 1-level transfer.
- Pick-a-Minor lebensohl and transfer lebensohl where appropriate.
- Kickback RKB as in SCUD.
- Transfer Advances as in SCUD.
- After 1M openings, transfer responses in competition as in SCUD.

After a 1 m opening, a response showing a major and a 1 -level rebid by opener, responder rebids using an extended version of XYZ called EXYZ.

SOS can be played with relays. However, they are optional.

## Opening Bid Overview

1ヵ: There are six possible hand types. Arranged for memory purposes:

Balanced1: 12-14 HCP weak notrump.
Balanced2: 18-19 HCP. Notrump shape.
Unbalanced1: 11-19 HCP with 5 clubs and another 4-card suit (but not $0=4=4=5$ with $11-14 \mathrm{HCP}$ ).
Unbalanced2: 15-19 HCP with 6+ clubs.
Special1: 11-19 HCP, 1-4-4=4 (always four clubs).
Special2: Any strong 2-bid.

1 *: Four possible hand types:
Unbalanced1: 11-14 HCP unbalanced with $2-4=5=2,4=0=5=4$ or $0=4=4-5$.
Unbalanced2: 11-19 HCP, $6+$ diamonds, $5=5$ minors or 5-4-3-1 with five diamonds.
Special1: 11-19 HCP. $4=4=4=1$ with a singleton club.
Special2: $15-19$ HCP, $0-4=5=4$
$\mathbf{1 M}: 5+$ card suit and 10-19 HCP. With both majors open the longer. With 5 M and 6 m open 1*, $1 \star$, 1 M or as appropriate. While 1 M shows $10-19 \mathrm{HCP}$ and a $5+$ suit, if $15-$ 19 then not 5-3-3-2. The hand is 2 -suited or a $6+$ suit in the $15-19$ range.

1NT: $15-17$ HCP (4-3-3-3, 4-4-3-2, 5-3-3-2, 2-4=2-5, $2=2=4-5$ ).
2e: 6+ clubs with 10-14 HCP. May have another 4-card suit or 5 diamonds.
2NT: 20-21 HCP (4-3-3-3, 4-4-3-2, 5-3-3-2, 2-4=2-5 or $2=2=4-5)$.
Your choice for remaining opening bids.
The $1 *$ opening requires an alert. The explanation should be something like "3-way. A balanced hand out of range for 1NT with $2+$ clubs, natural with $4+$ clubs or any strong 2bid (with 0+ clubs)."

## Opening Bid and First Response

| 01 | R1 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1* | Requires an alert. Explain "Forcing. 3-way. Either 2+ clubs in a balanced hand, 4+ clubs unbalanced or a strong 2 -bid ( $0+$ clubs)." |  |
|  | 1 * | Transfer. $4+$ hearts. Any strength. Could be $4=4$ in majors. With $5=4$ or $5=5$ show spades first. |
|  | 14 | Transfer. 4+ spades. |
|  | 14. | No 4-card major and possibly weak. Catchall. Denies any other call. |
|  | 1NT | Transfer. 1NT shows a GF hand with 5+ clubs and another 4-card suit. |
|  | 2* | Transfer. GF with 5+ diamonds. May have another 4-card suit. |
|  | 2*/2 | Shows 6+ hearts/spades respectively. Weak (0-5 HCP). |
|  | 2. | Invitational or better with $6+$ clubs. No major. |
|  | 2NT | Invitational. No major. 11-12 HCP with at least partial stoppers outside clubs. |
|  | 3*/3 | Very weak, 0-5 HCP, with a 6- or 7-card suit. |
|  | 3-13 | Splinter. Shortness in the major with club support. GF. |
|  | 3NT | No major. 13-15 HCP with at least partial stoppers outside clubs. |
| 1* | $4+$ diamonds with 11-19 HCP. Will only have 4 diamonds with exactly $4=4=4=1$ or $11-14$ and $0=4=4=5$. Unbalanced. Notrump hands are bid with a notrump sequence. |  |
|  | 1 $\mathrm{V} / 1 \mathrm{~A}$ | Natural, four-card or longer suit (standard). 6+ HCP. |
|  | 1NT | Artificial GF with slam interest. |
|  | 2* | Not forcing. No 4-card major and no diamond tolerance. Opener can pass with a doubleton club and a minimum. |
|  | 2 | Limit raise in diamonds with no major. About 12-14 support points. |
|  | 2v/2 | Weak jump shift. Not forcing. 6+ suit. |
|  | 2NT | Invitational. No major. 11-12 HCP with at least partial stoppers outside diamonds. |
|  | 3* | Constructive raise in diamonds. So, about 9-11 support points. |
|  | 3 | Preemptive diamond raise. About 5-8 support points. |
|  | 3M | Splinter raise of diamonds. |
|  | 3NT | To play. 13-15 HCP with stoppers outside diamonds. |
| $1 \stackrel{ }{ }$ | $5+$ hearts, 10-19 HCP. Usually 10-14 HCP. If 15-19 then not 5-3-3-2. Those hands are shown with a notrump sequence. |  |
|  | 14. | $4+$ spades (5+ if playing Flannery), 6+ HCP. One-round force. |
|  | 1NT | 6-11 HCP. Not forcing. May have three-card heart support with 6 or 7 support points. |
|  | 2* | Artificial GF, 15+ HCP, at most three hearts. |


| 01 | R1 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1V | 2 | 3+ diamonds, $12-14 \mathrm{HCP}$, one-round force. May have three hearts or longer clubs with, for example, $3=2=3=5$. |
|  | 2 | [raise] 8-11 support points, three-card support exactly. $3=4=3=3$ counts as three-card support. |
|  | 2. | Constructive raise. 9-11 support points, four-card or better support. "3M-2" raise. |
|  | 2NT | Jacoby. Four-card or better support. Either a 12-14 point limit raise, a 15-17 forcing raise or $18+$ with slam interest. |
|  | 3* | $6+$ clubs, 12-14 HCP, one-round force. May have three hearts. |
|  | 3 | "3M-1" raise. 6-8 support points and 4+ heart support. |
|  | 34 | Weak raise. 3-5 support points with $4+$ support. |
|  | 3/4m | Void showing splinter raise. 15-17 support points. 4+ trump support. |
| 14 | $5+$ spades, 10-19 HCP. Usually 10-14 HCP. If 15-19 then not 5-3-3-2. |  |
|  | 1 NT | 6-11 HCP. Not forcing. May have 3 spades with 6-7 support points. |
|  | 2* | Artificial GF, $15+\mathrm{HCP}$, at most three spades. |
|  | 2 | 3+ diamonds, $12-14$ HCP, one-round force. May have three spades or longer clubs with, for example, $2=3=3=5$. |
|  | 2 - | $5+$ hearts, $12-14 \mathrm{HCP}$, one-round force. |
|  | 2* | [raise] 8-11 support points, three-card support exactly. $4=3=3=3$ counts as three-card support. |
|  | 2NT | Jacoby. Four-card or better support. Either a 12-14 point limit raise, a 15-17 forcing raise or $18+$ with slam interest. |
|  | 3* | $6+$ clubs, $12-14 \mathrm{HCP}$, one-round force. May have three hearts. |
|  | 3 | Constructive raise. 9-11 support points, four-card or better support. "3M-2" raise. |
|  | 3- | "3M-1" raise. 6-8 support points and 4+ heart support. |
|  | 3. | Weak raise. 3-5 support points with $4+$ support. |
|  | 4m, 4 ${ }^{\text {¢ }}$ | Void showing splinter raise. 15-17 support points. 4+ trump support. |
| 1NT | 15-17 HCP. Balanced or semi-balanced with any five-card suit. Use TAPS in responding. |  |
| 2* | 10-14 HCP with 6+ clubs. May have another 4-card suit. 2 by responder is asking. |  |
| 2* | Negotiable. Weak or Flannery are options. Assume Flannery for now: 10-14 HCP, 4 spades and 5 or 6 hearts. 2 NT is asking. |  |
| 2/1/* | Negotiable. Assume weak for now: 6-9 HCP, usually a six-card suit. 2NT asks for a feature. |  |
| 2NT | 20-21 HCP. Balanced or semi-balanced with any five-card suit. Use TAPS in responding. |  |
| 3m/3M | Aggressive rule of one, two, three. Seven-card suit expected. |  |
| 3NT | Preemptive with an unspecified eight-card minor. Not forcing. Club responses are pass-or-correct. |  |
| 4*/4* | Namyats. A strong preempt to 4凶/4 respectively. |  |
| 4 / /4* | Aggressive rule of one, two, three. Eight-card suit expected. Weaker than Namyats. |  |

12 Auctions


| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 120 | 1* | 2 | Standard reverse with longer clubs. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | A minimum with 4-card heart support. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2. | A standard 18-19 HCP jump shift with longer clubs. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | 18-19 HCP with a doubleton heart. May have 4- or 5-spades. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3* | TARC. "Transfers and Relay Checkback" |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Forced. |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 3 spades, 4 or 5 hearts. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 34 | 4 spades, 4 or 5 hearts. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3NT | 4=6 in majors. |
|  |  |  | 3 | Transfer. Shows 6 hearts. Opener bids 3a with 5 spades. Otherwise, opener accepts the transfer. |  |  |
|  |  |  | $3 \times$ | Shows $5=6$ in the majors. Opener picks a game. |  |  |
|  |  | 3* | Jump rebid. 6+ clubs with 15-19. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | Mini-splinter. 4-card heart support, shortness in diamonds or spades, $15-17$ support points. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | 4-card heart support with 18-19 points. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3*/4* | Strong splinters. 18-19 in support. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4* | Good clubs, 4-card heart support. Strong hand like possibly a swan $1=4=1=7$. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4" | Strong hand but not a splinter. |  |  |  |
|  | 14 | 4+ spades. Any strength. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 14 | Opener has exactly three spades and less than a strong 2-bid. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Pass | Weak. No game in responder's view. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1NT | To play. May improve a 4-3 fit. About 6-10. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2. | Asks opener to bid $2 \star$. Responder has some kind of invitational hand or is less than invitational with clubs or diamonds. After $2 \star$, responder passes with diamonds, bids an invitational 2M with appropriate length, or bids 2NT which asks opener to bid 3e to play. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2* | Transfer. GF with hearts (1-under). |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 | Transfer. To play or GF with spades (1-under). |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2* | Invitational range ask or GF with clubs (2under). Opener rebids 2 NT with a minimum or 3d with a maximum. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | GF with diamonds (2-under). |  |  |
|  |  | 1NT | Shows a weak NT or the equivalent. Fewer than 3 spades. Extended transfer continuations. |  |  |  |


| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 |  | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 12. | $1 \stackrel{ }{ }{ }^{*}$ | 2* | Opener has a strong 2-bid. Asks for controls in steps. 2 $\mathbf{4}: 0$ or 1 control, $2 \boldsymbol{\imath}: 2$ controls, $2 \star: 3$ controls, 2 NT: $4+$ controls, $3 \mathrm{~s}: 4+$ controls with length is s . |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | Standard reverse with longer clubs. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2- | Standard reverse with longer clubs. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2. | A minimum with 4-card spade support. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | 18-19 HCP with two spades. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | TARC. "Transfers and Relay Checkback" |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Forced. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3 | $4=3$ or $5=3$ majors. |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 34 | $5=4$ in majors. |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3NT | $6=4$ in majors. |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | Transfer. Shows 5=5 in majors. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | Shows 6 spades. Opener bids 3 NT with 5 hearts. Otherwise, opener accepts the transfer. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3* | Jump rebid. 6+ clubs with 15-19. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | Mini-splinter. 4-card spade support, shortness in diamonds, 15-17 support points. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | Mini-splinter. 4-card spade support, shortness in hearts, 1517 support points. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3. | 4-card spade support with 18-19 points. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4* | Good clubs, 4-card spade support. Strong hand like possibly a swan $4=1=1=7$. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4 / /4* | Strong splinters. 18-19 in support. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4* | Strong hand but not a splinter. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 14 | Shows no 4-card major and is possibly weak (assuming 1NT is not a relay). Denies the ability to make any other call. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 1NT | Some minimum opener. Often the weak NT. XYZ. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2* | Opener has a strong 2-bid. Asks for controls in steps. 24:0 or 1 control, $2 \boldsymbol{\text { V }}: 2$ controls, 2 : 3 controls, 2NT: $4+$ controls, $3 \mathrm{~s}: 4+$ controls with length in suit s . |  |  |  |  |


| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1* | 14. | 2* | Standard reverse with longer clubs. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2M | Standard reverse with longer clubs. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | 18-19 HCP. Responder uses TAPS now. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3*/3M | Autosplinter. Opener is strong enough to play 4*. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3NT | Expects to make nine tricks with running clubs. |  |  |  |
|  | 1NT | Transfer. Shows a GF hand with 5+ clubs and another 4-card suit. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2* | Transfer. GF with 5+ diamonds. May have another 4-card suit. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2* | Opener accepts the transfer unless holding an unexpected hand. |  |  |  |
|  | 2*/2 | Shows $6+$ hearts/spades respectively. Weak (0-5 HCP). |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2. | Invitational or better with 6+ clubs. No major. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2NT | No major. 11-12 HCP invitational to 3NT. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3m | 0-5 HCP with 6+ suit. Opener picks a contract. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3-1/3 | Splinter. Shortness in the major with club support. GF. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3NT | No major. 13-15 HCP with at least partial stoppers outside clubs. |  |  |  |  |


| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 14. | 1*/1 | 1NT | Responder can pass if weak. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2* | Asks opener to bid 2*. Responder has some kind of invitational hand or is less than invitational with clubs or diamonds. After 2 $\downarrow$, responder passes with diamonds, bids 2 M with appropriate length, or bids 2 NT which asks opener to bid 3* to play. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 | Transfer. If responder showed hearts then to play or GF with $6+$ hearts (1-under). If responder showed spades then GF with $4+$ hearts. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 - | Transfer. If responder showed hearts then GF with $4+$ spades ( 1 -under). If responder showed spades then to play or GF with $6+$ spades. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2. | Invitational range ask or GF with clubs (2under). Opener rebids 2 NT with a minimum or 3. with a maximum. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | GF with diamonds (2-under). |  |  |

## 1* Auctions



| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1* | 1M | 14/1NT | Responder can pass or correct to 1NT. EXYZ applies. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2. | Ask invi <br> club <br> with <br> leng <br> 3* | $\begin{aligned} & \text { er to } \\ & 1 \text { or is } \\ & \text { amon } \\ & \text { nds, } \\ & \text { ids } 2 \end{aligned}$ | Responder is han invitational with ter $2 \star$, responder passes M with appropriate hich asks opener to bid |
|  |  |  | 2 |  | f M | then to play or GF with then GF with 4+ hearts. |
|  |  |  | 2 V |  |  | then GF with spades. If play or GF. |
|  |  |  | 2 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \text { rans } \\ & \text { ener } \\ & \text { maxir } \end{aligned}$ | or GF with clubs (22NT with a minimum or |
|  |  |  | 2NT | GF | amon | under). |

## 19／1ヵ Auctions

| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1／／ 1 • | $5+$ cards in M，10－19 HCP．If 15－19 then not 5－3－3－2．Those hands are shown with a notrump sequence．With both majors open the longer．With 5 M and 6 m open 1 M ． |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 14． | ［after $1 \vee$ ］ $4+$ spades， $8-14$ HCP．One－round force． $5+$ spades if playing Flannery． 3 m now by opener shows $18-19$ with a 2 －suiter． |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 1NT | Minimum．EXYZ applies now． |  |  |  |
|  | 1NT | 6－11 HCP．Not forcing．Opener passes unless one of the following applies．Responder may have three－card support for M with 6－7 points． |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2m | $4+$ suit．Not forcing． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2－ | ［after 1ヶ¢ ${ }^{\text {a }}$＋suit．Not forcing． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2＊ | ［after 1v］normal reverse． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2M | A repeat bid of 2 M shows six or more cards in M ． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | 18－19 and a good 6－card suit． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3M | A jump rebid of M shows 6＋cards in M and 15－17． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3m | 18－19 with a 2 －suiter． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | ［after 14］18－19 with a 2 －suiter． |  |  |  |
|  | 2＊ | Artificial GF， $15+$ HCP．Shows a good suit（which may or may not be clubs），slam interest with a big balanced hand or a three－card fit for M． |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | Catch－all，none of the following apply． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2－12＊ | ［new suit］natural，4＋suit． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2V／2 | ［repeat of suit opened］six or more cards． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3＊／3＊ | $4+$ suit．15－19 HCP． |  |  |  |
|  | 2 | 12－14 HCP，3＋diamonds，one－round force，may have longer clubs （ $2=4=3=4$ over 1 －or $3=2=3=5$ over $1 \mathbf{~}$ ）． |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2－12 | ［repeat of major opened］five－card suit exactly．10－12 HCP． Not forcing． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | six or more cards in major opened． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 m | Natural．4＋cards in suit． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3NT | 13－14 HCP．To play． |  |  |  |
|  | 2 | ［Over 1＾］12－14 HCP，5＋suit，one－round force， |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2＊ | Rebidding major opened shows a five－card suit exactly．10－ 12 HCP ．Not forcing． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | six or more cards in major opened． |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3NT | 13－14 HCP and exactly two hearts． |  |  |  |
|  | 2／2＾ | ［raise］8－11 support points with exactly three－card support．Lead directing． |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2． | ［over 1⿶］Constructive raise．four－card heart support and 9－11 points． |  |  |  |  |


| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1／／14 | 2NT | Jacoby 2NT．4＋support．Either a 12－to 14－point limit raise，a 15－17 forcing raise or $18+$ with slam interest． |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3. | Asks opener for the second suit or extra length in M．Then opener＇s 3 M shows $6+$ in M． $3 \mathrm{oM}, 4 \mathrm{~m}$ show a second suit． |  |  |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { 3NT/4』 } \\ & / 4 \end{aligned}$ | Show shortness in next suit． |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4M | ［raise］To play． |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | 13－14 HCP．Creates a GF． |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 M | Asks for shortness．Opener＇s $3 \mathrm{NT} / 4 \boldsymbol{\sim} / 4$ show shortness in $\boldsymbol{*} / \mathbf{\$} /$ oM respectively．Bid 3 M or 4 M with no shortness． |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3M | To play with the limit raise． |  |  |
|  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3NT/4* } \\ & \hline 14 \end{aligned}$ | Show shortness in next suit． |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4M | ［raise］To play． |  |  |
|  |  | 3M | Weakest response．Shows 10－12．Not forcing． |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 3 \mathrm{oM} / \\ & 4 \boldsymbol{*} / 4 \end{aligned}$ | Opener has ten or more cards in the two suits．Needs fillers． |  |  |  |
|  | 3＊ | 6＋clubs，12－14 HCP，one－round force．May have three hearts． |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | ［Over 1ヵ］：Constructive raise．9－11 support points，four－card support for spades． |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | ［Over 1 $\downarrow$ ］：3M－1 raise．6－8 support points，four－card support for hearts． |  |  |  |  |
|  | $3 \times$ | ［Over 14］：3M－1 raise．6－8 support points，four－card support for spades． |  |  |  |  |
|  | $3 \times$ | ［Over 1 $\downarrow$ ］：Weak raise．3－5 support points，4＋support for hearts． |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | ［Over 1＾］：Weak raise．3－5 support points，4＋support for spades．［Over 1 V ］：splinter，15－17． |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 m | Splinter，15－17 support points． |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4M | ［raise］：To play．Weak，strong or tactical．But 4⿶ over 1＾is a splinter． |  |  |  |  |

## 2* Auctions

| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2* | $6+$ clubs with 10-14 HCP. May have another 4-card suit. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 * | Asking. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2M | 4-card suit in M. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | A maximum 13-14 HCP with no secondary 4-card suit. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3* | If unable to make any other bid. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | 4 -card diamond suit. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3M | Shows a 6-5 hand with longer clubs. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3NT | No secondary 4-card suit but solid clubs. |  |  |  |
|  | 2M | Natural and non-forcing. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2NT | GF. Interested in a club slam. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3* | Natural and not forcing. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | Transfer to hearts showing 6+. GF. |  |  |  |  |
|  | $3 \times$ | Transfer to spades showing 6+. GF. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3. | Transfer to diamonds showing 6+. GF. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3NT | To play. |  |  |  |  |

Transfers and Puppet Stayman (TAPS)

| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1NT |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2* | Puppet Stayman. Promises invitational strength or better. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | Shows a four-card major or three spades ( $3=2$ or $3=3$, majors). |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 | Responder has four spades (without four hearts) or a balanced raise to 2 NT or 3 NT . Opener bids 2 with four or 2NT/3NT otherwise. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 24. | Shows four hearts but not four spades. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | 4=4 majors. Invitational. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | $5=4$ or $5=5$ in the majors. Opener picks a contract. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3NT | 4=4 majors. Opener picks a game. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4NT | 4=4 majors. Invites slam. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 5NT | $4=4$ majors. Opener picks a slam. |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | Opener shows $2=2$ or $2=3$ in the majors. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 24 | Shows 5=5 majors, forcing to 2NT. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT/3NT | Invitational/to play. |  |  |
|  |  | 24 | Shows five spades. Responder invites with 2NT, 3a or bids game with 3NT, 4• |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | Shows five hearts. Now, $3 \leqslant$ is an invitational or better transfer to hearts. |  |  |  |
|  | 2 | Transfer to hearts. 5+ suit. Any strength. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | Opener accepts the transfer. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | pass | Weak hand with 5+ hearts. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 24 | Shows 5 hearts and fewer than 4 spades. <br> Forcing to 2NT. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | 4=5 majors. Invitational. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3NT | $4=5$ majors. GF. |  |  |
|  | 2 | Transfer to spades. 5+ suit. Any strength. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 24 | Opener accepts the transfer. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | pass | Weak hand with 5+ spades. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | Invitational. |  |  |


| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1NT | 2V | 2^ | 3m | Natural. GF. |  |  |
|  |  |  | Games | To play. |  |  |
|  | 2. | Either a transfer to clubs (any strength) or an invitational hand with diamonds. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | Opener would not accept an invite in clubs. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3* | To play. Weak. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | Invitational with diamonds. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3M | Shortness in M, confirms clubs, GF. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3NT | To play. Confirms clubs. |  |  |
|  |  | 3* | Opener would accept an invite in clubs. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | pass | Weak with clubs. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | Invitational with diamonds. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3M | Shortness in M, confirms clubs, GF. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3NT | To play. Confirms clubs. |  |  |
|  | 2NT | Standard invitational raise. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3* | Weak or game-forcing transfer to diamonds. Opener accepts transfer. Then responder's pass, 3M and 3NT as above, but confirming diamonds. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | $5=5$ minors. GF. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3M | 3 is $3=1=5=4$ or $3=1=4=5.3$ shows $1=3=5=4$ or $1=3=4=5$. GF. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3NT | To play. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4* | Gerber. |  |  |  |  |


| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2NT |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3* | Puppet Stayman. GF. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | Shows a four-card major or exactly three spades ( $3=2$ or $3=3$, majors). |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 - | Responder has four spades or a balanced raise to 3NT. Opener bids 3a with four or 3NT otherwise. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3. | Shows four hearts but not four spades. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3NT | 4=4 majors. Opener picks a game. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4* | Gerber. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4 | $5=4$ or $5=5$ in the majors. Opener picks a contract. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4NT | 4=4 majors. Invites slam. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 5NT | $4=4$ majors. Opener picks a slam. |  |  |
|  | 3* | $3 \times$ | Shows $2=2$ or $2=3$ in the majors. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 34 | Shows 5=5 majors. Opener picks a contract. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3NT | To play. |  |  |
|  |  | 34 | Shows five spades. Responder bids 3NT or 44. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3NT | Shows five hearts. Now, responder's $4 \star$ is a transfer to hearts. |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | Transfer to hearts. $5+$ suit. Any strength. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $3 \times$ | Opener normally accepts the transfer. But, with a doubleton heart and five spades, opener can bid $3 \boldsymbol{A}$ here in case responder is $3=5$ in the majors. $4 \boldsymbol{e}$ is a superaccept of hearts with $4+$ hearts. $4 \mathbf{~ i s ~ a ~ s u p e r a c c e p t ~ w i t h ~ e x a c t l y ~} 3$ hearts. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | pass | Very weak. Should not arise. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 34. | Shows five hearts and fewer than four spades. <br> Forcing to 3NT. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3NT | 4=5 majors. Opener places the contract. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4 m | Natural. GF. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4V | To play. |  |  |


| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2NT | $3 \times$ | Transfer to spades. $5+$ suit. Any strength. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3. | Opener accepts or superaccepts the transfer. But, with a doubleton spade and five hearts, opener can bid 3NT here in case responder is $5=3$ in the majors. 4 is a superaccept with $4+$ spades. 4↔ is a superaccept with exactly 3 spades. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4 m | Natural. GF. |  |  |
|  |  |  | Game | To play. |  |  |
|  | 3. | Transfer to clubs. Either very weak or a slam-try. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4* | Opener accepts the transfer. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4. | RKB for clubs (Kickback). |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4M | Shortness in M. |  |  |
|  | 3NT | To play. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4* | Transfer to diamonds. Either weak or a slam-try. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4 | Opener accepts the transfer. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4 | RKB for diamonds (Kickback). |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4. | Shortness in spades. |  |  |
|  | 4* | $5=5$ minors. GF. Then opener's $4 \boldsymbol{\downarrow}$ is KRKB for clubs, $4 \boldsymbol{4}$ is KRKB for diamonds and 4 NT is to play. |  |  |  |  |

## Extended XYZ (EXYZ)

$\mathbf{X Y Z}$ is a convention (like 2-way Checkback) that kicks in on responder's rebid after three consecutive 1 -level bids by us. It assumes the opponents have passed. Those three 1-level bids are called $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}$ and $\mathbf{Z}$ respectively. In traditional XYZ, a rebid of $2 *$ is a GF and responder's $2 \boldsymbol{r}$ rebid indicates an invitational hand or a weak hand with a minor. In EXYZ the $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ rebid is mostly unchanged whereas rebids of $\mathbf{2} \diamond$ through 2 NT are transfers.

| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 128 | 1 * | $1 \checkmark$ | 20 | Forces opener to bid $\mathbf{2}$ *. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 2* |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Pass | Weak. 4 hearts and 6 diamonds. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2- | Invitational. 5 hearts. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 24. | Invitational. 4 spades. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2NT | "Double Relay." Asks opener to rebid 3s which responder will pass. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3 m | Inv. 4 hearts, $5+\mathrm{m}$. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3 | Inv. Solid 6-card suit. |
|  |  |  | 2* | Transfer to hearts. To play or GF. 5 hearts. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 | Transfer. Shows 4+ spades. GF. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 | Range ask or GF 2-under transfer to clubs. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | 2-under transfer to diamonds. GF. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 m | 5-5 in hearts and m. Invitational. |  |  |
|  |  | 14 | 2* | Forces 2*. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 2* |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Pass | Weak. 4 hearts and 6 diamonds. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2 | Invitational. 6 hearts. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2 | Inv 4-card spade raise. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2NT | Double Relay. Asks opener to bid 3\% to play. |


| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 129 | $1 *$ | 14. | 20 | 2* | 3 m | Inv. 4 hearts, 5+ in m. |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3 | Inv. Solid 6-card suit. |
|  |  |  | 2* | Transfer to hearts. To play or GF. 6+ hearts. |  |  |
|  |  |  | $2 \vee$ | Shows 4 spades. To play or GF. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 24 | Range ask or GF 2-under transfer to clubs. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | 2-under transfer to diamonds. GF. |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 m | 5-5 in hearts and m. Invitational. |  |  |
| 1* | 1 | 1NT | 2\%+ | As above. |  |  |
| 1\% | $1 \checkmark$ | 1a/1NT | 20+ | As above. |  |  |
| 1\% | 14. | 1NT | 2\%+ | As above. |  |  |



## Other Extended XYZ Sequences/Examples

| O1 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 18 | 1 * | $1 \checkmark$ | 3¢/3* | Invitational. Responder is 5-5 in the two suits. |  |  |
| 129 | $1 \checkmark$ | 14/1NT | 3 | Responder is 5-5 in the majors. Invitational. |  |  |
| $1 \vee$ | 14 | 1NT | 24+ | Same as after a $1 \star$ opening. |  |  |
| 18 | 1 | $1 \checkmark$ | 2a | Range ask. Opener rebids 2NT with a minimum or $\mathbf{3 \&}$ with a maximum. Any bid over 2NT shows a GF with clubs. Over 3\& any bid but 3 NT is a slam try with clubs. |  |  |
| 1 | $1 \checkmark$ | 1NT | 2NT | 4 hearts and 4+ diamonds. GF |  |  |
| 1 | $1 \vee$ | 1NT | 2* | $2 \vee$ | 2NT | 5 hearts, 4+ diamonds. GF. |

## Interference after a $1 \boldsymbol{2}$ Opening



| 01 | 11 | R1 | A1 | 02 | 12 | R2 | A2 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 120 | $1 \stackrel{1}{ }$ | Natural overcall. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Pass | Weak or no good bid. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | X | 4+ spades. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 14. | Denies spades. Invites 1NT. Usually 9-11. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 1NT | 9-11. Stopper or partial stopper in hearts. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2* | To play. 5 clubs. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | GF. Functions as a heart cue-bid. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | $6+$ spades. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2. | 6+ clubs. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | 6+ diamonds. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3*/3*/3* | Normal preempt. 7-card suit expected. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | 14 | Natural overcall. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Pass | Weak or no good bid. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | X | 4+ hearts. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 1NT | 9-11. Stopper or partial stopper in spades. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2* | To play. 5 clubs. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | $6+$ hearts. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2* | GF. Functions as a spade cue-bid. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2* | $6+$ clubs. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | 6+ diamonds. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3*/3*/3 | Normal preempt. 7-card suit expected. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | 1NT | Strong notrump overcall. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Pass | Weak or no good bid. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | X | Penalty. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2* | To play. 5 clubs. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2* | $6+$ hearts. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | $6+$ spades. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2. | $6+$ clubs. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | 6+ diamonds. To play or GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3*/3*/3M | Normal preempt. 7-card suit expected. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1* | 2m/2M | Natural overcall. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Pass | Weak or no good bid. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | X | Normal negative double. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2^/3 | [over $2 \boldsymbol{\downarrow} / 2 \downarrow$ respectively] $5+$ suit. One round force. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2NT | 12+ HCP. Shows a stopper. GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3m/3M | [Cue-bid]: GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. | 3m | Natural overcall. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Pass | Weak or no good bid. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | X | 10+ HCP. Negative. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | 5+ suit. GF. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3M | $5+$ suit. GF. |  |  |  |  |  |



Note: When the opponents interfere over our opening, if is available at opener's second turn it shows a strong 2-bid. If not, opener should double for takeout, cue-bid or bid a game.

## Interference after a 1 Opening




## Relays

Everything from this point on is optional. Systems based on relays are regarded as the most accurate for game and slam decisions. They are also regarded as the most complicated and memory intensive. The "symmetric" relay structures in SOS have been around since the early 1980s. They are regarded as the creation of Roy Kerr and Stephen Burgess. The relays here, except for those in response to $1 \boldsymbol{\&}$, are based on ideas in "KK Relay" by Karen McCallum and Kit Woolsey published by Bridge Winners Press. The 1e relays are based on those in Poe's book.

In a relay system, one partner asks questions and their partner answers. It is useful to divide the asking and telling into two parts. In the first part Asker will try to get Teller's exact distribution or essential shape (ESS). After Teller's ESS is known there may be a second part. Asker may sign off in game or continue the investigation looking for information like number and location of important cards. Think of these two parts as "Up to ESS" and "Life after ESS."

An artificial relay creates a GF. At each stage, the next denomination by asker above teller's last response (except 3NT, some special sequence and game bids) continues the relay. A bid other than the next denomination breaks the relay chain. 3NT by asker is always to play. The teller's basic strategy during "up to ESS" is to show suits then shortages then exact shape. There are five hand types. A balanced hand is either 4-3-3-3 or 4-4-3-2. A one-suited hand (1S) has one suit with 5+ cards and no other suit with four or more cards. A short two-suiter ( $\mathbf{S} 2 \mathbf{S}$ ) is one where the shorter suit is exactly four cards and the longer suit is $5+$ cards. If the 4 -card suit is higher ranking it is called a reverser. A long two-suiter (L2S) is 5-5 or better. 2S means S2S or L2S. A threesuiter (3S) is 4-4-4-1 or 5-4-4-0. Hands with an 8-card or longer
suit are not shown. Treat them as 7 -card suits and improvise. Hands with 12+ cards in two suits are not shown either. Treat these as L2S (or S2S) and improvise. A shortage can be a void, a singleton or a doubleton. If opener's LHO intervenes, relays are off except over a double.

The next section includes the relay structures used in the "up to ESS" part. Similar ideas are used in each but there is a different structure corresponding to each of the $1 *, 1 *, 1 \mathrm{M}$ and $2 \boldsymbol{*}$ opening bids. We start with the structure after $1 \leqslant$ since it is the easiest and will fix some of the ideas. Responder initiates the relay with 1NT. Then opener will show the hand type (including a second suit if applicable), shortness using HMEL or HEL encoding and then exact shape. If the relay continues, opener shows 2-1-points then location of honours with denial cue-bidding (DCB). Life after ESS requires a separate section.

## Core System Changes Needed for Relays

| $1 \boldsymbol{\sim}-\underline{1}-1$ | If 1NT initiates relays then 1a is either weak with no major or shows a <br> GF hand with 5+ clubs and another 4-card suit. |
| :--- | :--- |
| $1 \boldsymbol{L}-\underline{N T}$ | Initiates relays. |


| $1 *-\underline{1 N T}$ | Initiates relays. |
| :--- | :--- |

1M-2* Initiates relays.
2*-2 Initiates relays.

## Relays After a $1 \star$ Opening



| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1NT | 2. | 1S with HMEL. High shortage or funny (6-2-2-3 or 6-2-3-2) |  |  |  |
|  |  | - | 2NT | Relay continues. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3* | Slow | any. 6-2-2-3 before 6-2-3-2 |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Generi | 5-3-3-2. |
|  |  |  |  | 3-3NT | As las | hree rows of this table. |
|  |  | 2NT | HMEL. 1S with middle shortage. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3* | Relay continues. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3. | Generic 5-3-3-2. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3- 3NT | As last three rows of this table. |  |
|  |  | 3* | 1S and fast funny. 7-2-2-2 before 6-3-2-2. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | HMEL. 1S with low shortage and generic 5-3-3-2. Here, running on to $3=3=5=2$ exact shape (ESS) |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | Generic 6-3-3-1. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3. | Generic 7-2-3-1. "2 outranks 3." |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3NT | Generic 7-3-3-0. "3 outranks 2." EOL. |  |  |  |

## Relays After a 1~0 Opening

| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1\% | 1NT | Initiates the relay. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2* | 4+ diamonds. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 | Relay |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 2 | Generic 4-4-3-2 with red suits. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2 | Relay. |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 2NT | High doubleton. Generic 4-4-3-2. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 3\% | Low doubleton. Generic 4-4-3-2. |
|  |  |  |  | 24 | Any 4-4-3-2 with diamonds and spades. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2NT | Relay. |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 3\% | High doubleton. Generic 4-4-3-2. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Low doubleton. Generic 4-4-3-2. |
|  |  |  |  | 2NT | 4-4-3-2 with diamonds and clubs. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3\% | Relay. |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | High doubleton. Generic 4-4-3-2. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Low doubleton. Generic 4-4-3-2. |
|  |  |  |  | 32 | $2=2=4=5$. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Generic 5-3-3-2 with 5 diamonds. So, 1214 or 18-19. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | $3=1=4=5$. (Could have 6 clubs.) |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 34 | $1=3=4=5$. (Could have 6 clubs.) |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | 4+ hearts. Denies four diamonds. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 | Relay. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 2 | Generic 4-4-3-2 with both majors. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 2NT | Generic 4-4-3-2 with hearts and clubs. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3s | $2=4=2=5$. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | $3=4=1=5$. (Could have 6 clubs.) |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Generic 5-3-3-2 with 5 hearts. So, 18-19. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 34 | $1=4=3=5$. (Could have 6 clubs.) |  |  |


| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 120 | 1NT | 2 | 4+ spades. Denies either four diamonds or four hearts. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2. | Relay. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 2NT | Generic 4-4-3-2 with spades and clubs. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3* | $4=2=2=5$. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | $4=3=1=5$. (Could have 6 clubs.) |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3' | $4=1=3=5$. (Could have 6 clubs.) |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Generic 5-3-3-2 with 5 spades. So, 18-19 |  |
|  |  | 2. | Shows either 1-4-4=4 or 2-3-3=5. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | Relay. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3* | Generic 5-3-3-2 with 5 clubs. . So, 12-14 or 18-19. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | $4=4=1=4$. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3' | $4=1=4=4$. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3. | $1=4=4=4$. |  |
|  |  | 2NT | Any 4-3-3-3. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3* | Relay. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 * | $3=3=3=4$. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3* | $3=3=4=3$. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3. | $3=4=3=3$. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3NT | $4=3=3=3$. |  |
|  |  | 3* | 1S. 6+ clubs and 15-19 HCP. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | $4=4=0=5$. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3- | $4=0=4=5$. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3. | $0=4=4=5 .$ |  |  |  |

## Relays After a 2* Opening

| 01 | R1 | O2 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2* | 2 | Initiates the relay. Teller (opener here) starts by showing whether her hand type is 1 S or 2 S . If 2 S , opener bids $2 \boldsymbol{v}$. 1S starts with 2 or higher. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | Shows a $2^{\text {nd }}$ suit. Opener reveals the suit using High, Middle, Equal, Low (HMEL). |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2^ $\quad$ Relay |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Spades or funny. Funny is 6 clubs and 5 diamonds. Open 1M with a 5 -card major and 6 clubs. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3* | Relay continues. |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | $3 \times$ | High short |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Equal short. Generic 7-4-1-1 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 3NT+ | Low short |
|  |  |  |  | 3* |  | Hearts |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | Relay continues. |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 3- High short |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 34. | Generic 7-4-1-1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 3NT+ | Low short |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Funny. Shows 6 clubs and 5 diamonds. Slow shows $1=1=5=6$. Fast shows $0=2=5=6$ then $2=0=5=6$. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Diamonds. High short |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 34. | Diamonds. Generic 7-4-1-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3NT+ | Diamonds. Low short. Generic 6-4-2-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 4* | Diamonds. Low short. Generic 6-4-3-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 4 | Diamonds. Low short. Generic 7-4-2-0 |  |  |


| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2* | 2 | 2. | Use HMEL. 1S with high shortage or funny (6-2-2-3 or 6-2-3-2) |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | Relay continues. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3* | Slow fu | 6-2-2-3 before 6-2-3-2 |
|  |  |  |  | 3*+ | As in la | rows below. |
|  |  | 2NT | HMEL. 1S with middle shortage. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3. | Relay continues. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3+ | As in | 4 rows below. |
|  |  | 3* | 1 S and (fast) funny. 7-2-2-2 before 6-3-2-2. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | HMEL. 1S with low shortage and generic 6-3-3-1. Here, running on to 3 after 2 shows $3=3=1=6$ exact shape (ESS) |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 | Generic 7-2-3-1. "2 outranks 3." |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3. | Generic 7-3-2-1. "3 outranks 2." |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3NT | Generic 7-3-3-0. EOL |  |  |  |

## Relays After a 1M Opening



| 01 | R1 | 02 | R2 | 03 | R3 | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1M | 2* | 2 | 2* | 3*+ | S2S with both majors, high shortage.. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | S2S with both majors, equal shortage.. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3-4* | Running on to low shortage.. |  |
|  |  | 2. | S2S with diamonds. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2NT | Relay continues. Use HEL encoding. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3* | High shortage. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Equal shortage. 5-4-2-2 or 7-4-1-1. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3-4* | Running on to low shortage.. |  |
|  |  | 2NT | 1 S with high shortage or funny (equal shortage). |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3* | Relay continues. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | Slow funny. 6-2-2-3 or 6-2-3-2. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3-4* | Running on with high shortage. See below. |  |
|  |  | 3* | 1 S with middle shortage |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 3 | Relay continues. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 3-4* | Running on with middle shortage. See below. |  |
|  |  | 3 | Funny. Equal shortage. Fast shows 7-2-2-2 or 6-3-2-2. |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3 + | Running on shows 1S with low shortage. Generic 5-3-3-2 |  |  |  |
|  |  | 34 | Generic 6-3-3-1 |  |  |  |
|  |  | 3NT | Generic 7-2-3-1. The 2 outranks the 3 . |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4* | Generic 7-3-2-1. The 3 outranks the 2 . |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4 | Generic 7-3-3-0. EOL. |  |  |  |

