

4) Response to 1NT with a 5 cards minor, 4 cards major and a G.F. hand

Holding a 4 cards major, the priority is to look for a possible fit in the major. Our first bid is therefore the ambiguous 2♣.

If North rebid shows a fit in our 4 cards major, we would conclude at 4 in that major. If instead North bids 2♦ or bids the major we do not have, we shall bid 3♣ = asking for minors

We have 4 different cases :

A)

W	N	E	S
-	1NT	p	2♣
p	2♥	p	4♥

South hand
 ♠ 5 2
 ♥ K J 10 5
 ♦ A Q 9 5 3
 ♣ 10 6

Here the bidding is intuitive, once found the fit South concludes at game.

B)

W	N	E	S
-	1NT	p	2♣
p	2♦	p	3♣ = asking for minors
p	3♦		= I have a 5 cards minor
	3♥		= minors 4-4 with 3 ♥
	3♠		= minors 4-4 with 3 ♠
	3NT		= unknown minor 4 carder and 3-3-3.

South hand
 ♠ 5 2
 ♥ K J 10 5
 ♦ A Q 9 5 3
 ♣ 10 6

Over 3♦ re-bid, showing a 5 carder minor, South can ask with 3♥ with step responses where 3♠ = 5♣ e 3NT = 5♦

Knowing in detail North hand, South is now in the position to decide the final contract

C)

W	N	E	S
-	1NT	p	2♣
p	2♥	p	3♣ = asking for minors
p	3♦		= 4♥ , 4♦ and 3-2
	3♥		= 4♥ and 3-3-3
	3♠		= 4♥ , 4♠ and minors 3-2
	3NT		= 4♥ , 4♣ and 3-2.

South hand
 ♠ K J 10 5
 ♥ 8
 ♦ A Q 9 5 3
 ♣ 10 6 4

North has shown 4 cards in ♥ and therefore cannot have a 5 cards minor or else he would have 2 doubletons or 1 singleton. It has also to be noted that North has promised 4♥ but he has not denied 4♠.

The 3 bid asking for minors can also be used, over a 2♥ response, to enquire whether opener holds also 4♠. In this way the balanced hand will always remain declarer thus receiving the lead.

Once again South, knowing North shape, will be able to decide the final contract.

D)

W	N	E	S	South hand
-	1NT	p	2♣	♠ 8
p	2♠	p	3♣ = asking for minors.	♥ K J 10 5
p	3♦ = 4♠ , 4♦ and 3-2			♦ A Q 9 5 3
	3♥ = 4♠ , 4♣ and 3-2			♣ 10 6 4
	3♠ = 4♠ and 3-3-3			

North 2♠ re-bid, promises 4 cards in this suit and denies 4♥. Moreover having shown 4♠ he cannot have a minor 5 carder, or else, he would have either 2 doubletons or 1 singleton.

Now South has an accurate description of North shape and can decide the final contract.