



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♣(cuebid for Spades)-etc.

2NT: asks, see next.

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

4m: 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.

4m: cuebid with 3 Hearts, extras.

4♥: 3 Hearts, no desire to cuebid.

After 2♠-2NT-3♦-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 2**M** 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.
- 3**M**, 3NT is to play.

Over suit and NT bids:

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

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|-------------------------|--|
| 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. |