

## CHECKBACK STAYMAN BY OPENER

Have you noticed how often partner's 1NT response to your opening bid leaves you with a rebid problem? To begin with, you may want to sign off, invite game, or force to game--but there is no way to do all three. For instance, with ♠AJ6432 ♥KQ3 ♦A10 ♣AJ you must rebid 3NT or 4♠ when partner responds 1NT to your 1♠ opening. You would like to bid a forcing 3♠ to give partner a choice, but 3♠ is not forcing.

Perhaps you have a good two-suited hand: ♠AQ942 ♥AQJ76 ♦4 ♣J2. After opening 1♠ and getting a 1NT response, should you jump to 3♥ or bid a weak 2♥? You would like to make an invitational 3♥ bid, but 3♥ is forcing. A jump in a new suit might be played as invitational, but then what would you do with ♠AQ1083 ♥AQJ2 ♦A4 ♣Q8? You would have to bid 3NT, perhaps missing a better game in a major.

Good bidders will open 1♥ with ♠A103 ♥AKJ3 ♦108743 ♣4, both as a lead directing bid and to avoid the rebid problem created by a 2♣ response to a 1♦ opening (the hand is not strong enough for a 2♥ reverse). After partner's 1NT response, however, a 2♦ rebid invariably fetches a 2♥ preference from responder, who has Qx of hearts and three diamonds (figuring opener for five hearts). How can we keep this from happening? Similar problems arise with hands such as ♠AKJ3 ♥A103 ♦J9752 ♣4 or ♠AQJ3 ♥J9542 ♦3 ♣AJ5 (both are 1♠ openings) or ♠2 ♥AK109 ♦A43 ♣J5432 (a 1♥ opening).

Another problem: You open 1♠ with ♠AK8742 ♥AQ93 ♦76 ♣4, and when partner bids 1NT you rebid 2♠ or 3♠, depending on how you feel that day. If partner has four or more hearts you are probably going to play in the wrong suit. If you rebid 2♥ instead, partner is likely to pass with two spades and three hearts. She might also pass with four hearts and a weak hand, perhaps missing an easy game. You cannot rebid 3♥ over 1NT, because the hand is not strong enough for a game-forcing jump.

The remedy for all these problems, and more, is to play all jump rebids by opener after a 1NT response as forcing to game. With an invitational hand, opener rebids an artificial 2♣, which we have named Checkback Stayman (CS), then makes an invitational bid. Rebids of 2♦, 2♥, or 2♠ are weak, except for a reverse (two-level bid in a suit higher than the one opened), which is strong but not forcing. Opener may also rebid 2♣ with certain weak hands, seeking to find the safest landing spot. A raise of 1NT to 2NT is natural, invitational.

**Warning: DO NOT USE CHECKBACK STAYMAN IF A REVERSE OR OTHER NATURAL BID WILL SUFFICE!**

One advantage of CS is that you can bypass a weak four-card major suit, responding 1NT with a notrumpish hand such as ♠Q76 ♥J632 ♦K72 ♣K107 or even ♠9832 ♥10876 ♦Q2 ♣AQ10 when the opening is, say, 1♦. Such hands usually play just as well in notrump if opener's hand is also balanced, even if opener has four cards in your major. Besides, you don't want to play in a weak major suit opposite three-card support. If opener has an unbalanced hand with four cards in a major, he may be able to check back with a 2♣ rebid, or reverse with a bid of the major.

### Responses to Checkback Stayman

Responder shows an unbid major or three-card support (a very strong doubleton--two of the top four honors--is equivalent to three-card support) for partner's major. With both, support partner's major; with neither, bid 2♦:

| Opener | Responder   |
|--------|---|
| 1♠     | 1NT   |
| 2♣     | 2♦ - no spade support, no heart suit<br>2♥ - heart suit, denies three spades*<br>2♠ - three spades, could have hearts |

\* Exception: 2♥ is okay with five hearts and three spades.

| Opener | Responder  |
|--------|--|
| 1♥     | 1NT  |
| 2♣     | 2♦ - no heart support<br>2♥ - heart support, could have spades<br>2♠ - an impossible bid |

The last 2♠ bid is impossible because responder must not bypass a four-card spade suit when lacking heart support.

| Opener | Responder  |
|--------|--|
| 1♣/1♦  | 1NT  |
| 2♣     | 2♦ - no four-card major<br>2♥ - four hearts, could have spades<br>2♠ - four spades, denies four hearts |

In general responder must rebid 2♦, 2♥, or 2♠ in response to CS. With a six-card semi-solid minor suit, however, she may bid three of the long suit. The suit must be strong enough to play opposite a singleton in opener's hand:

| Opener | Responder                        |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| 1♥     | 1NT                              |
| 2♣     | 3♣/3♦ - semi-solid six-card suit |

### Opener's Next Bid

If opener does not pass responder's answer to CS, his next bid is as follows:

-- An immediate 3♣ bid is natural, showing five or more clubs and a weak hand. Opener would have made a natural (weak) 2♣ rebid if not using CS:

| Opener | Responder                       |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Any  | 1NT                             |
| 2♣     | 2♦/2♥/2♠                        |
| 3♣     | - five or more clubs, weak hand |

There is one sequence, however, in which 3♣ is forcing:

| Opener                        | Responder |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 1♠                            | 1NT       |
| 2♣                            | 2♠        |
| 3♣ is strong, trying for game |           |

In this auction opener must have five spades (otherwise the opening would be 1♣) and would therefore pass 2♠ with a weak hand. The 3♣ call is a trial bid, asking if responder has a hand that fits well. With a suitable hand such as ♠1032 ♥854 ♦A54 ♣KJ7, responder will now bid 4♠ because of the good fit with opener's clubs. With a poor fit responder will sign off in 3♠. Opener's hand is ♠AK954 ♥K2 ♦6 ♣AQ543.

The situation is very different when the suit is hearts:

| Opener          | Responder |
|-----------------|-----------|
| 1♥              | 1NT       |
| 2♣              | 2♥        |
| 3♣ is a signoff |           |

In this case opener has a hand such as ♠4 ♥AKJ8 ♦A43 ♣Q8763 (with five hearts he would pass the 2♥ bid). A 1♥ opening is better than 1♣, to provide for an easy rebid opposite the expected 1♠ response. Responder will pass 3♣ or bid 3♦, knowing that opener has 1-4-3-5 distribution (with 3-4-1-5 or 2-4-2-5 the opening would be 1♣).

Another possibility for a 4-5 major-minor hand is a hand of this type: ♠AKJ3 ♥A32 ♦108763 ♣8. The correct opening bid is 1♠, and after a 1NT response opener must use CS because a 2♦ rebid promises five spades. Opener will pass a red-suit response to CS.

With nothing but long clubs and no interest in game, opener just keeps bidding clubs until responder gets the message:

| Opener | Responder                      |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| 1♣     | 1NT                            |
| 2♣     | 2♦/2♥/2♠                       |
| 3♣     | Pass (forced - opener is weak) |

-- An immediate bid of 3♦, 3♥, or 3♠ is invitational, not forcing:

| Opener                    | Responder |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| 1♠                        | 1NT       |
| 2♣                        | 2♦        |
| 3♦/3♥/3♠ are invitational |           |

The 3♥ bid shows a hand with 5-5 in the majors. With 5-4 opener would bid a forcing 2♥ instead of 3♥. If responder had bid 2♠ over 2♣, the 3♥ bid might be made with a four-card suit. Even then

the 3♥ bid is not forcing, although responder is unlikely to pass. To do so she would have a weak hand with four hearts and a poor fit: ♠873 ♥J984 ♦KJ3 ♣Q76.

-- If opener's next bid after 2♣ is 2NT, that is a game try showing clubs (as a second suit, or as a rebid of clubs if the opening was 1♣).

| Opener                             | Responder |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 any                              | 1NT       |
| 2♣                                 | 2♦/2♥/2♠  |
| 2NT shows clubs, invitational hand |           |

Opener cannot bid 3♣ with an invitational hand, because 3♣ is a weak bid. If his opening was 1♦, 1♥, or 1♠, he has a strong two-suiter with clubs as the second suit, and is inviting game. Responder pretends to have heard an invitational 3♣ bid (a 3♣ jump after the 1NT response would have been forcing) and acts accordingly. If she would have passed an invitational 3♣ bid, she now bids 3♣, which opener passes. She might pass 2NT, at her own risk, with a weak hand and strength in the "unbid" suits.

If the opening was 1♣, opener has a long club suit in a hand of invitational strength. It is usually best not to pass 2NT, because opener could have a very unbalanced hand. If 3NT cannot be made, 3♣ is probably a better contract than 2NT. Besides, with a liking for notrump opener might have raised 1NT to 2NT instead of using CS.

If the opening was 1♦, opener has at least 5-4 in the minors.

If the opening was 1♥, opener has at least 5-4 in hearts and clubs. When hearts have been supported, the reason for bidding 2NT is to help responder evaluate her hand in deciding whether to accept the game invitation or not. When a club fit is not important, opener should just bid 3♥ over 2♥ to invite game.

If the opening was 1♠, opener has at least 5-4 in spades and clubs. When spades have been supported, the 2NT bid definitely shows four clubs because (as discussed before) opener would bid a forcing 3♣ to invite game with a 5-5 hand. Here too, opener should just bid 3♠ over 2♠ to invite game when a club fit is not important.

A *delayed* bid of 2NT, however, does not show clubs. It is a normal invitation to game in notrump:

| Opener                           | Responder   |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1♠                               | 1NT         |
| 2♣                               | 2♦          |
| 2♥                               | 2♠ (forced) |
| 2NT is natural, not club-showing |             |

Opener has ♠AK32 ♥AK76 ♦76 ♣QJ3 and bids 2♣ to check for a heart fit. Having found none, he must bid 2♥ (forcing) as a stepping stone to an invitational 2NT bid. He could not bid 2NT

immediately over 2♦, because that would show clubs. Responder's 2♠ bid is forced, even with a singleton spade. She has previously denied spade support with the 2♦ bid.

-- If opener's next bid after CS is a new suit at the two level (as above) that is usually a one round force. Opener has invitational strength or better. Let's discuss the above auction first:

| Opener | Responder  |
|--------|------------|
| 1♠     | 1NT        |
| 2♣     | 2♦         |
| 2♥     | is forcing |

Opener has only four hearts, since he would bid 3♥ with five (over 1NT to force to game, over 2♦ to invite game). Responder has denied holding four hearts, so opener can only be bidding 2♥ on the way to describing her hand. Responder must bid 2♠ at this point (the 2♦ bid denied spade support). Opener may have 5-4-0-4, 5-4-4-0, 4-4-4-1, etc. If so, he will bid his minor next (not forcing). He might have a weak hand with six spades and four hearts, using the 2♥ bid as a device to get to a 2♠ contract (2♠ over 2♦ would show five spades, not six, as explained later). Or he might have: ♠AJ976 ♥KQ108 ♦AJ ♣Q9, planning to follow with an invitational 2NT bid. He could not bid 2NT over 2♦, because that would show clubs, remember?

Responder must usually just make the cheapest call when a major suit opener bids the other major at the two level in a CS sequence. There is no need to jump to 3NT with a maximum 1NT response, because opener will always bid again if he is interested in game. If the new suit is spades, responder may be in a position to raise instead of bidding 2NT:

| Opener | Responder |
|--------|-----------|
| 1♥     | 1NT       |
| 2♣     | 2♥        |
| 2♠     | ?         |

Responder could have four spades (a weak suit, of course), since she must show heart support as a first priority. If she does have spades, she raises to 3♠ or 4♠, according to her strength. Otherwise she just bids 2NT, allowing opener to continue showing his hand.

| Opener | Responder    |
|--------|--------------|
| 1♥     | 1NT          |
| 2♣     | 2♦           |
| 2♠     | 2NT - forced |

Responder has denied having four spades or three hearts. Opener is bidding 2♠ on the way to showing his obviously good hand, which may have a distribution of 4-5-4-0, 4-5-0-4, or 4-6 in the majors. Responder bids 2NT to allow opener to continue his hand description.

When a minor suit opener bids a new major after using CS, responder can sometimes give more information. She must never bypass opener's first suit, however:

| Opener | Responder  |
|--------|--|
| 1♣     | 1NT  |
| 2♣     | 2♦   |
| 2♥     | 2♠ - good spade strength<br>2NT - non-committal<br>3♣ - four clubs, maximum hand<br>3♦ - not permitted |

The 2♠ bid, which shows good spade strength but not necessarily a maximum hand, may enable opener to invite game with a 2NT bid (or even bid 3NT) when he was planning some other bid: ♠J ♥AK42 ♦AK ♣K108732 The 3♣ bid could lead to a slam if opener has the same hand.

| Opener | Responder   |
|--------|---|
| 1♦     | 1NT   |
| 2♣     | 2♦  |
| 2♥     | 2♠ - good spade strength<br>2NT - non-committal<br>3♣/3♦ - four or more, maximum<br>(3♣ denies four diamonds) |

| Opener | Responder   |
|--------|---|
| 1♦     | 1NT   |
| 2♣     | 2♦/2♥   |
| 2♠     | 2NT - non-committal<br>3♣/3♦ - four or more, maximum<br>(3♣ denies four diamonds) |

What if a light 1♣ opener is 5-5 in the black suits? This is not a rare occurrence, since 1♣ is the right opening with a weak to moderate hand and weakish spades. The answer, unfortunately, is that we must have an exception: A 2♠ rebid by a 1♣ opener who has used CS shows five spades and is neither forcing nor particularly invitational. This means that opener cannot show a four-card spade suit at this point and must choose some other sequence (e.g, a reverse) with a good hand.

-- If opener's next bid after 2♣ is a rebid of his major suit at the two level, he shows five cards in the suit, plus four clubs, and a weak hand:

| Opener | Responder                          |
|--------|------------------------------------|
| 1♥     | 1NT                                |
| 2♣     | 2♦                                 |
| 2♥     | five hearts, four clubs, weak hand |

Opener could not bid 2NT to show clubs, because that requires a hand of game-invitational strength, and he needs five clubs to bid 2♣, then 3♣. Responder may pass, prefer clubs, or correct to 2NT

### More About Two-Suiters

A 1♠ opening followed by a 2♥ rebid after a 1NT response is never based on a holding of more spades than hearts. Opener either has equal length or the hearts are longer (e.g., ♠AKJ3 ♥J10863 ♦KJ2 ♣5):

| Opener | Responder |
|--------|-----------|
| 1♠     | 1NT       |
| 2♥     |           |

Responder passes 2♥ with equal length in both majors. If responder's majors were reversed, with more spades than hearts, 6-4 or 5-4, opener could have used CS. If the response to CS is a disappointing 2♦, opener bids 2♥ to force a 2♠ bid:

| Opener | Responder    |
|--------|--------------|
| 1♠     | 1NT          |
| 2♣     | 2♦           |
| 2♥     | 2♠ is forced |

This won't work very well if responder has a singleton spade and three hearts, but that doesn't happen very often.

Do not use CS with a 4-6 holding in spades-hearts and no interest in game. Just rebid the hearts. Remember that CS followed by a rebid of the opened major shows just five cards in the suit (plus four clubs).

A 1♥ opening followed by a rebid of 2♦ denies five hearts:

| Opener                  | Responder |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| 1♥                      | 1NT       |
| 2♦ - denies five hearts |           |

Opener has a hand such as ♠3 ♥KQ108 ♦J7652 ♣AQJ. With five hearts opener can safely use CS after the 1NT response, since responder cannot bid 2♠. As discussed previously, a 1NT response to 1♥ must not be made when holding four spades and no heart support. When opener has ♠A4 ♥Q10832 ♦KQ764 ♣3, the bidding will go:

| Opener | Responder |
|--------|-----------|
| 1♥     | 1NT       |
| 2♣     | 2♦/2♥     |
| Pass   |           |

Opener might even bid like this with five hearts and four diamonds, although this is a little risky, since responder could have a 3-2-2-6 hand. It might be better to pass 1NT or rebid 2♥. With six hearts and five diamonds, opener should forget diamonds and rebid 2♥ with a weak opening.

Now look at the spade-diamond situation. With five spades and four or five diamonds, opener (after opening 1♠ and getting a 1NT response) should usually rebid 2♦ with no interest in game. In this

case responder prefers spades with equal length in both suits (opener will never have longer diamonds). Use of CS with a hand such as ♠AJ875 ♥3 ♦KJ62 ♣K53 would lead to trouble if responder bids 2♥. When opener has three hearts, however, in a 5-3-4-1 hand, CS may be chanced (with the plan of passing any response). That is one reason why responder, holding three spades and four hearts, must bid 2♠ in response to CS.

With a hand like ♠AKJ2 ♥A103 ♦J9762 ♣5, the correct opening is 1♠, to provide for a comfortable rebid if the response is 1NT or 2♣. The hand is not strong enough to open 1♦ and reverse with 2♠, and the diamonds are too weak to rebid. With a 1♠ opening, opener can use CS after a 1NT response, then pass responder's next bid. That is why we permit a 2♥ response to CS when responder has three spades and five hearts (♠543 ♥J8752 ♦Q103 ♣AQ).

If opener has chosen to start with 1♦ holding a hand such as ♠KQ3 ♥4 ♦AKJ2 ♣97543, CS is fairly safe. Opener will pass a 2♠ bid, and otherwise will rebid 3♣, which shows five clubs. Responder should prefer clubs with equal length in the minors.

When opener has five diamonds and four clubs (♠KQJ ♥4 ♦97543 ♣AKJ2), she might pass 1NT. If she chooses to use CS, the plan is to pass 2♦ or 2♠, and to (probably) force a 2NT contract (by bidding 2♠) if responder bids 2♥. If responder then bids a minor (showing at least four) instead of 2NT, that's okay too! With six diamonds and five clubs opener has the choice of rebidding 2♦ after a 1NT response, or treating the two suits as if they were of equal length by bidding 2♣, then 3♣ (with the small risk of playing a 5-3 club fit instead of a 6-3 diamond fit). Don't worry much about this, because the opponents will surely be in the bidding when opener has a weak hand with both minors opposite a 1NT response.

### Some Final Points

When opener jumps to 3NT after using CS, despite being supported in his major, he must have four cards in the other major:

| Opener | Responder |
|--------|-----------|
| 1♠     | 1NT       |
| 2♣     | 2♠        |
| 3NT    |           |

Opener's jump to 3NT denies a five-card spade holding, so the only reason for using CS must have been the possession of four hearts. If responder has a heart suit in addition to the spade support shown, she may now bid 4♥.

Hands of 4-4-4-1 shape may present problems. With a weak hand 1NT must usually be passed, although it is no crime to open 1♠ and rebid 2♥ with ♠AK87 ♥AQ103 ♦8762 ♣3. Responder should not take a "false preference" with two spades and three hearts, because this sequence denies a 5-4 holding in the majors (as previously discussed). CS should not be used because responder will bid 2♠ with three spades and four hearts.

CS does not usually work well with 4-4-4-1 hands of invitational strength. Just raise 1NT to 2NT and hope responder has enough to continue, whereupon she will show an unbid major. With a game-going hand CS can always be used safely when it is needed.

CS is not used with 5-3-3-2 or 4-4-3-2 hands of mere invitational strength. With a five-card major in a 5-3-3-2 hand, there is usually no way to raise to 2NT after using CS. Just raise 1NT to 2NT, after which partner may be able to show support for the major. If partner didn't raise the major opening with three-card support he must be balanced, so the hand is likely to play just as well in notrump. Here too, using CS is okay with a game-going hand.

CS does not apply when responder's 1NT call is a rebid:

| Opener                | Responder   |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1♣                    | 1♦          |
| 1♠                    | 1NT         |
| 2♣ - natural,         | not CS      |
| 3♣/3♦ - invitational, | not forcing |

CS does not apply after a 1NT response to an overcall:

| South | West             | North | East |
|-------|------------------|-------|------|
| 1♦    | 1♥               | Pass  | 1NT  |
| Pass  | 2♣ - natural bid |       |      |

### When the Opponents Intervene

CS applies when the 1NT response comes over an opposing bid:

| North | East | South    | West |
|-------|------|----------|------|
| 1♦    | 1♥   | 1NT      | Pass |
|       |      | 2♣ is CS |      |

All further bids by either partner retain the usual meanings, except that a natural bid in an opposing suit can show either four cards or a strong three. For instance, a 2♥ response by South would show four hearts with at least one honor or three good hearts (e.g., KJx), and would not deny four cards in spades.

CS does not apply if the 1NT bid is doubled, however. The bidding reverts to standard bidding in that case.

If there is an opposing bid following the 2♣ bid that initiates CS, all doubles are for business and all bids are natural:

| South | West | North          | East |
|-------|------|----------------|------|
| 1♣    | Pass | 1NT            | Pass |
| 2♣    | Pass | 2♦             | 2♥   |
|       |      | Dbl - business |      |

| South                                | West | North | East |
|--------------------------------------|------|-------|------|
| 1♦                                   | Pass | 1NT   | Pass |
| 2♣                                   | 2♥   | Pass  | Pass |
| Dbl - business                       |      |       |      |
| 2NT - natural, not club-invitational |      |       |      |
| 3♣ - may not be weak                 |      |       |      |

### When an Artificial Bid Gets Doubled

When an opponent doubles an artificial bid, including the CS 2♣ bid, any elaborate scheme for always showing stopper(s) or lack of stopper in the doubled suit would get in the way of CS bidding sequences, so we just use common sense. Immediate bids continue the CS sequence, while reopening bids revert to natural bidding.

| South                            | West | North                              | East |
|----------------------------------|------|------------------------------------|------|
| 1♠                               | Pass | 1NT                                | Pass |
| 2♣                               | Dbl  | Pass - can support a club contract |      |
| 2♦ - normal response, poor clubs |      |                                    |      |
| 2♥/2♠ - says nothing about clubs |      |                                    |      |
| Rdbl - good clubs, good hand     |      |                                    |      |

The pass or redouble denies hearts or three spades. "Good clubs" means club strength, at least a double stopper, not necessarily with four-card length. The 2♥ and 2♠ bids do not deny good clubs, however (but 2♦ does).

| South                           | West | North | East |
|---------------------------------|------|-------|------|
| 1♥                              | Pass | 1NT   | Pass |
| 2♣                              | Pass | 2♦    | Dbl  |
| Pass - playable diamonds        |      |       |      |
| 2♥/2♠/2NT/3♣ - normal CS rebids |      |       |      |
| Rdbl - good diamonds, good hand |      |       |      |

The normal rebids say nothing about diamonds. North could have good diamonds and just not want to complicate things by passing or redoubling.

If the double of an artificial bid gets passed around, a redouble suggests that the doubled contract may be playable, and may be the highest scoring (or only) game. Partner can pass if he agrees. Otherwise the bidding proceeds naturally, with no artificial bids:

| South                  | West | North          | East |
|------------------------|------|----------------|------|
| 1♠                     | Pass | 1NT            | Pass |
| 2♣                     | Pass | 2♦             | Dbl  |
| Pass                   | Pass | Rdbl - to play |      |
| 2♥/2♠/2NT/3♣ - natural |      |                |      |
| 3♥/3♠ - invitational   |      |                |      |

### When a Natural Bid Gets Doubled

When a natural bid is doubled, a redouble is to play, a pass is suggestion (not a command) that the contract may be playable; and a bid just ignores the double, continuing the CS sequence. Partner can do what he wants after a pass: redouble (to play) or continue with natural bidding.



## Summary

After a 1NT response to an opening bid:

All three-level jump rebids by opener are forcing to game.

2♦, 2♥, or 2♠ is weak (reverses excepted).

To invite game, opener bids 2♣ (artificial), then invites.

2♣ followed by 3♣ is a weak signoff, so

2♣ followed by 2NT is a game try club bid.

Responder's action after CS:

Show three-card support for opener's major suit.

Lacking that, show an unbid major.

Lacking either of these, bid 2♦.

If opener does not pass responder's answer to CS, his next bid is as follows:

3♣ is natural, weak (unless spades have been supported).

3♦, 3♥, or 3♠ is invitational.

2NT shows clubs, invitational strength.

A new suit at the two level is forcing.

Rebid of a major is weak, shows four clubs too.

A spade opening followed by a 2♥ rebid never has longer spades, with which CS is used.

A heart opening followed by a 2♦ rebid never has longer hearts, with which CS is used.

A spade opening followed by a 2♦ rebid promises five spades, without which a weak opener must pass 1NT (or bid 2♣ with 4=3=5=1).

A diamond opening followed by 2♣, then 3♣, seldom has longer diamonds, with which opener must rebid 2♦ if he doesn't want to treat the two suits as equal in length.

When opener bids a new suit at the two level, that is a one-round force unless the opening was 1♣ and the new suit is spades (which shows 5-5 in the black suits). When the bid is forcing, responder generally makes the next higher ranking bid. If a minor suit opener bids a new major, however, a maximum responder has other options.

What do you give up with CS? Answer: You cannot stop in 2♣ after a 1NT response when both hands are weak. And when was the last time you were able to do that? The opponents may well sell out for 2♣ after such an auction, but are likely to be in the bidding before that point is reached. Remember that it is better to raise a minor suit opening with a very weak hand rather than bid a four-card major.