

# 287. New Minor Forcing

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♠ 8765 ♥ AQ104 ♦ 10632 ♣ 10		♠ K94 ♥ 976 ♦ J95 ♣ A653	♠ J10 ♥ 853 ♦ K874 ♣ KJ97
♠ AQ32 ♥ KJ2 ♦ AQ ♣ Q842			

E	S	W	N
	1 ♣	P	1 ♥
P	2NT	P	3 ♦
P	3 ♠	P	4 ♠
All Pass			

--East West Vulnerable--

When one has a balanced 18 to 19 HCP's, one opens one of a suit and then jumps in No Trump. Unlike rebidding One No Trump, where one would not skip a four-card major, one will jump in No Trump bypassing a four-card major. This ensures the strong hand plays the contract and defines the point range.

If partner responded with five or a bad six points, he will either pass Two No Trump or bid a previously bid suit at the three-level. Partner may choose to still go on, but New Minor Forcing is the only game-forcing bid. Partner's hand is so well defined that he will know if game is there, and if it is, he will either place the contract in a game or bid NMF.

The New minor is just that, the minor partner did not bid. It asks partner to bid the unbid major with four-cards in it then without the unbid major, he then shows three cards in partner's major. Having neither of those, he rebids his minor if it is five cards or longer otherwise he bids 3NT.

### **The bidding:**

South opens his better (just longer not stronger) minor and North bids his four-card majors up the line. He skips the diamond suit unless he has six of them or a full opener. It is better to show a major right away in case the opponents pre-empt making it hard to come back in with the major.

South skips the spade suit and bids Two No Trump. North uses NMF because there is something still not shown about the major holdings. North will not use NMF unless he has four Spades or five Hearts.

South bids Spades and they find the magic four-four major fit.

### **Opening Lead:**

West leads the Heart Eight. Sometimes, when faced by poor leads in the other suits, dummy's first bid suit is led.

### **The Play:**

Declarer wins the Heart in dummy and plays the Club Ten. East ducks and West wins the Jack. He exits a trump because declarer did not touch a trump. Declarer wins the Queen and ruffs a Club. He plays a Diamond to the Queen losing to the King. West exits another trump, and declarer wins the Ace, cashes the Diamond Ace and ruffs another Club. He ruffs a Diamond and plays the rest of his hearts pitching a Club. It is key that he does not let the opponent with three trump draw one last round of trump. He then makes ten tricks for +420.