

Inverted Minors

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<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/aaBidding/InvertedMinors.pdf>

Better Minor Openings:

With no 5+ card major, open longer minor

1♣

With 3-3 in the minors, always open 1♣
even if ♣'s are 987 and ♦'s are AKQ

1♦

With 6-6, 5-5, 4-4 in the minors, open 1♦
especially if you are 4-4 and may not be able to rebid 1NT.

With 4-4-3-2, open diamond with three cards

Therefore, if partner opens 1♦ and cannot raise your major, he has 4+ ♦'s.

Note: Minor Openings are not lead directive!

When one has 5 ♣'s and 4 ♦'s and not enough points for a reverse, one opens 1♦ and rebids 2♣.

When one has 6 ♣'s and 5 ♦'s, one can usually open 1♣ based on distributional strength alone. If the suits are poor or strength is in the short suits, open 1♦.

In Standard Bidding:

1♣ 2♣ 6-9 points

1♣ 3♣ Limit (10-12 points)

Both ♣ raises show:

5 ♣'s no 4-card ♦'s and no 4-card major

1♦ 2♦ 6-9 points

1♦ 3♦ Limit (10-12 points)

Both ♦ raises show:

5 ♦'s and no 4-card major

The Problem:

One often wants to be in 2NT or 3NT and after a limit raise, there is not a lot of room to investigate stoppers. Whatever form of scoring, 3NT will often make when 5♣ or 5♦ will not.

So why not switch the above responses and get more room to investigate stoppers?

In Inverted Minors:

1♣ 2♣ 10+ high card points and 4+ ♣'s
1♣ 3♣ 6-9 points and 5+ ♣'s

Both ♣ raises show: no 4-card ♦ suit and no 4-card major

1♦ 2♦ 10+ high card points and 4+ ♦'s
1♦ 3♦ 6-9 points and 5+ ♦'s

Both ♦ raises show: no 4-card major

Note: It is high card points because the partnership is looking for 3NT.

By a passed hand:

Inverted minors are still on but confirm this with your partner because some people play that inverted minors are off by a passed hand.

In competition:

The 10+ bid of Inverted minors is **always** off in competition because one has the cuebid to show 10+ raise. The simple raise is 6 to 9 and the double raise is weak. Weak is defined as whatever you think you can get away with and is usually less than 8 HCP's. For safety, you will probably have a side singleton if vulnerable.

W	N	E	S
1♦	1♠	2♦	6-9 no 4 ♥'s, 4+ ♦'s (only 4 in a pinch)
1♦	1♠	3♦	0-5 weak, 5+ ♦'s, singleton somewhere if vul
1♦	1♠	2♠	Limit + in ♦'s, no 4 ♥'s, 4+ ♦'s
W	N	E	S
1♦	Dbl	2♦	6-9
1♦	Dbl	3♦	0-5 weak, 5+ ♦'s, singleton somewhere if vul
1♦	Dbl	2NT	Limit + in diamonds, 5+ ♦'s no exceptions to play 2NT or 3NT, must redouble first
1♦	Dbl	Rdbl	10+, no diamond fit, major suit values

The same for ♣'s

Rebids after Inverted Minors:

After 1♣ then 2♣ or 1♦ then 2♦, Show and Tell stoppers:

Bid No Trump:

- One does not bid notrump when one passes a suit without a stopper
- If one cannot bid no trump then one shows stoppers up the line.

Bid stoppers:

- Up the line
- One skips a suit one does not have stopped if one is cuebidding stoppers.

Opener Rebids:

2NT all skipped suits stopped and 12 to a bad 14

3NT all skipped suits stopped and a good 14 to a bad 17

Examples

1. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♦

West has a ♦ stopper and could have a ♥ or a ♠ stopper but not all three, otherwise he can bid No Trump.

2. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♥

West has a ♥ stopper but no ♦ stopper. Do not know about ♠'s yet. West could have a ♠ stopper too.

3. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♠

West has a ♠ stopper, but no ♦ or ♥ stopper

Note: When bidding stoppers, show stoppers up-the-line skipping suits without a stopper in one's hand.

4. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2NT

West has a ♦ stopper, a ♥ stopper and a ♠ stopper and 12 to a bad 14 points.

Note: When bidding No Trump, one guarantees a stopper in all suits skipped.

5. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P

3NT

West has a ♦ stopper, a ♥ stopper and a ♠ stopper and a good 14 to bad 17 points

What would West do with a ♦ stopper, a ♥ stopper and a ♠ stopper and a good 17 points and higher? Cuebid then pull 3NT to 4♣ (slam invitational if between the two of you, you have all suits stopped.

Furthermore, partner should realize partner has extra strength when he cuebids the last unstopped suit instead of simply bidding 3NT.

6. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♦ P 2♥

West has a ♦ stopper but missing either a ♥ or ♠ stopper.

East has a ♥ stopper but not a ♠ stopper otherwise he would have bid 2NT or 3NT.

7. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♦ P 2♠

West has a ♦ stopper but missing either a ♥ or ♠ stopper.

East has a ♠ stopper but not a ♥ stopper.

8. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♦ P 2NT

West has a ♦ stopper but missing either a ♥ or ♠ stopper.

East has both majors stopped and just a limit raise.

9. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♦ P 3NT

West has a ♦ stopper but missing either a ♥ or ♠ stopper.
 East has both majors stopped and an opening hand.

10. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♦ P 3♣

West has a ♦ stopper but missing either a ♥ or ♠ stopper.
 East does not have a ♥ and does not have a ♠ stopper.

11. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♥ P 2♠

West does not have a ♦ stopper but has a ♥ stopper
 East has a ♠ stopper but not a ♦ stopper, otherwise he would have bid
 2NT or 3NT.

Note: Bidding No Trump not only shows a stopper in the suit(s) you skipped, but
 also shows a stopper in the suit(s) partner skipped.

12. W N E S
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♥ P 3♦

West does not have a ♦ stopper but has a ♥ stopper
 East has a game forcing hand and a ♦ stopper but no ♠ stopper

Note: Any bid above 3 of the agreed-upon minor is game forcing.

13. **W** **N** **E** **S**
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♥ P 3♣

West does not have a ♦ stopper but has a ♥ stopper.

West could have a ♠ stopper.

East does not have a ♠ stopper.

If East has a ♦ stopper, he does not have a GF hand

14. **W** **N** **E** **S**
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♠ P 2NT

West has ♠'s stopped but not ♦'s and ♥'s

East has ♦'s and ♥'s stopped and just a limit raise

15. **W** **N** **E** **S**
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♠ P 3NT

West has ♠'s stopped but not ♦'s and ♥'s

East has ♦'s and ♥'s stopped and an opening hand to a bad 17

16. **W** **N** **E** **S**
 1♣ P 2♣ P
 2♠ P 3♦ P
 3♠ P 3NT

West has ♠'s stopped but not ♦'s and ♥'s

3♦ shows that East has ♦'s stopped but not ♥'s stopped and an opening hand to a bad 17

3♠ a courtesy bid giving East a chance to bid 3NT

3NT shows East has ♥'s stopped after all therefore he must have extra values

17.

W	N	E	S
1♣	P	2♣	P
2♠	P	3♦	P
3♠	P	4♣	

West has ♠'s stopped but not ♦'s and ♥'s

3♦ shows that East has ♦'s stopped but not ♥'s stopped and an opening hand to a bad 17

3♠ a courtesy bid giving East a chance to bid 3NT

4♣ shows East does not have ♥'s

18.

W	N	E	S
1♦	P	2♦	P
2NT	P	3♦	

West has both ♥'s and ♠'s stopped and 12 to a bad 14 points if ♣'s are stopped. Otherwise he could have a good 14+ without ♣'s stopped.

East does not have ♣'s stopped and has 10 to a bad 12 points

19.

W	N	E	S
1♦	P	2♦	P
2NT	P	P	P

West has both ♥'s and ♠'s stopped

East cannot pass. This auction cannot occur. He can bid 3♣, 3♦, 3♥, 3♠ or 3NT but not pass.

Note: Minimum opener (12 to a bad 14) opposite a bare limit raise (10 to a bad 12) should be happy to play 2NT or 3 of the agreed-upon minor, but 2NT does not limit West's hand.

20. W N E S
 1♦ P 2♦ P
 2NT P 3♥

West has both ♥'s and ♠'s stopped

East has ♥'s stopped but not ♣'s and has an opening hand

Note: Any bid above 3 of the agreed-upon minor is game forcing

Note: 2NT by the opener only limits opener's hand from 12 to a bad 14 if ♣'s are the minor, not ♦'s.

21. W N E S
 1♦ P 2♦ P
 2NT P 3♠

West has both ♥'s and ♠'s stopped

East has ♠'s stopped but not ♣'s and not ♥'s and has an opener too.

22. W N E S
 1♦ P 2♦ P
 2NT P 3♠ P
 4♦

West has both ♥'s and ♠'s stopped

East has ♠'s stopped but not ♣'s and not ♥'s and has an opener too.

4♦ shows that West does not have ♣'s stopped and has a bare opener.

23. W N E S
 1♦ P 2♦ P
 2NT P 3♠ P
 5♦

West has both ♥'s and ♠'s stopped

East has ♠'s stopped but not ♣'s and not ♥'s and has an opener too.

5♦ shows that West does not have ♣'s stopped and has a little more (King) than a bare opener.

24. W N E S
 1♦ P 2♦ P
 2NT P 3♠ P
 3NT

West has both ♥'s and ♠'s stopped

East has ♠'s stopped but not ♣'s and not ♥'s and has an opener too.

3NT shows West has ♣'s stopped.

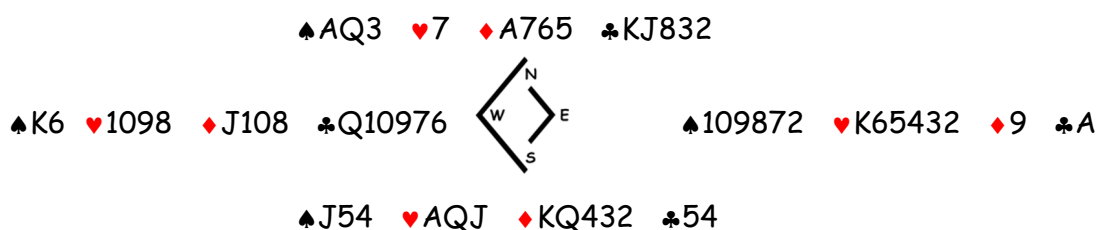
Note:

You need an opening opposite an opening for the four-level and an opening opposite an opening plus a King or Ace for the 5 level.

Example Hands:

Board 1 Resist the Urge to Preempt

North Dealer None Vulnerable



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

Opening Lead: ♥4

When you cannot beat dummy, always give count. It is not attitude because if you had a high card you would beat dummy. Partner will give count and you won't lead hearts again.

Analysis:

North must open 1♦ so he has a rebid of 2♣. He cannot rebid 1NT even if partner bids 1♥ because partner will take him for two ♥'s. He cannot rebid 2♣, because he does not have six ♣'s and it is shame to misrepresent a two-suited hand as a one-suited hand which could be done if ♦'s were poor.

East has more strength outside his suit than in his suit including a four-card major or longer. Yes 10xxxx in spades is valuable. Imagine if partner bids a ♠. This is not a weak jump overcall.

South has no four-card major so future major suit bids are just stoppers. Inverted minor bids, 1m to 2m or 1m to 3m all deny a four-card major by the responder.


After an inverted minor strong raise, No Trump promises stoppers in all suits skipped by himself and by partner. If one cannot bid No Trump, one bids stoppers up the line, skipping any unstopped suit. If one passes three of the minor, one is in a game-forcing auction. If one does not pass three of the minor, one is a minimum.

When one has enough for game and all suits stopped, one makes sure one gets to 3NT.

To play spades: small to the Queen then cash the ace. Running the ♠J is a false finesse.

Board 2 Avoid False Finesses

East Dealer North South Vulnerable

	♠76543	♥432	♦--	♣AK1065
♠J98	♥Q10	♦AK105	♣J987	♠K102
				♥AK5
				♦J432
				♣Q32
	♠AQ	♥J9876	♦Q9876	♣4
N	E	S	W	
	1♦	P	2♦	
P	2NT	P	3♣	
P	3♦	All Pass		

If East has a maximum then he does not have a club stopper otherwise he would have bid 3NT. When one bids No Trump, one shows a stopper in every suit skipped. If the ♣Jack is the only stopper, 3NT will have trouble, therefore assume East has a minimum.

N	E	S	W
	1♦	P	2♦
P	2NT	All Pass	

Opening Lead:

- Tough one
- East has shown both majors stopped and West has shown ♣'s
- With long trump, one tries the forcing defense but a singleton lead here may be the best against 3♦.
- Leading a trump will likely lose a trick. South must cover the ♦Jack and duck otherwise.
- Against 2NT, lead the ♥7.

Analysis:


In 3♦, when you get the bad news about trump, stop drawing trump and when South ruffs and shortens his trump and you have driven out your losers, only then should you resume drawing trump.

In 2NT, defenders will get two ♠'s, and 2♣'s and 2♥'s if declarer goes after ♣'s first. I would go after ♠'s not ♣'s because it is more likely the club honours are split. Wait until the opponents have to break open ♣'s.

Whatever contract, you cannot run the \heartsuit Jack through because it will be covered and promote the 9. Finesse to the ten, cash the Ace and hope for an endplay to get your \heartsuit Jack.

Board 3 No Stopper so Play 4m

South Dealer East West Vulnerable

	\spadesuit AK6	\heartsuit KQJ	\diamond 876	\clubsuit 10754
\spadesuit QJ5432	\heartsuit 872	\diamond 9	\clubsuit J32	\spadesuit 1098
				\heartsuit 10963
				\diamond AKQJ10
				\clubsuit 6
	\spadesuit 7	\heartsuit A54	\diamond 5432	\clubsuit AKQ98

N	E	S	W
		1 \clubsuit	P!!
2 \clubsuit	P	2 \heartsuit	P
2 \spadesuit	P	3 \clubsuit	P
3 \heartsuit	P	4 \clubsuit	All Pass

Opening Lead:

Lead the suit that kept the opponents out of 3NT, the \diamond 9

Analysis:

West cannot pre-empt, a weak suit and too weak a hand. Preempts have to describe one's hand and not make things difficult for partner if he has points.

You need only four-card support to make a strong inverted minor raise (10 or more). You need five to make a weak, 1 \clubsuit to 3 \clubsuit or 1 \diamond to 3 \diamond , (less than 10) inverted minor raise.

South shows a \heartsuit stopper but denies a \diamond stopper with his 2 \heartsuit bid. North then shows a \spadesuit stopper and also denies a \diamond stopper because 2NT or 3NT would show a stopper in the suit he or his partner skipped.

North gives South one last chance to bid 3NT and he does not because they do not have a \diamond stopper.

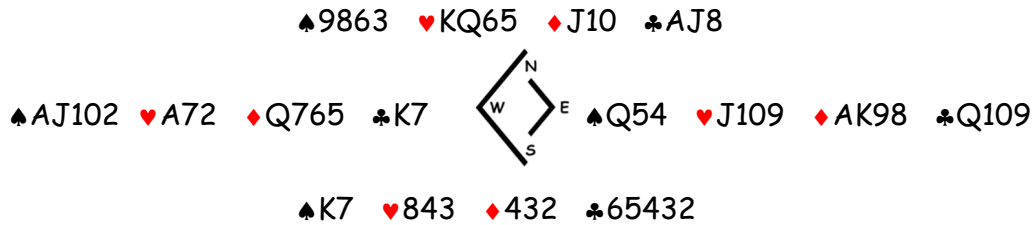
East must not double 3NT if he is on lead. Just be happy with setting them and do not let them run to 4 \clubsuit .

Defense-Continue Diamonds and let partner overruff (ruff higher ahead of) dummy.

Board 4 Leads are often Costly

West Dealer

Both Vulnerable



N	E	S	W
			1♦
P	2♦	P	3NT
All Pass			

Opening Lead:

North: ♦J.

I do not like the lead of the ♥5. Make it a five-card ♥ suit, then okay. People will likely find the lead of the ♥5, hence the title to this board.

South: ♥8

South has no entries and no strength in his longest suit

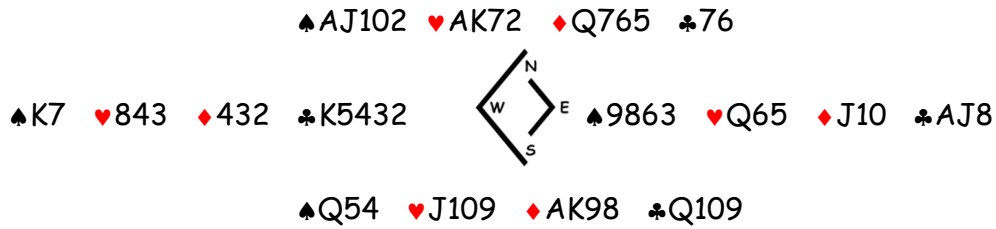
Analysis:

West has a stopper in all suits skipped (♥'s, ♠'s and ♣'s) and enough points (14+) opposite a minimum (10 to a bad 12) inverted minor forcing raise.

For the ♠ finesse, play the ♠4 to the ♠ten and then the ♠5 to the ♠Jack. If you run the Queen through, you will lose a trick.

Board 5 Need to Hear About Clubs

North Dealer NS Vulnerable



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

Opening Lead: ♠9 or ♦Jack

Analysis:

North bids 2NT not because he is a minimum which he isn't but because he has both majors stopped and not ♣'s. Once partner bids clubs he can go to 3NT.

If a ♠ is not led by the defenders, one has to play small to the ♠Jack and then small to the ♠10.

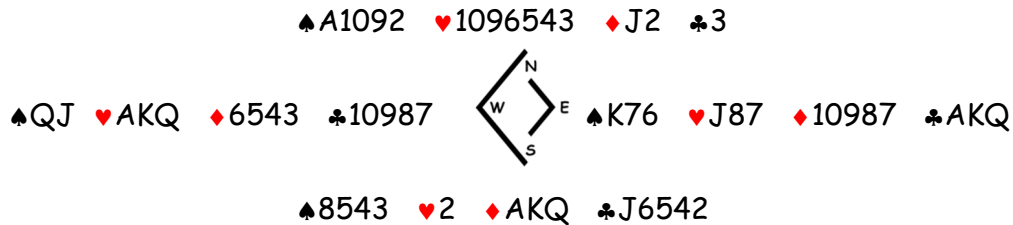
If declarer tries running the ♠Queen through, the ♠9 will be promoted.

Q103 is a full stopper Q54 is not.

Board 6 AKQ of Trump Always Good

East Dealer

East West Vulnerable



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

Opening Lead: 4♣

Singleton is not the lead because your AKQ are always good. Try to give partner a ruff. Defenders want short hand ruffs too. Do not draw three rounds of trump or even one because that could very well be helping declarer.

Analysis:

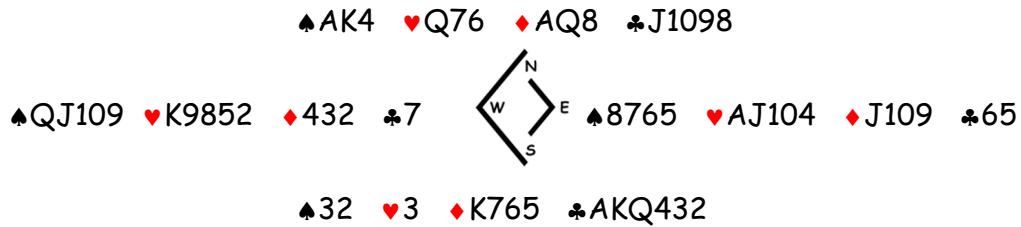
If South had ♠ A8543 ♥ --- ♦ AKQ ♣ J6542, he should be reluctant to overcall with so much strength in the suit being overcalled.

West can bid 2NT because he has the suit that partner skipped stopped but not 3NT because he is a minimum and does not have ♣'s stopped.

We have seen a defense like this before. South has three trump tricks and a fourth trump trick if he gives partner a ♣ ruff. Remember, declarer will like you to draw partner's trump.

Board 7 I Thot They were Stoppers

South Dealer Both Vulnerable



N	E	S	W
		1♣	P
2♣	P	2♦	P
2♠	P	3♥	P
3NT	P	4♣	P
4♦	P	4♥	P
4♠	P	6♣	All Pass

Opening Lead: Normally when opponents jump to a slam one would lead ♥5, but there were just too many ♥ bids or cuebids so ♠Q is the safest lead.

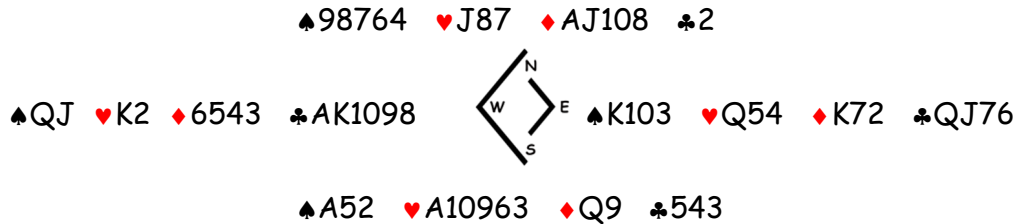
Analysis:

South could have ♥'s stopped with the bid of 2♦ but he is missing either a ♥ or a ♠ stopper so he cannot bid 2NT or 3NT.

South is looking for slam not 3NT so his bids are cuebids. Bidding 4♣ over 3NT clarifies that indeed he is making slam tries. Not only is 4♣ forcing (natural too), it is a serious slam try.

Board 8 Don't Leave A Sitting Duck

West Dealer None Vulnerable



N	E	S	W
			1♣
P	2♣	P	2♥
P	2NT	All Pass	

Opening Lead: ♥10

Analysis:

Must go up with the ♥King, otherwise it is a sitting duck and unguarded.

Declarer should win the ♥King and go after ♠. He will lose to the ♠Ace and get two tricks. If he goes after the ♦King. It may lose and he gets no tricks. If it is going to win, North has the Ace and will rise with the Ace and play ♥'s.

If declarer runs ♣'s, North will signal ♦'s and the hand is down. South has a tough ♦ switch if declarer allows nobody to signal.

Result:

2NE-1 -50

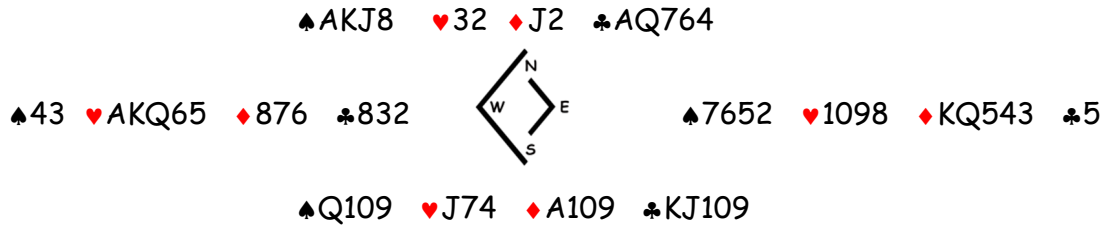
2NE= 120 (South does not switch to a ♦ when he wins ♠Ace).

Board 9

Moysian Play

North Dealer

East West Vulnerable



N	E	S	W
1♣!!	P	2♣	P
2♠	P	3♣	P
3♠	P	4♠	All Pass

Opening Lead: ♥Ace then ♥King then ♥Queen

Analysis:

If one opens 1NT with two doubletons, they both should be stopped. With four ♠'s, North does not have a rebid problem because he will not need to ever rebid 1NT showing 12-14 or 2NT showing 18-19.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| ♠32 ♥AKJ8 ♦J2 ♣AQ764 | open 1♣ and rebid 1NT over 1♠ showing 12-14 |
| ♠32 ♥AKQ8 ♦J2 ♣AQ764 | open 1NT because of rebid problem if partner responds 1♠ or |
| | open 1♣ and pray partner does not bid 1♠. |

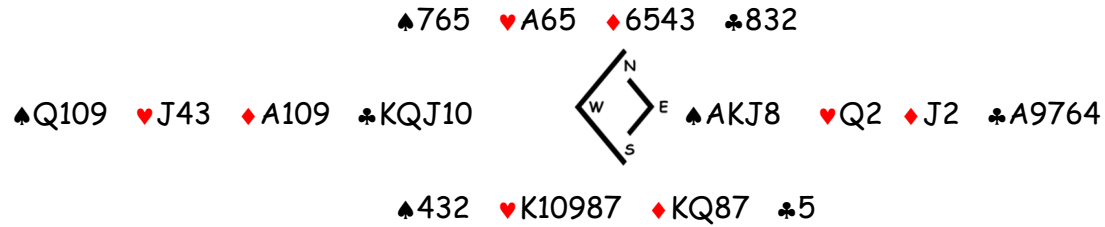
Any bid above 3 of the agreed-upon minor is GF. South cannot show his ♦ stopper because that would put the GF on so he bids 3♣. South cannot bid 2NT because he does not have both suits partner skipped stopped. North can put the GF on and South picks the Moysian because they do not have a ♥ stopper.

When playing a Moysian fit, one must not ruff in the long trump hand. Pitch a loser instead. You must play that the trumps will likely be 4-2. Declarer must pitch ♦2 on ♥Queen.

Board 10 Delayed Bid Shows Half Stopper

East Dealer

Both Vulnerable



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

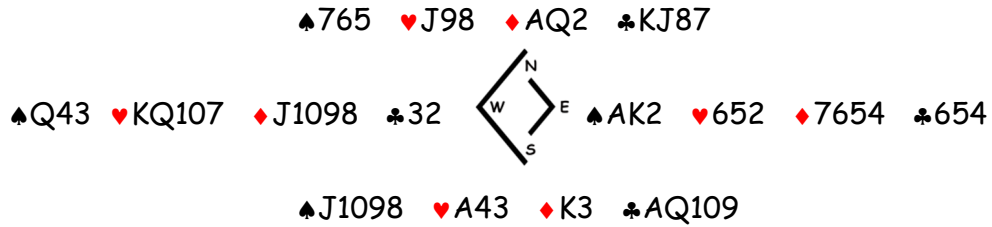
Opening Lead: ♥10, top of interior sequence
 choose a five-card suit over a non-solid four-card suit

Analysis:
 Do not cover the ♥10 with the ♥Jack

Result:
 3NT+2 +660
 3NT+1 +630 (♦King, ♠ or ♣ lead, all bad leads)

Board 11 Hearts are Unidirectional

South Dealer None Vulnerable



N	E	S	W
		1♣	P
2♣	P	2NT	P
P	P		

Opening Lead: ♦Jack at matchpoints ♥K at imps.
 ♥King could easily result in a bad board at matchpoints.

Analysis:

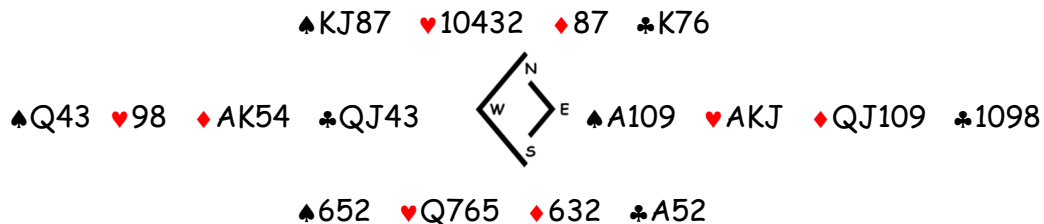
Unlike when the minor is ♦, 2NT always shows a minimum when the minor is ♣'s. With ♦'s, 2NT could be a maximum without a ♣ stopper.

East must lead ♥'s each time he gets in. If West leads ♥'s, declarer gets an undeserved trick.

Board 12 2NT is not always a Minimum with ♦'s

West Dealer

North South Vulnerable



	N	E	S	W	
				1♦	
P		2♦	P	2♠	
P		2NT	P	3♣	East cannot pass 3♣ to bid 3NT
P		3NT	All Pass		East but not West can pass 3♦ to force game.

Opening Lead: ♠6

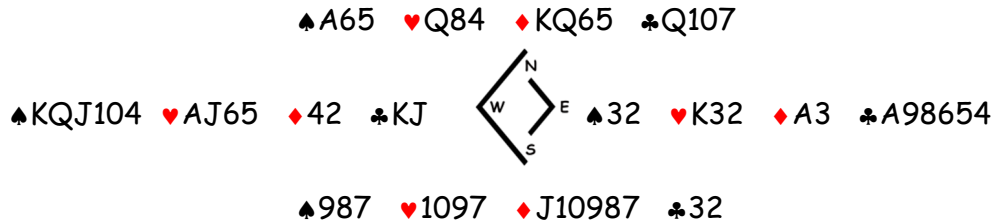
Partner can use the Rule of 11 to determine if the ♠6 can be 4th best. If it is 4th best, there are only five higher cards in West, North and East's hands. When declarer wins the ♠Ace, North can see 6 higher cards so he knows the 6 is top of nothing. North also knows when he gets in he will lead the dead suit in dummy, Hearts. Ideal leads are in a suit your RHO has nothing and you have nothing. This means partner likely has stuff over top of your LHO.

Analysis:

I am trying to train you from avoiding risky leads that are not from 5-card or longer suits. Do not lead the ♥5. Hearts can only be played by North and Spades can only be played by South. Obey unidirectional suits.

Board 13 Weak Hand

North Dealer East West Vulnerable



N	E	S	W
1♦	P	3♦	Dbf
P	4♣	P	P??
P			

Let's see what happens without inverted minors:

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

1NT is 10-12 not 6-9

Opening Lead:

Analysis:

When partner opens, No Trump responses are:

1NT 6-9 2NT 10-12 3NT 13-15

With 16+ use forcing bids and make a busy auction.

When partner overcalls, the range shifts:

1NT 10-12 2NT 13-15

With 16+ cuebid and then make a busy and forcing auction.

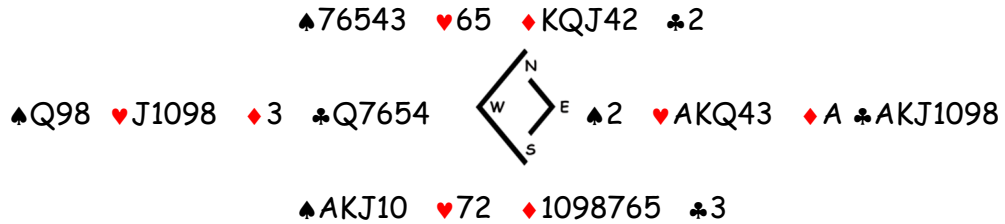
Inverted minors prevented opponents from finding the optimum spot.

Board 14

Double Fit

East Dealer

None Vulnerable



Which auction or auctions do you like?

- | | | | | | | |
|----|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| a. | | N | E | S | W | |
| | | | 1♣ | P | 1♥ | |
| | | P | 4♥ | All Pass | | |
| | | | | | | |
| b. | | N | E | S | W | |
| | | | 1♣ | P | 1♥ | |
| | | P | 4♥ | P | 5♣ | |
| | | P | 6♥ | All Pass | | |
| | | | | | | |
| c. | | N | E | S | W | |
| | | | 1♣ | P | 1♥ | |
| | | P | 4NT | P | 5♦ | 0 or 3 |
| | | P | 6♥ | All Pass | | |
| | | | | | | |
| d. | | N | E | S | W | |
| | | | 1♣ | 1♠ | 2♣ | |
| | | P | 2♥ | P | 4♥ | |
| | | P | 4NT | P | 5♦ | 0 or 3 keycards |
| | | P | 6♥ | All Pass | | |

I like d (c is okay).

Opening Lead: ♦ King by North and ♠ Ace by South.

Analysis:

If I told South to overcall, should South overcall 1♠ or 1♦ or 2♦. Hint: what suit do you want led?

Quiz

Partner Opens 1♦, what do you bid with the following with inverted minors?:

1. ♠A532 ♥K432 ♦J10987 ♣---
2. ♠A53 ♥K43 ♦J10987 ♣32
3. ♠A53 ♥K43 ♦A10987 ♣32
4. ♠653 ♥K43 ♦A1098 ♣AK2
5. ♠AJ542 ♥K543 ♦A10 ♣K4
6. ♠AJ542 ♥K6543 ♦A ♣K4
7. ♠K53 ♥K53 ♦109 ♣85432
8. ♠K53 ♥K53 ♦1095 ♣8432
9. ♠K53 ♥KJ3 ♦109 ♣Q5432
10. ♠A52 ♥K53 ♦AK1098 ♣AK
11. ♠A52 ♥K53 ♦J1098 ♣432
12. ♠A52 ♥653 ♦J109 ♣K432
13. ♠A52 ♥653 ♦KJ10 ♣K432
14. ♠A52 ♥6 ♦KJ109 ♣K5432
15. ♠A52 ♥K53 ♦J109 ♣K432
16. ♠A52 ♥K53 ♦A109 ♣K432
17. ♠AK2 ♥K53 ♦A109 ♣K432

You open 1♣ and partner bids 2♣. What do you bid with the following?

- 18. ♠A32 ♥K65 ♦A32 ♣K532
- 19. ♠A1098 ♥K10 ♦A109 ♣K1082
- 20. ♠AK2 ♥765 ♦A109 ♣K532
- 21. ♠A32 ♥AK65 ♦J10 ♣K532
- 22. ♠A102 ♥AK105 ♦KJ7 ♣K982
- 23. ♠AQ2 ♥8765 ♦J10 ♣AK52

You open 1♦ and partner bids 2♦. What do you bid with the following?

- 24. ♠A32 ♥AK65 ♦J1098 ♣K5
- 25. ♠932 ♥AK65 ♦AJ109 ♣K5
- 26. ♠AJ2 ♥AK65 ♦A1098 ♣65
- 27. ♠A32 ♥A1065 ♦J1098 ♣K5
- 28. ♠AK3 ♥9865 ♦J1098 ♣K5

Partner opens 1♣, you reply 2♣ and he replies 2♥.
What do you bid with the following?

- 29. ♠AQ3 ♥KJ2 ♦J109 ♣8765
- 30. ♠AQ3 ♥KJ2 ♦K109 ♣8765
- 31. ♠983 ♥KJ2 ♦J109 ♣AQ65
- 32. ♠983 ♥KJ2 ♦A109 ♣AQ65

Partner opens 1♣, you reply 2♣ and he replies 2♠.
What do you bid with the following?

- 33. ♠AQ3 ♥KJ2 ♦J109 ♣8765
- 34. ♠AQ3 ♥KJ2 ♦J109 ♣K765
- 35. ♠AQ3 ♥KJ2 ♦J ♣K76542
- 36. ♠QJ3 ♥KJ2 ♦KJ9 ♣8765
- 37. ♠Q53 ♥KJ2 ♦KJ9 ♣A765
- 38. ♠Q ♥KJ52 ♦KJ9 ♣A7654

Partner opens 1♣, you reply 2♣ and he replies 2NT.
 What do you bid with the following?

- 39. ♠AQ3 ♥KJ2 ♦J109 ♣8765
- 40. ♠AQ3 ♥KJ2 ♦J109 ♣K765
- 41. ♠AQ3 ♥KJ2 ♦J ♣K76542
- 42. ♠QJ3 ♥KJ2 ♦KJ9 ♣AK65
- 43. ♠KQ5 ♥KJ2 ♦2 ♣AK7653

Partner opens 1♦, you reply 2♦ and he replies 2♥.
 What do you bid with the following?

- 44. ♠AJ10 ♥J32 ♦Q432 ♣K3
- 45. ♠AJ10 ♥K32 ♦QJ32 ♣K3
- 46. ♠AJ10 ♥KQ2 ♦QJ32 ♣53
- 47. ♠AJ10 ♥KJ3 ♦Q432 ♣63

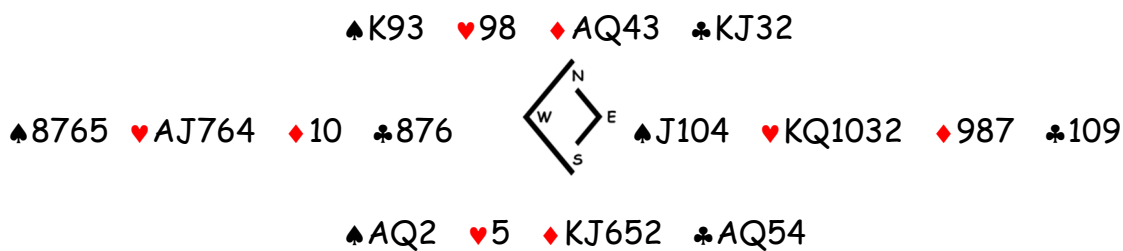
Partner opens 1♦, you reply 2♦ and he replies 2♠.
 What do you bid with the following?

- 48. ♠987 ♥K87 ♦Q432 ♣AQ4
- 49. ♠K87 ♥987 ♦Q432 ♣AQ4
- 50. ♠K87 ♥987 ♦AQ432 ♣Q4
- 51. ♠987 ♥AK7 ♦Q432 ♣AQ4
- 52. ♠KQJ ♥987 ♦Q432 ♣AQ4
- 53. ♠AK87 ♥987 ♦AQ432 ♣Q4

Partner opens 1♦, you reply 2♦ and he replies 2NT.
 What do you bid with the following?

- 54. ♠987 ♥K87 ♦Q432 ♣AQ4
- 55. ♠K87 ♥AQ7 ♦Q432 ♣984
- 56. ♠KQ7 ♥J87 ♦AQ432 ♣Q4
- 57. ♠987 ♥AK7 ♦Q432 ♣AQ4
- 58. ♠KQJ ♥A87 ♦Q432 ♣AQ4

59. Which auction fits the hands below the closest:
 North Dealer Both Vulnerable



a.

N	E	S	W
1♣	P	2♣	P
2♦	P	2♠	P
3♣	P	6♣	All Pass

b.

N	E	S	W
1♣	P	2♣	P
2♦	P	2♠	P
3♣	P	4NT	P
5♦	P	6♣	All Pass

c.

N	E	S	W
1♦	P	2♦	P
2♠	P	3♣	P
3♦	P	4NT	P
5♦	P	6♦	All Pass

d.

N	E	S	W
1♦	P	2♦	P
2NT	P	3♣	P
3♦	P	4NT	P
5♦	P	6♦	All Pass

e.

N	E	S	W
1♦	P	2♣	P
3♣	P	4NT	P
5♥	P	6♦	All Pass

Rhetorical Question:

When your hand has a singleton in a suit that partner does not have a stopper, do the slam alarms sound? They should.

Answers

1. 1♥ 2. 3♦ 3. 2♦ 4. 2♦ 5. 1♠ 6. 1♠
7. 1NT (an unorthodox 1♥ on three cards gives the strong hand a chance to play 1NT) 8. 1NT (ughh) 9. 1NT 10. 2♦ then look for slam
11. 1NT 12. 1NT 13. 2♣
14. 2♣ unless playing 2/1 then bid 2♦ 15. 2NT (11-12) 16. 3NT (13-15)
17. 2♣

18. 2NT, a bad 14 count 19. 3NT, a good 14 count 20. 2♦
21. 2♥ 22. 2♥, a cuebid showing extra strength Partner will think you are showing a ♥ stopper and no ♦ stopper until you cuebid ♦'s next 23. 2♠

24. 3NT 25. 2♥ 26. 2NT, cannot bid 3NT no ♣ stopper
27. 2NT, cannot bid 3NT because partner could have only 10 points
28. 2♠ 29. 2♠ because 2NT would show a ♦ stopper and a ♠ stopper
30. 3NT 31. 3♣ 32. 3♦, GF

33. 3♣ 34. 3♥ 35. 3♥ 36. 2NT 37. 3NT
38. Trick Question-You would never skip a four-card major to bid 2♣. You reply 1♥ to partner's 1♣.
39. Pass 40. 3NT 41. 3♥ trying to warn partner of the potential ♦ problem
42. 3♠ cuebid first round control then bid 4♦, second round control over 3NT
43. 4♣ slam try. If partner can cuebid 4♦ then maybe his diamond stopper is only the Ace and slam is cold.

44. 2NT 45. 3NT 46. 2♠, You could bid 2NT but let partner bid No Trump first, you do not need the lead, he may. 3NT would show a club stopper.
47. 2♠ same as 46 except you cannot bid 3NT with 11 points and no ♣ stopper.

48. 2NT 49. 3♣ 50. 3♦ 51. 3NT, protect ♣'s on opening lead
52. 3♣ 53. 3♠ GF denying ♥ and ♣ stopper

54. 3♣ 55. 3♦ 56. 3♠ 57. 3NT 58. 3♣

59a. North should open 1♦ and if partner responds 1♥, he can bid 1NT and if opponents bid ♥'s, he can rebid ♣'s. 0314 keycard or minorwood should be used so with zero keycards, North can play 5♣.

59b. North should open 1♦ as in a, but South should respond 1♦ to 1♣.

59c. This is correct!

59d. North cannot bid 2NT without a ♥ stopper.

59e. South should respond 2♦ because his ♦'s are longer than his ♣'s.