

Watson Bridge Index

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<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/bridge-index.htm>

Multi 2♦

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

The following is an excerpt from the Watson bridge book *Bidding Systems*. All the Watson bridge books are available on Kindle and can be found at the following address.

<https://watsongallery.ca/bridge/kjbc.htm>

5.4 Multi 2♦

A player may come across Multi in a top bracket of a Regional or where Open + conventions are allowed. At least six boards must be played against the same opponent. Multi is not allowed in BBO ACBL tourneys and any ACBL sectional.

Anybody playing such a convention must provide a defense. Can a person read even one page at the table and digest it? How about several? The best way to play against it is to have a familiarity ahead of time.

5.4.1 What Multi Is

2♦ can promise:

1. Weak two in a major or
2. Strong balanced hand, 20 to 21 HCP or
3. Strong 4-4-4-1 hand, 17 to 24 or
4. Strong Acol two bid in a minor (eight playing tricks)

Rodwell and Meckstroth prefer just the weak two in a major which frees up 2♥ and 2♠¹. This is still Open+ chart.

However, it is the possibility of a big hand that gives the opponents the most problems. Therefore, option one is best used with options two and three. Option four can replace option three.

Option two frees up a 2NT opening which may be used to show the minors. Option three serves to bid a hand that is difficult to bid with conventional methods.

A hand such as ♠KQJ10 ♥KQJ10 ♦AKQJ ♣2 gives problems finding a four-four heart fit if 2♣ is opened (with a 3♦ rebid) and may play 1♦ if opened 1♦. This hand is cold for 4M with a fit. A hand such as ♠AQJ2 ♥AQJ5 ♦AKJ3 ♣J can be opened 1♦ because opposite a bust partner, the hand does not play that well. Nevertheless, both hands can be covered by Multi 2♦.

¹ Horton, Mark and Jan van Cleeff, *The Mysterious Multi, How to play it, How to play against it*, Toronto, Ontario, Canada: Master Point Press, 2010, page 22.

5.4.2 Responses to 2♦

The following are the responses to Multi given by Bridge Bum² online.

2♦	2♥	Weak hand, Pass or correct
	2♠	Signoff in spades or a good hand in hearts
	2NT	Asking
	3♣, 3♦	Signoff in a minor, playable suit opposite shortness
	3♥	Signoff in hearts or a good hand in spades.
	3NT	To play
	4♣, 4♦	Strong minor with support for both majors

Horton and van Cleeff can be used to look up different responses and to find more details about Multi.

² Bridge Bum, Multi Two Diamonds. Retrieved January 29, 2020 from https://www.bridgebum.com/multi_2d.php

5.4.3 Opener's Rebids

2♦	2M	
2NT		20 to 22
3♣		Stiff diamond, 17 to 24
3♦		Stiff heart, 17 to 24
3♥		Stiff spade, 17 to 24
3♠		Stiff club, 17 to 24

2♦	2NT	
3♣		Good weak two bid in hearts
3♦		Good weak two bid in spades
3♥		Bad weak two in hearts
3♠		Bad weak two in spades
3NT		Stiff club, 17 to 24
4♣		Stiff diamond, 17 to 24
4♦		Stiff heart, 17 to 24
4♥		Stiff spade, 17 to 24
4NT		20 to 21 balanced

There is no bid for AKQxxx in a major since three quick tricks are a 1M opening.

5.4.4 Defenses

- Popular International Defense
- Dixon Defense
- Modified Dixon
- Winter's Defense
- ACBL Defense
- Meckwell Defense

- Granovetter Defense

The Dixon defense is a good system and is covered in the next section. The others are not covered here but can be found in Horton and Van Cleeff³.

5.4.5 The Dixon Defense

The following Dixon defense is from Stevenson⁴ and Horton and van Cleeff⁵.

2♦	dbl	Balanced 12 to 15 or any 20+
		A response of 2NT is Lebensohl, relay is skipped with 20+
2♥		Takeout with short ♠s, four hearts
2♠		Takeout with short ♥s, four spades
2NT		Balanced 16 to 19
3-level		Good six-plus-card suit, 12 to 15, playable hand
3NT		To play
4♣		Five-five in a major and a minor, strong
4♦		Five-five in the majors, strong
4M		To play
4NT		Five-five in the minors, strong
5m		To play

2♦ P 2♥ dbl Takeout of ♥s

³ Horton, Mark and Jan van Cleeff, *The Mysterious Multi, How to play it, How to play against it*, Toronto, Ontario, Canada: Master Point Press, 2010, pages 68 to 69.

⁴ Stevenson, David. Dixon Defense to Multi, Retrieved January 29, 2020 from <https://www.blakjak.org/multi.htm>.

⁵ Horton, Mark and Jan Van Cleeff, *The Mysterious Multi, How to play it, How to play against it*, Toronto, Ontario, Canada: Master Point Press, 2010, pages 68 to 69.

| other Natural

| 2♦ P 2♠ dbl Takeout of ♠s
| other Natural

| 2♦ P 2♥ P
| 2♠ dbl Takeout of ♠s
| other Natural

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5.4.6 Two of a Major

Since 2♦ takes care of a weak two in a major, 2♥ and 2♠ are freed up.

- Opening 2♥ or 2♠
 - Muiderberg Two-Bids (see the next section)
 - 5 to 10 with five of the bid major and four of a minor.
 - 2♥ weak with both majors
 - 2♥ three suited
 - Promises four hearts.
 - 11 to 15 vulnerable, 10 to 15 not vulnerable
- Opening 2NT as both minors
 - 5 to 10
 - Five-five in the minors
 - No three-card major
 - Can be 5 to 10 or 18+
- Strong Hands
 - 20 to 21 open 2♦ and rebid 2NT
 - 22 to 24 open 2♣ and rebid 2NT
 - 25+ open 2♣ and rebid 3NT

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5.4.7 Muiderberg

Muiderberg two (De Muiderbergse Twee) bids show a five-card major and a four-card minor at the same strength of a weak two. For both, five-five is much less aggressive and less common but is the requirement at unfavourable vulnerability. They are also referred to as the Muiderberg, the Dutch or the Lucas Two Bids.

Being short in the other major, the following is an aggressive weak 2♥ which is reminiscent of a Muiderberg hand. A hand that could be competitive in the lower ranking major and the lower ranking minor takes the first shot with a 2♥ opening even if partner expects six cards. ♠3 ♥Q10987 ♦987 ♣A1098

Responses to Muiderberg

2♥	Pass	To play.
	2♠	Non-forcing.
	2NT	Game-forcing and asks for the minor suit.
	3♣	A four-card ♣ suit.
	3♦	A four-card ♦ suit.
	3♥	A five-card ♣ suit.
	3♠	A five-card ♦ suit.
	3NT	0-5-4-4
	4♣	A six-card ♣ suit.
	4♦	A six-card ♦ suit.
	3♣	Signoff in a minor. Pass or correct.
	3♦	invite to 4♥
	3♥	RONF to play
	3♠	invite to 4♠
2♠	Pass	To play.
	2NT	Game-forcing and asks for the Minor suit.
	3♣	A four-card ♣ suit.
	3♦	A four-card ♦ suit.
	3♥	A five-card ♣ suit.
	3♠	A five-card ♦ suit.
	3NT	5-0-4-4

	4♣	A six-card ♣ suit.
	4♦	A six-card ♦ suit.
3♣		Signoff in a minor. Pass or correct.
3♦		invite to 4♠
3♥		invite to 4♥
3♠		RONF, to play