

Two Club Openings

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

Over 2♣ openings:

2♣	P	2♦	waiting positive-we will never pass the auction in a partial
		2♥	(negative 0-3 HCP's) will pass 2NT otherwise will give one more bid
		2♠	positive response, 2 of top three honours, 5 cards
		2NT	positive response in ♥'s, 2 of top three honours, 5 cards
		3♣	positive response in ♣'s, 2 of top three honours, 6 cards, no 3+ card major
		3♦	positive response in ♦'s, 2 of top three honours, 6 cards, no 3+ card major

Therefore

2♣	2♦	
2N		is 22+ not 22-24. Therefore we have no confusion on transfers Stayman or Gerber.

2♣	2♦	
2N	3NT	
4NT		shows 25-27

2♣	2♦	
2N	3NT	
5NT		shows 28+

2♣	2♦	
2N	3NT	
4♣		Gerber

In competition:

If they compete at a lower level than their game

Dbl is neg (0-3)

Pass is waiting and then after that

Doubling under is a takeout double and doubling over is penalty

2♣ 2♥ P P

Dbl I have four spades, takeout

2♣ 2♥ Dbl P Negative (not to be confused with a negative double) 0-3

2♣ 2♥ Pass P Waiting

If they compete at their game level or higher

Pass is waiting (Do something intelligent partner)

Doubling over is penalty, Doubling under is takeout

2♣ 5♥ Dbl penalty

2♣ 5♥ P P

Dbl showing spades, can be converted to penalty

What Exactly is a Negative Hand in Response to 2♣

There are two alternative course of actions to show a negative hand when partner opens 2♣. You must agree on which method.

1. 2♦ is waiting positive and 2♥ is negative
2. 2♦ is waiting and the cheapest 3level after bidding 2♦ is the second negative. Then 2♥ is a positive response in Hearts directly after 2♣.

I prefer the second one, because often how useful the weaker hand is depends on the trump suit. Negative also means you have worse than a rag doubleton in my trump suit.

2♣ 2♦
2♠ 4♠ support but zero controls not even a doubleton

2♣ 2♦
2♠ 3♠ support but with more than 0 controls or with a doubleton

King or Stiff=1 control
Ace or Void=2 controls
doubleton = 1/2 control

2♣ 2♦
2♠ 3♣ stiff or void in spades, no controls

With a worthless spade doubleton, I would likely bid 4S showing no controls

Two Clubs-Trail Standard

2♣	2♦	Waiting
2♣	2♥	5 cards 2 of top 3 honours, doubleton rag (Jack is rag) in other major or worse
	2♠	5 cards 2 of top 3 honours, doubleton rag in other major or worse
	3♣	6 cards 2 of top 3 honours, doubleton rag in both majors or worse
	3♦	6 cards 2 of top 3 honours, doubleton rag in both majors or worse

After 2♣ Opener bids her suit:

Step	Support
1 st	Jx or worse
2 nd	Hx
3 rd	xxx or xxxx or xxxxx
4 th	Hxx or Hxxx or Hxxxx
5 th	HHx or better

2♣	2♦	
2♥	2♠	Jx support or worse (First step)
	2NT	Hx
	3♣	xxx or xxxx ...
	3♦	Hxx or Hxxx
	3♥	HHx or better

2♣	2♦	
2♠	2NT	Jx support or worse (First step)
	3♣	Hx
	3♦	xxx or xxxx ...
	3♥	Hxx or Hxxx
	3♠	HHx or better

After first step bids are natural

After second step or beyond, all bids are control asking

2♣ 2♦

2♠ 3♦ xxx or xxxx ...

3♥ What is your control in Hearts

Step

Control

1st none

2nd 3rd round control

3rd 2nd round control

4th 1st round control or void with short trump

5th 1st and 2nd round control or void with good trump length

Two Clubs Steps

I am certainly not a fan of a lot of steps to show point count ranges. Fits and Tricks are better than points. I was not a big fan of 2♥ as negative but I am now as it has it's advantages.

ace=2 controls

king = 1 control

2♣	2♦	0-1
	2♥	2
	2♠	3
	2N	4
	3♣	5