

EXTENDED STAYMAN AFTER 1N OPENING

C.R.Kumar's Question :

Minor fit question triggered this olden day convention from me. I wish to know whether this can be followed: It goes under the identification of extended stayman : 1 NT - 2 cl - 2d- 3 cl (This is asking for which minor) and if the reply is 3nt it is clubs, if it is 3 diamonds it is diamonds and if it is 3 hearts it is both minors and doubleton heart. Further 1 NT - 2 cl and if the reply is 3 hearts it is both minors and heart doubleton and hand has to be strong for this as it crosses 2 NT range.I will be obliged for your clarification on this.

Sridhar's views : You are right that this convention is useful for locating minor fit after 1NT opening; There are however several versions around ; the most popular one is :

After 1N-2C-2Maj – 3C- opener bids naturally ie 3D=dia ; 3Maj rebid=5 cards ; 3N=clubs ; 3 other Maj = 3-4-3-3- shape ;

After 1N-2C-2D-3C, Opener 's bids are

3D = some 5 card minor ; over this 3H asks which 5 card minor and opener bids 3S- to show clubs and 3N to show diamonds ;

3H- 2-3-4-4 pattern ; ie Maj fragment and both minors ;

3S- 3-2-4-4 pattern

3N- one minor 4 cards and 3-3-3-4 or 3-3-4-3 pattern, over which you can ask 4C to find out which minor .

The drawback in your method is you cannot distinguish between 4 card minor and 5 card minor from opener .