

SAYC – VARIATION (STANDARD AMERICAN YELLOW CARD)

Mr.Narain's question :- In India we are used to the earlier 'Standard American' system of bidding. On the Internet 'SAYC' (which I believe is 'Standard American Yellow Card' is popular.

Can you highlight the major additions/ changes ?

Where do I get a copy of the detailed SAYC System ?

Sridhar's reply :-

Basically American standard employs a natural method of suit bidding expressing values in ranges at every turn. The opening bids incorporate a 12-21 range with 1 Minor promising at least 3 cards and 1Major guaranteeing 5 cards at least.

In the popular 2/1 System any 2 level response to a 1 bid forces to Game and both players can re-bid their suits without any worry of partner passing in a part score notwithstanding any misfit that the auction may suggest. This allows either player to pattern out his hand , re-bid his suit before supporting partner's suit .

In SAYC the 2 level response to a 1 bid does not force to game in so far as the re-bid of his suit at 3 level by Responder is non-forcing and expresses a minimum hand inadequate for game. For eg 1S-2D-2H-3D shows a minimum hand and a 6 carder like X,XXX,AJ109XX,AXX ; the opener should give allowance for such hands with partner and bid accordingly – he can even pass 3D. If responder has a Game forcing hand he should make a bid other than 3D, say a new suit at 3 level .

Some versions of SAYC exclude the inverted minor raise (1C-2C showing at least 4 cards in club and 10+ hcp that is not limited) .

For a complete system perusal pl use the google search for SAYC .

Best wishes