

New Minor **FORCING**

A Walsh Influenced Version presented by Mike Savage

1C/1D – pass – **1H/1S** – pass – **1NT**; pass – **2** of the Other Minor is *New Minor Forcing*. This bid is used to find out Opener's major suit length, the exact strength of his hand and sometimes to set up further forcing bids by Responder. *New Minor Forcing* shows invitational or better values and almost always shows a five-card major suit. Some partnerships use an abbreviated version, only focusing on the bid major. Over a **1S** response followed by **1NT**, with invitational or better values, you should check for a four-four heart fit too. Here are the basics of a simple version of *New Minor Forcing*.

After 1 of a Minor – 1H – 1NT:

2 of the Other Minor = Shows at least invitational values and either a 5-card major or at least a game forcing hand with a great fit in Opener's minor.

Responses:

2D (if available) = Denies three hearts and shows at least a five-card minor with a minimum and a reluctance to bid **2NT**.

2H = Shows three hearts and a minimum **1NT** rebid.

2S = An artificial bid. Denies a spade stopper or three hearts.

2NT = Denies three hearts and shows a minimum **1NT** rebid.

3H = Shows three hearts and a maximum **1NT** rebid.

3NT = Denies three hearts and shows a maximum **1NT** rebid.

After 1 of a Minor – 1S – 1NT:

2 of the Other Minor = Shows at least invitational values with 5 spades and may have four hearts or a forcing hand with a great fit in Opener's minor.

Responses:

2D (if available) = Denies four hearts or three spades and shows at least a five-card minor with a minimum and a reluctance to bid **2NT**.

2H = Shows four hearts, may include three spades, with a minimum **1NT** rebid.

2S = Shows three spades, denies four hearts, with a minimum **1NT** rebid.

2NT = Denies both four hearts and three spades with a minimum **1NT** rebid.

3H = Shows four hearts, may include three spades, with a maximum **1NT** rebid.

3S = Shows three spades, denies four hearts, with a maximum **1NT** rebid.

3NT = Denies four hearts or three spades with a maximum.

1C/1D – 1H/1S, 1NT – 2 of the Other Minor, 2-level Response:

3 of Opener's Minor = Shows at least opening values usually either with slam interest in Opener's minor or a very distributional hand.

1C/1D – 1H/1S, 1NT – 3 of Opener's Minor = Invitational to game with 5-card support.

1C/1D – 1S, 1NT – 2H = Denies any game interest and wants to play **2H** or **2S**.

Opener normally should either pass **2H** or bid **2S** and *not bid 2NT*.

1C/1D – 1S, 1NT – 3H = Shows at least five-five in the majors and is forcing.