

Reverses in bridge bidding

Reverse...A Reverse is a *shape-showing* bid that promises an Ace better than an opening hand...(16-17-18 pts) it also guarantees that your opening bid suit is **LONGER than your 2nd bid suit!!**

Example..

S	H	D	C
A	K	x	x
Q	Q	x	x.
J	J		
x	x		
	x		

This fine hand should and will be opened 1 H by almost all bridge players no matter what system they play. The problem arises when the responder bids anything other than 1 Spade, 2 Hearts or 1 NT! If pard bids 2C or 2D...the opener must make a rebid...(that further describe the hand)

2S....Is "REVERSE" and promises a "MEDIUM" hand of 16-17-18 pts..yes H are longer than S but who cares Partner has already said they don't have 4 S!

2NT... shows a *balanced* hand...Responder could correctly bid 3 NT with 12 or more pts.

Raising the Club or Diamond bid with 2 would not only be a lie but very foolish!

2 H should promise 6 cards and partner may support now with xx

Which lie seems to be safer?

The best choice may lie in the distribution of your high card points...if all your points are in the minor suits 2 NT may be the safer choice...if you are xx and xx...**with xxx and a void NO!**

with this hand however I would choose to rebid my H...yes Pard may support with xx but if the bid is 3 H (10-11 pts) I can pass...If it is 4 H we will do our best to make it...This is duplicate and other pairs will be facing the same decisions.

OK What about Minor suit reverses?

Yes the same rules apply... If you open 1 C and pard bids 1 H you **cannot pass that invisible barrier of 2 C** without the Medium hand..16-17-18 pts!

Example..

S	H	D	C
x	x	A	K
x	x	Q	Q
		J	J
		x	x
			x

If you open 1 C and pard bids a major..you can't raise either suit

if you bid NT again it should show a balanced hand rebidding C should show 6 cards...

Fortunately in the case of minor suits there is an easy solution available...Just start with the Diamonds and if forced to make a rebid...safely and comfortably bid your Clubs...

Yes, pard may believe your D are longer or at least the same as your C...but who cares...we are hoping to play in a Major or NT anyway