

## FORCING BIDS (not a complete list...)

By Baloney Bill

So, everyone knows that if partner **opens 2 clubs**, that's a forcing bid, yes? \_\_\_\_\_ What is opener telling you about her hand, other than the fact that it is a forcing bid?

How should you respond as opener's partner? \_\_\_\_\_ Some players bid various suits to show point ranges. Others employ "waiting" bids, asking opener to bid her suit (or no trump, if that is her preference). My partners and I bid two diamonds as a waiting bid, which says that I have less than 10 points; it says nothing about my diamond suit. If responder holds 10+ points, s/he employs a 2NT waiting bid. Opener then bids her suit (e.g. 2 spades over your 2 diamonds). Now, must responder bid again? Is partner's 2 club bid forcing to game? \_\_\_\_\_

What if partner bids one heart, and you bid two hearts? Is your 2H bid forcing? \_\_\_\_\_ If partner bids one heart, and you respond one spade, is your 1S bid forcing? \_\_\_\_\_ If partner opens 1 club, is your one heart response forcing? \_\_\_\_\_ If partner bids one club, you respond one diamond, and partner bids one heart, is partner's one heart bid forcing? \_\_\_\_\_ Anytime **RESPONDER bids a new suit** after partner has opened the auction, that new suit is forcing.

I open 1 diamond, you respond 1NT, and I bid 3 clubs. That's called a "**jump shift**," showing \_\_\_\_\_ pts. Is it a forcing bid? \_\_\_\_\_ Is it forcing to game? \_\_\_\_\_

I open 1 diamond, you respond one heart, I bid 1NT and you bid two clubs. Yep, that is a forcing bid. We call that **new minor forcing**. It forces partner to bid at least one more time, but it is not forcing to game.

I bid one club, you bid one diamond, I bid one heart and you bid one spade. Gee, we have covered all of the suits! Do you think that bidding sequence has any special meaning? \_\_\_\_\_

Here's another **fourth suit forcing** possibility: Opener bids one heart, partner bids one spade, opener bids 2 diamonds and you bid 3 clubs. Yep, all four suits mentioned....

I open one no trump, and you bid 4 clubs. Is that bid forcing? \_\_\_\_\_ What are you up to, and how should I respond?

I open a diamond, and you bid a spade. I now bid 2 hearts, which is an example of a \_\_\_\_\_, showing 16-17 points. Is my bid forcing? \_\_\_\_\_

You open one no trump, and I bid 2 hearts. Is my two-heart bid forcing? \_\_\_\_\_

I open one club. Is my one club bid forcing? \_\_\_\_\_

Want to try a few hands? \_\_\_\_\_