

GAZZILLI (Part-1)

Playing Standard system, you open one of a Major and partner responds one No trump. Now if you have a single suiter major GF hand, there is no convenient bid. You might jump to 3 of a minor to force the bidding that means responder will not know whether the new suit is of 3 or 4 or 5 cards. Also when you jump to three level with 5-4-3-1 GF hands, it becomes difficult to find the fit in your 3-card suit if the responder has that suit in a weak hand. The jump has taken away the space, which is of paramount importance for exploring and finding the right contract.

Similarly another problem area for Standard Bidders is balanced hand of 15-17 HCP with a 5-card major. If you open one of a major, there is re-bid problem with these hands. Many of the players today open 1NT with 5-card major to solve this problem. However this creates a further problem as you miss out on 5-4 or 5-3 major suit fits on borderline hands.

To solve all these difficulties and also to allow non-forcing jumps to three level with lower HCP (14-16), Italians (as far as I know), play what is called **Gazzilli**.

A) What is GAZZILLI

Gazzilli is an artificial bid of 2C by opener after Opening bid of 1H/1S and response of 1S or 1NT. The 2C response is forcing and you can no longer play there. The 2C bid is used for following kinds of hands:

- 5-3-3-2 hands of 12 -14, 15-17 and 18-20 HCP.
- 5 Major and 4+ Club with 11-16 HCP.
- Generally all other hands of 17+ HCP (single suiter, two suiter etc.)

B) Opener's rebids after 1H Opening

Since Gazzilli covers most of the 17+ HCP hands, it allows us a great deal of flexibility with Precision like jumps. The jumps are no longer forcing and simple bids at two level (except 2C) are narrower in HCP. This certainly has an advantage as responder no longer needs to keep the bidding open. The following are opener's rebids after 1H opening and 1S or 1NT response:

<p>1H – 1S – ? . Opener's rebids are: 1N – shows a balanced hand of 12-14 HCP. 2C – Gazzilli. 2D – Natural 4+ cards, 11-16 HCP. 2H – Natural 6 cards, 11-14 HCP. 2S – 3 or 4 card support, 11-14 HCP. 2N – Can be played as splinter, 4 card support or 6 hearts and 3S, 14-16 HCP 3C/D – Natural 5+H and 5C/D, 14-16 HCP. 3H – Natural 6-cards, 14-16 HCP without 3S. 3S – 4 card Spade support, 14-16 HCP, 4-5-2-2. 4C/D – 6 hearts and 4 spades, singleton C/D.</p>	<p>1H – 1N – ? . Opener rebids: 2C – Gazzilli. 2D – Natural 4+ cards, 11-16 HCP. 2H – Natural 6 cards, 11-14 HCP. 2S – 5+ heart and 4+ Spade, 17+ HCP. 2N – Can be played as 6+ heart and any 4-card suit, 17+ HCP (3C=GF relay) 3C/D – Natural 5+H and 5C/D, 14-16 HCP. 3H – Natural 6-cards, 14-16 HCP. 3S – 6 Heart and 5 Spades. 4C/D – 6-5 distribution, 14-16 HCP.</p>
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C) Opener's rebids after 1S Opening

The rebids after 1S opening and 1NT response are on similar lines as after 1H Opening.

<p>1S – 1N – ? . Opener rebids: 2C – Gazzilli. 2D/H – Natural 3+/4+ cards, 11-16 HCP. 2S/3S – 6+ cards, 11-14 /14-16 HCP. 2N – 6+ spade and any 4-card suit, 17+ HCP 3C/D/H – Natural 5+S and 5 C/D/H, 14-16 HCP. 4C/D/H – 6-5 distribution, 14-16 HCP.</p>	<p>1S – 1N – 2N – ? Responder's rebids are: 3C – Relay, GF. 3D – 4 cards diamonds. 3H – 4 cards hearts. 3S – 4 cards clubs. 3D/H/S – to play.</p>
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We will continue our discussion on Gazzilli in next month's bulletin, where we will discuss in detail developments after opener re-bids 2C.

(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)

GAZZILLI (Part 2)

Last month we discussed opener's rebids other than 2C. In this bulletin we will continue our discussion with responder's rebids and further developments after opener rebids the 2C Gazzilli.

D) Responder's rebids and further development after 1H Opening

Generally the forcing bid is 2D, which is relay and 8+ HCP. If opener's further rebids show hand of 17+ HCP, then GF is automatically created. Responder must limit his hand as far as possible:

<p>1H – 1S – 2C – ? . Further developments are: 2D – Relay, 7-8+ HCP. Opener rebids: 2H – 5+ Heart – 3+ Club 11-16 HCP 2S – 5+ Hearts – 3+Spades, 17+ HCP 2N – 5 Hearts, 5-3-3-2 hand, 16-17 HCP 3C/D – 5+ Hearts – 4+ C/D 17+ HCP 3H – 6+ Hearts, 17+ HCP without 3 spades 3S – 5 Hearts + 4 C + 3 S, 15-16 HCP 3N – 5 Hearts, 5-3-3-2S hand, 18-19 HCP 2H – 2/3 hearts, To play 2S – 5+ Spades, shortness in hearts, To play 2N – 5+ Diamond. Sign-off 3C – 5+ Club. Sign-off 3D – 5 Spade – 5 Diamond, 8-10 HCP 3H – Limit raise, 3 hearts and 4 or more spades 3S – Invitational with 6+ spades</p>	<p>1H – 1N – 2C – ? Further developments are: 2D – Relay, 7-8+ HCP. Opener rebids: 2H – 5+ Heart – 3+ Club 11-16 HCP 2S – 5 hearts and 4 C/D, 17+ HCP 2N – 5 Hearts, 5-3-3-2 hand, 16-17 HCP 3C/D – 5+ Hearts – 5 C/D 17+ HCP 3H – 6+ Hearts, 17+ HCP 3N – 5 Hearts, 5-3-3-2 hand, 18-19 HCP 2H – 2/3 hearts, To play 2S – At least 5-4 minors, longer D's, Sign-off. 2N – Both minors, Sign-Off 3C – 5+ Club. Sign-off 3D – 6+ Diamond. Sign-off 3H – Limit raise with 3 hearts 3S – 5+ Clubs, Singleton spade, 8+ hcp 3N – 5+ Clubs, Singleton heart, 9-10 hcp</p>
<p>1H – 1S – 2C – 2D – 2H – ? 2S – GF Relay. Opener rebids: 2N – 2-5-2-4 hand. 3C – 5 Hearts and 5 Clubs 3D – 5 Hearts 4 Clubs and 3 Diamonds 3H – 6 Hearts and 4 Clubs 3S – 5 Hearts, 4 Clubs and 3 Spades 3N – 5-3-3-2 hand, 14-15 HCP 2N – Invitational Hand 3C – To play 3D – 4th Suit, GF Force 3H – Suit agreed, requests cue bid 3S – 6+ Spades 3N – Sign-off</p>	<p>1H – 1N – 2C – 2D – 2H – ? 2S – 4+ clubs, 10-11 HCP 2N – Balanced, 10-11 HCP 3C – 5+ Club. 8-9 HCP 3D – 6+ Diamond. 8-10 HCP 1H – 1N – 2C – 2D – 2S (17+ 4C/D) – 2N – ? 3C – 5 hearts and 4 clubs 3D – 5 Hearts and 4 diamonds 3H – 6 Hearts and 4 Clubs 3S – 6 Hearts and 4 Diamonds 1H – 1N – 2C – 2D – 2N (16-17 hcp) – ? 3C/D – 5+C/D GF 3H – Heart raise, honour doubleton, GF 3S – Both minors</p>
<p>1H – 1S – 2C – 2D – 2S (17+ & 3+ S) – 2N – ? 3C/D – 5H-3S and 4C/D, 17+ hcp 3H – 6 Hearts and 3 Spades, 17+ hcp 3S – 5 hearts and 4 spades, 17+ hcp 3N – 5-3-3-2 hand with 3 Spades, 17-19 hcp 4C/D – 5H-4S and singleton/void C/D, 17+ hcp 1H – 1S – 2C – 2D – 2N (16-17 hcp) – ? 3C/D – 4 Spades and 5+C/D 3H – Heart raise, honour doubleton, GF 3S – 6+ Spades, GF 3N – sign-off</p>	<p>1S – 1N – 2C – 2D – ? 2H – 5+S & 4C 15-16 or 5S & 4C/D/H 17+ HCP After 2H, 2S is Relay & Opener rebids: 2N – 5 Spades 4 clubs 15-16 HCP 3C/D/H – 5 Spades – 4 C/D/H 17+ HCP 3S – 6+ Spades 3 hearts 17+ HCP 2S – 5+S 3+ clubs, 11-14 HCP 2N – 5 Spades, 5-3-3-2 hand, 15-17 HCP 3C/D/H – 5+ Spades – 5 C/D/H 17+ HCP 3S – 6+ Spades, 17+ HCP, denies 3 hearts 3N – 5 Spades, 5-3-3-2 hand, 18-19 HCP</p>

The meanings of various bids can also be as per partnership understanding. Gazzilli can also be played over minor suit opening.

(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)

GAZZILLI (Part 3)

This is the last part of our discussion on this convention. So far we have discussed Gazzilli over Opening Bid of one of a Major. However this convention is also played over Minor suit opening bids. In this bulletin we will discuss some of the sequences of Gazzilli over 1C and 1D Opening Bids.

E) Responses and rebids after 1C/D Opening

We have similar problem as after major suit opening bid that we can no longer play in 2C. This of course is slight disadvantage. After One minor opening, rebid of other minor at two level is reserved for Gazzilli. It shows the normal hands along with single suiter minor 17+ HCP, 4-card major support 18-19 HCP or 17+ unbalanced hand with 5+ cards in the minor. This means that direct splinter bids can be reserved for 4-4-4-1 hands. The following are some of the sequences:

1D – 1H – ? Further developments are:
2C – Gazzilli, used for hands containing 4+ H & 17+ HCP, 6+D 17+ or 5+D and 4+C 11+
3C – 5+ Diamonds and 5+ clubs 14-16 HCP
3D – 6+ Diamonds 14-16 HCP
3H – 4+ Hearts 14-16 HCP
 Other responses same as without Gazzilli

1D – 1H – 2C – ?
2D – to play
2H – 5+ Hearts, to play
2S – Relay, One round Force
2N – 4+ Clubs, Sign-off
3C/D – 4+ Club/Diamonds, Invitational hand
3H – 6+ hearts, Invitational
3S – 6 hearts and 5 spade, GF

1D – 1H – 2C – 2S (Relay) – ?
2N – 5+ Diamond and 4+ Clubs, 17+ HCP
3C – 5+ Diamond and 4+ Clubs, upto 16 HCP
3D – 6+ diamonds, 17+
3H – 4 Hearts, 18-19 HCP
3S/4C – 5+ D and 4H, 17+ and shortness in S/C

1D – 1H – 2C – 2D – ?
2H – 3-card heart, shortness in spade, 14-16 hcp
2S – 5+ diamond and 4+ Clubs, 17+ HCP
2N – 6+ diamonds, 19+ HCP
3C – 5+ Diamonds and 5+ clubs GF
3D – 6+ Diamonds, 17-18 HCP, Invitational
3H – 4 hearts, 18-19 HCP
3S/4C – 5+ D and 4H, 17+ and shortness in S/C

1D – 1S – 2C – ?
2D/S – to play
2H – Relay, One round Force
2N – 4+ Clubs, Sign-off
3C/D – 4+ Club/Diamonds, Invitational hand
3H – 5+ Spades and 5 hearts, Invitational
3S – 6+ Spades, GF

1C – 1H – ? Further developments are:
2D – Gazzilli, used for hands containing 4+ H & 17+ HCP, 6+C 17+ or 5+C and 4+D 17+
3C – 6+ Clubs 14-16 HCP
3D – Splinter in D, 4-4-4-1 hands, 18+ HCP
3H – 4+ Hearts 14-16 HCP
 Other responses same as without Gazzilli

1C – 1H – 2D – ?
2H – 5+ hearts, to play
2S – Relay, One round Force
2N – 4+ Diamonds, Sign-off
3C – sign-off
3D – GF, 5+ hearts and 4+ Diamonds
3H – 6+ hearts, Invitational
3S – 6 hearts and 5 spade, GF

1C – 1H – 2D – 2S (Relay) – ?
2N – 5+ Clubs and 4+ Diamonds, 17+ HCP
3C – 6+ Clubs, 17+
3D – 6+ Clubs and 5 Diamonds, GF
3H – 4 hearts, 18-19 HCP, balanced
3S/4D – 5+C and 4H, 17+ and shortness in S/D

1C – 1S – 2D – ?
2H – Relay
2S – 5 Spades, to play
2N – 4+ Diamonds, Sign-off
3C – sign-off
3D – GF, 5+ Spades and 4+ Diamonds
3H – GF, 5+ Spades and 5 hearts
3S – 6+ Spades, GF

1C – 1S – 2D – 2H (Relay) – ?
2S – 3 Spades, 5+ C & 4+ D, 17+ HCP
2N – 5+ Clubs and 4+ Diamonds, 17+ HCP
3C – 6+ Clubs, 17+
3D – 6+ Clubs and 5 Diamonds, GF
3S – 4 Spades, 18-19 HCP, balanced
4D/H – 5+ C and 4S, 17+ and shortness in D/H

There are many advantages in playing Gazzilli as above where as disadvantage is only one.

(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)