



GBC Online Lessons

Distributional Hands – Unusual 2NT

Practice

Hand 1

East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ A 6 3 2	♠ Q J 10 7 4	♠ K 8 5
♥ K 8 7 5 3	♥ 9	♥ A Q J 4 2
♦ 7	♦ K Q J 8 6	♦ 5 2
♣ 7 4 3	♣ 5 2	♣ Q J 6

N
W E
S

♠ 9	♠ 9
♥ 10 6	♥ 10 6
♦ A 10 9 4 3	♦ A 10 9 4 3
♣ A K 10 9 8	♣ A K 10 9 8

W	N	E	S
		1♥	2NT
4♥	5♦	P	P

North/South are not Vulnerable. East opens 1♥ and South (Overcaller) bids 2NT. West (Responder) bids 4♥. North (Advancer) has a good supporting hand – a 10-card fit in Diamonds and a Singleton Heart. Assuming by the nature of the bidding that E/W has distributional hands, it is very possible they might make the 4♥ contract. Since N/S are Non-Vulnerable and E/W are Vulnerable (favorable Vulnerability), North (Advancer) bids 5♦ and all pass. E doesn't Double. Be careful Doubling very distributional hands.

Hand 2

West Deals
N-S Vul

♠ A K Q J	♠ —	♠ 10 5 4 3
♥ 10 4 3	♥ A Q 9 7 6	♥ J 5
♦ 10 8 7 6 2	♦ A K 4	♦ J 5 3
♣ A	♣ K 10 9 7 5	♣ 8 6 4 3

N
W E
S

♠ 9 8 7 6 2	♠ 9 8 7 6 2
♥ K 8 2	♥ K 8 2
♦ Q 9	♦ Q 9
♣ Q J 2	♣ Q J 2

W	N	E	S
1♦	2NT	P	3♥
P	4♥	P	P

North/South are Vulnerable. West opens 1♦. North bids 2NT, showing 5+ card suits in Hearts and Clubs. East (Responder) passes. South (Advancer) bids 3♥. North has 16 HCP, plus a void in spades. This increases the playing value of North's hand. North bids 4♥.



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Hand 3

South Deals
Both Vul

♠ 7	♠ Q J	♠ A 10 9 4 3 2
♥ K 10 7 5 3	♥ A J	♥ Q 9 4 2
♦ 10 9	♦ J 5 4 3 2	♦ A
♣ K 9 8 7 5	♣ J 4 3 2	♣ 10 6

♠ K 8 6 5	♠ K 8 6 5
♥ 8 6	♥ 8 6
♦ K Q 8 7 6	♦ K Q 8 7 6
♣ A Q	♣ A Q

W	N	E	S
			1♦
2NT	3♦	3♥	P
?			

South opens 1♦. West has 5 cards in both hearts and clubs, the shape for Unusual 2NT. However, West has a singleton ♠, giving her hand an upgrade. Does West know how many HCP East has? No. But, using the principle of bidding early, West bids 2NT. With a stopper in Hearts and 5 diamonds, North bids 3♦. East has the singleton A of diamonds and the A of spades on a long spade suit. Partner cannot have more than 2 spades. With 4 hearts, including an honor, East raises partner's hearts. This puts South in a jam. She has 6 losers but the club and spade suit are a problem. South passes. West now must decide whether to bid game or pass! Not an easy decision. With the best defense, West makes 5 hearts.

Hand 4

North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q J 9 5 4 3	♠ A K	♠ 10 2
♥ 8 5 4	♥ K 3	♥ A J 10 9 7
♦ —	♦ K Q 10 8 3 2	♦ A
♣ A Q 10 3	♣ 9 6 2	♣ J 8 7 5 4

♠ 8 7 6	♠ 8 7 6
♥ Q 6 2	♥ Q 6 2
♦ J 9 7 6 5 4	♦ J 9 7 6 5 4
♣ K	♣ K

W	N	E	S
	1♦	2NT	P
3♥	P	P	P

E/W are not Vulnerable. North opens 1♦ and East bids 2NT, showing 5+ Hearts and 5+ Clubs. South (Responder) passes. West (Advancer) has 3-card support for Hearts and 4-card support for Clubs. The Major would give a higher score than 4 clubs. Therefore, Advancer bids 3♥. All pass.



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Distributional Hands – Unusual 2NT Bid
Practice

Hand 5

South Deals
 N-S Vul

<p>♠ J ♥ J 2 ♦ A Q 8 3 2 ♣ Q 9 6 5 4</p>	<p>♠ 3 ♥ A K 10 8 4 3 ♦ 9 6 5 ♣ A J 8</p> <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ A 10 9 8 7 2 ♥ 9 7 6 5 ♦ 10 4 ♣ 10</p> <p>♠ K Q 6 5 4 ♥ Q ♦ K J 7 ♣ K 7 3 2</p>
	N										
W		E									
	S										

W	N	E	S
			1♠
2NT	3♥	P	3NT
P	P	P	

E/W are not Vulnerable. South opens 1♠ and West (Overcaller) bids 2NT, showing a 5+ card suit in both Diamonds and Clubs. North (Responder) bids 3♥. East does not have a fit with partner and has very few HCP (4). With the intervening bid, East can pass. Responder is an unpassed hand and bid a new suit – that is FORCING. Opener cannot support Hearts and is pressed to find a bid. Responder is showing 10+ HCP and Opener has 14 HCP. Opener bids 3NT with stoppers in Diamonds and Clubs. All pass.

NB – All the hands to this point were taken from Jim Ricker's Beyond Beginning Bridge Using 2/1. Some of the hands have been rotated to change the dealer position. The next example is from Barbara Seagram.

Hand 6

South Deals
 N-S Vul

<p>♠ 5 ♥ 3 ♦ Q 10 8 7 5 3 ♣ K Q J 8 3</p>	<p>♠ 9 6 4 3 ♥ A 9 8 6 4 ♦ A J 6 2 ♣ —</p> <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ A K 10 8 2 ♥ 7 5 ♦ 9 ♣ A 10 9 6 5</p> <p>♠ Q J 7 ♥ K Q J 10 2 ♦ K 4 ♣ 7 4 2</p>
	N										
W		E									
	S										

W	N	E	S
			1♥
2NT	3♥	5♣	P
P	P		

South opens 1♥. E/W are at favorable vulnerability. West's hand can be upgraded in playing values because of the two singletons and bids 2NT. North, with a void in clubs, one of West's known suits and a stopper in diamonds, bids 3♥. East has no real defense against hearts. With 5 clubs and 2 stoppers in spades, East uses LOTT to bid 5♣.