



By Filip Kurbalija

After an auction best forgotten, you arrive at 5D doubled by East.

♠K98xxxx
 ♥K
 ♦KQ109
 ♣J

--

 S W N E
 1D P 1S 2H
 P 3H 4S X
 P P 5D X
 P P P
 ♠Qx
 ♥Axx
 ♦AJ87xx
 ♣Kx

You receive the lead of 8♥, how do you play?

Let's say you play a diamond. East discards a small heart, how do you proceed now?

Are you tempted to discard your club in dummy on the A♥? If so, I don't think the contract can be made against any normal defence. These are the E/W cards.

♠ AJ10x
 ♥ 98xx ♥ QJ10xx
 ♦ 6xx ♦
 ♣ Qxxxx ♣ Axxx

The contract makes when you score the A♣, via 1 club, 6 diamonds, 2 hearts and a heart ruff.

BOOK REVIEW

By Gary Martin

Test Your Acol Bidding

By Bob Rowlands,
Mike Whittaker and Amanda Hawthorn

Are you one of those players that enjoys bidding the hands that come on little strips in the bridge magazines? If you are, then this book is for you.

The book contains 40 strips of 6 hands for you to bid with your partner. The 2nd part of the book contains the recommended Acol sequences with explanation as well as scale of marks to award yourself for the contract that you reached.

One drawback is that you have to cut the strips out of the book to use them, thereby spoiling the book, but if you can think of a way to overcome this, then by the time you have bid the 240 hands, you will have sorted out many bidding situations that currently cause you problems.

Test Your Acol Bidding is available
@ £5.99 (post free) from
Bridge Plus, PO Box 384,
Reading RG1 5YP
(01734 351052)

Note to advertisers and contributors

The Autumn edition of this Newsletter will be distributed on October 1st, 1995. I will need to receive material for inclusion in this by 16th September, 1995 at the very latest.

THE WELSH BRIDGE UNION

Summer 1995 Issue 50

NEWSLETTER

Mrs. Mary Aherne, 19 Penygraig, Rhiwbina, Cardiff CF4 6ST
 Secretary: ☎ 01222-611652
 Mrs. Noelle Bond, 45 Buttrills Road, Barry, S. Glam. CF62 8EG
 Master-Point Secretary: ☎ 01446-733425
 Dillwyn Evans, 2 Penylan Close, Porthcawl, Mid-Glam CF36 3LF
 National Tournament Organiser: ☎ 01656-783461
 Gary Martin, 83 Tir Capel, Dafen, Llanelli, Dyfed SA14 8SR
 Newsletter Editor: ☎ 01554-758021

Editorial

This coming year is going to be quite a busy one for me personally! As well as producing 4 newsletters, I have been entrusted with Presidentship of the Welsh Bridge Union; a great honour for which I'm truly indebted to the membership. In addition, from September, I have been given an expanded role in work by being made Head of Lower School.

I hope that I can do justice to all 3 posts. However, if I fall on down on either of the first two, I'm sure that you will soon let me know!

Apart from the change of President, Dillwyn Evans has taken on the role of National Tournament Organiser and his full address is listed above.

Wendy Wood is to be congratulated on the excellent booklet, containing the entry forms and calendar, that she was responsible for producing, which you all should now have received from your club secretary. This is another example of the WBU improving its service to members.

It is hoped that entries to all competitions will increase this year. So, now that you've received your entry forms, get your entries in early to Dillwyn. The fun of bridge is in pitting your skills against others, so get your teams together now and remember that the closing date for entries is 31st August.

Gary Martin

National Tournament Organiser's Report

Combined Calendar & Entry Form.

All of you should now have your copy, so get those entries flowing in as soon as possible, and in any case, before the closing date.

I would welcome comments on the new style booklet. I think it is a huge improvement on the old system

NATIONAL RESULTS

Both the Perry Shield & the Spickett Bowl were won by the Eastern area with the West coming second.

The Welsh Cup was won by, Gary Martin, Dean Hardie, Filip Kurbalija, Peter Goodman, Tony Ratcliff, Patrick Jourdain.

(Picture below)



The winners of the Welsh Cup pictured after defeating David Birt's team (Geoff Evans, Simon Richards, Alex Maddocks) by 70 imps in the 64 board final.

The Cambria Cup was won by Wendy Wood, Anne Garvie, Paul Gagne, Diane Harris.

The winners of the Mens pairs were, Tony Ratcliff & Steve Daniel.

The winners of the Ladies pairs were, Sue Ingham & Laura Woodruff.

The qualifiers from the Welsh heat of the Portland pairs were:-

P. Gagne & D. Harris
 F. & D. Kurbalija
 G. Messer & H. Thomas
 N. Bond & R. Trew
 T. Girdlestone & S. Coda

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

Chasing a pot of gold at Telford

By Tony Disley

Staffordshire CBA held an innovative weekend of events with some significant prizes. For the Swiss Teams, with the extremely interesting Patton Scoring, a first prize of £1000 was on offer. Despite many other prizes only 34 teams entered.

As the Daily Telegraph bridge correspondent observed, "That makes 3.75 greens worth more than £250 to the average bridge player."

Despite the presence of English, British and Bulgarian internationals, the only 2 Welsh teams to enter finished 1st and 2nd, one or other leading from round 2 (out of 8) onwards.

The following hand helped the runners-up

♠A73	♠985
♥Q852	♥76
♦KJ103	♦AQ74
♣Q5	♣J642
♠K64	
♥AK104	
♦65	
♣AK109	
♠QJ102	
♥J93	
♦982	
♣873	

With West 1st to speak:-

Table 1	Table 2
1C- P-1N- P	1C- X-1N*- P
3N- all pass	3N- all pass
	*= raise to 2C.

At both tables the SQ was led and ducked all round followed by SJ and a third spade to the Ace. Both North's advanced the DJ taken by the Q. Can you see how declarer at Table 1 went 2 off whilst our hero on Table 2 made his contract? On 1 the club finesse was taken and lost and with a diamond return, the defence eventually came to 2 more tricks.

At 2 the declarer realised that he needed 4 club tricks and a heart/diamond squeeze for 9 tricks. Also the entries demanded that the CQ came down in 2 rounds. Thus CA and K were cashed and then the 10: now N is in trouble. If he discards a heart, declarer overtakes and leads a heart covering whatever S plays and makes his contract with 3H, 2D and 4C. Should N discard a diamond then declarer retains the lead in dummy and plays a diamond, allowing N to take the trick (note if N discards a high diamond he can still be made to take either this or the next trick). With the CJ still available as an entry the contract is made with 2H, 3D and 4C.

Who played the hand? Tony Haworth.

1. Jourdain, Ratcliff, Hirst, Luck.
2. Haworth, Pratt, Disley, Charlesworth.

MASTERPOINT OF VIEW



By Noelle Bond



I want to start by thanking everyone who sent in their points for registration before the April 30th closing date, having the majority in on time helps me greatly.

As usual there were a few pleading phone calls and letters from those who had forgotten and I tried to include as many of these as possible.

Of course, after I had completed all the year end activities and moved the computer system on to 1995/96, I received the obligatory plea to include "just one more", but everyone's points are handled strictly in the order they arrive, and as points fall onto the doormat almost every day of the year, some of the latecomers (latesenders?) must be disappointed or we would never ever have year-end ranking lists in the WBU Journal.

I also want to thank all those who sent me good wishes and kind messages with their points, in the year end rush I don't always have time to thank them individually. I even had one "Thank you" phone call which did not coincide with a query.

In this last year, I entered 2,468,793 Local points and 5542.34 National points (Greens), this was 100,000 more Locals and approximately 250 more National points than last year. As there seem to be more people playing the game each year, the points totals should rise as so many Master Point awards depend on the number of people playing.

Obviously the strain of climbing our hill with sacks full of all these points has taken its toll on our two older postmen and they have been replaced by young men (children really, or am I just showing my age). One of them said to me, quite seriously, the other morning "You do get a lot of fan mail." I was tempted to tell him that I was a big star on television, but I don't watch much so couldn't think of the names of any programmes and was forced to fall back onto the truth. He was not so impressed then.

The Post Office machines are still having fun with our letters and I even received one apparently undamaged envelope, still sealed, but with the Master Points cleverly removed, so it is always worth a call if you do not get your card back when you expect; however during the April/May busy period, because of the volume of mail, a backlog always builds up, so allow a little extra time then.

I thought it would be interesting for everyone to see the number of promotions for each rank during the last twelve months, so if the editor can find space you should see the list near here. There were a total of 546 promotions, 283 of them during the last quarter. If any one was skillful (or lucky) enough to get more than one promotion in the year, I have only counted the latest. Someone who saw the list when I prepared it, noticing that there was only one promotion to Senior Life Master said, "He always was unique."

More budding bridge poets have sent their work to me, but their contributions are too long/ derogatory/ fawning/ libelous to include here. One of them chose to rhyme "Lady from Barry" (me!) with "Dally", making me think she originally wrote something about "Aunt Sally" The request for extra points for the efforts fell on deaf ears.

Noelle Bond

Master-Point



Promotions

Only ranks with promotions are printed

Club Master		Local Master	
Mr Elwyn Ackon	Y	Mr Ray Amey	PD
Mrs Patricia Ackon	Y	Mrs Rita Ashton	AG
Ms Jean Akers	BV	Mrs Barbara Buckland	L
Mrs Jill Alexander	R	Mr Rodney Burden	C
Mrs Doreen Anthony	A	Mr Brian Canning	L
Mr Graham Ashford	PN	Mrs Jane Davies	R
Mrs Marion Avon	PN	Mr Lou Day	T
Mr Ken Brinkworth	C	Mrs Olwen Doyle	PN
Miss Jean Cole	NT	Mrs Terry Farago	C
Mrs Marjorie Dalton-Jones	Y	Mrs Margaret Hawkins	CL
Mrs Norah Davies	A	Mr Dennis Hudson	LP
Mrs Estelle Evans	S	Mrs Anne E Hughes	PR
Mr Ron Fletcher	AG	Mrs Elizabeth Hutchinson	GA
Mrs Marie George	C	Mrs Barbara James	PN
Mrs Jean Green	GA	Mr Barrie Jenkins	PC
Mr M Green	GA	Ms Ann Jeremiah	CR1
Mrs Lyn Howell	C	Mr Alastair Jinks	C
Mrs Phyllis Howells	AM	Mr Edgar Jinks	C
Mr Bill Hunter	GA	Mr Jack Loxton	C
Mr Paul Hyde	S	Mrs Kath McSherry	PN
Mrs Iris Jarman	NT	Mr Martin Palmer	T
Mr Dilwyn Jones	S	Mrs Jurdy Pearce	C
Mrs Joan Jones	CN	Mrs Doris Powell	GA
Mrs Leila Jones	S	Mr A Richards	S
Mr Martin Jones	L	Mr Brian Rossiter	AG
Mr Robert Lloyd	BV	Mrs Maril Rossiter	AG
Mrs Beryl Marke	PN	Mr John Rudgley	S
Mrs Joan Morgan	R	Mrs Mary Rudgley	S
Dr Lorne Murphy	CBY	Mr Peter Smith	GA
Mrs W Phillips	AM	Mr P J Suanth	L
Mr Alun Preece	PN	Mrs Helene Sobczak	CA
Mrs Mair Raw-Rees	A	Mr C Taylor	R
Mrs Win Richards	PN	Mr Eric Tebbet	PN
Mrs Betty Shirley	LD	Mrs Elizabeth Thorneycroft	LP
Mrs Gill Thomas	C	Mr John G Treharne	C
Mrs A Walters	R	Mr Harry Trew	S
Mrs Gladys Williams	Y	Mrs Hazel Trew	S
Mr Gregory Williams	PC	Mrs Rita Tudor	D
Ms Sarah Williams	C	Miss Hilda Williams	MB
Mr Viv Williams	BR	Mrs Martha Williams	S
Dr Jim Wright	PN	Mrs Maer Young	C
Mrs Tina Wright	PN		

Master-Point Promotions (Continued)

County Master		Mrs Maureen Fell	PR
Mrs Dorothy Acton	AG	Mrs Jean Greening	PR
Dr Hana Backer	C	Mr Geoff Hakes	LD
Mrs Bernice Bowden	PR	Mrs Anita Jones	CA
Mrs Dorothy Broadbent	D	Mrs Barbara Jones	AM
Mr Ray Curry	S	Mr Barry Jones	W
Mr Keith Davison	S	Mrs Judith E Jones	H
Mrs Margaret Day	T	Mrs Diana Kendrick	BV
Mrs Monica Dewsberry	MG	Mr John Moore	MG
Dr Roland Dewsberry	MG	Mrs Jean Parry	MB
Mrs Joan Evans	CD	Mr Mark Roderick	BV
Ms Rosentary Evans	MG	Mr John Ryan	S
Mr Heath Golding	CR	Mr Les J Thomas	S
Mr B Griffiths	PV	Mrs Margaret Tovey	MB
Mrs Hennie Jenkins	CD	Mr David Williams	PV
Miss Averil Jones	BR	Advanced Master	
Mrs Christine Jones	DR	Mr Adam Anderson	T
Miss Eleanor Jones	BR	Dr Jim Arthur	CBY
Mrs Helen Jones	PN	Mrs Margaret Bancroft	CL
Mrs Sally Jones	MB	Mr David Bellis	CN
Mrs Marjorie Morgan	BV	Mrs Helen Bellis	W
Mrs Barbara Mustoc	BR	Mrs Mary Benton	S
Mrs Gwyneth Palmer	T	Mr David Bryant	C
Mrs Barbara Pierce	PR	Mr Shelton Cross	DR
Mrs Margaret Plant	AM	Mrs Margaret James	A
Mr Roger Plant	AM	Mrs Ann E Johnson	MB
Mrs Susan Price-Jones	BR	Mrs Berta Jones	A
Mrs Beti Richards	A	Mr Jim Lewis	BR
Mrs Marilyn Runham	CN	Mrs Margaret Lewis	L
Mrs Dorothy Shaw	LP	Mrs Kay Menhennick	PN
Mr Geoffrey Shaw	LP	Mr Syd Phillipps	MT
Mr Dave Thomas	BV	Mr Alan Phillipps	SP
Mrs Thora Thomas	CL	Mrs Jill Quick	S
Mrs Pat Walker	PN	Mrs Susan Raybould	CA
Ms Linda Watkins	BV	Mr Norman Riches	NT
Mr Peter Weber	C	Mr Elwyn Roberts	W
Mr R Whiting	BSC	Mrs Marion Stephenson	CL
Mr Hywel Williams	MB	Mr G Sullivan	N
Master		Mrs Margaret Thackray	PW
Mr J H Arnold	S	Mr Glyn Thomas	C
Mr Nigel Baker	BV	Mr John D Thomas	NT
Mrs Freda Bamford	AM	Mrs Del Williams	A
Mrs Sheila Clarke	S	Mrs Wendy Williams	P
Mrs Anne Cunningham	S	1 Star Master	
Mrs Sadie Daniel	P	Mrs Joyce Arthur	CA
Dr Chris Davies	C		

Master-Point Promotions (Continued)

Mrs Renate Cater	LD	Mrs Gwen Hurst	W
Mr Dennis Childs	BR	Mrs Joyce Lodge	RH
Mrs Betty Collier	BR	Mrs Patricia Maslin	CA
Mrs Joan Conway	A	Mr Patrick G Maslin	CA
Mrs Gwen Davies	CD	Mr John Murray	L
Mrs Margaret O Davies	L	Mrs D J Rickard	RH
Mr Lew Eagles	PV	Mrs Joy Whitlock	SP
Mrs Barbara Easterbrook	OH	Mr M C Whitlock	SP
Mr D R Evans	LD	Mrs Lucy Williams	CR
Mrs Gladys Griffiths	L	4 Star Master	
Mrs Frances John	A	Mr Fred Baker	H
Mrs Maureen John	MB	Mrs Connie Clancy	BR
Mr Oliver C Jones	L	Mrs Marcia Clarke	BV
Miss Rita Jones	Y	Mrs Vera Jardine	MB
Mr Paul Klee	T	Mr Edryd Jones	A
Mrs Elfriede Ramsey	MB	Mr Keith Jones	L
Mr Brian Schofield	RH	Mr Kevin Jones	W
Mrs Helga Towers	CB	Mrs Joyce Joy	A
Mrs Elizabeth Trevor Jones	Y	Dr Peter Lloyd-Jones	MB
Mr Andrew Welsh	MB	Mrs Cecilia McCreary	CD
Mr Huw Morris Williams	PV	Mrs Marion Parish	MB
2 Star Master			
Dr Jack Bowen	N	Mr Eric Podd	BR
Mrs S Cemwedd Bowen	L	Mr Joe L Thomas	BV
Mrs Kathleen Charles	L	Mrs Pat Thomas	BV
Mr Bryan Edwards	W	Dr Geoff Tinkler	BR
Mr Charles Fielding	S	Mr Dewi Wright	STD
Mr Gordon Murray-Williams	PD	5 Star Master	
Mrs Marnie Owens	T	Mr Pete Bugden	BR
Mr Neil Rooney	S	Mrs Corina Grove	MB
Mrs Betty Spencer	CD	Mr Ken Grove	MB
Mrs Mildred Trigg-Knight	P	Mrs Nancy Isherwood	S
Mr Barrie Waite	MG	Tournament Master	
Mr George Whitby	Y	Mr Fred Hiles	CD
Mrs Jenny Williams	PR	Mrs Wendy Howlett	S
Miss Marguerite Winn Jones	PN	Mrs Edna Thomas	LD
3 Star Master			
Mr Rex Acton	AG	Regional Master	
Mrs Eva Allinson	RH	Mr Michael Close	BV
Mrs F Bowler	H	Mrs Elaine Evans	W
Mrs June Broeders	W	Mrs Lillian Hughes	RH
Miss Kath Fewster	GA	Mrs Susan Ingham	BV
Mrs Vida Gething	S	Mrs Sandra James	R
Mrs Brenda Harris	SP	Mr Harry Packer	GA
Mrs Dorothy Harris	AA		
Mr Kevin Hayes	GA		

Master-Point Promotions (Continued)

Mr Bill Parkinson	GA	Miss Wendy Wood	BV
Mr Andrew Phillips	LP		
Mrs Sheila Shea	Y	Premier National Master	
Mr Howard Warner	H		
Mrs Mair Welsh	CN		
Premier Regional Master			
Mr Laurie Delmonte	GA	Mr Paul Chimes	GA
Mrs Pat Fielding	STD	Mrs Pearl Duncan	R
Ms Laura Woodruff	BV	Mrs Binnie Job	SP
		Ms Ceri Pierce	C
		Mrs Pat Shimell	H
		Mrs Irene Weaver	GA
		Mr Gwynne Williams	Y
		Mrs Carmel Wiseman	SP
National Master			
		Life Master	
Mrs Annie Favager	GA	Mrs Marion Brooke	S
Mrs Anne Garvie	BV	Mr John Cox	S
Mrs June Hurst	H	Mrs Pearl Nash	GA
Mrs Diana Jones	C	Mr Trevor Towers	GA
Mrs Margaret Lane	S		
Mr Peter Nickson	M		
Mrs Esme Parry	GA	Grand Master	
Mr Cliff Rushton	STD	Mrs Diane Kurbalija	C
Mr Richard Thomas	S		

NUMBER OF PROMOTIONS FOR EACH RANK FROM 23/5/94 TO 25/5/95

Quarter	1	2	3	4	TOTAL
Club Master	12	17	11	42	82
Local Master	12	12	11	41	76
County Master	10	9	14	37	70
Master	12	10	11	22	55
Advanced Master	5	6	9	27	47
1 Star Master	4	5	11	22	42
2 Star Master	2	8	5	14	29
3 Star Master	3	3	4	18	28
4 Star Master	6	4	6	16	32
5 Star Master	1		3	4	8
Tournament Master	1		1	3	5
Regional Master	1	9	2	11	23
Premier Regional Master	2	4	2	3	11
National Master		2	1	10	13
Premier National Master		1	2	8	11
Life Master	2	2	2	4	10
Senior Life Master		1			1
Grand Master	1		1	1	3
TOTALS	74	93	96	283	546

The **BIG** Match

By Peter Goodman

A recent development in the British tournament world has been the introduction of a British Premier League. The league consists of two divisions, with 8 teams in each division.

Each team will play 7 x 48 board matches played over 3 weekends. The winning team in division 1 will be selected to represent Britain in certain European events. The league will also provide great assistance to the British Selectors and redress the balance of representational teams dominated by London based players.

Wales was represented in the 1st weekend of this event by seven Welsh players spread over 3 of the teams. In the very first match most of the Welsh players were pitted together in the JOURDAIN v GOODMAN division 2 clash. Screens were used which tend to eliminate many of the ethical problems which are so prevalent in modern day tournament bridge, and in some partnerships has the added bonus of not having to speak to your partner until the end of each stanza.

An early board of the 2nd set brought about a well known technical situation of creating an entry:-

```

    ♠A8
    ♥AKQ84
    ♦2
    ♣KJ1074

    ♠KQ97543
    ♥73
    ♦975
    ♣3

    ♠6
    ♥10965
    ♦AKQJ103
    ♣A2

    ♠J102
    ♥J2
    ♦864
    ♣Q9865
    
```

Goodman (W)	Ratcliff(N)	Kurbalija(E)	Jourdain(S)
4 Spades	4NT	Pass	5 Clubs

I led the Spade K and Patrick immediately played the Club J, Filip had to rise with the Club Ace and then decided to invest some of the 105 minutes allocated to each 12 board stanza on his next decision.

It became apparent to me that he did not have another spade and needed to have the Diamond Ace.

Could he possibly have all 5 diamond honours and a small card in which to exit? The Diamond 3 eventually hit the table and Patrick's brave effort to win with the Diamond 8 was in vain.

1 off resulted in a 6 imp gain when Alan Pierce & Adrian Thomas found the same defence to a contract of 4 clubs.

The result was fairly significant since we just pipped the opposition by 6 imps!

League Results:-

Division 2	VP's (Av 30)
Peter Goodman (Filip Kurbalija, Martin Hill-Jones, Mike Pownall)	37.5 (-1.5 VP Fines)
Patrick Jourdain (Tony Ratcliff, Alan Pierce, Adrian Thomas)	30 (-1 VP Fine)
Division 1	
Jill Casey (Kay Preddy, Sandra Landy, Michelle Handley, Pat Davies, Nicola Smith)	26

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East Wales Congress

Results

Novice Pairs
Rodney Burden & Peter Holmans

Mens Pairs
P. Cunningham & R. Trew

Ladies Pairs
Mrs. J. Lathan & Mrs. F. Fleet

Championship Pairs
Tony Casey & Peter Goodman

Consolation Pairs
R. Glass & H. Oliver

Swiss Teams
1. Tony Haworth & Keith Pratt
Rob Charlesworth & Tony Disley
2. P. Jourdain & A. Ratchiff
J. Glubb & A. Zaman

ADVANCES IN BIDDING

Crowhurst or XY No-Trump?

By Dr. Dean Hardie

Many tournament players use a conventional bid after partner has rebid 1NT to enquire further about his hand. Classically this has been Crowhurst. In a nutshell Crowhurst uses an artificial 2C bid over opener's 1NT rebid to enquire about his shape and strength. This convention works well when the 1NT rebid is wide-ranging i.e. 12-16. I would advocate that it is more efficient to use the 1NT rebid to show a hand that lies outside your chosen opening 1NT range. Therefore if you use a 12-14 opening 1NT your rebid will show 15-16 points and if you use a 15-17 opening 1NT it will be 12-14 points. With a more limited rebid Crowhurst is less efficient. Step in the **XY No-trump**. It is this little known convention that I will describe in this article.

After the auction 1x-1y-1NT, we will have 3 types of hand:

- 1) weak hands
- 2) invitational hands
- 3) game forcing hands.

The XY No-trump is simple to use and easy to remember. These rules apply after partner has rebid 1NT:

- 1) all weak hands either pass or bid their chosen denomination directly
- 2) all invitational hands go through 2C. This demands partner bids 2D
- 3) all game forcing hands go through 2D.



1) WEAK HANDS

We can choose to pass 1NT with weak flat hands. To play in 3C we simply bid 3C. To play in 2D we bid 2C (initially showing invitational hands and the exception to the rule) and pass partner's forced 2D response. To play in our major or partner's major we simply bid it at the 2 level.

2) INVITATIONAL HANDS

To invite we bid 2C which forces partner to bid 2D. Thereafter we bid naturally showing extra length from below.

3) GAME FORCING HANDS

To game force we bid 2D. Now all bids by either side are natural showing extra length from below.

The only disadvantage with the XY No-trump is that you cannot stop in 2C. The advantages are that you can find your fit whatever your strength, you keep the level low with game forcing hands allowing slams to be investigated without jumping around, you can stop at the 2 level with many invitational hands and you can distinguish between weak and invitational 2-suited hands.