

## Part 9: Responder Bids 2C or 2D

For this lesson, we're going to consider the case where responder's first bid is Two Clubs or Two Diamonds, and then opener reverses. Here are some examples of bidding sequences:

<u>Opener's First Bid</u>	<u>Responder's First Bid</u>	<u>Opener's Second Bid</u>
1D	<b>2C</b>	2H
1H	<b>2D</b>	2S

Playing Standard American, responder's bid of Two Clubs or Two Diamonds shows a "good" 10 (or more) HCP. The reverse by opener shows 16+ HCP. Therefore, opener and responder together have at least 26 HCP. Clearly, this should be enough for game. As a result, every bid by responder over this reverse is forcing to game. This has nothing to do with Structured Reverses or any other similar agreement: It's just bridge!

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|----|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. | <u>Opener</u> | <u>Responder</u> | <u>Opener</u> | <u>Responder</u> |
|    | S: 7          | S: KQJ           | 1D            | 2C               |
|    | H: AK94       | H: 82            | 2H            | 2NT (game force) |
|    | D: KQJ63      | D: 1087          | 3N            | Pass             |
|    | C: K63        | C: AJ542         |               |                  |
| 2. | <u>Opener</u> | <u>Responder</u> | <u>Opener</u> | <u>Responder</u> |
|    | S: 7          | S: KQJ           | 1D            | 2C               |
|    | H: K1043      | H: 7             | 2H            | 3D (game force)  |
|    | D: AKQJ5      | D: 1076          | 4C            | 5C               |
|    | C: AJ4        | C: KQ8753        | Pass          |                  |

Note: If you use Two-Over-One rather than Standard American, and if responder bids 2C or 2D, some play that opener's bid of a higher-ranking suit is NOT a reverse and doesn't show extra values. But as we said back in week #1, we're assuming Standard American for these lessons.

## Structured Reverses, Revisited

Reverses are standard bids and as such are not alertable. However, if you play Structured Reverses or something similar, then the meaning of responder's bid over the reverse depends upon your agreement. Therefore, I recommend alerting responder's bid over the reverse (unless it's a game bid).

If you alert your partner's bid and are asked to explain it, you should state your agreement and disclose it fully. BUT - you should never, EVER, guess or assume or speculate about what your partner's bid shows. This is true for ANY bid that you alert.

Following are some examples of responder's bids over reverses and how you should explain each of them if asked.

Opener's First Bid	Responder's First Bid	Opener's Second Bid	Responder's Second Bid
1C	1NT	2D	2NT*
*Forcing for one round, not to game; responder's ONLY bid that is not forcing to game.			
1C	1H	2D	2H*
*Shows at least five hearts, forcing for one round but not to game			
1C	1H	2D	2NT*
*Shows exactly four hearts, forcing for one round but not to game			
1C	1H	2D	3C*
*Club support, forcing to game.			