

## Checkback After a No Trump Rebid

One of the key pillars that our entire bidding structure is built on is that with Balanced Hands, we bid No Trumps and with Unbalanced Hands, we bid suits. Relatively often we will have 12-14 HCPs and a balanced hand and the auction will proceed (assuming the opponents pass throughout):

Opener's First Bid	1 of a Minor	1 of a Major	Responder's First Bid
Second Bid	1 No Trumps	??????????	Do we have enough information?

Sometimes, responder will now have all the information they need – Opener has told them they have 12-14 HCPs they have told them they are balanced and they have told them they do not have four card support for Responder's major. With ten or less points, it is often right to pass and if game is likely Responder can now bid Two No Trumps (invitational) or Three No Trumps if they are sure the partnership has twenty five points. However, sometimes there will be further information required.

We will now play **Two Clubs Checkback** – it is specifically in the situation where the Opener has rebid No Trumps, Responder has shown a four card suit and the opponents haven't bid. It is an artificial enquiry – it means nothing about clubs and asks the No-Trump Rebidded to reveal more information. The information revealed (in order of priority) is:

1. Three card support for Responder's Major (I know you don't have four, do you have three?)
2. Another Four card major (I know you don't have four of my major, do you have four of the other?)
3. Five of your minor

In the following three situations Opener is on the left and Responder is on the right. The auction is shown in the centre.

### What if Responder has a Five Card Major?

♠ 43	One Club : One Heart	♠ JT6
♥ QT2	One No Trump : Two Clubs	♥ A9853
♦ Q98	Two Hearts : Four Hearts	♦ AK75
♣ AKQ82		♣ J

### What if Responder has another Four Card Major?

♠ AQT3	One Diamond : One Heart	♠ KJ95
♥ Q5	One No Trump : Two Clubs	♥ KT32
♦ A872	Two Spades : Three Spades	♦ KJT
♣ QT	Four Spades :	♣ 64

### What if Responder has a weak, shapely hand? (This is the hard bit!)

♠ QT9	One Club : One Heart	♠ K7
♥ 72	One No Trump : Two Diamonds	♥ K9853
♦ AKT2	Pass!	♦ QJ62
♣ KQT6		♣ 97
♠ AKQT	One Diamond : One Heart	♠ 72
♥ 53	One No Trump : Two Hearts	♥ QJT642
♦ KQ98	Pass!	♦ A98
♣ T93		♣ 64

Jumping to Three of your major now *must* be a Six Card Heart Suit and it must be strong! (Very clever!)