

The “Flannery 2D” Convention

Flannery is a bridge convention using an “2D” opening bid to show a hand of minimal opening bid strength (11-16 high card points) with exactly four Spades and five Hearts.

Note: With the same distribution and 17 HCP’s one can open 1H intending to make a “Reverse” re-bid of 2S which shows the same distribution with the higher point count holding.

♠ AQ75

♥ AK943

♦ 64

♣ 52

Open “2D”

The Flannery Two Diamond bid can be made in any seat or position at the table, as long as no Player has made a previous bid in the auction. Such an opening bid, thus, replaces the pre-emptive “2D” opening, as the two bids are mutually exclusive.

Continuances by Responder

Responder has only “2-NT” as the forcing bid, and all other bids are natural, except “4C” and “4D” which are transfer bids..

Pass: Responder may pass the Flannery Two Diamond bid if Responder has fewer than 10 points and a 6-card Diamond suit.

2H This is a **sign-off** indicating fewer than 10 HCP’s, with primary support, or better, in Hearts.

2S This is a **sign-off** indicating fewer than 10 HCP’s, with primary support, or better, in Spades.

“2-NT” **Artificial and Forcing!** See below.

3C Showing at least a 6-card Club suit and 11-13 HCP’s. Opener must bid 3-NT with a fit of AX or KX or QXX in Clubs, else Pass. **This response is invitational.**

3D Showing at least a 6-card Diamond suit and 11-13 HCP’s. Opener must bid 3-NT with a fit of AX or KX or QXX in Diamonds, else Pass. **This response is invitational.**

3H This is an **invitational** jump bid with primary Heart support or better. Partner may pass or bid game with maximum values.

3S This is an **invitational** jump bid with primary Spade support or better. Partner may pass or bid game with maximum values.

3-NT **Natural – To Play!**
4H or 4S

“4C” This is a **transfer bid** to 4 Hearts and game.

“4D” This is a **transfer bid** to 4 Spades and game.

Continuances Following a “2-NT” Response

If the Responder bids 2-NT, a totally artificial bid, then the Responder wishes more information about the Opener’s Minor suit holdings. To describe his/her Minor suit holdings, the Flannery Two Diamond bidder can describe his Minor suit holding in the following fashion:

“3H” Shows 11-13 HCP’s and two cards in each Minor suit. 4-5-2-2 distribution

“3S” Shows 14-16 HCP’s and two cards in each Minor suit. 4-5-2-2 distribution

3-NT Shows 14-16 HCP’s and values mainly in the Minor suits consisting of 2 cards each - a 4-5-2-2 distribution

“3C” Shows a 3-card Club holding and therefore a 4-5-1-3 distribution.

“3D” Shows a 3-card Diamond holding and therefore a 4-5-3-1 distribution.

“4C” A jump bid to show a 4-card Club holding and therefore a 4-5-0-4 distribution.

“4D” A jump bid to show a 4-card Diamond holding and therefore a 4-5-4-0 distribution

Conventional Defensive Overcalls used Against a “Flannery 2D” Opening by an Opponent

“2H”	Indicates a 3-suited <u>Takeout</u> , opening count or better, with shortness in Hearts.
Double	Indicates the equivalent of a strong 1-NT opening ; i.e., 15(+) HCP’s.. Partner can either “Pass” for penalties, or bid naturally.
“2-NT”	Indicates the <u>Unusual No Trump</u> convention signifying both Minor suits, 5-5 or better.
Suit Overcall	All other suit overcalls are natural – to play , including a 2S overcall which shows 6(+) pieces.

