

STAYMAN CONVENTION

TO TRY TO FIND A FOUR/FOUR FIT IN A MAJOR SUIT, AND HAVE THE OPENING NO TRUMP BIDDER PLAY IT.

1.N.T.

 "I HAVE A BALANCED HAND WITH 16 TO 18 HIGH CARD POINTS"

ANSWERS TO STAYMAN:

2 

 "SORRY I HAVE NEITHER FOUR HEARTS NOR FOUR SPADES!"

2 

 "I HAVE FOUR HEARTS, and I may have 4 spades"

2 

 "I HAVE FOUR SPADES."

2 

STAYMAN:
 "I HAVE 8 OR MORE HIGH CARD POINTS WITH ONE OR TWO MAJOR SUITS..."

DO YOU HAVE A FOUR-CARD MAJOR SUIT?"

No other responses are allowed!

What to do after Opener Responds to your 2♠

1. Opener denies a four-card major by responding 2♦
 - You respond 2NT and partner passes
2. Opener bids the major you were looking for:
 - You raise to 3 of the suit inviting game
 - Opener responds with 4 of the suit
3. Opener bids the "wrong" major; for instance she bids 2♥, when you were looking for 2♠.
 - You bid 2NT
 - Opener responds with 3♠ if she has them, or passes if she doesn't
4. Opener responds 2♦, but you have 5 or more ♥ or ♠
 - You bid 3 of your major; 3♥ or 3♠
 - This is asking your partner to choose between bidding 4 of the suit or 3NT, each enough to win the game
 - Partner responds with either 4♥ or 4♠ or 3NT