

75 Years of
Craftsmanship



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THE BRIDGE REPORT

by Bob Sutton

In days gone by, opening two of a suit or no trump meant: *Partner, I have a strong hand and this is my suit.* There is nothing wrong with that if you and your partner wish to use that rule.

Today, however, two clubs or two no trump means: *I have 20 or more points, what have you got?* Answers can vary, so this is when you and your partner have to agree on a response. If your partner has not passed yet, he/she could go with the Step System, where an answer of two Diamonds means 0-3 points; two Hearts means 4-6 points and two Spades is 7-9 points. For a two Club opening bid, a two no trump response says that you have 10+ points.

After your partner responds with a point count, you, as the opening bidder know the total partnership point count and you will know if a suit contract (26 point minimum) is possible or if a higher contract is in reach (you team has 26 or more of the 40 available points).

So, how far do you go? Knowing the total partnership point count enables that decision. Alternately, if your partner tells you his/her best suit and, if you have the required 26 points, then you should *go to game in that suit.* The bottom line for your partner is to learn through the bidding: *which way are we going?*

If you would like to be a part of our Bridge group, come on over to the NKCC and socialize, watch, learn, or play on **Fridays** from **1 to 4 p.m.**

For further information, please call Bob at 705-656-9401.



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~ or ~

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