

Chapter 6: 2♣ Opening - Natural

In Key Lime Precision, as with almost all forms of a strong club, the 2♣ opening is NOT strong, but limited in range between 11-15 HCP. It promises at least 5 clubs, and may possess a 4 card major. You normally do not have 4 diamonds though for this opening, unless you have 6 clubs to go with it, because the 2NT opening in KLP shows a two suited minor hand.

The responses to 2♣ are very specialized, and stem as a derivative from Cohen-Berkowitz's excellent structure:

- 2♦ = artificial ask
- 2♥/♠ = 1 round force to 2NT
- 2NT/3♣ = relays to next available bid
- 3♦/♥/♠ = invitational
- 3NT = to play
- 4♣ = weak
- 4♦ = RKC in clubs

After 2♣ - 2♦:

- 2♥ = 4 card major in either ♥ or ♠ (2♠ asks for major)
- 2♠ = non-minimum, side singleton or void (2NT asks)
- 2NT = non-minimum, balanced (3♦ = stopper ask)
- 3♣ = minimum
- 3♦ = non-minimum, 4+ ♦
- 3♥ = 5+ ♥
- 3♠ = solid ♣, artificial
- 3NT = 5+ ♠

After 2♣ - 2NT, which forces 3♣:

- Pass = to play (could be weak raise)
- 3♦ = ♦+♥, G/F
- 3♥ = ♦+♠, G/F
- 3♠ = ♥+♠, G/F

After 2♣ - 3♣, which forces 3♦:

- Pass = to play (direct 2♣-3♦ is invitational)
- 3♥/♠ = natural slam try
- 3NT or higher, diamond slam try