

## Drury – Just in Case

It has become normal for a player in the 3<sup>rd</sup> seat open a Good 5-Card suit with as little as 10 HCP.

This puts his Partner in a quandary; he doesn't know if the Opening bid was a full Opener or if it was on the 'light' side. The rule of 15 also recommends a light Openings in the fourth seat. The Drury Convention is designed keep the Partnership from getting too high if indeed an Opening was 'light'. It sure makes Opening light more comfortable.

Based on the introduction it should be clear that the Convention applies only to Opening bids made in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> seat. There are several variations on this Convention. Again! This is a Convention and must be **Alerted**.

It is a pretty simple concept<sup>1</sup>. If Partner Opens a Minor in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> seat you have to assume she holds Opening count, but If Partner has Opened a Major, you are already a Passed hand, so you probably don't have 12 HCP. Drury doesn't kick-in unless you have 10-11 HCP and a 4+Card suit; i.e. you would have normally given your Partner a **limit raise**. Each of the Following will start with a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> seat Opening. The Responder then queries Opener on value of hand by bidding 2♣. The Opener then advises Responder with the following:

### Lets start with the original Drury

| 1♥ Opening    | Meaning          | 1♠ Opening    |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 2♦            | Light Opening    | 2♦            |
| 2♥            | Full Opener      | 2♠            |
| –             | 4+♥ <sup>2</sup> | 2♥            |
| Anything else | Natural          | Anything else |

After a number of years it was discovered that reversing the meaning of 2♦ and 2-of-the-suit was more useful. **Note that the only change is the reverse of the Light and Full Opener indicator**

### Reverse Drury

| 1♥ Opening    | Meaning          | 1♠ Opening    |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 2♥            | Light Opening    | 2♠            |
| 2♦            | Full Opener      | 2♦            |
| –             | 4+♥ <sup>4</sup> | 2♥            |
| Anything else | Natural          | Anything else |

Eventually the trigger bid was modified to enable showing 3-Card (2♣) or 4-Card (2♦) support. This necessitated a change and simplification in the rebid by Opener.

1 It only seems complicated because of the multiple additions and changes. The concept remains simple.

2 his bid doesn't guarantee a full Opener

**Two-Way Drury [2♣ (3-Card) or 2♦ (4-Card) trigger]**

|               |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1♥ Opening    | Meaning       | 1♠ Opening    |
| 2♥            | Light Opening | 2♠            |
| Anything else | Full Opener   | Anything else |

And then....

**Two-Way Reverse Drury [2♣ (4-Card) or 2♦ (3-Card) trigger]**

|               |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1♥ Opening    | Meaning       | 1♠ Opening    |
| 2♥            | Light Opening | 2♠            |
| Anything else | Full Opener   | Anything else |