

Using Stayman With a Weak Hand

- 1 – With 4:4:4:1 or 4:4:5:0 distribution
- 2 – With a long club suit (planning to sign off in 3♣)
- 3 – With 5:4 or 5:5 in the majors

1 - Stayman with a weak hand 4:4:4:1 or 4:4:5:0
The shortage **must** be in clubs

West (13)	East (3)
♠ A 10	♠ J 8 7 3
♥ Q 9 7	♥ J 10 8 4
♦ A K 7 4	♦ J 10 8 2
♣ 10 9 7 2	♣ 6

West (13)	East (2)
♠ A 10	♠ J 8 7 3
♥ Q 9 7 2	♥ J 10 8 4
♦ A K 7	♦ 10 9 8 3 2
♣ 10 9 7 2	♣ ---

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♦/2♥/2♠	Pass

2 - Stayman with a long club suit

West (13)	East (4)
♠ A 10 5	♠ 7 2
♥ Q 9 7	♥ J 10 8
♦ A K 7 4	♦ 10 2
♣ 10 4 2	♣ Q J 8 7 6 5

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♦	3♣
Pass	

West (13)	East (4)
♠ A 10 5	♠ 7
♥ Q 9 7 2	♥ J 10 8 4
♦ A K 7	♦ 10 2
♣ 10 4 2	♣ Q J 8 7 6 5

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♥	Pass

With a long club suit, but a stronger hand just pass 1NT

West (13)	East (8)
♠ A 10 5 4	♠ 7 3
♥ Q 9 7	♥ K J 8
♦ A J 7 4	♦ 10 8
♣ Q 4	♣ K J 10 8 7 2

West	East
1NT	Pass

3 - Stayman with a weak hand 5:4 or 5:5 in the majors

West (13)	East (4)
♠ A 10 5	♠ Q J 8 3 2
♥ Q 9 7 3	♥ J 10 8 4
♦ A K 4	♦ 10 2
♣ 10 9 2	♣ 6 5

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♥	Pass
Pass	

West (13)	East (4)
♠ A 10 5	♠ Q J 8 3 2
♥ Q 7 3	♥ J 10 8 4
♦ A K 7 3	♦ 10 2
♣ 10 9 2	♣ 6 5

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♦	2♠
Pass	

3 - Stayman with a weak hand 5:4 or 5:5 in the majors

West (13)	East (4)
♠ A 10 5	♠ Q J 8 3 2
♥ Q 9 7	♥ J 10 8 4 2
♦ A K 4 2	♦ 10
♣ 10 9 2	♣ 6 5

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♦	2♠
Pass	

5:4 With a stronger hand you must jump

West (13)	East (13)
♠ 10 5	♠ Q J 8 3 2
♥ Q 4 3	♥ A K 8 2
♦ A Q J 3	♦ K 2
♣ K Q 10 9	♣ 6 5

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♦	3♠
3NT	Pass

West (13)	East (13)
♠ A K 5	♠ Q J 8 3 2
♥ Q 10 9 7	♥ A K 8 4
♦ A 8 4	♦ K 2
♣ 10 9 2	♣ 6 5

West	East
1NT	2♣
2♥	4♥
Pass	

Summary

- 1 – With 4:4:4:1 or 4:4:5:0 distribution
- 2 – With a long club suit (planning to sign off in 3♣)
- 3 – With 5:4 or 5:5 in the majors

The weaker your hand the more desirable it is to play in a suit, rather than 1NT