RULER Uses Level-Elastic Relays

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1 Introduction

Exploiting relay patterns not tied to level, RULER supports full shape relays in both constructive or competitive auction with minimal rules to memorize.

2 Shape Listing

Near the end of relay, where the shape showing side has only a few possible shapes (typically 5 or less), the next relay will be listing exact shapes. For simplicity, the shape priority is defined as:

1. more extreme shapes bids higher, where "more extreme" means:

   (a) longest suit longer
       e.g. 6610 → 7222
   (b) second longest suit longer
       e.g. 5440 → 5521
   (c) third longest suit longer
       e.g. 5431 → 5540

2. with same shape, longing higher suits bids higher

Shape answering is bounded by 3NT. When out of steps within 3NT, overload the uncovered shapes on shapes within 3NT with nearest major length. For example, when knowing 6+♦, 0-1♣s:

1. 3♥ = 3361 or 3370

2. 3♠ = 2371 or 2281 or 1381 or 2380

3. 3NT = 3271 or 3181 or 3280

3 Relay Patterns

3.1 444766

Bidding starts with showing one suit. If game-forcing power is promised, next step is to know the second suit. Suit order is ♥ → ♠ → ♣ → ♦. If there is no second suit, it auto-zooms to the 1-suiter cases. To summarize, the steps are:

1. **4** in suit 1

2. **4** in suit 2

3. **4** in suit 3

4. **7** in current suit

5. **6** in current suit, 6-(331)

6. **6** in current suit, 6-(322)

7. (and onwards) auto zoom balanced shapes (4-333/5-233/323/332)

3.1.1 4446 when lack of space

In lack of space, the step for **7** of 444766 must not be higher than 2NT. The set of windows will be changed to 4446, where 6 means 6 or more cards in the known suit.

Since relay is bounded at 3NT, 3NT will become catch all in lack of space. For example, when relay bid is 3♦, known suit is ♠:

1. 3♥ = 4+♥

2. 3♠ = 4+♣

3. 3NT = 4+♦ or 6+♠ or 4-(333) or 5-(332)

3.2 R564 (after 4 of 444766)

After 2 suits are shown, 4 windows are used to break down the 2-suit cases.

1. **R**everser (higher suit is longer)
2. 5-**5**
3. **6**-4
4. **4**-(4 or shorter)
5. (and onwards) auto zoom 5-4 shapes (5-4-22/13/31/04/40)

4 <After Column Break>