

- **Probability of having a given number of controls according to a given point range.**

The strong or forcing hand, once the distributional investigation is over, can make a last asking relay in order to know the number of controls owned by partner.

Such last relay advantageously substitutes the traditional 4NT bid asking for Aces.

First of all the relay asking for controls ( RXC ) can be done at a much lower level than 4NT. Such low level RXC allows a comfortable stop at game, in case of negative response, avoiding those odd contracts of 5♥ or 5♠ . Moreover it supplies information about Aces and Kings with the same response , thus making life easier when bidding slam.

Responses to RXC are differentiated according to the point count shown .

| Point count shown. | Responses to RXC |       |       |     |
|--------------------|------------------|-------|-------|-----|
|                    | 6-11             | 11-15 | 16-18 | 19+ |
| 1st step           | 0-2K             | 0-2   | 3K    | 5   |
| 2nd step           | 1A               | 3K    | 1A+1K | 6   |
| 3rd step           | 3                | 1A+1K | 4     | 7   |
| 4thstep            | 4                | 4     | 5     | 8   |
| 5th step           | 5                | 5     | 6     | 9   |

Probability of having a given number of controls with a **6-11** point count are :

|                  |     |      |      |      |      |     |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|
| Nr. of controls* | 0   | 1    | 2    | 3    | 4    | 5   |
| Probability %    | 3,1 | 17,5 | 34,4 | 30,3 | 12,8 | 1,8 |

Probability of having a given number of controls with a **11-15** point count are :

|                  |     |      |      |      |     |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|-----|
| Nr. of controls* | 2   | 3    | 4    | 5    | 6   |
| Probability %    | 5,3 | 21,6 | 34,8 | 18,9 | 9,3 |

Probability of having a given number of controls with a **16-18** point count are :

|                  |   |   |      |      |      |     |
|------------------|---|---|------|------|------|-----|
| Nr. of controls* | 3 | 4 | 5    | 6    | 7    | 8   |
| Probability %    | 1 | 8 | 26,2 | 37,2 | 20,7 | 6,8 |

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Probability of having a given number of controls with a **19+** point count are :

|                  |     |      |    |      |      |     |
|------------------|-----|------|----|------|------|-----|
| Nr. f controls * | 5   | 6    | 7  | 8    | 9    | 10  |
| Probability %    | 2,6 | 11,1 | 24 | 31,1 | 22,7 | 8,4 |

\* Source : Rosenkranz table .