

## Responder's new suit bids and opener's limit rebid

### Responder's new suit bids

A **major** suit fit is by far the best. If partner opens in a minor and you have 4 card support but also have a four card major, bid your major.

It is important to bid your suits in the correct order. Priorities are:

- Longest suit
- Lower of two 4-card suits
- Higher ranking of two 5-card suit
- Try and keep the bidding as low as possible to give you room to find a **fit**.

### Responder's bids

**Important** – Responder's **new suit** is **forcing**

They are **unlimited** bids and can have a wide range of points (6 -19+)

### Responses to the opening bid with NO FIT

- |                                |     |                                      |
|--------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|
| ▪ Bid & change suit at 1-level | 6+  | 4+ suit                              |
| ▪ Bid & change suit at 2-level | 10+ | 4+ suit ( <b>don't jump</b> )        |
| ▪ Bid 1NT                      | 6-9 | denies a 4+ card suit at the 1-level |

Note: A response of 2♥ to partner's 1♠ requires **five** hearts as well as 10+ points

### Opener's rebids after a new suit response

- |                                     |                                      |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ▪ Support partner's suit            | 4+ in that suit                      |
| ▪ Bid NT                            | balanced                             |
| ▪ <i>Bid a new suit (next week)</i> | <i>4+ in the 2<sup>nd</sup> suit</i> |
| ▪ Rebid long suit                   | 5+ in the suit                       |

### Opener supports Responder's Suit

It is important to support partner's suit if possible, particularly in a major

After 1♥ – 1♠

2♠	12-15	4-card support	single raise
3♠	16-18	4-card support	invitational raise
4♠	19+	4-card support	game raise

## Opener rebids their own suit – showing an unbalanced hand

After 1♣ – 1♥

2♣	12-15	5+ suit
3♣	16-18	6+ suit
4♣	19+	6+ suit

## Opener bids Notrumps – showing a balanced hand

After 1♥ – 1♠

1NT	15-16
2NT	17-18

After 1♥ – 2♣

2NT	15-18
3NT	19+

## Rule of 14 for responding at the 2 level

This is a quick way of deciding whether you are strong enough to respond at the 2 level.

**Add the number of cards in your longest suit to your high card points. If the total is 14 or more, you are strong enough to respond at the 2 level. If not, you should bid 1NT.**

This is just another way of counting 'length' points.

Consider the following hand:

South	North	East	South	West
♠ 9 4 3	1♥	P	1NT	
♥ 9 6				
♦ K 8 2				
♣ A J 9 4 3				

You have 8 points and 5 clubs, giving a total of 13, so you should respond 1NT. If you count 'length' points you have 8 + 1 = 9 points.

Add either a jack or a 6th club and you can respond 2♣.

With this next hand you have 8 points and 6 clubs, a total of 14. If you count 'length' points you have 8 + 2 = 10 points.

South	North	East	South	West
♠ 9 4 3	1♥	P	2♣	
♥ 9				
♦ K 8 2				
♣ A J 9 7 4 3				