



LESSON 6 - STUDENT NOTES

OPENER'S SUIT REBIDS WITH A STRONG HAND & RESPONDER'S SUIT PREFERENCE BIDS

WHEN OPENER RE-BIDS A NEW SUIT, IT SHOWS AN UNBALANCED HAND

Opener's rebid is used to show the **strength** and the **shape** of his hand.

When Opener rebids a second suit he promises:

5+ cards in first bid suit and
4+ cards in second suit bid.

OPENER REBIDS A NEW SUIT- WHAT IS OPENER'S POINT RANGE?

MINIMAL 11-15 HCP

OR

STRONG 16-19 HCP

OPENER HAS 3 OPTIONS FOR SHOWING A STRONG HAND 16-19 HCP:

In general, opener's **jump rebids** show **16-19** HCP.

1) A **jump rebid in opener's first bid suit** – shows a 6 card one suiter hand, and 16-19 HCP

Opener	Responder
1♥	2♣
3♥	shows 16-19 HCP. Opener has jumped a level to rebid his suit at the 3 level i.e. he has by passed the 2 level! It shows a one suiter hand with 6+ cards. After a 2 level bid by responder, opener's rebid in his own

suit at the 3 level is **forcing**. Responder **cannot** Pass
(Note: However, after a 1 level bid by responder a jump bid in opener's first bid suit is **non forcing** and so responder can pass)

2) Also, when opener's **suit rebid** is in a **higher ranked suit** than his opening suit this is called a **Reverse** i.e. for responder to return opener to his first bid suit he must rebid at the 3 level! This also shows opener has **16-19** HCP.

Opener	Responder
1♥	2♣
2♠	shows 16-19 HCP. Opener has bid a higher ranking suit in his rebid than in his first bid suit. Opener has bid a ' Reverse ' This is a forcing rebid . Responder cannot Pass

3) A '**jump shift to a new suit**' shows a very strong hand **18-19** HCP with 5+ cards in the first suit and 4+ in the second

Opener	Responder
1♦	1♥
3♣	shows 18-19 HCP. Opener has jumped a level to rebid his second suit i.e. he could have rebid clubs at the 2 level! This is a forcing rebid . Responder cannot Pass

WHAT ABOUT THESE EXAMPLES OF OPENER'S REBIDS

Opener	Responder
1♥	2♣
2♦	Has opener made a jump rebid ? NO Has opener rebid a higher ranking suit than his opening bid? i.e. Is it a Reverse ? NO.

Therefore, Opener's rebid shows **12-15** HCP with 5+ cards in hearts and 4+ cards in diamonds – a **minimal hand**

BUT.... what about this one?

Opener Responder

1♦

2♣

2♠

Has opener made a **jump rebid**?

NO

Has opener rebid a higher ranking suit than his opening suit? i.e. is it a **Reverse**?

YES

Therefore, Opener's rebid shows **16-19** HC.
– a **stronger hand**

OPENER REBIDS OWN SUIT – SHOWS AN UNBALANCED HAND

Opener's rebid is used to show the **strength** and **shape** of his hand.

After 1♥ – 1♠

- 2♥ 12-15 HCP 5+ suit (5+ cards in that suit & unable to bid his second suit)
- 3♥ 16-17 HCP 6+ suit (Usually showing a strong, one suited hand)
- 4♥ 18-19 HCP 6+ suit (As above)

OPENER'S DREADED 4,4,4,1 HAND!

♠ AK43

♥ 7

♦ JT76

♣ AQT6

There are always exceptions! Bridge is no different! With a hand of this shape, what do you open? What is your rebid? The guidelines here are:

1. Only open if you hold 13+ HCP *
2. Always open with a minor suit (with both, bid the higher)

Remember, your rebid must still obey the suit change bidding

***Do not open this type of hand with 12 or fewer HCP**

SUMMARY OF OPENER'S REBIDS AFTER NEW SUIT BID BY RESPONDER

- When **opening**, you must always **have your rebid in mind**
- With a fit in partner's i.e. responder's major, support at the appropriate level (Do the maths!**)
- With **no fit** and an **unbalanced hand**:
 - bid your second suit (showing 5:4 minimum distribution) at the appropriate level**
 - or
 - rebid your 5+ card suit at the appropriate level**
- With no fit and a **balanced hand** (15+ HCP), bid NT at the appropriate level
 - i.e. 15-17 rebid 1NT
 - 18-19 rebid 2NT (but after a 2 level response 2NT -= 15-19!)

** See notes above re doing the maths to bid suits at the appropriate level

MOVING ONTO RESPONDER'S REBID OPTIONS

Responder has to decide where the contract should be taking into account the shape and HCP shown by Opener's bidding as well as the shape and HCP in his own hand.

Responder may:

Pass

If Opener's rebid shows a minimum opening hand and Responder also holds a minimum hand, there is no prospect of Game and Responder should stop the bidding in the 'best' part score contract.

e.g. If Opener has rebid his first bid suit, or Responder has a better 'fit' with Opener's second suit bid (which shows a minimum hand), Pass can be the best option.

NB a **new suit bid** by Opener at the **3 level is forcing** for one round.

Whether to make a Suit or No Trumps Rebid?

- Give preference to one of Opener's suits – Major suit if possible
- Rebid NT with no fit **and** strength in the unbid suit(s) see example below.
- Rebid your own 6+ card suit.

Choice of level in a Suit Re-bid

After Opener's rebid, **Responder should know** Opener's point range (**12-15** or **16-19**) after a 1 level opener and suit rebid by Opener showing an unbalanced hand (at least 5:4 in the bid suits).

Responder can now do the maths for partnership points and judge whether part score or game is possible and in which suit or in NT.

Choice of level in a NT Re-bid

If Opener's Re-bid is NT. **Responder should know** Opener has a balanced hand and his point range (1NT = 15-17 HCP; 2NT = 18-19 HCP; but remember, a 2NT rebid after a 2-level response by Responder now must show 15-19 HCP).

Responder can now do the maths for partnership points and judge whether part score or game is possible and where; in a suit or NT.

LIMIT REBIDS BY RESPONDER

If Responder **Rebids 1NT**, or supports Opener at the 2-level after bidding another suit, then Responder **still shows 6-9 HCP**.

Examples

1)

W	N	E	S
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1♣	P	1♦	P
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West's opening bid shows **11-19** HCP: **East can have 6-28 HCP**

1♠	P	1NT	P
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West rebid still **11-19** HCP: **East rebid now shows 6-9 HCP and no 8-card major suit fit.**

2)

W	N	E	S
1♥	P	1♠	P

West opening bid shows **11-19** HCP: East can have **6-28** HCP

2♣	P	2♥	P
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West's rebid now shows **11-15** HCP: East's rebid now shows **6-9** HCP and with 3 cards in Hearts, a Heart fit, so bids at the lowest level. If Opener's HCP are at the top end for his bid he can invite by rebidding 3♥.

3)

W	N	E	S
1♣	P	1♠	P

West's opening bid shows **11-19** HCP: East can have **6-28** HCP

2♥	P	2♠	P
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West's rebid now shows **16+** HCP: East's rebid shows **6-9** HCP and a 6 card spade suit so rebids spades.

NB If Responder bids a new suit after partner's 1 of a suit opening bid, Responder shows 6-28 HCP i.e. an unlimited hand!

INVITATIONAL REBIDS BY RESPONDER

If Responder **rebids 2NT**, or shows support at the 3-level, after bidding another suit then Responder **still shows 10-12 HCP**

Examples

4)

W	N	E	S
1♥	P	2♣	P

West's opening bid shows **11-19** HCP: East can have **10-28** HCP

2♦	P	2NT	P
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West's rebid shows **12-15** HCP: East's rebid shows **10-12** HCP and no 8-card major suit fit

5)

W	N	E	S	
1♣	P	1♥	P	West's opening bid shows 11-19 HCP: East's can have 6-28 HCP
1♠	P	3♠	P	West's rebid still shows 11-19 HCP: East's rebid shows 10-12 HCP and a fit in spades

GAME REBIDS BY RESPONDER

If Responder bids game after having changed suit, Responder **now shows 13+ HCP**.

Examples

6)

W	N	E	S	
1♠	P	2♦	P	West's opening bid shows 11-19 HCP: East can have 10-28 HCP
2♠	P	4♠	P	Now West's rebid shows 12-15 HCP: East has 13+ HCP and a fit in spades so bids to game in spades i.e. partnership has 25+ HCP

7)

W	N	E	S	
1♥	P	1♠	P	West's opening bid shows 11-19 HCP: East can have 6-28 HCP
2♣	P	3NT	P	Now West's rebid shows 12-15 HCP: East has 13+ HCP but no 8-card major suit fit in the partnership so bids to game i.e. the partnership has 25+ HCP so bids game in NT

8)

W	N	E	S	
1♥	P	1♠	P	West's opening bid shows 11-19 HCP: East can have 6-28 HCP
3♠	P	4♠	P	Now West's rebid shows 16+ HCP and a fit in spades: East has 13+ HCP, and a fit in spades so bids Game in spades

NB In example 8, Opener makes an invitational bid showing his fit with Responder's major.

SUMMARY OF POINT COUNTS NEEDED

Opener's Rebid showed	Responder's Rebid
11-15	6-9 Pass or 1NT or Suit Preference 10 -12 Invitational 13+ Bid Game
16-17	6-7 Pass or Suit Preference 8 Invitational 9+ Bid Game
18- 19	6 Invite 7 -13 Bid Game 14+ Consider slam (later in course)