

STAMFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Wednesday 15th October 2014

RESPONDING TO ONE LEVEL OPENING BIDS

RECAP

Responding to partner's opening bid of 1 of a suit - Summary

Often you will have a choice of responses after partner has opened the bidding. These guidelines will help you choose which response to make.

With 6-9 points and partner has opened 1 of a minor suit:

1. Bid a new suit at the 1-level (4 card suits 'up the line')
2. Raise partner's minor to the 2-level with 4-card support
3. Respond 1 no trump only if you cannot bid a new suit at the 1-level or raise partner

With 6-9 points and partner has opened 1 of a major suit:

1. Raise partner's suit to the 2-level. This usually shows 4 trumps, but may be 3 trumps plus a singleton or void.
2. Bid 1 spade over 1 heart, showing at least 4 spades. Prefer to respond 1 spade over 1 heart rather than raise with only three-card support for hearts.
3. Respond 1 no trump. This is preferable to responding in a new suit at the 2-level with fewer than 10 points even if the hand is not balanced.

If you hold 10-12 points:

1. With 4-card support, raise opener's major suit opening to the 3-level, e.g. 1♠ – 3♠
2. Respond in a new suit, especially in a major. Later on you may bid 2NT or show secondary support for partner's suit.
3. Respond 2NT. No void or singleton, no long suit. Also, no 4-card support for partner's major.
4. Raise opener's minor suit to the 3-level, e.g. 1♣ - 3♣. Prefer to bid a new suit (or 2NT when balanced) if possible.

If you hold 13-15 points (opening strength):

1. Raise opener's major suit straight to the 4-level (game), e.g. 1♥ - 4♥. This promises 4-card support.
2. Bid a new suit, intending to go on to game after partner has described his hand further.
3. Respond 3NT with a dead balanced hand: no void, no singleton, no long suit.
4. Raise 1 of a minor to the 4-level. Only if there is absolutely no other way to bid your hand, as this will take the bidding past the alternative contract of 3NT.

Deal: 1/2
North/None

High Card Points

19
10 2
9

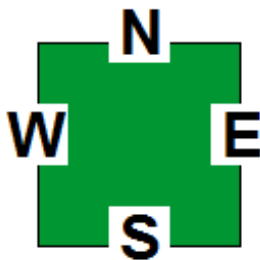
♠ 7 6 5 4
♥ A T 6 2
♦ Q J 9
♣ K T

Makeable status
2/2

Makeable contracts

	N	S	E	W
C	9	9	4	4
D	10	10	3	3
H	10	10	2	2
S	11	11	2	2
NT	10	10	3	3

♠ A K J
♥ K Q 9 4 3
♦ 6
♣ A Q 3 2



♠ 8 3
♥ J 8
♦ T 7 4 3
♣ J 9 8 6 5

♠ Q T 9 2
♥ 7 5
♦ A K 8 5 2
♣ 7 4

Deal: 2/2
East/NS

High Card Points

7
9 6
18

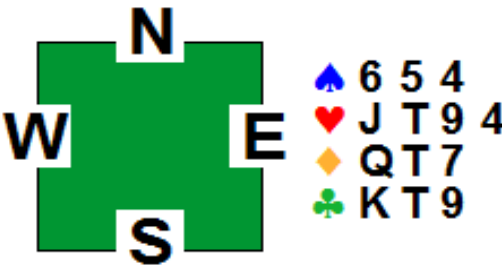
♠ 3 2
♥ K 7 6
♦ J 9 8 2
♣ A J 8 5

Makeable status
2/2

Makeable contracts

	N	S	E	W
C	8	9	4	4
D	9	9	4	4
H	9	9	3	3
S	10	10	2	2
NT	8	8	5	5

♠ QJ T 7
♥ Q 8
♦ 6
♣ Q 7 6 4 3 2



♠ A K 9 8
♥ A 5 3 2
♦ A K 5 4 3
♣

Deal: 3/3
South/EW

High Card Points

9
16 9
6

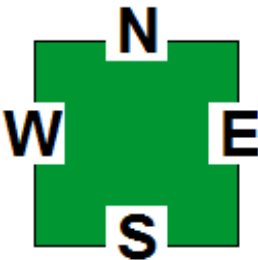
♠ K T 8 7
♥ K Q J 5
♦ A K 8 7
♣ T

Makeable status
3/3

Makeable contracts

	N	S	E	W
C	12	12	0	0
D	2	2	9	10
H	3	3	10	10
S	2	2	10	11
NT	6	6	5	5

♠ A 9 6 2
♥ J T 9 6
♦ K J 7 6 3
♣



♠ Q J 5 4 3
♥ A 7 6 3
♦ Q 5 4 2
♣

♠ T 9 8 4 2
♥ 3
♦ A Q 9 8 5 4 2
♣