

U3A Improver Bridge

Lesson 12: Opener's Rebids – Strong Hands

With strong hands of 16 or more points we should try to choose a different option from those given last week to get the message across that we have a stronger hand. This time there are **five** different choices we can make.

1. Rebid your own suit with a jump in level; Shows a hand of 16+ points with a good 6-card suit and about seven playing tricks. Responder may pass this but should strive to support. E.g. 1H-2D-3H
2. Raise partner's suit with a jump in level; Shows 4-card trump fit and a strong hand encouraging responder to go on to game with anything above a minimum response, e.g. 1H-1S-3S or even 1D-1H-4H (not a 'stop' bid but telling responder that game is likely even over a minimum response).
3. Rebid in no-trumps with a jump in level; see lesson 9. e.g. 1D-1H-2NT (17-18 points)
4. Show a new suit at the 3-level; e.g. 1H-2D-3C or 1H-1S-3C, unconditionally forcing on responder to bid again, occasionally may be made on a 3-card minor suit if no other descriptive bid is available.
5. 'Reverse' into a new suit higher ranking than the first; This guarantees a strong hand and that the **first** bid suit is longer than the second, e.g.

A Q 5 4
A Q J 8 6
K 5 4
6

This is a minimum hand on which to bid 1H-2C-2S