1NT rebid by opener

Opener's 1NT rebid shows a balanced hand of 15-16 TPs. It will usually be 15-16 HCPs, but may be a 5-3-3-2 pattern with 14 HCPs - the extra point being awarded for a good five card minor suit.

A rebid of 1NT will always deny a 4-card major that could have been bid at the 1-level. For example:

1♣ - 1♦

1NT would deny any 4-card major.

1♣ - 1♥

1NT would deny any 4-card major. If opener had had a 4-card ♥ suit, he would have raised responder's suit to the required level. If he had held a 4-card ♠ suit he would have bid it in preference to bidding 1NT.

1♣ - 1♠

1NT Opener's rebid of 1NT does not deny a 4-card ♥ holding. If responder held 5-♠s and 4-♥s, he would now bid the ♥ suit (2♥ if weak, 3♥ if having a game going hand).

Note: Responder will not have two 4-card majors! If he had, his response would have been 1♥ (bid 4-card suits up the line).

Opener would not rebid 1NT with a singleton or void in a side suit. However, if opener's 5-card suit is weak and he holds a singleton in responder's suit, it is permissible to rebid 1NT. For example:

- **•** 9
- ▼ KQ7
- ♦ AQJ7
- ★ K10743

The bidding goes: 1♣ - 1♠

1NT is now the preferred bid. It shows the correct point count and conveys values in the unbid suits. Sometimes there is not the perfect bid!

If responder had bid 1♥ over opener's 1♣, it would now be best for opener to rebid 2♥ (yes normally showing 4 card ♥ suit, but here has ruffing potential and good trumps.

Responder's response to opener's 1NT rebid

The following general principles are used:

• Weak rebid - 2-level bids are weak (see exception)

Responder only wishes to find the best part-score.

Exception: A reverse by responder is forcing. For example:

• Limit bids - A raise to 2NT is invitational

 Forcing bids - All 3-level jump bids are game forcing (unless playing Checkback Stayman)

For example:

• Sign-off bids - all game bids are sign-off

Partnership bidding (West to open)

- **★** 83 2 AJ6 ♥ Q9852 **♥** J4 K964 ♦ AQ732 ♣ J3 ★ K87 AJ3 ★ K9642 4 ♥ K952 **♥** A43 ♦ A2 **98** A843 ♣ KQ2 ★ K97 ♠ QJ652 **♥** A72 **♥** KQ43 ♦ Q94 **♦** 7 ♣ AK62 ♣ Q98
- ♥ Q9
 ♦ KQ73
 ♣ A842
 ♠ K87
 ♥ A86
 ♦ KQ3
 ♠ A642

♦ KJ4

♣ 5♠ AQ53♥ K9543♦ 62♣ 95

AQ8 ♠

982

♥ KJ10863

Appendix 1

Bidding Exercise

Partner opens 1♦, you respond 1♠ and partner rebids 1NT (1♦-1♠//1NT-?). What rebid do you make on each of the following deals?

Appendix 2

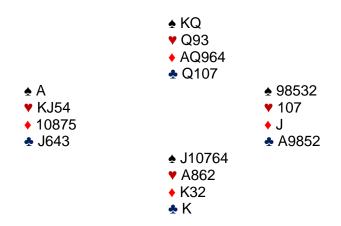
Note: If playing 15-17 1NT rebid with Checkback there are two auctions to show ◆ support:

The first auction is about a good 9+ and the 2^{nd} auction is showing about 8 count (max) or poor 9 count

Bid and play problems using a 1NT rebid by opener

1 Unblocking a long suit - card reading - marked finesse

Dealer North: East/West vulnerable



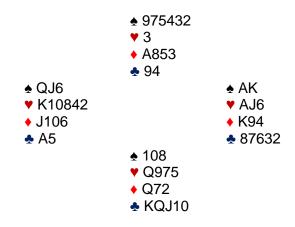
W	N	Е	S
	1♦		1♠
	1NT		3♥
	3NT		

Lead = ♣5 (the unbid suit)

Note: 11 tricks should be made if you are forced to play the ♣10 after losing to the ♠A.

2 Locating the 5-3 fit - correct technique when you have an 8-card fit missing the queen

Dealer East: Both vulnerable

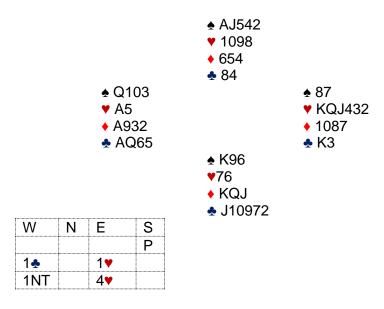


W	Ν	Е	S
		1♣	
1♥		1NT	
3♥		4♥	

Lead = ♠7

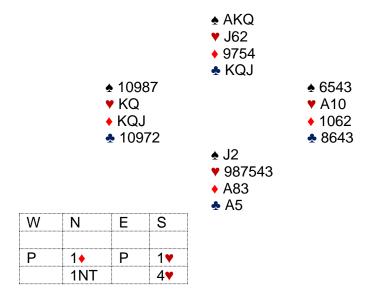
To cater for a 4-1 trump break, it is better to play the ace, guarding against a singleton queen, or four trumps to the Q9 in the south hand then letting the jack run if it is not covered.

3 Dealer South: E/W vulnerable



South leads ◆K. Declarer wins, draws trumps, and cashes three clubs discarding a losing ◆. If Declarer tries cashing clubs before drawing trumps he will finish with only 9 tricks.

4 Dealer West: Both vulnerable



South knows of at least a 8-card major fit ♥s) and values for game so rebids 4♥.

West leads ◆K (he knows he will get in with a trump) to continue the attack. Before drawing trumps, Declarer should aim to get rid of his ◆ losers so cashes the black suits, discarding two ◆s. Now he plays on trumps and finds that he only has two losers.