

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:

1♣ - 1♥
1NT - 2♠

- Limit bids - A raise to 2NT is invitational

1♦ - 1♥
1NT - 2NT

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

For example:

1♦ - 1♥
1NT - 3♥ asks for 3-card support

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

1♦ - 1♥ or 1♦ - 1♥
1NT - 3NT 1NT - 4♥

Partnership bidding (West to open)

1	♠ 83 ♥ Q9852 ♦ K964 ♣ J3	♠ AJ6 ♥ J4 ♦ AQ732 ♣ K87	2	♠ KJ4 ♥ Q9 ♦ KQ73 ♣ A842	♠ AQ8 ♥ KJ10863 ♦ 982 ♣ 5
3	♠ AJ3 ♥ K952 ♦ A2 ♣ A843	♠ K9642 ♥ A43 ♦ 98 ♣ KQ2	4	♠ K87 ♥ A86 ♦ KQ3 ♣ A642	♠ AQ53 ♥ K9543 ♦ 62 ♣ 95
5	♠ K97 ♥ A72 ♦ Q94 ♣ AK62	♠ QJ652 ♥ KQ43 ♦ 7 ♣ Q98			

Appendix 1

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | No - 1♦
1♥ - 1NT
2♦ - No | 2 | 1♣ - 1♥
1NT - 4♥
No | 3 | 1♥ - 1♠
1NT - 3♠
4♠ - No | 4 | 1♣ - 1♥
1NT - 2♠
3♥ - 4♥ |
| 5 | 1♣ - 1♠
1NT - 3♥
3♠ - 4♠ | | | | | | |

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?

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | ♠ KJ972
♥ 3
♦ AQ964
♣ Q7 | 2 | ♠ A8633
♥ 72
♦ Q976
♣ 1074 | 3 | ♠ A9643
♥ KQ
♦ Q83
♣ 972 | 4 | ♠ AJ8742
♥ QJ976
♦ 3
♣ J |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|

Appendix 2

- 1 3♦ 2 2♦ 3 3♠ 4 4♥

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

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1♦-1♠ | 1♦-1♠ |
| 1NT-2♣* | 1NT - 3♦ non-forcing |
| 2♦ - 3♦ forcing | |

The first auction is about a good 9+ and the 2nd 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

♠ A ♥ KJ54 ♦ 10875 ♣ J643	♠ KQ ♥ Q93 ♦ AQ964 ♣ Q107	♠ 98532 ♥ 107 ♦ J ♣ A9852
	♠ J10764 ♥ A862 ♦ K32 ♣ K	

W	N	E	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

	♠ 975432 ♥ 3 ♦ A853 ♣ 94	
♠ QJ6 ♥ K10842 ♦ J106 ♣ A5		♠ AK ♥ AJ6 ♦ K94 ♣ 87632
	♠ 108 ♥ Q975 ♦ Q72 ♣ KQJ10	

W	N	E	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

	♠ AJ542 ♥ 1098 ♦ 654 ♣ 84	
♠ Q103 ♥ A5 ♦ A932 ♣ AQ65		♠ 87 ♥ KQJ432 ♦ 1087 ♣ K3
	♠ K96 ♥ 76 ♦ KQJ ♣ J10972	

W	N	E	S
			P
1♣		1♥	
1NT		4♥	

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

♠ 10987	♠ AKQ	♠ 6543
♥ KQ	♥ J62	♥ A10
♦ KQJ	♦ 9754	♦ 1062
♣ 10972	♣ KQJ	♣ 8643
	♠ J2	
	♥ 987543	
	♦ A83	
	♣ A5	

W	N	E	S
P	1♦	P	1♥
	1NT		4♥

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.