

Bridge Basics – Bidding System Part 1

1		<p>♠ 93</p> <p>♥ KQJ75</p> <p>♦ QJ8</p> <p>♣ A84</p>	<p><i>Dlr: N</i></p> <p><i>Vul: None</i></p>
<p>♠ AJT2</p> <p>♥ AT3</p> <p>♦ 54</p> <p>♣ T963</p>	<p>♠ K85</p> <p>♥ 82</p> <p>♦ A932</p> <p>♣ QJ52</p>		
<p>13</p> <p>9 10</p> <p>8</p>	<p>♠ Q764</p> <p>♥ 964</p> <p>♦ KT76</p> <p>♣ K7</p>	<p>♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT</p> <p>N - - 2 - -</p> <p>S - - 2 - -</p> <p>E 3 - - 1 -</p> <p>W 3 - - 1 -</p>	

N	E	S	W
1H	P	2H	P
P	P		

Bidding: North has a standard 1H opening bid. This shows 5 or more hearts. South with 6-9 points and 3 hearts raises to 2H. South could bid 1S. But why go looking in a new direction when an 8 card major suit fit has been found? With only a basic opening hand, North should not bid any more.

Play: North makes 4 heart tricks, 2 diamond tricks and 2 club tricks, 8 tricks in total, making the contract.

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2		<p>♠ A93</p> <p>♥ 83</p> <p>♦ AK42</p> <p>♣ 8764</p>	<p><i>Dlr: E</i></p> <p><i>Vul: N-S</i></p>
<p>♠ QJ52</p> <p>♥ QT2</p> <p>♦ QT</p> <p>♣ JT93</p>	<p>♠ 876</p> <p>♥ AK96</p> <p>♦ J87</p> <p>♣ AQ5</p>		
<p>11</p> <p>8 14</p> <p>7</p>	<p>♠ KT4</p> <p>♥ J754</p> <p>♦ 9653</p> <p>♣ K2</p>	<p>♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT</p> <p>N - 1 - - -</p> <p>S - 2 - - -</p> <p>E 2 - 2 1 1</p> <p>W 2 - 2 - 1</p>	

N	E	S	W
	1C	P	1S
P	1NT	& all pass	

Bidding: East has enough points to open 1 in a suit. With 3-3 in the minors, the proper bid is 1C. West bids 1S, the 4 card spade suit, in case the pair has a 4-4 spade fit. The best contract is a combined 8 card major suit. East does not have 4 spades, has nothing else to show, and signs off in 1NT. With 6-9 points, West should not bid again.

Play: East can manage 7 tricks in a few different ways. For example 1S+3H+1D+2C=7. Or 1S+3H+3C=7 tricks.

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3		♠ J7 ♥ T2 ♦ KQ53 ♣ Q9543	Dlr: S Vul: E-W																															
♠ K82 ♥ J87 ♦ JT72 ♣ A82			♠ AQT63 ♥ K943 ♦ 986 ♣ T																															
8		♠ 954 ♥ AQ65 ♦ A4 ♣ KJ76	<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	4	1	-	-	1	S	4	1	-	-	1	E	-	-	-	1	-	W	-	-	-	1	-
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																													
N	4	1	-	-	1																													
S	4	1	-	-	1																													
E	-	-	-	1	-																													
W	-	-	-	1	-																													
9	9																																	
14																																		

N	E	S	W
		1C	P
2C	P	P	P

Bidding: With no 5 card major, South bids the better minor, clubs. With 5 clubs, North raises this to 2C. (North should have 5 clubs for this, since South might have only 3 clubs.) Show support if you have it. This is better than introducing the other minor by bidding 1D.

Play: There are 8 obvious tricks, 1H+3D+4C. South can make a 9th trick by trumping North's 4th diamond with South's last trump.

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4		♠ J96 ♥ AJ753 ♦ 98 ♣ Q54	<i>Dlr: W</i> <i>Vul: Both</i>																															
♠ K74 ♥ KQ2 ♦ JT5 ♣ T763			♠ T32 ♥ 96 ♦ AK63 ♣ AK82																															
8		♠ AQ85 ♥ T84 ♦ Q742 ♣ J9	<table><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	1	-	-	S	-	-	1	-	-	E	2	1	-	-	1	W	2	1	-	-	1
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																													
N	-	-	1	-	-																													
S	-	-	1	-	-																													
E	2	1	-	-	1																													
W	2	1	-	-	1																													
9	14																																	
9																																		

N	E	S	W
			P
P	1D	P	1NT & all pass

Bidding: West & North do not have enough to open, so they pass. East has enough. With no 5 card major and 4-4 in the minors, East bids 1D. With 6+ points, West should not pass. The 3 diamonds are not enough to bid 2D since East might have only 4. With no 4 card major, West should bid 1NT.

Play: Set up extra winners in your long suit before cashing all your high cards. Play AC, KC and 2C to make the TC good. Lead a low spade towards the KS. Can make 3C+2D+1H+1S = 7 tricks.

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5		♠ QJT ♥ QJ2 ♦ Q75 ♣ J875	<i>Dlr: N</i> <i>Vul: N-S</i>																															
♠ 972 ♥ T74 ♦ AK8 ♣ QT42		♠ A653 ♥ A53 ♦ J432 ♣ 96																																
9 9 13	♠ K84 ♥ K986 ♦ T96 ♣ AK3	<table><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr></table>				♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	1	2	1	2	S	2	1	2	1	2	E	-	-	-	-	-	W	-	-	-	-	-
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																													
N	2	1	2	1	2																													
S	2	1	2	1	2																													
E	-	-	-	-	-																													
W	-	-	-	-	-																													

N	E	S	W
P	P	1C	P
1NT	P	P	P

Bidding: North & East do not have enough to open, so they pass. South has enough. With no 5 card major and 3-3 in the minors, South bids 1C. With 6+ points, North should not pass. The 4 clubs are not enough to bid 2C since South might have only 3 clubs. With no 4 card major, North should bid 1NT.

Play: North can take 2 spade tricks after the opponents take the Ace. North can take 3 heart tricks after the opponents take the Ace. These 5 tricks along with AC & KC are 7 total tricks.

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6		♠ 642 ♥ KJT7 ♦ A92 ♣ Q43	<i>Dlr: E</i> <i>Vul: E-W</i>																															
♠ Q83 ♥ Q954 ♦ KJT ♣ 986			♠ KJT95 ♥ 82 ♦ Q76 ♣ AK5																															
10 8 13 9	♠ A7 ♥ A63 ♦ 8543 ♣ JT72	<table><tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td>-</td></tr></table>				♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	2	1	2	-	-	S	2	1	2	-	-	E	-	-	-	2	-	W	-	-	-	2	-
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																													
N	2	1	2	-	-																													
S	2	1	2	-	-																													
E	-	-	-	2	-																													
W	-	-	-	2	-																													

N	E	S	W
	1S	P	2S
P	P	P	

Bidding: East has a basic 1S opening bid, showing 5+ spades. West with 6-9 points and 3 spades raises to 2S. With only a basic opening hand, East should not bid any more.

Play: East makes 4 spade tricks, 2 diamond tricks and 2 club tricks, 8 tricks in total, making the contract.

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7		♠ T75 ♥ KQ64 ♦ AT3 ♣ 986		Dlr: S Vul: Both	
♠ KQ2 ♥ 73 ♦ J985 ♣ KT52		♠ AJ43 ♥ J982 ♦ 74 ♣ QJ4			
9		♠ 986 ♥ AT5 ♦ KQ62 ♣ A73			
9	9				
13					

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	3	3	-	3
S	-	3	3	-	3
E	-	-	-	1	-
W	-	-	-	1	-

N	E	S	W
		1D	P
1H	P	1NT	& all pass

Bidding: South has enough points to open and bids 1D, the better minor. North bids 1H, the 4 card major suit, in case the pair has a 4-4 heart fit. The best contract is a combined 8 card major suit. South does not have 4 hearts, has nothing else to show, and signs off in 1NT. With 6-9 points, North should not bid again.

Play: South can take 3 heart tricks, 3 diamond tricks and 1 club trick, 7 total, making the contract.

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8		♠ QJ73 ♥ QJ2 ♦ 932 ♣ KQ5		<i>Dlr: W</i> <i>Vul: None</i>																															
♠ AKT8 ♥ T86 ♦ AQJ6 ♣ J2		♠ 95 ♥ A94 ♦ KT75 ♣ T986																																	
11		♠ 642 ♥ K753 ♦ 84 ♣ A743		<table><tr><td></td><td>♣</td><td>♦</td><td>♥</td><td>♠</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr></table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	-	-	1	-	-	S	-	-	1	-	-	E	-	3	-	1	1	W	-	3	-	1	1
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																														
N	-	-	1	-	-																														
S	-	-	1	-	-																														
E	-	3	-	1	1																														
W	-	3	-	1	1																														
15	7																																		
7																																			

N	E	S	W
		1D	
P	2D	& all pass	

Bidding: With no 5 card major, West bids the better minor, 1D. If East had a 4 card major, East would bid it, in case the pair has a 4-4 major suit fit. With no 4 card major, it is usually better for East to raise 1D to 2D with 4 card support rather than bid 1NT.

Play: West can pull trump in 3 rounds. West also has 2 spade tricks and 1 heart trick. West will lose 2 clubs, but then can trump a club in the West hand with West's last trump. The remaining trump in the East hand is the 8th trick.