

Major Suit Openers and Responses

Requirements to open a Major Suit (1H or 1S):

- a) 13+ HCP (count for length)
- b) At least 5 cards in the suit

Responses when partner opens a Major Suit:

- a) 0-5 HCP- Pass This implies that with 6 or more HCP you should bid something other than passing.
- b) New suit- A new suit at the one level (1H-P-1S) shows at least 6 HCP and at least a 4 card suit. A new suit at the 2 level that is not a jump (1H-P-2C) shows at least 10 HCP and at least a 4 card suit.
- c) Raise partner- Shows at least 3 card support because the opening bid guarantees at least 5.

With 6-9 HCP raise to 2 level

With 10-12 HCP raise to 3 level

With 13-15 HCP raise to 4 level

- d) Bid NT without support and 6-9 HCP. This no trump response does not have to be completely balanced.

What would you open the bidding with the following?

- a) AQ876 K87 K87 98
- b) AK87 AQ87 98 987
- c) A76 AK76 A876 98
- d) Q8765 AKJ76 J76 --
- e) AKJ765 K8 9876 9
- f) 98764 AKQ6 AK7 9

What would you respond if partner opens with 1H?

- a) K876 76 K87632 8
- b) 76 K76 A876 J765
- c) 76 K76 AK87 J765
- d) 72 Q7 AJ76 KQ872
- e) 87 87 K765 K8765
- f) 87 AQ76 KJ7653 8