

## **Responding to Partner's Minor Suit Opener**

When partner opens with 1C or 1D the requirements are only that his hand contain 13 total points (includes length) and at least 3 cards in the suit. This could be quite an assortment of hands. As the responder your goal should be to determine your side's best fit for a trump suit and then whether you have enough strength for game or not. To make a suit trumps you should have at least 8 cards in the suit between the two hands. Whether or not you bid game is determined by how many points you have. Game at a major (4H or 4S) or in no trump (3 NT) generally requires 26 HCP between the 2 hands.

Responses to partner's opening bid in a minor suit-

- a) Pass- (0-5 HCP) Because partner may have up to about 20 HCP for an opening bid of 1C or 1D if you have 6 HCP or more you should respond with something to keep the bidding open.
- b) 1H/1S- (6 or more HCP and at least a 4 card or longer suit)  
With 4 cards in both majors bid Hearts first and with 5 cards in both bid Spades first.
- c) Raise partner's minor to 2 level- (6-9 HCP and 5 card support)
- d) Jump raise partner's suit to 3 level- (10-12 HCP and 5 card support)
- e) 1NT- (6-9 HCP with no major and no support)
- f) 2NT- (10-12 HCP with no major and no support)
- g) 3NT- (13-15 HCP with no major and no support)

Partner opens with 1C. What would you respond?

- a) K87 J876 9876 82
- b) 9876 AK7 876 765
- c) KQ76 JT65 77 765
- d) A765 8 762 KQ765
- e) K76 J76 Q54 Q654
- f) AQ7 K87 A87 8762
- g) A32 8 K76 QJ7654
- h) K7 QJ7 KJ76 J876