

HB18 limit bid responses

<p> ♠ AQ763 ♥ 854 ♦ AK7 ♣ 86 ♠ 1092 ♠ KJ854 ♥ 10963 ♥ K7 ♦ Q63 ♦ 1085 ♣ KQJ ♣ A109 ♠ - ♥ AQJ2 ♦ J942 ♣ 75432 </p>	<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>All Pass</p> <p>South's 1NT is ugly but what else do you suggest? With 6-8 points South only has two possible responses to 1♠: 2♠ or 1NT. 2♠ is out of the question so you are left only with 1NT. It would clearly be fatal for North to retreat to 2♠.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		1♠	Pass	1NT				
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>										
	1♠	Pass	1NT										
<p> ♠ 109 ♥ 10963 ♦ Q63 ♣ A732 ♠ 842 ♠ AQ763 ♥ AQJ2 ♥ 854 ♦ 942 ♦ AK7 ♣ Q109 ♣ 86 ♠ KJ5 ♥ K7 ♦ J1085 ♣ KJ54 </p>	<p>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>West's 1NT response shows 6-9 points but can in extreme circumstances have no spades, hence West cannot sign off in 2♠ without at least 6 spades. In this hand 2♠ would have been slightly better than 1NT.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			1♠	Pass	1NT	All Pass		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>										
		1♠	Pass										
1NT	All Pass												
<p> ♠ 5 ♥ Q9865 ♦ A76 ♣ QJ42 ♠ 73 ♠ AJ1092 ♥ AK103 ♥ J4 ♦ J432 ♦ 1098 ♣ 1097 ♣ A85 ♠ KQ864 ♥ 72 ♦ KQ5 ♣ K63 </p>	<p>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>North has 9 points but a horrible misfit in spades. If North responds 2♥ South can only rebid 2♠, leading to a silly contract. North should respond 1NT, which South passes. With a weak hand and a misfit, keep the bidding low and try to make a bid that partner can pass.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♠	Pass	1NT	All Pass	
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>										
			1♠										
Pass	1NT	All Pass											
<p> ♠ 753 ♥ AK103 ♦ J43 ♣ 1097 ♠ KQ864 ♠ A9 ♥ 72 ♥ Q9865 ♦ KQ5 ♦ 762 ♣ K63 ♣ QJ4 ♠ J102 ♥ J4 ♦ A1098 ♣ A852 </p>	<p>Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>East has 9 points, but with a reasonable fit in spades. He is worth a response of 2♥ and he can comfortably pass the 2♠ rebid. A 1NT response wouldn't be unreasonable with the East hand.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠	All Pass		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>										
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass										
2♠	All Pass												

<p>♠AJ976 ♥2 ♦A54 ♣KQ76</p> <p>♠542 ♠KQ108 ♥AQ1065 ♥K43 ♦93 ♦QJ108 ♣943 ♣108</p> <p>♠3 ♥J987 ♦K762 ♣AJ52</p>	<p>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>With a misfitting 9 points South should respond 1NT. North rebids his second suit, which considerably enhances South's hand. South shows his 4-card club support and maximum values by raising to 3♣ but North is not strong enough to proceed opposite a hand that could only originally respond 1NT.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣	All Pass			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
	1♠	Pass	1NT														
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣														
All Pass																	
<p>♠542 ♥A843 ♦932 ♣A43</p> <p>♠3 ♠AJ976 ♥QJ10965 ♥2 ♦Q76 ♦A54 ♣J95 ♣KQ76</p> <p>♠KQ108 ♥K7 ♦KJ108 ♣1082</p>	<p>Board 6 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>With a misfitting 6 points West should respond 1NT. East rebids his second suit and West shows his long hearts. The message is clear to East: West was not strong enough to show his hearts on the first round. East must pass rather than try to fight his partner. 2♥ is the right contract.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	All Pass		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
		1♠	Pass														
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass														
2♥	All Pass																
<p>♠K72 ♥85 ♦K862 ♣9843</p> <p>♠J943 ♠108 ♥KJ42 ♥Q1093 ♦93 ♦J1075 ♣QJ10 ♣AK5</p> <p>♠AQ65 ♥A76 ♦AQ4 ♣762</p>	<p>Board 7 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>South's 1♠ opening shows either a 5-card suit or a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT (15+ points). About 75% of the time South will have 5 spades. With 3-card support, a side suit shortage, and a weak hand North should raise to 2♠ rather than respond 1NT. In this case South has 16 points: opposite 6-9 points game is unlikely so South passes. The 4-3 fit should play as well as 1NT because South can ruff a heart in dummy.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♠	Pass	2♠	All Pass					
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
			1♠														
Pass	2♠	All Pass															
<p>♠J9843 ♥KJ4 ♦93 ♣QJ7</p> <p>♠AQ65 ♠K72 ♥AQ6 ♥85 ♦AQ4 ♦K862 ♣1062 ♣9843</p> <p>♠10 ♥109732 ♦J1075 ♣AK5</p>	<p>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>West's 1♠ opening shows either a 5-card suit or a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT (15+ points). About 75% of the time West will have 5 spades. With 3-card support, a side suit shortage, and a weak hand East should raise to 2♠ rather than respond 1NT. In this case West has 18 points and continues with 2NT, showing 17-18 points and only 4 spades. East hasn't enough for 3NT and doesn't want to return to the 4-3 spade fit at the three level.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT	All Pass						
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass														
2NT	All Pass																

<p>♠ AQ65 ♥ AQ6 ♦ AQ4 ♣ 1062</p> <p>♠ 10 ♥ 109732 ♦ 1075 ♣ AKJ5</p> <p>♠ 98743 ♥ KJ4 ♦ 983 ♣ Q7</p> <p>♠ KJ2 ♥ 85 ♦ KJ62 ♣ 9843</p>	<p>Board 9 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>North's 1♠ opening shows either a 5-card suit or a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT (15+ points). About 75% of the time North will have 5 spades. With 3-card support, a side suit shortage, and a weak hand South should raise to 2♠ rather than respond 1NT. In this case North has 18 points and continues with 2NT, showing 17-18 points and only 4 spades. With 8 points South has enough for game, and certainly doesn't fancy a 4-3 spade fit at the 4 level.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass							
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																		
	1♠	Pass	2♠																		
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT																		
All Pass																					
<p>♠ 6 ♥ 109732 ♦ J107 ♣ AKJ5</p> <p>♠ KJ42 ♥ 8 ♦ K652 ♣ 9843</p> <p>♠ AQ105 ♥ AQ6 ♦ AQ4 ♣ 1062</p> <p>♠ 9873 ♥ KJ54 ♦ 983 ♣ Q7</p>	<p>Board 10 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>East's 1♠ opening shows either a 5-card suit or a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT (15+ points). About 75% of the time East will have 5 spades. With 3-card support, a side suit shortage, and a weak hand West should raise to 2♠ rather than respond 1NT. In this case East has 18 points and continues with 2NT, showing 17-18 points and only 4 spades. With 7 points and a singleton heart West has enough for game and with 4-card spade support he returns to the 8-card major fit.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass						
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																		
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<p>♠ K72 ♥ 85 ♦ AK62 ♣ 9843</p> <p>♠ 943 ♥ KJ42 ♦ 983 ♣ QJ10</p> <p>♠ 108 ♥ 1093 ♦ J107 ♣ AK652</p> <p>♠ AQJ65 ♥ AQ76 ♦ Q54 ♣ 7</p>	<p>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>North is too strong for a 2♠ response and certainly cannot jump to 3♠ with only 3-card support, hence 2♦. Opening 1♠ and rebidding 2♥ guarantees at least 5 spades and at least 4 hearts so now North knows of the 8-card spade fit. The 3♠ jump preference shows 3-card support and is invitational to game. South is pleased to accept.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																		
			1♠																		
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Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠																		
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<p>♠ 10 ♥ 109732 ♦ 1075 ♣ AKJ5</p> <p>♠ AQ65 ♥ AK6 ♦ AQ4 ♣ 1062</p> <p>♠ KJ2 ♥ 85 ♦ KJ62 ♣ 9843</p> <p>♠ 98743 ♥ QJ4 ♦ 983 ♣ Q7</p>	<p>Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>West's 1♠ opening shows either a 5-card suit or a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT (15+ points). About 75% of the time West will have 5 spades. With 3-card support, a side suit shortage, and a weak hand East should raise to 2♠ rather than respond 1NT. In this case West has 19 points and continues with 3NT, showing 19 points and only 4 spades. With only 3 spades East passes.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass										
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																		
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<p> ♠AQ653 ♥AK6 ♦AQ4 ♣106 ♠9874 ♥QJ42 ♦983 ♣QJ ♠10 ♥10973 ♦1075 ♣AK952 ♠KJ2 ♥85 ♦KJ62 ♣8743 </p>	<p>Board 13 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>North's 1♠ opening shows either a 5-card suit or a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT (15+ points). About 75% of the time North will have 5 spades. With 3-card support, a side suit shortage, and a weak hand South should raise to 2♠ rather than respond 1NT. North's 4♠ bid shows a 5-card spade suit: with only 4 spades North would have continued with a no-trump bid.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass					
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
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<p> ♠K96 ♥1052 ♦AJ9 ♣Q1083 ♠42 ♥K73 ♦KQ76 ♣7654 ♠AQ53 ♥AJ86 ♦85 ♣AKJ ♠J1087 ♥Q94 ♦10432 ♣92 </p>	<p>Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>With 4-4 in the major suits and a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT East opens 1♥, giving the opportunity for West to respond 1♠ if he has 4 spades.</p> <p>East's 1♥ opening shows either a 5-card suit or a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT (15+ points). About 70% of the time East will have 5 hearts. With 3-card support, a side suit shortage, and a weak hand West should raise to 2♥ rather than respond 1NT. In this case East has 19 points and only 4 hearts so he rebids 3NT.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass				
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
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<p> ♠KJ76 ♥K73 ♦76 ♣7654 ♠984 ♥Q94 ♦K10432 ♣92 ♠102 ♥1052 ♦AQJ9 ♣Q1083 ♠AQ53 ♥AJ86 ♦85 ♣AKJ </p>	<p>Board 15 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>With 4-4 in the major suits and a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT South opens 1♥, giving the opportunity for North to respond 1♠ if he has 4 spades. North should prefer to bid his 4-card major rather than support hearts, with 1NT a distant third place.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
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<p> ♠984 ♥Q94 ♦K10432 ♣92 ♠AQ53 ♥AJ86 ♦85 ♣KQ7 ♠KJ76 ♥73 ♦76 ♣AJ654 ♠102 ♥K1052 ♦AQJ9 ♣1083 </p>	<p>Board 16 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>With 4-4 in the major suits and a balanced hand too strong to open 1NT West opens 1♥, giving the opportunity for East to respond 1♠ if he has 4 spades. With a weak hand East prefers to show his spade suit rather than bid 2♣, leading to the excellent spade game.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass				
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
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