

## Opener's rebid in 3rd or 4th seat

When partner opens the bidding in 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> seat, a change of suit by responder is forcing and opener **MUST** bid again.

However, when partner opens the bidding in 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> seat, a change of suit by responder is not forcing. This is because when opener has a weak opening hand opposite a passed hand, game is unlikely and it is best to settle for a low level a part score contract.

## Opener's rebid with a minimum opening hand

**A minimum opening hand opposite a passed hand means game is unlikely and it is usually best to stop bidding as soon as possible**

Where responder is a passed hand and has changed suit, with a **minimum or weak hand** (11 to about 14 HCP) opener can:

- Pass with at least 3 card support for responder's suit if responder's bid is a suitable contract (remember playing in a 7 card fit at the one or two level is usually fine). If responder has bid a new suit at the 2 level, 2 card support is sufficient as responder will have a 5 card suit.
- Rebid their first bid suit at the cheapest level (note that this does not always guarantee extra length).
- Bid a new suit lower ranked than opener's first bid suit (do not reverse!)
- Bid no trumps at the cheapest level.

With the exception of bidding a new suit, these are all weak rebids, that limit the strength of opener's hand, responder will usually pass as they know game is unlikely.

Where opener bids a new suit showing a 2 suited hand, responder should take the bidding back to opener's first suit if they prefer opener's first bid suit. With 2 card support for opener's first suit and 3 card support for opener's second suit, go back to the first suit as it will be longer than the second bid suit and a 5-2 fit will usually play better than a 4-3 fit.

## Opener's rebid with a strong opening hand

**Don't make a weak rebid with a strong opening hand**

Where opener has a strong opening hand with 15/16+ HCP game may still be possible opposite a weak responder so opener can:

- Jump raise responder's suit with a known fit
- Bid a new suit at the 1 or 2 level (opener can reverse if strong enough)
- Jump rebid their first bid suit with extra length: e.g. 1H – 1S – 3H

- Bid NT at the appropriate level.

DO not make a weak rebid with a strong hand as you may miss a biddable game contract.

## Some hands

### Hand 1:

J63	P (P) 1D (P)
KQT	1S (P) ?
AJT7	Pass – even though you could be in a 4-3 fit. As partner is a
985	passed hand game is very unlikely and 1NT is unattractive with
	your poor club suit and very weak opening hand.

### Hand 2:

74	P (P) 1D (P)
AT96	1S (P) ?
KQJT4	Rebid 2D – you have a nice diamond suit and only 2 card
J2	support for partner's spades. 1NT is unattractive with the poor
	club holding. Rebidding 2H would be a reverse and would be
	forcing for one round and show a strong opening hand.

### Hand 3:

QT73	P (P) 1D (P)
AQ94	1S (P) ?
AQ8	Rebid 2S. This shows a good fit with partner's spades and a
75	good 14/15 TP. It invites partner to bid on with something extra
	or pass.

### Hand 4:

QT84	P (P) 1D (P)
AK	1S (P) ?
KQJT	Bid 4S. Easy!
A53	

### Hand 5:

AJ982	P (P) 1S (P)
93	1D (P) ?
76	Pass. Responder's 2D bid guarantees 5 diamonds and 10-12 HCP. With a light opening hand game is unlikely and playing in a 5-2 fit is likely to be the best contract. Your hand is not suitable for 2NT (which would be a more 'constructive' bid and bidding 3C would be a gross overbid and close to game forcing).
AQ73	

## Hand 6:

Q9652	P (P) 1S (P)
A	2C (P) ?
A543	Remember Mr Drury?
974	If you are playing Drury, 2C (artificial and alertable) after partner opens a major suit in 3rd or 4th seat is the Drury convention. It shows 3+card support for partner's major suit, 10-12 points and asks opener about the strength of their hand. With a 'light' opening, rebid your major suit. A rebid of 2D (artificial and alertable) shows a full strength opening 12/13+ HCP. A bid of a new suit is natural and also shows a full strength opening (e.g. in the auction above a 2H rebid by opener shows a full strength opening hand with 5+S and 4+H)