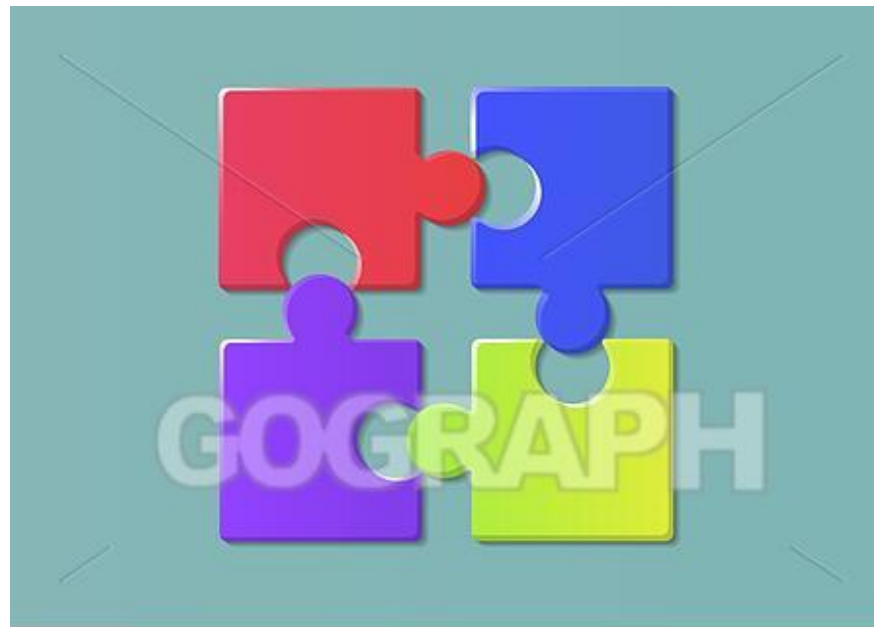


When You Have a Fit



gg140196046 www.gograph.com

Two Important Questions

- When you and your partner start a bidding sequence, you must answer two important questions.
- Do we have a suit fit?
 - Major suit?
 - Minor suit?
- How high can we go?
 - Partscore?
 - Game?
 - Slam?

Consider the Following Auction

- You Partner Opponents silent.
1 ♠ 2 ♠
- You've answered question no. 1. You have a major suit fit. now question no. 2 comes up (how high?).
- In the 2/1 system, responder has some option for showing a fit and helping opener decide how high.

Options After 1(M) Opening With a Fit

- 1 (♥ or ♠)..... 2 (♥ or ♠)
- Make a constructive raise. (8-10 points with good 3 or 4-card support.
- With a weaker hand, bid a forcing 1 no trump, then bid two of the major suit.
- Let's look at some examples.

After a Constructive Raise

Opener
1 ♠

Opponent
pass

Responder
2 ♠

Opponent

Opener
♠ A Q 9 4 2
♥ A J 2
♦ K Q 7 5
♣ 3

Responder
♠ K J 10 8
♥ K 10 5 2
♦ J 10
♣ 9 4 2

Showing a Weak Raise

Opener	Opponent	Responder	Opponent
1 ♠	pass	1 nt	pass
2 ♦	pass	2 ♠	

Opener
♠ A Q 9 4 2
♥ A J 2
♦ K Q 7 5
♣ 3

Responder
♠ J 8 3
♥ K 8 5 2
♦ J 10
♣ 9 4 2

Showing a Weak Raise

Opener	Opponent	Responder	Opponent
1 ♠	pass	1 nt	pass
2 ♦	pass	2 ♠	

Opener
♠ A Q 9 4 2
♥ A J 2
♦ K Q 7 5
♣ 3

Responder
♠ J 8
♥ K J 5 2
♦ J 10 3
♣ 9 7 4 2

A weak raise
can be made
with 2 card
support.

Showing a Weak Raise

Opener	Opponent	Responder	Opponent
1 ♠	pass	1 nt	pass
2 ♦	pass	2 ♠	

Opener
♠ A Q 9 4 2
♥ A J 2
♦ K Q 7 5
♣ 3

Responder
♠ K J 8
♥ 9 7 5 2
♦ J 10 3
♣ 9 7 4

With a fit
you can raise
with fewer
the 6 points

The Jacoby 2nt

- Most of you already play this very important convention, but let me illustrate a few places where people sometime go wrong.
- First let me go over the opening bidder's rebid options after 1(M) ... 2nt.
 - Bid a good second 5-card suit at the 4 level.
 - Bid a singleton or void at the 3 level
 - Bid 3 of the major with 6-cards and extra values.
 - Bid 3nt with 5-cards in the system and extra values.
 - Bid 4 of the major with minimum values.

The Jacoby 2nt

- After 1 (M)...2nt... Opener's rebid, responders examine their hand and decide how to continue.
 - You might go directly to the major-suit game if you think there is very little possibility of a slam.
 - You might go directly to key-card blackwood, if that is the correct bid for your hand.
 - You might make a control bid, if and only if, you have reason to think a slam might be possible.

Jacoby 2nt Ex. 1

Opener	Opponent	Responder	Opponent
1 ♠	pass	2nt	pass
4 ♠	all pass		

Opener
♠ A K 9 4 2
♥ A J 3 2
♦ j 7
♣ 10 9

Responder
♠ Q J 8 3
♥ K Q 6
♦ A 8 6 2
♣ 8 4

Jacoby 2nt Ex. 2

Opener	Opponent	Responder	Opponent
1 ♠	pass	2nt	pass
3 ♦	pass	4 ♦	pass
4 ♠	pass	pass	pass

Opener
♠ A K 9 4 2
♥ A J 3 2
♦ j
♣ 10 9 2

Responder
♠ Q J 8 3
♥ K Q 6
♦ A 8 6 2
♣ 8 4

Jacoby 2nt Ex. 3

Opener	Opponent	Responder	Opponent
1 ♠	pass	2nt	pass
3 ♦	pass	4 ♣	pass
4 ♥	pass	4nt	pass
5 ♦	pass	6 ♠	

Opener
♠ A K 9 4 2
♥ A J 3 2
♦ J
♣ 10 9 2

Responder
♠ Q J 8 3
♥ K Q 6
♦ A K 8 6 2
♣ 4

The Limit Raise

- With 4-card (or better) support for partner's major-suit opening and a good 10 to 12 points you should make an invitatoinal raise.
 - 1 ♥...3 ♥
- With the same values but only 3-card support, respond 1nt, then a jump in the major suit.
 - 1 ♥...1nt
 - 2 ♣... 3 ♥

Limit Raise Ex. 1`

Opener

1 ♠

Opponent

pass

Responder

3 ♠

Opponent

Opener

♠ A K 9 4 2

♥ A J 3 2

♦ J

♣ 10 9 2

Responder

♠ Q 8 5 3

♥ K 10 6

♦ A 8 6 2

♣ Q 3

Limit Raise Ex. 2`

Opener	Opponent	Responder	Opponent
1 ♠	pass	1 nt	pass
2	pass	3 ♠	

Opener
♠ A K 9 4 2
♥ A J 3 2
♦ J
♣ 10 9 2

Responder
♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 10 6
♦ A 8 6 2
♣ Q 5 3

Limit Raise Ex. 2`

Opener	Opponent	Responder	Opponent
1 ♠	pass	1 nt	pass
2	pass	3 ♠	

Opener
♠ A K 9 4 2
♥ A J 3 2
♦ J
♣ 10 9 2

Responder
♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 10 6
♦ A 8 6 2
♣ Q 5 3

Strong Fit – Weak Hand

- When you have a strong fit with partner's major but a weak hand – Use the law.
- With a 5-card or longer fit, jump straight to game.
- You can do this with 0-8 points, even when vulnerable.
- You need to have a little shape, as well, not 5-3-3-2.
- Without good distribution, it is best to be a bid more cautious, especially when vulnerable.

Strong Fit – Weak Hand Ex. 1`

Opener
1 ♠

Opponent
pass

Responder
4 ♠

Opponent
pass

Opener
♠ A K 9 4 2
♥ A J 3
♦ J 2
♣ 10 9 2

Responder
♠ Q J 10 8 5
♥ 10 9 6
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ 3

With good
distribution,
be
aggressive.

Strong Fit – Weak Hand Ex. 2`

Opener

1 ♠

Opponent

pass

Responder

2 ♠

Opponent

Opener

♠ A K 9 4 2

♥ A J 3

♦ 2

♣ J 10 9 2

Responder

♠ Q J 10 8 5

♥ 10 9 6

♦ 10 8 6

♣ 3 2

With poor
distribution
be
conservative

When You Have a Strong Hand but Only a 3-Card Fit

- These hands are often difficult because you cannot use Jacoby to start a game-forcing auction.
- The best way to handle this (playing 2/1) is to bid a 4-card minor then show support.

Strong Hand – 3-Card Support`

Opener

1 ♥

2 ♥

Opponent

pass

pass

Responder

2 ♦

2 ♠

Opponent

pass

Opener

♠ A K 9 4 2

♥ A J 7 3

♦ 2

♣ J 10 9

Responder

♠ Q J 7

♥ K 10 9

♦ A K 10 6

♣ J 3 2

With poor
distribution
be
conservative