



One No Trump Forcing

A Helpful Convention

The Basics


- One no trump forcing is a convention used to help define certain hands, by the responder.
- Playing this convention. When the opening bidder – in first or second seat – opens one of a major suit.
- The next player passes.
- A bid of 1 no trump by the responder is shows 5 to 12 points and is forcing on the opener for one round.

One No Trump Forcing: 1st or 2nd Seat

- North East South West
1  /  pass 1 nt Pass

One No Trump is Forcing: Opening Bidder Must Bid Again

One No Trump Forcing: 3rd or 4th Seat



- North East South West
pass pass 1  /  pass
1 nt Pass pass pass

One No Trump is Not Forcing: Opening Bidder May Pass. Partner has a standard 1 no trump response

- North East South West
1  /  pass 1 nt Pass

When partner opens a minor suit, 1 no trump forcing does not apply. Partner has a standard 1 no trump response.

One No Trump Forcing Hands

- When partner opens 1  /  , bid the forcing 1 no trump with the following:
 1. 5 to 12 points
 2. No 4 card major suit you can bid at the 1 level.
 3. With a long minor suit and you cannot bid at the two level. With this hand, you have no more than two cards in partner's major.
 4. You have a 3 card limit raise in partner's major suit.
 5. You have a weak hand (5-8 points) and weak support for partner's major. You want to be sure partner will stop at the two level.
 6. You have a normal 2 nt bid (11-12 balanced)

1 nt forcing example 1

North 1 




East pass

South's 1nt

 Q J 2

 3 2

 Q J 9 8 5 4

 3

1 nt forcing example 2

North 1 



East pass

South's 1nt

 K J 2

 3 2

 Q J 9 8

 K Q 5 3

1 nt forcing example 3

North 1 





East pass

South's 1nt

 J 2

 5 3 2

 K 10 8 6

 Q 8 5 3

1 nt forcing example 4

North 1 




East pass

South's 1nt

 J 2


 K 3 2

 K 10 8 6

 A J 5 3

Opening Bidder's Second Bid

- With 12-15 points
 - a) Rebid your major with 6 cards.
 - b) Bid 2 hearts (if you opened 1 spade and you have 4 hearts).
 - c) Bid two of your longer minor. (This bid promises 3+ cards).

North's 1 

 J 2

 A K J 8 6 2

 Q 8 2

 K 3

2 

Opener's rebid
example 1

pass



pass

South 1nt

North's 1 ♠

♠ K Q J 8 2

♥ A Q 10 8

♦ 9 8 2

♣ 3

2 ♥

Opener's rebid
example 2

pass



pass

South 1nt

North's 1 ♠

♠ K Q 8 5 2

♥ A 8 3

♦ 8 6

♣ K 9 3

2 ♣

Opener's rebid
example 3

pass



pass

South 1nt

Opening Bidder's Second Bid

- With 16-18 points
 - a) Rebid 3 of your major with a strong 6-card suit.
 - b) Raise to 2 no trump with a balanced hand.
 - c) Make a reverse to 2 spades (if you opened 1 heart and you have 4 spades). This is forcing on responder.
 - d) Bid 2 of your longer minor with all other hands.

North's 1 ♠

♠ K Q 10 8 5 2

♥ A 8 3

♦ 6

♣ A K 9 3

3 ♠


Opener's rebid
example 4

pass



pass

South 1nt

North's 1 

 K Q 10 3

 A Q J 8 3

 8

 A J 3

2 


Opener's rebid
example 5

pass



pass

South 1nt

North's 1 

 K J 10

 A Q J 8 3

 Q 8 4

 A 3

Opener's rebid
example 6


2 nt

pass



pass

South 1nt

North's 1 

 K J 10

 A Q J 8 3

 A J 8 4

 3

Opener's rebid
example 7

2 

pass




pass

South 1nt

Opening Bidder's Second Bid

- With 19-21 point.
 - a) Raise to 3 no trump with a balanced hand.
 - b) Bid game in your opening suit with 6 or 7 cards in the suit.
 - c) Make a reverse to 2 spades (if you opened 1 heart and you have 4 spades). This is forcing on responder.
 - d) Make a jump shift to 3 of a new suit. This promises 4 cards and is forcing on the responder.

North's 1 

 K J 10

 A Q J 8 3

 A J 8

 K 3

Opener's rebid
example 8


3nt

pass



pass

South 1nt

North's 1 

 A J

 A K J 8 5 4 3

 A Q 8

 3

4 


Opener's rebid
example 9

pass



pass

South 1nt

North's 1 

 A J 3

 A K J 8 5

 A Q 8 5

 5

3 

pass



pass

South 1nt

Opener's rebid
example 9