

Common Sense Bidding III

More Responder's Second Bid

We Have Been Considering Responder's Second Bid

- This is the judgment bid.,
 - Shall I pass and play a partscore?
 - Shall I invite partner to game
 - Shall I push on to game.
 - Do we have a slam.

The Opener Bids a New Suit – Example 1

north	east	south	west
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
1♠	pass	2♠	

South's hand

♠ K 9 4 2

♥ J 9 7 3

♦ A 10 5 (9 points)

♣ 4 3

- Opener probably has 12 to 14 points, but it is possible he has a few more points.
- If he has a minimum hand, your bid of 2♠ makes it more difficult for opponents to enter the auction.

The Opener Bids a New Suit – Example 2

north	east	south	west
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
1♠	pass	1nt	

South's hand

♠ 4 2

♥ J 9 7 3

♦ A 10 5 (6 points)

♣ J 7 3

- There's no chance for game here, but 1nt seems like the best contract.
- Your bid shows 6 to 10 points.
- You don't like it, but it is the best you can do.
- If you had 11 or 12 you would bid 2nt to invite.

The Opener Bids a New Suit – Example 3

north east south west

1♣ pass 1♥ pass

1♠ pass 2♣

South's hand

♠ 4 2

♥ A K 9 7 3

♦ 10 5 (7 points)

♣ 10 8 7 3

- This is another difficult situation.
- Obviously, you cannot pass spades.
- Rebidding your 5 card suit is a bad idea.
- Bidding clubs is best.
- If partner happens to have 3 hearts (unlikely), he should bid 2♥.

The Opener Bids a New Suit – Example 4

north	east	south	west
1♥	pass	1♠	pass
2♦	pass	pass	South's

hand

♠ K J 9 4 2

♥ 3

♦ Q10 5 (7 points)

♣ 10 8 7 3

- Once again, you have no really good bid here.
- Passing 2♦ is not ideal, but it is probably the best you can do, with this weak hand.
- Partner likely had 5 hearts and 4 diamonds.
- Rebidding your 5-card spade suit is not a good idea.

The Opener Bids a New Suit – Example 5

north	east	south	west
1♠	pass	1nt	pass
2♥	pass	3♥	

South's hand

♠ Q 2

♥ A Q 9 3

♦ 8 6 5 (9 points)

♣ J 8 7 3

- When partner rebid hearts, your hand got a little better.
- You have enough to give partner an invite to game.
- Partner should pass with a minimum opening, but he might have a little more.

The Opener Bids a New Suit – Example 6

north east south west

1♠ pass 1nt pass

2♥ pass 3♥

South's hand

♠ 2

♥ A 10 9 3 2

♦ K 10 8 6 5 (7 points)

♣ 3 2

- When partner rebid hearts, your hand got a great deal better.
- Even if partner has a absolute minimum opener, she will have a play for game with this dummy.

We'll Change it Up a Bit

- So far we have looked at minimum hands for responder.
- Suppose you have a few more points.
- 11 or 12 points are game invitational points.
- They are also judgement hands.

Consider This Borderline Hand

Example 7

north	east	south	west
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
1♠	pass	2nt	

South's hand

♠ 9 8

♥ A Q 10 9

♦ K Q 10 (11 points)

♣ 10 9 8 3

- Your 2nt bid shows 11 or 12 points.
- It is invitational, not forcing.
- This hand is worth an invitation.
- Note the middle cards.

Consider This Borderline Hand

Example 8

north	east	south	west
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
1♠	pass	1nt	

South's hand

♠ 9 2

♥ A Q 4 3

♦ K Q 5 (11 points)

♣ 9 6 4 3

- You have the same 11 points as in the last example, but very few middle cards.
- It is borderline, but it might be best here to just bid 1nt.

Consider This Borderline Hand

Example 9

north east south west

1♣ pass 1♥ pass

1♠ pass 3♥

South's hand

♠ A 2

♥ K J 10 7 4 3

♦ 9 5 (12 points)

♣ Q 10 8

- You have 12 points, considering length.
- You can bid:
 - 2♥, an underbid.
 - 3♥, an invitation
 - 4♥, an overbid
- What factors will you consider, as you decide?
- If you invite, partner can:
 - Pass
 - Bid 3nt
 - Bid 4♥.

Consider This Borderline Hand

Example 10

north	east	south	west
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
1♠	pass	2♥	

South's hand

♠ 7 2

♥ A Q J 7 4 3

♦ K 9 5 (12 points)

♣ 7 3

- You have 12 points, considering length.
- You can bid:
 - 2♥, an underbid.
 - 3♥, an invitation
 - 4♥, an overbid
- This time your hand does not fit partner as well.

Consider This Borderline Hand

Example 11

north	east	south	west
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
1♠	pass	2♦	

South's hand

♠ 7 2

♥ A Q J 7 4

♦ K J 5 2 (12 points)

♣ 7 3

- You have 12 points, considering length.
- Your 2♦ bid is forcing for one round.
- If you play 4th suit as game force, you must bid 2nt, which would be invitational.

Consider This Borderline Hand

Example 12

north	east	south	west
1♥	pass	1♠	pass
2♣	pass	3♣	

South's hand

♠ A Q 7 2

♥ J 7

♦ J 5 2 (12 points)

♣ A 9 7 3

- Your 3♣ bid invites partner to bid 3nt if she has more than a minimum opener and a diamond control.
- With a minimum opener or no diamond control, partner can pass and play 3♣.

Consider This Borderline Hand

Example 13

north east south west
1♥ pass 1♠ pass
2♣ pass 2nt

South's hand

♠ K 10 7 2

♥ J 7

♦ A J 10 (11 points)

♣ Q 9 7 3

- Here you have 11 points, but a solid diamond control.
- Your bid invites partner to a 3nt game.

When Partner Reverses the Bidding

Example 14

north	east	south	west
1♣	pass	1♠	pass
2♥	pass	3nt	

South's hand

♠ K 10 7 2

♥ J 7

♦ A J 10 (12 points)

♣ Q 9 7 3

- Here you have 11 points, but a solid diamond control.
- Partner has about 17 points, perhaps a bit more.
- You clearly have enough for game. .

What is a Reverse?

- Reverses are played slightly different in two-over-one and in standard American.

north east south west

1♦ pass 1♠ pass

2♥

- This bidding is a reverse and is counted as a reverse in either system, showing 17 to 19 points.

north east south west

1♥ pass 2♣ pass

2♠

- This bidding is also a reverse, but would not be counted as a reverse in two-over-one, because the partnership is already forced to game.

When Partner Reverses the Bidding

Example 15

north	east	south	west
1♦	pass	1♠	pass
2♥	pass	2nt	

South's hand

♠ Q 10 7 2

♥ Q 7

♦ 9 4 2 (7 points)

♣ K 9 7 3

- Opener's reverse is forcing for one round.
- Should show 5 diamonds and 4 hearts.
- 2nt shows partner a weak hand, not interested in game.
- Partner should pass.

When Partner Reverses the Bidding

Example 15

north east south west

1♦ pass 1♠ pass

2♥ pass 3♦

South's hand

♠ A 10 7 2

♥ 7

♦ Q 4 2 (6 points)

♣ 10 9 7 5 3

- 3♦ also shows weakness.
- Partner has 5 diamonds and might want to try 3nt, knowing you have a fit, but your bid is discouraging.

When Partner Reverses the Bidding

Example 16

north	east	south	west
1♦	pass	1nt	pass
2♥	pass	4♦	

South's hand

♠ A 7 2

♥ 7

♦ A J 4 2 (9 points)

♣ 10 9 7

- With 9 points, you know your side has game points.
- With a singleton in your partner's second suit, 3nt does not seem right.
- Make the jump to show partner strength.

When Partner Reverses the Bidding

Example 17

north	east	south	west
1♦	pass	1nt	pass
2♥	pass	3nt	

South's hand

♠ A 7 2

♥ 7 5 2

♦ J 9 2 (9 points)

♣ A 10 9 7

- With 9 points, you know your side has game points.
- No trump seems like the best place to play the game

When Partner Makes a Jump Shift

Example 18

north	east	south	west
1♦	pass	1♥	pass
2♠	pass	3♣	

South's hand

♠ 9 7

♥ K 7 5 2

♦ J 9 2 (6 points)

♣ Q 10 9 7

- Partner's jump shift show 20 or 21 points.
- It is game forcing.
- Show partner a club stopper and let her bid the no trump game.

When Partner Makes a Jump Shift

Example 19

north	east	south	west
1♦	pass	1♥	pass
2♠	pass	3♦	

South's hand

♠ 9 7 3

♥ K 7 5 2

♦ K 9 5 2 (6 points)

♣ 10 9 7

- Partner's jump shift show 20 or 21 points.
- It is game forcing.
- The best you can do is show a fit with partner's first suit.
- Let partner decide where to play the game.

Final Thoughts

- By the time you get to your second bid, as responder, you know a great deal about the hand.
- No one makes the perfect bid every time.
- But, if you think carefully about what you have heard from partner and his hand and your hand together, you can make the right bid most of the time.