

## When to Raise Responder's Major with 3 card Support

### Part I "When it's obvious"

Traditionally there was only one answer to this question, and that was never. More recently there have been 2 different approaches to this question.

1. Raise the major when it's the "best lie"
2. Raise the major when NT might have an issue

Today's lesson is all about case #1.

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	?		

Possible North Hands for the above auction

1. ♠AQ2 ♥AT43 ♦Q8743 ♣8
2. ♠AQ2 ♥AT43 ♦Q874 ♣83
3. ♠AQ2 ♥AT4 ♦Q873 ♣863
4. ♠872 ♥AQ43 ♦Q8743 ♣A
5. ♠842 ♥AKT3 ♦KQ43 ♣83
6. ♠A82 ♥3 ♦KQ432 ♣Q653

In which of these hands do we have to "lie"?

What would you rebid with those hands?

Let's make a more challenging issue by inverting the majors in the above auctions

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	?		

Possible North Hands for the above auction

7. ♠AT43 ♥AQ2 ♦Q8743 ♣8
8. ♠AT43 ♥AQ2 ♦Q874 ♣83
9. ♠AT4 ♥AQ2 ♦Q873 ♣863
10. ♠AQ43 ♥872 ♦Q8743 ♣A
11. ♠AKT3 ♥842 ♦KQ43 ♣83
12. ♠3 ♥A82 ♦KQ432 ♣Q653

In which of these hands do we have to “lie”?

What would you rebid with those hands?

In essence you have to lie when your correct shape bid is a reverse, but you don't have reverse values.

My general tendency in these auctions is to almost always raise with a small singleton when that is the case. I will make a more natural bid when I can.

If you want to be more aggressive about raising with potential 3 card support you need to have a system for distinguishing between 3 and 4 card raises when partner has invitational or better values. Next week's class will discuss the most common convention for discovering that, namely the “Spiral Raise”

Answers:

Need to “lie” with #1 and #4 only

Rebid Suggestions (Using the when obvious strategy):

1. 2♠
2. 1N
3. 1N
4. 2♠
5. 1N
6. 2♠ (Not necessary to lie, but better MP strategy than 2♣)
7. 1♠
8. 1N
9. 1N
10. 1♠
11. 1N
12. 2♥ (Not necessary to lie, but better MP strategy than 2♣)