

TIP OF THE WEEK: 1NT SEMI-FORCING

“The key difference between 1NT Forcing and 1NT Semi-Forcing is whether opener can pass a 1NT response. Playing 1NT Semi-Forcing, opener is expected to pass a 1NT response with a balanced hand which would not accept a limit raise. Playing 1NT Forcing, opener cannot pass a 1NT response. So opener would need to manufacture a bid with a balanced hand that isn't strong enough to rebid 2NT.” (Source: Loeb Bridge)

LARRY COHEN

www.larryco.com › [bridge-learning-center](#) › [detail](#)
[1NT Forcing or Semi-Forcing - Bridge Articles - Larry Cohen](#)
www.larryco.com › [bridge-learning-center](#) › [detail](#)

Henry Jackson

www.bridgewebs.com › [nkbc](#) › [SemiForcingNT](#)
[1NT Semi-Forcing – FEFMO Forcing Except Flat Minimum Openings](#)

Gavin Wolpert

Opener's Rebid			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	YOU
			1♠
P	1N	P	??
YOU			
♠ KJ632			
♥ J2			
♦ KT3			
♣ A97			

Semi-Forcing 1NT Response

This is the reason I like to play a semi-forcing 1NT.

If you are playing a forcing NT, this hand is a 2♠ rebid.

Our hand has notrump written all over it. We do risk playing in 1NT when partner has a 3-card limit raise or some crazy unbalanced hand, but on average partner is also going to have a balanced hand.

No system is perfect. I am a strong advocate for semi-forcing 1NT.

Correct Bid:

P

15

1NT Semi-Forcing Pros: (Source: Loeb Bridge)

- Allows you to play 1NT
 - A non-vulnerable 1NT tends to score well whether it makes or not
- Opener's rebids are natural
 - Less guessing for responder
 - More accurate bidding
 - A 14-16 1NT range is recommended with 1NT Semi-Forcing to avoid opener having to manufacture a bid with a 14 point balanced hand

1NT Semi-Forcing Cons:

- You may play 1NT when responder has a 3-card limit raise
 - Not necessarily a bad thing
 - Sometimes 3♠ (or 3♥) is going down
 - Sometimes the same tricks are available in notrump
- You may play 1NT when responder has a weak hand with a long suit
 - A hand like ♠9 ♥Q9 ♦QJ98542 ♣J73 has more value in diamonds than notrump

Bill's Tip

Bill's Tip O' The Day
Two Over One... 1NT Semi-Forcing

➤ Examples where Opener can pass:

- ✓ You open 1♥ with ♠KQ53 ♥AQ953 ♦Q3 ♣94, partner bids 1NT. PASS!
(Partner does NOT have 4 ♠'s)
- ✓ You open 1♥ with ♠KJ10 ♥J7542 ♦432 ♣AK, partner bids 1NT. Do you really want to bid 2♣ or 2♦?

Monday, 2/11/2013



<https://youtu.be/fwzsfMf62LA>

Peter Hollands

The screenshot shows the BridgeVid.com interface for a teaching board. The main area displays the bidding sequence: Pass, 1NT, Pass. The cards for South (S) are shown as AK876 of spades, Q9 of hearts, J103 of clubs, and Q54 of diamonds. The interface also shows the hands for North (N), West (W), and East (E), all labeled as 'sliynk'. A video feed of Peter Hollands is visible in the bottom left corner. On the right side, there is a 'My Results' table and a 'View Cards' section showing the distribution of cards for North, West, East, and South.

<https://youtu.be/8kh25NJGLY>

Robert Todd

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