

RESPONSES TO ONE NO-TRUMP ON AN UNBALANCED HAND.-- handout 2.

Responding to one no-trump with a weak hand.

With a balanced hand and fewer than 11 high card points all you can do is pass, except when holding a five card or longer suit. With a five card or longer suit you may make a weakness take out by bidding 2 of that suit. Responder makes the decision.

Responding with intermediate hands 11-12.

If you have 11 or 12 points, raise partners, 1no-trump bid to 2 no-trumps. Responder is now making an asking bid. He is still in charge

If partner has 14 points. He will raise to 3-no-trump, and pass with fewer than 14 points. 2NT is asking, How many points do you have?

Stronger hands with six + hearts or spades.

When one no-trump is opened, the hand must contain at least two cards in each suit. So if you have a long major suit of six plus cards, the partnership must have an 8+ card fit in that major. With enough points to go to game, 13 or more, including length, bid game in a your major.

Stronger hands with a five card major . Opener may have a three card fit. Bid, three of your major, telling partner to go to game in a major if he has three or more and to bid three no Trumps, with less than three in the major.

To jump to three clubs or three diamonds shows real interest in playing in that minor. It may be a distributional hand or It may be a very strong hand so that a slam may be possible.