

# Some Partnership Agreements

Talk Them Over

# Playing 2/1 Game Force

- When you or your partner open the bidding and your opponents politely stay silent, I'm pretty sure you and partner know what your bids mean.
- But when opponents rudely interfere, things change.
- Some bids don't mean what they would have meant had opponents been silent.
- If you don't have backup agreements, you can get into trouble.

1 ♥ ... (1 ♠) ... 1nt

Hand 1

Responder hand

♠ K 9 2

♥ J 2

♦ J 8 5 2

♣ K 10 4 3

- 1nt is no longer forcing.
- It is a suggestion to play 1nt.
- Shows 6-10 points and a stopper in spades.
- Partner can pass, and should pass if 1nt is the right bid.

1 ♥ ... (1 ♠) ... 2nt

Hand 2

Responder's hand

♠ K 9 2

♥ J 2

♦ K J 5 2

♣ K 10 4 3

- 2nt is no longer the Jacoby 2nt convention.
- It shows 11 or 12 points, a balanced hand and a spade stopper.
- Partner can pass, and should pass with a relatively balanced 12 or 13 points.

1 ♥ ... (1 ♠) ... 2 ♣

Hand 3

Responder's hand

♠ 9 5 2

♥ J 2

♦ A 8 5

♣ K Q 10 4 3

- Not a game forcing bid.
- It is, however, forcing for at least one round of bidding.
- Shows a 5+ card suit and 10+ points.

1 ♥ ... (dble) ... 2 ♣

Hand 4

Opener's hand

♠ 9 2

♥ A J 10 7 2

♦ A J 10

♣ K 4 3

- After a takeout double, responder's 2-level bids are not forcing.
- Responder has 8 or 9 points and 5+ clubs.
- If responder had 10+ points, she would redouble.

1 ♥ ... (1 ♠) ... 3 ♥ or 4 ♥

Hand 5

Responder's hand

♠ 9 2  
♥ Q J 7 2  
♦ 10 9 8 5  
♣ K 4 3

Bid 3 ♥

- Weak bid, showing trump support.
- Non forcing

Hand 6

Responder's hand

♠ 9  
♥ Q 9 7 5 2  
♦ 10 9 8 5  
♣ K 4 3

Bid 4 ♥

1 ♥ ... (1 ♠) ... 2 ♠

Hand 7

Responder 's hand

♠ 9 2

♥ Q J 7 2

♦ A J 10 5

♣ K 4 3

- A cue bid of the opponent's suit shows 11+ points.
- 3+ card trump support
- Count dummy points.
- Forcing, of course



# What Bids By Opener Are Forcing or Non-forcing

- We know, of course, that a non-jump new suit at the two level is game forcing, in an uncontested auction.
- In a competitive auction a new suit at the two level is only a one-round force.
- Responder could have as few as 10 points.
- What bids by opener are forcing?
- First, let's look at opener's non-forcing bids.

1 ♥ ... (2 ♣) ... 2 ♦ ... (pass) ... 2 ♥

Hand 8

♠ 9 2

♥ A Q 10 9 5 2

♦ 8 5

♣ A J 10

- When opener repeats the opening suit at the minimum available level, it is non-forcing.
- Responder may bid again, but may pass.

Responder

♠ K J 5

♥ 7 3

♦ A Q 9 7 2

♣ 9 4 3

1 ♥ ... (2 ♣) ... 2 ♦ ... (pass) ... 2nt

Hand 9

♠ Q 9 2

♥ A Q 10 9 5

♦ 5 3

♣ K J 10

- When opener rebids no trump at the minimum available level, it is non-forcing.
- Responder may bid again, but may pass.

Responder

♠ K J 5

♥ 7 3

♦ A Q 9 7 2

♣ 9 4 3

1 ♥ ... (2 ♣) ... 2 ♦ ... (pass) ... 3 ♦

Hand 10

♠ Q 9 2

♥ A Q 10 9 5

♦ K J 3

♣ 10 7

- When opener raises responder's suit at the minimum available level, it is non-forcing..
- Responder may bid again, but may pass.

Responder

♠ K J 5

♥ 7 3

♦ A Q 9 7 2

♣ 9 4 3

1 ♠ ... (2 ♣) ... 2 ♦ ... (pass) ... 2 ♥

Hand 11

♠ A Q 10 9 2

♥ K Q 9 7

♦ K J 3

♣ 9

Responder

♠ J 5

♥ 7 3

♦ A Q 9 7 2

♣ K J 10 3

- When opener rebids a new suit, it is forcing.
- Responder's minimum rebids are:
  - Raise opener's first suit.
  - Raise opener's second suit.
  - Bid no trump
  - Rebid responder's suit

1 ♥ ... (2 ♣) ... 2 ♦ ... (pass) ... 2 ♠

Hand 12

♠ A Q 10 9

♥ A Q 10 9 7

♦ A J 3

♣ 9

Responder

♠ J 5

♥ 7 3

♦ K Q 9 7 2

♣ K J 10 3

- When opener rebids a new suit, it is forcing.
- Responder's minimum rebids are:
  - Raise opener's first suit.
  - Raise opener's second suit.
  - Bid no trump
  - Rebid responder's suit

1 ♠ ... (2 ♥) ... 3 ♦ ... (pass) ... 4 ♦

Hand 13

♠ A Q J 10 9

♥ A 7

♦ A J 8 3

♣ Q 9

- When opener supports your suit at the 4 level, it is forcing.
- Be aware of slam possibilities.

Responder

♠ 6 5

♥ 7 3

♦ K Q 10 9 7 2

♣ A K J

1 ♥ ... (2 ♦) ... 3 ♣ ... (pass) ... 3nt

Hand 14

♠ A 9 4

♥ A Q 10 9 7

♦ A J 5

♣ Q 9

- Partner bids game. It is non-forcing, of course.
- But be alert for slam possibilities.

Responder

♠ K Q 5

♥ K 3

♦ 7 2

♣ K J 10 8 5 3



# Agreements: Talk Them Over With Partner

