Stepped Responses to Asking Bids

Ask	Steps	Meaning
Alpha **Primary Trump Asking**	1 2 3 4 5 6 …	No Support, 0-3 Controls No Support 4+ Controls Support, 0-3 Controls Support 4+ Controls Good Support, 4 Controls Good Support, 5 controls
Beta (Normal) **Control Asking**	1 2 3 …	0-2 Controls 3 Controls 4 Controls
Beta (Weak)	1 2 3 …	0 Controls 1 Control 2 Controls
Beta (Strong)	1 2 3 …	0-4 Controls 5 Controls 6 Controls
Beta (Super)	1 2 3 …	0-7 Controls 8 Controls 9 Controls
Beta (Range)	1 2 3 6	Minimum Max, 0-2 Controls Max, 3 Controls …
Gamma Length Known **Trump Asking (Responder's Suit)**	1 2 3 4 5 6	No Top Honour 1 Top Honour 1 Top Honour + Jack 2 Top Honours 2 Top Honours + Jack 3 Top Honours
Gamma Length Unknown	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 …	No Top Honour Min, 1 Top Honour Min 2/3 Top Honours Min +1, 1 Top Honour Min + 1, 2 Top Honours Min + 1, 3 Top Honours Min + 2, 1 Top Honours

Ask	Steps
Zeta **Trump Set, Control Asking**	
Eta **Trump Asking** **Known 4-card Suit**	1 2 3 4 5 6
Epsilon **Specific** **Control Asking**	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Repeat Epsilon	1 2 3 4 5
Delta & Theta **Secondary** **Trump Asking**	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Iota **Secondary** **Trump Asking** (Responder balanced)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Repeat Asks

Meaning
See Beta (Normal/Weak) Responses
Jxxx or worse
Qxxx
QJxx
KQxx
KQJx
AKQx
No Control or 1st & 2nd
3rd
2nd
2nd & 3rd
1st
1st & 3rd
1st, 2nd & 3rd
Shortage
Honour
Both
Suit without the Jack
Suit with the Jack
- or x
Q or xx
Qx or xxx
KQ or Qxx
xxxx
KQx or Qxxx
KQxx
xxxxx or xxxxxx
Qxxxx or Qxxxxx
KQxxx or KQxxxx
Less than Qx or xxx
Qx or xxx
KQ or Qxx
xxxx
KQx or Qxxx
KQxx
xxxxx or xxxxxx
Qxxxx or Qxxxxx
KQxxx or KQxxxx

Alpha	Theta or Iota
Beta	Always Weak Scale
Gamma	
No TH Shown	Minimum Length
	Minimum + 1
	Minimum + 2
1 TH Shown	Q or KJ
	K or AJ
	A or QJ
1 TH with Jack shown	Q
	K
	A
2 TH Shown	KQ or AKJ
	AQ or KQJ
	AK or AQJ
2 TH with Jack Shown	KQ
	AQ
	AK
Delta	
In same suit	Shorter Option first
In different Suit	Theta or Iota
Epsilon	Shortage
	Honour
	Both
	Suit minus Jack
	Suit with Jack
0 or 1&2 Shown	No Control
	Shortage (A)
	Honour (AKx)
	Suit minus Jack
	Suit with Jack
Zeta	See Beta
Eta	Not permitted
Theta	
In same suit	Shorter Option first
In different Suit	Theta or Iota
Iota	
In same suit	Shorter Option first
In different Suit	Theta or Iota

Action after

DOPI & ROPI
Backwards Ask
Lebensohl

Interference

Double	1 Step
Pass	2 Steps
1	3 Steps
2	4 Steps
…	
Double	Suit below
Pass	Suit 2 below
Pass	Demands X or XX
X or XX	To Play (Penalty)
Bid	Ask