

## Responder's 2<sup>nd</sup> Bid when opener rebids No Trumps

This deals with the situation when

- The opening bid is one of suit,
- Responder bids a new suit at the one or two level.
- Opener rebids 1NT, 2NT or 3NT

E.g.    Opener            Responder  
      1 ♦                    1 ♥  
      1NT

### 1. Opener's 1NT Rebid

If opener rebids 1NT this shows 15-16 HCP and opener is denying 4 card support for responder's major suit.

#### (a) Responder is Minimum (6-8 HCP)

- Often you will simply pass if you have a balanced hand.
- You can rebid a 6+ card suit
- or bid two of opener's minor suit with 4+ card support.
- You can bid a third suit but only when lower ranking than your first suit. This is non-forcing.
- With a very long suit you may sometimes treat your hand as being in the invitational category (about 9 HCP- see next section)

#### (b) Responder has invitational values (about 9 HCP)

- Raise to 2NT with a fairly balanced hand.
- Rebid own 6+ card suit at the 3-level.
- or jump to 3 of opener's minor suit with 4+ card support.

#### (c) Responder has game values (10+ HCP)

- Raise to 3NT with a fairly balanced hand.
- Make a jump rebid of own 6+ card major at game level.
- Make a reverse bid in a 3<sup>rd</sup> suit. This is forcing to game. This is called a 'responder's reverse'.
- Jump in a 3<sup>rd</sup> suit at the 3-level. This is also forcing to game.

N.B. In the last two cases it is possible responder may *occasionally* have to bid a 3-card suit when they're unsure of the best contract

## 2.Responder's 2<sup>nd</sup> Bid when opener rebids 2 No Trumps (after a response at the 1-level)

If opener jumps to 2NT this is showing 17-18 HCP

E.g.    Opener            Responder  
      1 ♣                1 ♥  
      2NT

- You can pass with a minimum hand
- *Any other bid* below game level is forcing to game

## 3.Responder's 2<sup>nd</sup> Bid when opener rebids 2 No Trump (after a response at the 2-level)

If opener bids 2NT this is showing 15-16 HCP

E.g.    Opener            Responder  
      1 ♥                2 ♣  
      2NT

- Assuming your hand satisfied the rule of 14 when you bid you can treat 2NT as forcing.
- With a long suit and a minimum hand you can make a non-forcing rebid of your suit at the 3-level. (e.g. if you had bid 2 ♣ with 7 clubs and 7 HCP)
- Any other bid is forcing to game. (E.g. With 3 of the opener's major you can bid 3 of that suit and give your partner the choice between 3 NT and 4 of the major)

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## Responder's 2<sup>nd</sup> Bid when opener rebids his suit

### 1.Opener rebids his suit at the two level

If opener repeats their suit at the minimum level this shows 11-15 HCP. They are likely to have a 6-card suit but it might only be 5 if responder's bid makes it impossible to show a 2<sup>nd</sup> suit 'below the barrier' or they are 5major -3-3-2 and chose to open 1 major. (as against 1NT)

#### (a) Responder is Minimum (6-10 HCP)

- Usually the responder will simply pass even with a shortage in the opener's suit and should not be tempted to 'rescue' into 2NT or another suit.
- However with a good 6+ card suit responder can rebid that suit at the minimum level.

### (b) Responder has invitational values (11-12 HCP)

Responder now has various options

- Raise opener's suit to the 3-level with 3+ card support. Opener may pass or bid game in his suit or in NT.
- Bid 2NT. This denies 3-card support for opener's major suit. Ideally responder will have stoppers in the unbid suits but this can't be guaranteed if you're stuck for a bid. Opener may now pass, bid 3NT or bid his suit for a 3<sup>rd</sup> time. They might also show delayed support for responder's suit or a bid a 3<sup>rd</sup> suit at the three level.
- Rebid in his own suit at the three level with a good 6+ card suit.
- Bid a 3<sup>rd</sup> suit at the two level (not a reverse). This is forcing for one round, but responder may pass opener's 3<sup>rd</sup> bid.

### (c) Responder has game values (13+ HCP)

Again responder now has various options

- Raise opener's major suit to game with 3+ card support.
- Bid 3NT. This denies 3-card support for opener's major suit. Responder should have stoppers in both unbid suit.
- Make a jump rebid in his own suit at game level. This shows a self-supporting suit.
- Bid a 3<sup>rd</sup> suit at the two level (not a reverse). This is forcing for one round. However if partner rebids below game level you should bid again.
- Bid a 3<sup>rd</sup> suit at the two level ( a reverse) or at the three level. This is forcing to game

In the last two cases, responder may occasionally have to "invent" a suit if he is unsure of the best contract. (usually at least 3 cards)

## 2. Opener rebids his suit at the three level

E.g.	Opener	Responder
	1 ♣	1 ♥
	3 ♣	

The opener is showing about 16-18 HCP. The responses are relatively straightforward.

- You can pass with a minimum hand
- With 8+ HCP you should make a rebid. You may just raise your partner to game but note that any other bid you make below game level is also forcing to game.

