

Limiting your Hand (Part II)

A Bridge Lesson!

Some bids in bridge LIMIT your hand to a specific shape and point count range.

This is nice because now that you have shown your hand your PARTNER gets to make the decision as to where you play and how high you go.

Last week we talked about bidding NT
and how it LIMITS your hand.

OPENER:

Open 1 of a suit and rebid 1NT shows a balanced hand with FEWER than 15 HCP

Open 1NT shows 15-17 HCP with a balanced hand

Open 1 of a suit and jump to rebid 2NT shows a balanced hand with 18 or 19 HCP

Open 2NT shows 20-21 HCP with a balanced hand

RESPONDER:

Responds 1NT to show 6-10 HCP

Responds 2NT to show 11-12 HCP with a BALANCED hand and no four+ card major

Responds 3NT to show 13-15 HCP with a BALANCED hand and no four+ card major

What other bids LIMIT your hand?

Supporting Partner LIMITS your hand.

If Partner opens 1 of a major raising them to the 2 level shows 6-10 points with at least a three card fit

If Partner opens 1 of a major raising them to the 3 level shows 11 or 12 points with a four card fit

If Partner opens 1 of a major raising them to the 4 level shows 6 to 9 points with a five card fit

If Partner opens 1 of a major raising them to the 2 level shows 6-10 points with at least a three card fit

When you have ONE bid in your hand support
Partner's major suit.

♠ KT82

♥ A53

♦ J832

♣ 86

Partner

1♥

RHO

Pass

You!

2♥

If this hand bids 1♠ then what is your bid over Partner's 2♣ response? Bidding 2♥ now denies having three of them.

♠ KT82

♥ A53

♦ J832

♣ 86

Partner

1♥

2♣

RHO

Pass

Pass

You!

1♠

2♥ !!!

If Partner opens 1 of a major raising them to the 3 level shows 11 or 12 points with a four card fit

Remember to count Dummy points!
This hand has three points for their singleton.
Now it is worth a limit raise.

	Partner	RHO	You!
♠ Q82			
♥ AJ53	1♥	Pass	3♥
♦ Q8632			
♣ 8			

If Partner opens 1 of a major raising them to the 4 level shows 6 to 9 points with a five card fit

Don't be afraid with a weak hand to jump to your LAW level right away. Partner's 5 trump plus your 5 trump = 10 tricks = 4 level. Get there quick before the Opponents figure out you've robbed them.

♠ 862
♥ AJ853
♦ 8632
♣ 8

Partner	RHO	You!
1♥	Pass	4♥

Sometimes you even make these bids!

Note: With a weak hand prefer to have a singleton.
No sense in having all those extra trump if you can't trump things!

	Partner	RHO	You!
♠ 862			
♥ AJ853	1♥	Pass	4♥
♦ 8632			
♣ 8			

If Partner opens 1 of a minor raising them to the 2 level shows 6-10 points with at least a five card fit

If Partner opens 1 of a minor raising them to the 3 level shows 11 or 12 HCP with a five card fit

Note that raising to 3 of the minor should be based on HCP (High Card Points) not shortness. We are looking for 3NT and for that you need points.

♠ J62

♥ 53

♦ AKQ83

♣ J83

Partner

1♦

RHO

Pass

You!

3♦

Never raise Partner's minor if you have a four card major. You might have a fit in the major!

♠ K62
♥ J853
♦ KQ863
♣ 8

Partner

1♦

RHO

Pass

You!

1♥

When deciding on whether or not to raise Partner's minor OR bid NT think about where your points are...

This hand has values in the minor. Support the minor.

♠ J62

♥ 53

♦ AK863

♣ 862

Partner

1♦

RHO

Pass

You!

2♦

This hand wants to protect its Kings. Bid NT.
Remember to make sure the values you have in your
hand MATCH the values you show in your bid.

♠ K82

♥ K3

♦ T8643

♣ K86

Partner

1♦

RHO

Pass

You!

1NT

1NT shows 6 to 10 points. Perfect.

♠ K82

♥ K3

♦ T8643

♣ K86

Partner

1♦

RHO

Pass

You!

1NT

This hand would bid 2NT to show 11 or 12 points.
Perfect.

♠ K82

♥ K3

♦ K8643

♣ K86

Partner

1♦

RHO

Pass

You!

2NT

Opener supports Responder's Major

Opener

Opp

Responder

Opp

1♦

Pass

1♥

Pass

???

When Partner responds to your opening bid they might only have a four card suit.

Therefore you need four to support.

If you have four card support tell Partner **RIGHT AWAY!**

You show your point count when you support.

Raising 1 level shows a minimum up to 16 points

Raising 2 levels shows 17-18 points (good 16)

Raising 3 levels shows 19+

Don't tell Partner about your other four card major.
It is better (true) but NOT bidding 2♥ now DENIES
having four card support.

♠ AK82

♥ J863

♦ AJ3

♣ 86

You!

1♦

2♥

LHO

Pass

Partner

1♥

RHO

Pass

With 16 points you have to decide whether or not your hand is worth a jump to 3 of the major. If you like your hand bid 3. If you are not so crazy about it just rebid 2.

Points in my long suits. Nice trump. Nice side suit.
Singleton.
I LIKE this hand!

♠ 2

♥ AK63

♦ KQJT3

♣ 862

You!

1♦

3♥

LHO

Pass

Partner

1♥

RHO

Pass

Points in my short suits. Bad trump. Not a great side suit. No Aces. No singleton.
Not so crazy about this hand.

	You!	LHO	Partner	RHO
♠ K2				
♥ Q632	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
♦ KJ632	2♥			
♣ KQ				

Remember to count DUMMY points. This hand has three points for their singleton.

 2	You!	LHO	Partner	RHO
 AK63	1 	Pass	1 	Pass
 AKJT3	4 			
 Q62				

Some feel a jump to game is a cut off bid asking
Partner to "Pass"

 2	You!	LHO	Partner	RHO
 AK63	1 	Pass	1 	Pass
 AKJT3	4 			
 Q62				

This is true IFF Partner has LIMITED their hand. In this auction Partner has NOT. This bid shows enough values for game if Responder has 6. So 19+.

♠ 2

♥ AK63

♦ AKJT3

♣ Q62

You!

1♦

4♥

LHO

Pass

Partner

1♥

RHO

Pass

When Opener rebids to show a major they probably only have four of them therefore you need four to support.

This is the auction I am talking about

Opener	Opp	Responder	Opp
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	???	

Just like Opener will support you right away, as Responder, if you have four card support, tell Partner RIGHT AWAY!

You show your point count when you support.

You can “Pass” with a fit or tolerance to their major

Raising 1 level shows a good 6-10 points

Raising 2 levels shows 11-12 points

Raising 3 levels shows an opening hand with no
slam interest

A new suit by RESPONDER is forcing.
 A new suit by OPENER is not forcing unless they do
 something crazy like jump or reverse.
 So you ARE allowed to "Pass"

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ J872				
♥ Q632	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
♦ J3	1♠	Pass	PASS!	
♣ Q62				

To “Pass” you should have either a fit or tolerance (a three card suit) PLUS a BAD HAND!

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ J82				
♥ Q652	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
♦ J	1♠	Pass	PASS!	
♣ Q8642				

Yech. You have a terrible hand. If you are making game it would be a miracle. "Pass" before you get too high. You DO have a fit!

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ J872				
♥ Q632	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
♦ J3	1♠	Pass	PASS!	
♣ Q62				

Here you have tolerance and NO WHERE else to play!

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ J82				
♥ Q652	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
♦ J	1♠	Pass	PASS!	
♣ Q8642				

Here you you DON'T have tolerance – Partner probably has four trump. You have two. The Opponents have more trump than you do! You have to bid again. Bid 1NT to show your values.

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ J8				
♥ Q652	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
♦ J2	1♠	Pass	1NT	
♣ Q8642				

With 6 or 7 points you can decide whether or not to
 “Pass” the 1♠ rebid or support with 2♠
 With a GOOD 6 or 7 choose to raise. Partner can
 have up to a balanced 19 for their bid!

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ AQ72				
♥ 8632	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
♦ J3	1♠	Pass	2♠	
♣ 862				

Partner will like my AQ♠

I will raise 1 level to show a good 6 to 10

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ AQ72				
♥ 8632	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
♦ J3	1♠	Pass	2♠	
♣ 862				

Remember to count Dummy points since YOU will be
Dummy!

With 11 or 12 points invite game.

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
♠ AQ72				
♥ 8632	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
♦ Q863	1♠	Pass	3♠	
♣ 2				

Partner opened. You have an opening hand. Make sure you get them to a game.

	Partner	RHO	You!	LHO
 AQ72	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
 Q632	1♠	Pass	4♠	
 Q63				
 K2				

That's a lot of ranges!

Let's put them to the test!

But I'll give you a week to study...

Opener	Responder:
1 MAJOR	???

Responder:

- 2 MAJOR -- 6-10 points with at least a three card fit
- 3 MAJOR -- 11 or 12 points with a four card fit
- 4 MAJOR -- 6 to 9 points with a five card fit

Opener Responder:
1 MINOR ???

Responder
2 MINOR -- 6-10 points with a five card fit no major
3 MINOR -- 11-12 HCP with a five card fit no major

Opener	Responder
1 suit	1 MAJORx
???	

Opener:

2 MAJORx -- 12-16 points with a four card fit

3 MAJORx – (16) 17 or 18 points with a four card fit

4 MAJORx -- 19-21 points with a four card fit

Opener	Responder
1 suitx	1 suity
1 MAJORz	???

Responder:

Pass – WEAK hand with a fit/tolerance for MAJORz
2 MAJORz - good 6-10 points with four of MAJORz
3 MAJORz - 11-12 points with four of MAJORz
4 MAJORz – opening hand with four of MAJORz

GOOD LUCK TONIGHT!

(Download the recap and study at home!)