Responder has choices:

The opener’s partner, the responder, needs only 6 HCP to enter the auction.

Responder has 3 choices:
- Support bids of partner’s suit – limit raise
- Notrump bids – limit bids
- Bid a new suit – unlimited, forcing for 1 round – next week’s lesson

Limit bids are very useful as they are specific in strength and length.

Responder’s Limit Raises

Supporting Partner’s Suit Opening (4+ card support)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1♥ – 2♥</td>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>4+ support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3♥</td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>4+ support</td>
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<tr>
<td>4♥</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>4+ support</td>
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Responder’s Limit NT Bids – next week’s lesson will clarify when to use these bids

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<tr>
<td>1♠ – 1NT</td>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>denies 4+ support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2NT</td>
<td>10-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>3NT</td>
<td>13+</td>
<td>denies 4+ support</td>
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Opener’s Rebid after a Limit Raise

After 1♥ – 2♥

Pass 12-15
3♥ 16-17
4♥ 18-19

After 1♥ – 3♥

Pass 12-13
4♥ 14+

Opener’s Rebid after a NT Limit Response

After 1♥ – 1NT

Pass/rebid suit at min level 12-15
New suit 12-17 Promises 5+ hearts and 4+ new suit
2NT/3♥ 16-17 3♥ shows a 6+ suit
3NT/4♥ 18-19 4♥ shows a 6+ suit

After 1♥ – 2NT

Pass/rebid suit at min level 12-13
New suit 14+ Promises 5+ hearts and 4+ new suit
3NT/4♥ 14+ 4♥ shows a 6+ suit
PLAY & DEFENCE TIP

Defence: Opening Leads

Defence starts with the Opening Lead

Leading against a Notrump Contract

- Lead partner’s suit (if they bid one)
- Lead top of a sequence of 3 honours or broken sequence
  
KQJ3  KQ109
- Lead a low card from a suit with an honour
  
AJ854  K932  Q64
- Lead a high card from a suit with NO honour
  
974   8742
- Lead an unbid major before an unbid minor – opponents usually bid a major if they have one

Leading against a Suit Contract

- Lead partner’s suit (if they have bid one)
- Lead top of a sequence of 2 or 3 honours
  
QJ932  J1065
- Lead a singleton in a side suit
  
– you may be able to get a ruff with a small trump
- Lead a low card from a suit with an honour, EXCEPT a suit with the Ace at the top
- Lead a high card from a suit with NO honour
  
97642  104

Summary

♣ If there is a suit not bid the opponents, then without an obvious lead, lead that suit
♣ If you lead a low card you will promise an honour in that suit
♣ If you lead a high card (like a 9, 8 or 7) then you deny holding an honour in that suit
♣ If you lead an honour card, it should show at least the honour below that
♣ Don’t lead away from an Ace in a suit contract – you may lose to a singleton K