

## BRIDGE THOUGHTS FOR JUNIORS

Pick up your cards – How many points?  
What is my shape – balanced?  
Can I open 1NT? or  
1-suit, 2, etc?

Opener's rebid: Minimum: Bid a lower second suit or rebid my first suit  
Invite: Raise partner's suit, Rebid 1NT, or jump in my long suit  
Forcing: Reverse in a new suit, jump in NT or a new suit at the 3-level

Responder's rebid: Minimum: Show preference in Opener's suit or 1NT or repeat my own long suit  
Invite: Bid 2NT or jump in my suit or partner's suit  
Forcing: Reverse in a new suit or a new suit at the 3-level

Sometimes, what's NOT bid is as important as what is BID

Use loser count or the rule of 20 to decide on a 1-level opening

When in a Game Force (GF) situation eg – new suit 3-level, 2NT rebid, or 2C opening: You MUST keep bidding to game – don't pass!

After 2C GF Opening, agreeing a suit at a low level is stronger than going straight to game.

A Reverse bid by opener = 1 round forcing (17-19)  
by responder = Game Forcing

Count, count, count! – points – shape - tricks. Force yourself to keep track of trumps and another important suit – then try all suits! Think about the auction to work out declarer or defender's points and shape.

Concentrate – don't lose focus or get distracted!

Upgrade distributional hands or big fits.

Compete by pushing opponents to the 3 or 5 level!

Watch partner's signals if defending – have clear agreements on your carding methods

Enjoy your bridge – don't get put off by stronger opponents. Smile! Have fun!