

LESSON 4: STUDENT NOTES

Responder's New Suit Bids

Responder's new suit bids

If a limit bid is not possible, responder can bid a new suit, looking for an alternative fit.

A **major** suit fit is by far the best.

It is important to bid your suits in the correct order.

The same rules apply to Responder as they do to Opener.

- Longest suit
- Lower available 4-card suit
- Higher ranking 5-card suit
- Try and keep the bidding as low as possible to give you room to find a **fit**.

Responder's bids

Important – Responder's **new suit** is **forcing**

They are **unlimited** bids and can have a wide range of points (6-28)

Responses to the opening bid with NO FIT

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|--|
| ▪ Bid & change suit at 1-level | 6+ | 4+ suit |
| ▪ Bid & change suit at 2-level | 10+ | 4+ minor/5+ Hearts (don't jump) |
| ▪ Bid 1NT | 6-9 | denies a 4+ card suit at the 1-level |

Examples

Opener	Responder
♠ 95	♠ J8764
♥ AQ854	♥ K2
♦ A954	♦ KQJ32
♣ K8	♣ 6
1♥	– 1♠

Opener	Responder
♠ 8	♠ AK54
♥ AQJ5	♥ 9876
♦ KJ542	♦ AQ3
♣ K87	♣ 54
1♦	– 1♥

Opener	Responder
♠ 8	♠ A43
♥ AQJ53	♥ 98
♦ KJ52	♦ AQ643
♣ K87	♣ Q32
1♥	– 2♦

Opener	Responder
♠ 85	♠ AK43
♥ AQ854	♥ K2
♦ A954	♦ 3
♣ K8	♣ AJ9432
1♥	– 2♣

Opener	Responder
♠ 8	♠ J76
♥ AQJ5	♥ 98
♦ KJ542	♦ AQ
♣ K87	♣ J95432
1♦	– 1NT

Opener	Responder
♠ 8	♠ A43
♥ AQJ53	♥ 982
♦ KJ52	♦ Q64
♣ K87	♣ Q932
1♥	– 1NT

Opener's rebids after a new suit response

- Support partner's suit 4+ in that suit (3+ if responder has bid 2 of a major)
- Bid NT Balanced
- Bid a new suit 4+ in the 2nd suit (5+ first suit if it is a higher ranking suit)
- Rebid own suit 5+ in the suit

Opener supports Responder's Suit

It is important to support partner's suit if possible, particularly in a major

After 1♥ – 1♠			
2♠	12-15	4-card support	single raise
3♠	16-17	4-card support	invitational raise
4♠	18-19	4-card support	game raise

Opener rebids a new suit – showing an unbalanced hand

After 1♥ – 1♠	
2 nd suit below the barrier *	12-15
2 nd suit above the barrier *	16-19
* The barrier is explained below	

Opener rebids their own suit – showing an unbalanced hand

After 1♥ – 1♠	
2♥	12-15 5+ suit
3♥	16-17 6+ suit
4♥	18-19 6+ suit

Opener bids Notrumps – showing a balanced hand

After 1♥ – 1♠	
1NT	15-17
2NT	18-19

After 1♥ – 2♣	
2NT	15-17
3NT	18-19

The barrier

The barrier applies to the Opener and is their original suit at the 2-level.
eg if the Opener bids 1♣ the barrier is 2♣. If Opener bids 1♥ the barrier is 2♥ etc. If the Opener bids a suit above the barrier, they must have at least 16 HCP.



Examples of below the barrier (1 2-15 HCP)

1♦ – 1♠ 2♦ * 2♦ is the barrier	1♠ – 2♣ 2♥ * 2♠ is the barrier
1♦ – 1♥ 1♠ * 2♦ is the barrier	

Examples of above the barrier (16+ HCP)

1♦ – 1♠ 2♥ * 2♦ is the barrier	1♣ – 1♥ 2♦ * 2♣ is the barrier
1♦ – 1♠ 3♣ * 2♦ is the barrier	