



CLASS 7 RESPONDING TO NT (RAISES) & RESPONDING TO 1-LEVEL MAJOR OPENINGS



OBJECTIVES

- Respond to a 1-Level Major Opening Bid
- Respond to a 1NT Opening Bid – Raises

REVIEW

What is the minimum HCP required to make a responding bid? _____

When is your first priority in the bidding? _____

Why? _____

How many cards are needed in a major suit to open bidding in majors? _____

What does a 1NT opening bid promise? _____

How many cards is a fit? _____

When bidding a new suit as Responder, what level should you bid it at?

What does a responding bid of a new suit at the 2-level promise? _____

What is a limited bid and why is that important? _____

What is an unlimited bid? _____

When can you evaluate your hand as Minimum, Medium or Maximum?

RESPONDING TO A 1-LEVEL, MAJOR OPENING BID


First, look for a FIT with partner...

Major Opened	FIRST, DO YOU HAVE A FIT WITH PARTNER'S MAJOR?		
	3+ in suit bid	6-9 HCP	Raise suit to 2-level
	3+ in suit bid	10-12 HCP	Raise suit to 3-level
	3+ in suit bid	13+ HCP	Bid new suit

*Note: Sometimes you may have a fit with Opener's major but when you evaluate your hand it is too strong to raise immediately (e.g., 13+ HCP or sometimes less HCP with other factors that make the hand stronger). A **TEMPORIZING** bid is bidding a new suit with the intent to return to partner's major at next round of bidding. Because it is an **UNLIMITED** bid partner can't PASS and must bid again.*

If no FIT with partner, then explore the unbid major...

Unbid Major	NO FIT PARTNER'S MAJOR EXPLORE UNBID MAJOR		
	4+ ♠	6+ HCP	Bid 1 ♠
	5+ ♥	10+ HCP	Bid 2 ♥

 **When partner opens 1♠ and you respond 2♥, you are promising 10+ HCP and 5+ hearts!**

No possibility of a Major, then check if you are balanced...

Balanced (NT)	NO MAJOR ARE YOU BALANCED?		
	No voids, no singletons & no more than one doubleton	6-10 HCP	Bid 1NT
		11-12 HCP	Bid 2NT
		13-15 HCP	Bid 3NT

RESPONDING TO A 1-LEVEL, MAJOR OPENING BID

Not balanced, then look for a Minor fit...

Minors	NOTRUMP NOT POSSIBLE? EXPLORE MINOR FIT		
	5+ ♦ OR 5+ ♣	10+ HCP	Bid suit at 2-level



When bidding a new suit at the 2-level, you need 10+ HCP.

If none of the above, then...

IF NONE OF THE ABOVE THEN WITH 6-9 HCP → BID 1NT

LET'S RESPOND TO 1-LEVEL MAJOR OPENING BIDS



REMEMBER

- Priority of Contracts: Majors → NT → Minors.
- Count your HCP and 'Do the Math' could you have Game values?
- Have you found a **FIT**?
- Are you **BALANCED**?
- Consider factors that may make hand stronger, and decide if it is a MIN, MED or MAX hand.

DIRECTIONS

- Work independently using the chart on page 60 and the hands in your manual, on pages 61-62.
- Review the opening bid on each page; choose a responding bid.
- Note if your responding bid is **LIMITED** or **UNLIMITED**.
- If time allows, discuss your bids with your table.

RESPONDING TO A MAJOR CHART

Note: This chart follows the priority of contracts, work it from top to bottom.

Major Opened	FIRST, DO YOU HAVE A FIT WITH PARTNER'S MAJOR?		
	3+ in suit bid	6-9 HCP	Raise suit to 2-level
	3+ in suit bid	10-12 HCP	Raise suit to 3-level
	3+ in suit bid	13+ HCP	Bid new suit
Unbid Major	NO FIT PARTNER'S MAJOR EXPLORE UNBID MAJOR		
	4+ ♠	6+ HCP	Bid 1 ♠
	5+ ♥	10+ HCP	Bid 2 ♥
Balanced (NT)	NO MAJOR ARE YOU BALANCED?		
	No voids, no singletons & no more than one doubleton	6-10 HCP	Bid 1NT
		11-12 HCP	Bid 2NT
13-15 HCP		Bid 3NT	
Minors	NOTRUMP NOT POSSIBLE? EXPLORE MINOR FIT		
	5+ ♦ OR 5+ ♣	10+ HCP	Bid suit at 2-level
IF NONE OF THE ABOVE THEN WITH 6-9 HCP → BID 1NT			

Count Your HCP. Remember you need 6+ HCP to make a responding bid. And if bidding a new suit at the 2-level you need 10+ HCP.

RESPONDING BID PRACTICE

Your partner opened 1♥, which promises: _____

What bid would you make as **RESPONDER**?

	HAND	HCP	FIT	BID	WHY
1	♠ QJ75 ♥ 9543 ♦ K5 ♣ 932				
2	♠ 963 ♥ K ♦ Q742 ♣ AQ743				
3	♠ A65 ♥ J93 ♦ AQ74 ♣ J32				
4	♠ 932 ♥ K3 ♦ A954 ♣ KJ74				
5	♠ AKJ94 ♥ QJ943 ♦ 5 ♣ 73				
6	♠ KQ84 ♥ 85 ♦ KJ97 ♣ T84				

RESPONDING BID PRACTICE

Your partner opened 1♠, which promises: _____

What bid would you make as **RESPONDER**?

	HAND	HCP	FIT	BID	WHY
7	♠QJ75 ♥9543 ♦K5 ♣932				
8	♠96 ♥K ♦Q742 ♣AQ7432				
9	♠A65 ♥J93 ♦AQ74 ♣J32				
10	♠93 ♥32 ♦J9543 ♣KJ74				
11	♠AKJ94 ♥QJ943 ♦5 ♣73				
12	♠84 ♥KQ754 ♦KJ97 ♣T8				

WHAT COMES NEXT IN THE BIDDING

When you are unsure where to play (Majors, NT or Minors) think about whether you and partner have the values for Game before making a **REBID**.

- **Do NOT have values** → attempt to stay low and safe.
- **Might/do have values** → Make a **FORCING BID** (a bid that doesn't limit your HCP) to discover additional information to decide where to play.

A **FORCING BID** can be made by either Opener or Responder and requires that partner bid one more time. It tells partner that may have the values for Game and asks partner to give more information about their hand.



Unlimited bids are forcing.

LET'S TRY BIDDING SOME HANDS

REMEMBER

- Are you considering a **LIMITED** or **UNLIMITED** bid? If limited, categorize your hand (MIN, MED or MAX).
- Think about your 2nd bid (**REBID**), keeping in mind:
 - Priority of contracts
 - Have we found a fit?
 - Can we do the math? Do we have enough for Game?
 - Do I need to tell partner anything else about my hand?
- The 1st player to bid the suit or NT that becomes the contract is **DECLARER**.

DIRECTIONS

- Start with Board #1 and everyone pulls out the hand for their seat, whoever is **DEALER** has 1st chance to bid.
- Use the charts to choose an opening or responding bid, depending on who you are in the auction (use the bidding box).
- Say out loud what you understand from partner's bid before you make your bid. But don't tell partner what you hold. Make notes on pages 64-65.
- In these hands, after the opening bid is made the opposing partnership will always PASS, and the auction is done after 3 players call PASS.
- After auction, flip both Declaring partnership's hands face up and discuss.
- Repeat for Boards #2-4.



OPENING A MAJOR & RESPONDING PRACTICE

Circle who you are for each hand. Use the boxes down the middle to note the bids made. Take notes on your side of the sheet on what each bid means.

Hand #1

OPENER [HCP:]

RESPONDER [HCP:]

OPENER BID

What did I promise?		What do I know?
---------------------	--	-----------------

RESPONDER BID

What do I know?		What did I promise?
-----------------	--	---------------------

OPENER REBID

What did I promise?		What do I know?
---------------------	--	-----------------

RESPONDER REBID

What do I know?		What did I promise?
-----------------	--	---------------------

Hand #2

OPENER [HCP:]

RESPONDER [HCP:]

OPENER BID

What did I promise?		What do I know?
---------------------	--	-----------------

RESPONDER BID

What do I know?		What did I promise?
-----------------	--	---------------------

OPENER REBID

What did I promise?		What do I know?
---------------------	--	-----------------

RESPONDER REBID

What do I know?		What did I promise?
-----------------	--	---------------------

OPENING A MAJOR & RESPONDING PRACTICE

Hand #3

OPENER [HCP:]

RESPONDER [HCP:]

OPENER BID

What did I promise?		What do I know?
---------------------	--	-----------------

RESPONDER BID

What do I know?		What did I promise?
-----------------	--	---------------------

OPENER REBID

What did I promise?		What do I know?
---------------------	--	-----------------

RESPONDER REBID

What do I know?		What did I promise?
-----------------	--	---------------------

Hand #4

OPENER [HCP:]

RESPONDER [HCP:]

OPENER BID

What did I promise?		What do I know?
---------------------	--	-----------------

RESPONDER BID

What do I know?		What did I promise?
-----------------	--	---------------------

OPENER REBID

What did I promise?		What do I know?
---------------------	--	-----------------

RESPONDER REBID

What do I know?		What did I promise?
-----------------	--	---------------------

OPENER REBID

What did I promise?		What do I know?
---------------------	--	-----------------

OPENING 1NT REVIEW

Majors	12+ HCP AND 5+ CARDS IN A MAJOR SUIT		
Notrump (NT)	NO 5+ CARD MAJOR ARE YOU BALANCED?		
	No voids, no singletons and no more than one doubleton	15-17 HCP	Bid 1NT
		20-21 HCP	Bid 2NT
		25-27 HCP	Bid 3NT
Minors	12+ HCP, NO 5+ CARD MAJOR AND NOT NOTRUMP		

WOULD YOU OPEN 1NT?

Take a few minutes and look at these hands. Which of these hands would you open 1NT? Why or why not?

1



2



3



4



5

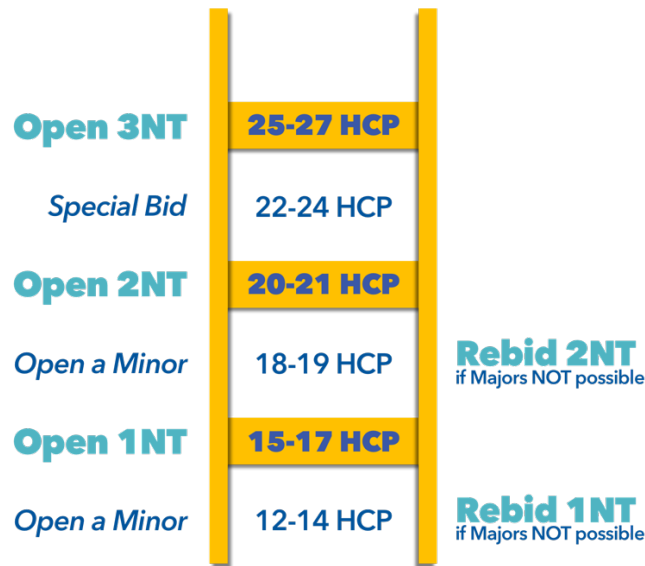


6



OPENING VS. REBIDDING NOTRUMP

With a Balanced Hand



Notrump opening bids are very specific. It requires a balanced hand and a specific HCP range. When you have a balanced hand but not the HCP needed to open NT, then you typically open a minor and rebid NT at 2nd bid (unless a major fit becomes possible).

RESPONDING TO 1NT

Responding involves 2 considerations: number of HCP and number of cards held in the major suits (length of suit), there are 4 options, but we are only focusing on two now: PASS and Raises.

Notrump (NT)	RESPONDING TO 1NT				
	LENGTH OF MAJOR SUIT(S)	0-7 HCP	8-9 HCP	10-14 HCP	15+ HCP
	< 4 cards	PASS	2NT	3NT	RAISE
	Only 4 cards	PASS	Stayman	Stayman	Stayman
	1 4 card suit AND 1 5+ card suit	Jacoby Transfer	Stayman	Stayman	Stayman
	> 4 cards	Jacoby Transfer	Jacoby Transfer	Jacoby Transfer	Jacoby Transfer

Note: Stayman and Jacoby Transfer are special bids. These bids are covered in ACBL Intro to Bridge Classes 12 and 13.

RESPONDING TO 1NT | WHEN TO RAISE



HCP Needed
For Game
25 or 26



STOP 0-7 HCP
INVITE 8-9 HCP
GO 10+ HCP

	<u>YOU</u>	<u>PARTNER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>GAME</u>	<u>SO YOU...</u>
	0-7 HCP	15-17 HCP	15-24 HCP	No	(Stop) PASS*
	8-9 HCP	15-17 HCP	23-26 HCP	Maybe	(Invite) Bid 2NT
	10+ HCP	15-17 HCP	25+ HCP	Yes	(Go) Bid 3NT

Note: There is a special bid that can be made with 0-7 HCP if you hold a 5+ card major. It is not covered in this class. It is in Class 13 of ACBL Intro to Bridge.

LET'S RESPOND TO NOTRUMP



DIRECTIONS

- Working as a table review the hands at the bottom of this page.
- Count the HCP and decide if you should Stop, Invite or Go.

RAISING NOTRUMP PRACTICE

<div style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold; font-size: 24px; border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;">1</div> <p>♠K432 ♥42 ♦543 ♣A762</p>	<div style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold; font-size: 24px; border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;">2</div> <p>♠32 ♥A98 ♦543 ♣A7642</p>	<div style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold; font-size: 24px; border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;">3</div> <p>♠AK3 ♥42 ♦543 ♣A7642</p>	<div style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold; font-size: 24px; border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;">4</div> <p>♠AK3 ♥J42 ♦A543 ♣Q42</p>	<div style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold; font-size: 24px; border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;">5</div> <p>♠8762 ♥432 ♦54 ♣6542</p>
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How many HCP?

With the above hands, what would you bid as Responder?
