

BEGINNERS' LESSONS

Welcome



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Module 7

Unbalanced Hands Openings and Rebids



Unbalanced Openings and Rebids

Unbalanced Openings come in two main types:

- **Single-suited**
- **Two-suited**
- *Three-suited hands can occur – 4441 shapes – but these are rare (may be covered later)*



Single-Suited Hands:

Opener Rebids their Own Suit

- **2-level** = 12-15 HCP (5+ long suit)
- *(you may open on 11 HCP with a 6+ suit)*
- **Jump** = 16-17 HCP (6+ long suit)
- **GAME** = 18-19 HCP (6+ long suit)
(- self-sufficient)

**Higher-level rebids of your own suit
show a longer and/or better quality suit**



Bidding Two-Suited Hands – Which suit do you bid first?

1. Longest suit
2. Lower available 4-card suit
3. Higher ranking 5-card suit

Good players consider their rebid options
before they bid their first suit!



What type of Opening hand have you got?

18 – 19	GAME
16 - 17	Nearly Game
12 - 15	Minimum



Basic Rules for Opener's Rebid

- Agree partner's suit if you have a fit
- Bid NoTrumps on balanced 15-19 HCP
- Bid your suit again (with extra length)
- Bid another (2nd) suit, *IF ...*
 - your hand is not minimum (16-19), or
 - you can keep the bidding low with your minimum hand (12-15)
 - see following explanation ...



Opener's Rebid of a New Suit

- **2nd suit *below the barrier*** = 12 – 15 HCP *
- **2nd suit *above the barrier*** = 16 – 19 HCP

* *You must keep bidding low on minimum hands*

Shows an unbalanced hand

**Shows 5+ cards in first suit and
4+ cards in second suit**



What is the “barrier” ?



The barrier is 2 of Opener's 1st bid suit

Opener **DOES NOT** bid a new suit past
their original opening suit unless they
have 16+ points



Examples of the “barrier” ?



1♦ - 1♠

2♦ is the barrier, so unless you have 16+ points
you can only bid 2♣ or 2♦



Examples of the “barrier” ?



1 ♠ - 2 ♣

What is the barrier in this example ?
What suits can you bid below the barrier ?



Opener's NEW SUIT Rebid

You open 1♥ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 13 HCP

MINIMUM – bid new suit BELOW 1st suit –
Bid 2♣



Opener's NEW SUIT Rebid

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 12 HCP

MINIMUM – CANNOT BID HEARTS

Rebid 1st suit – Bid 2♦



Opener's NEW SUIT Rebid

You open 1♥ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 19 HCP

GAME – MUST BID PAST THE BARRIER

Jump in second suit – Bid 3♦



Opener's Rebid of their Own Suit

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 12 HCP

MINIMUM

Rebid your own suit – Bid 2♦



Opener's Rebid of their Own Suit

You open 1♥ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 16 HCP

NEARLY GAME (INVITATIONAL)

Rebid your own suit – Bid 3♥



Opener's Rebid of their Own Suit

You open 1♠ with this hand



Partner bids 2♣

No fit with partner, unbalanced, 17 HCP

GAME 6+ own suit and partner has 10+ HCP

Bid **GAME** in your suit – Bid 4♠



How to answer the quiz

Here are 3 bidding examples, where you open 1♥ and partner responds. What is your subsequent bid ? There are 3 answers per hand using the 3 bidding examples (a) (b) and (c)

(a) 1♥ - 1♠
?

(b) 1♥ - 2♣
?

(c) 1♥ - 2♦
?

Hand 1

♠ Q952
♥ AK962
♦ 5
♣ AK5

Hand 2

♠ A52
♥ KQ743
♦ 5
♣ A1085

Hand 3

♠ 52
♥ A9862
♦ AKJ6
♣ 53

Hand 4

♠ A53
♥ KQJ654
♦ K5
♣ A8

Hand 5

♠ 5
♥ AKQ76
♦ KQ865
♣ A4

(a)

(a)

(a)

(a)

(a)

(b)

(b)

(b)

(b)

(b)

(c)

(c)

(c)

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(a)

(b)

(c)

(a)

(b)

(c)

(a)

(b)

(c)

(a)

(b)

(c)

(a)

(b)

(c)



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(a)

(b)

(c)

(a)

(b)

(c)

(a)

(b)

(c)

(a)

(b)

(c)

(a)

(b)

(c)

Repeat hands 2 to 5 in the same manner



- **NZB Youtube Videos Presented by Jane Stearns**
- NZ Bridge has developed a set of YouTube videos of lessons. These follow a different order from our new course but are still relevant to what we are learning from a different perspective. They are presented by Jane Stearns. While her style doesn't suit everyone, I encourage you to check them out. They may be found on the following page: <https://www.nzbridge.co.nz/teaching-materials.html>. If you have time, I'd recommend watching the Youtube videos for Lessons 1 up to 6 (at this stage).
- The most relevant to this week's topics are the YouTube videos for:
- **Lesson 1** (this is a basic introduction; you may wish to skip this unless you want to go back and revise from the start).
- **Lesson 4** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zoVZMa8goRM>), especially Part 2 of this video which covers one of the key concepts of the "invisible barrier". This applies to bidding a new suit above two of your first bid suit, which ***should not be done on minimum hands*** and is explained quite well in this second part of the video. The relevant Part 2 section starts 18:30 into the video – but it won't do you any harm to watch the first half, as revision.
- **Lesson 6** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pA2Ybkk30zk>).



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