# BEGINNERS' LESSONS Welcome 

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## Lesson Three

## I-Level Opening Bids

## Ranking of the Suits <br> NoTrumps <br> $\mathbf{S}_{\text {pades }}$ <br> $\mathrm{H}_{\text {ears }}$ <br> Damonds <br> Clubs <br> 

## Finding a Fit



- A Fit is 8+ cards in one suit
-If there is a fit in a major this will be the trump suit
- If there is no fit, then choose NoTrumps


## Levels of Bidding

- The number of tricks you must make to get a score $=6+$ the level you bid
- 1-level contracts ... Must make 7 tricks ( $6+1$ )
- 2-level contracts ... Must make 8 tricks (6 + 2)
- 3-level Contracts ... Must make tricks (6 + 3) etc
- 4-level Contracts ... Must make

tricks
- 6-level Contracts ... Must make e
 tricks


## The Auction

- Every suit has a ranking order
- Each bid must be higher than the previous bid

| 1** | $1 *$ | $1 v$ | 1* | 1NT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2* | 2 | 2v | 2^ | 2NT |
| 3* | 3 | $3 v$ | 3^ | 3NT |
| $4 \%$ | 4 | 4 | $4 \wedge$ | 4 NT |

etc

- The first person to bid is the Opener
- Opener's partner is the Responder


## Basic Rules for Opening I-suit

- You must have enough High Card Points



## Basic Rules for Opening I-suit



## Which hand can open the bidding?



## Which hand can open the bidding?



## Opener's First Bid

|  | Points | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 18 | $12-19$ | $4+$ clubs |
| 18 | $12-19$ | $4+$ diamonds |
| 10 | $12-19$ | $4+$ hearts |
| $1 \mathbf{1 N}$ | $12-19$ | $4+$ spades |
| $1 \mathbf{1 2 - 1 4}$ | Balanced hand $\ldots$ SPECIAL <br> CASE |  |

## Rules for I-level suit openings

Bid your longest suit first



## Basic Rules for |-level suit

 openingsBid your lower ranking 4-card suit first



## What do you open?

Bid your higher ranking 5-card suit first

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |


| KQ9 |
| :---: |
|  |  |

# What do you open with this hand? 

|  |
| :---: |
|  |  |

Open I\&
... open your lower ranking 4-card suit first

## What do you open with this hand?



Open Ia
... open your higher ranking 5-card suit first

## Further Bidding ... To come in more detail

- Responder needs $6+$ points to bid ... At least $1 / 2$ of what Opener needs
- Try to find a Fit as soon as possible
- There are 3 choices of level to bid to:

1. Minimum $(6-9)$
2. Close to Game (10-12)
3. Enough for Game (13+)

- If there is NO fit, then bid NoTrumps

- To bid Game you need 25+ points between the two hands


## This is what a good bridge hand looks



## Summary for |-level suit openers <br> - Open with 12-19 points

- Bid your longest suit first
- If you have two 4-card suits bid the lower ranked suit first
- If you have two 5-card suits bid the higher ranked suit first
- Suit quality does not matter


## Homework

## Lesson 2 Quiz 1-Level Opening Bids

NZBrídge

What do you open with the following hands?
A AQ6542
A AJ52
A K2
n AJ952
A A52

- 72
- A2
* A92
$\checkmark$ J8
- AKQ2
- J9875
- 97
- AQ862
- AK62
* J1085
$\because 4$
- AJ85
K5
- 97

What do you open with the following hands?

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