



# BEGINNERS' LESSONS

## Welcome



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# Additional Lesson

## The story so far



# In Lesson one we covered

- Language, Tricks, Trumps, no trumps, dealer, declarer, dummy
- Suit ranking, no trumps, majors, minors
- High Card Points (HCP)
- Finding a fit, 8+ cards in one suit between the two hands.



# In Lesson two we covered

- Opening the bidding with 12 – 19 HCP (The opener)
- Responding with 6+ HCP (partner of the opener = responder)
- Whether to play part score (under 25), game (25+) or slam (33+)
- **Opener decides which suit to start with:**
  - Longest first if only one long suit
  - Lowest of four card suits (if no longer suit)
  - Highest ranking of two five card suits



## In Lesson three we covered

- **Responders limit bids (in a fit or no trump)**
- 6-9 HCP make the lowest bid in either fit or no trumps
- 10-12 HCP go one level higher than you would with 6-9 HCP
- 13+ bid game
- The limit bid gives the lowest and highest number of points available and helps the partnership (opener and responder) count to 25.
- Remember you both keep helping the other until it is time to pass.
- You pass asap if you cannot reach 25.
- You carry on to game if you reach 25+



## In Lesson Four we covered (Slide one)

- Responding in a new suit (your partner opened 12-19)
- You needed 6+ HCP to bid your suit at the one level (unlimited)
- If forced to bid at the two level you needed 10+ HCP (unlimited)
- **Opener then had the following options (after responders bid)**
  - Agree partners suit with a fit
  - Bid No trumps
  - Bid a second suit (if you can)
  - Bid your own suit again (shows extra length)
  - Pass is a bid available (if partner has limited their hand)
  - **Plus a responsibility to limit openers hand if you can (next slide)**



## Lesson four (slide two)

- **Openers rebids (second bid for opener)**
- A minimum hand is 12-15 HCP (after a 1 level bid by partner 6+ HCP)
- An invitational hand is 16-17 HCP (after a 1 level bid by partner etc)
- A game going hand is 18-19 HCP (after 1 level bid by partner etc)
- **BUT**
- A minimum hand is 12-14 HCP (after a 2 level bid by partner. 10+ HCP)
- A game going hand is 15+ (after a 2 level bid by partner. 10+ HCP)
- **BUT**
- Opener has the BARRIER. **Do not go past the two level in your own suit unless you have 16+ HCP.**



# THE RANGES IN SUMMARY FORM

## To Find game we need 25 HCP

### OPENER

- 12 – 19 To Start the ball rolling

- SECOND BID (responder suit)
- Minimum 12-15 (or 12-14)
- Invitation 16-17
- Maximum 18-19 (or 15+)

### RESPONDER

- 6+ to respond own suit
- 10+ at 2 level to respond own suit
- LIMIT BIDS (opener suit or NT)
- 6-9
- 10-12
- 13+





# SUMMARY

- So when we are bidding one partner starts the ball rolling with a bid.
- The other person tries to help them and chooses their best bid.
- Then the opener tries to assist them by making their best second bid. Remember that opener promises to make a second bid when they open the bidding. The exception is after the limit bid.
- Both players are trying to describe their suits (length) and how many points(strength) they have.
- They want to find a fit (8 cards in one suit) if they have one.
- They want to find out if they have 25 HCP or not.
- **IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO (both players need to talk and both players need to listen).**



# I was asked a question following the last session. What is the order of preference for bids?

- This is a tough question because the order is situational
- Remember a major suit fit is far superior to a minor suit fit.
- 3 NT is better than 5 in a minor with no shortage(a majority of times).
- The premise is to find a fit if you can so:
- If you can support partner you do. But
- If you have something much better to do you do that first. (say partner opens 1D and you have a four card diamond suit but a six card spade suit). The major is so superior that you should try to find a better place to play.
- Often you will not have a choice so you make the bid that you can.
- The bidding sequences even cause experts to argue in tricky situations. Sometimes there is not a perfect answer.



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Please contact me if you have any questions

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