

BEGINNERS' LESSONS

Welcome

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Lesson Five

Balanced Hands



Opener's First Bid

	Points	Description
1 ♣	12 - 19	4 + clubs
1 ♦	12 - 19	4 + diamonds
1 ♥	12 - 19	4 + hearts
1 ♠	12 - 19	4 + spades
1 NT	12 - 14	Balanced hand ... SPECIAL CASE



Basic Rules for Opening 1NT

- **12 - 14** points
- **Balanced Hand**

**This bid is your FIRST choice
from now on**



What is a balanced hand?

- No singleton or void
- No more than 1 doubleton
- No 5-card major
- Balanced = 4333, 4432, 2335



**Balanced hands are
the most common**



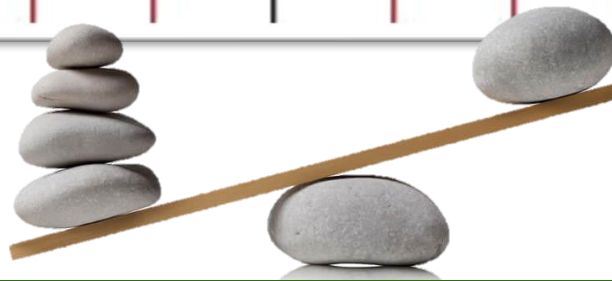
Balanced or Not?



- No singleton or void
- No more than 1 doubleton
- No 5-card major



Balanced or Not?



- No singleton or void
- No more than 1 doubleton
- No 5-card major



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Balanced or Not ? What should you open ?



Open 1♠ ↗



Open

1NT



What does responder decide to do?

- Have you got enough **points** to bid or invite to game?
- If so do you want to play in **NoTrumps** or a **suit**?



Responder is the BOSS
There are ONLY 2 decisions to make



Responses to 1NT – Balanced Hand

- 0 – 10 points ... no GAME possible **PASS**
- 11 – 12 points ... GAME is possible **Bid 2NT**
- 13+ points ... definitely in GAME **Bid 3NT**

Add your points
to partner's
KNOWN 12-14 points



After 1NT what does responder do?



PASS

not enough for **GAME**

- NoTrumps or a suit?
- What level?



I'M THE BOSS



After 1NT what does responder do?



3NT

enough for **GAME**

- NoTrumps or a suit?
- What level?



I'M **THE** BOSS



After 1NT what does responder do?



2NT

enough to invite to **GAME**

- NoTrumps or a suit?
- What level?



I'M **THE** BOSS



Responses to INT – Unbalanced Hand

0 – 10 points ... no GAME possible

Bid your  card suit at the 2-level

This is called a WEAK TAKEOUT


Partner MUST then pass ... YOU ARE THE BOSS

**Add your points
to partner's
KNOWN 12-14 points**



Responses to INT – Unbalanced Hand

12+ points ... **GAME** Forcing

- Bid your  card **MAJOR** at the 3-level
(Partner **MUST** agree your suit or bid

No Trumps)

- Bid your  card **MAJOR** at the 4-level -
OR
- Bid your card **MINOR** at the 5-level



After 1NT what does responder do?



2♥

Not enough for **GAME**

Opener **MUST** pass



I'M **THE** BOSS



After 1NT what does responder do?



2♦

Not enough for **GAME**

OPENER must pass



I'M **THE** BOSS



After 1NT what does responder do?



4♠

Enough for **GAME**
and a known fit

Why is this fit
guaranteed ?



After 1NT what does responder do?



Bid 3♥... enough for **GAME** ...
need to check if there is a
heart fit

Opener chooses 3NT
or 4♥ (with a fit)



I'M **THE** BOSS



Opener's NOTRUMP Rebid

- **LOWEST NT LEVEL** = 15 – 17 HCP
- **JUMP IN NT** = 18 – 19 HCP

Shows a balanced hand

game)



Opener's NOTRUMP Rebid

You open 1♣ with this hand



Partner bids 1♠

You have a balanced hand with no fit, 16HCP

LOWEST NT LEVEL - Bid 1NT



Opener's NOTRUMP Rebid

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 2♣

You have a balanced hand with no fit, 16 HCP

LOWEST NT LEVEL - Bid 2NT



Opener's NOTRUMP Rebid

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 1♥

You have a balanced hand with no fit, 18HCP

JUMP IN NT - Bid 2NT



Opener's NOTRUMP Rebid

You open 1♦ with this hand



Partner bids 2♣

You have a balanced hand with no fit, 18 HCP

JUMP IN NT - Bid 3NT



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any questions please ask

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