

How strong a hand should you have for a jump rebid in your own suit?
A standard beginner's text will probably tell you about 16-17 (maybe even 15)

This is not just about points, suit length and distribution are also factors.

So at all tables today the first round of the auction was 1 ♦ - Pass - 1 ♥ - Pass.

Does that seven card diamond suit make the West hand a 3 ♦ rebid? 6 Wests thought that it did, and 11 Wests rebid 2 ♦. Which camp do you belong to?

There is no doubt that the seventh diamond makes the hand stronger. But that is not where the valuation begins and ends. Look at the whole hand.

Having the values in the long suits where they are working is better. Having extra distribution outside your long suit is also a stronger hand. Aces are undervalued. They are worth slightly more than 4 points.

So the fact that we have a seventh diamond is the only positive feature. Lots of short suit values, 222 side suit distribution and not even one ace.

Is this hand worth upgrading to a 3 ♦ rebid? No Way Jose!

On these 14 pt hands the 7th ♦ might persuade me to find an upgrade to 3 ♦.

AK3 ▼ 732 ◆ AQJ10643 ♣ –
 A6 ▼ 5 ◆ AK98732 ♣ K4
 A ▼ 5 ◆ KQJ9642 ♣ AKJ4

They all have 14 points, but all of them are MUCH better than the hand today.

It didn't make any difference this time opposite East's minimal values. On another day the rebid might be much more important.