

# ♠ ♥ Continuing with NT ♦ ♣

First it is important to distinguish between **Opener** and **Responder**, and the fact that the definition of the bids change based on who we are.

Opener	Responder
Opener simply is the <b>First</b> to open the bidding or make the first positive bid.	The <b>responder</b> is the Partner of the opener.

Remember who you are, are you Opener or Responder? It will change the meaning of your bids and **Rebids!**

The NT structure is the method of bidding we use to deal with Balanced hands that are strong enough to enter the auction. There are only 3 types of Balanced hands; 4-4-3-2, 4-3-3-3 or 5-3-3-2. But these 3 hand types make up approximately 48% of hands you will be dealt, Therefore, learning the NT structure well will give us the ability to handle approximately 48% of deals.

**Remember:** The bidding is about communicating your hand to your partner, and your partner communicating their hand to you, in order for one of you to make the decision whether or not you should be in Game.

## As Opener:

**N.B.** Opening 1 of a suit shows 12-19 HCP and any shape. We won't know if our partner is balanced or not until their **Rebid**

<b>12-14 HCP &amp; Balanced:</b>	<b>15-17 HCP &amp; Balanced:</b>	<b>18-19 HCP &amp; Balanced:</b>	<b>20-22 HCP &amp; Balanced:</b>
<b>Open 1NT</b>	Open 1 of your longest suit and then <b>Rebid 1NT</b>	Open 1 of your longest suit and then <b>Rebid 2NT</b>	<b>Open 2NT</b>

## As Responder

Responding to 1NT is different from responding to 1 of a suit. The reason is because 1NT is a very narrow range of points, 12-14. But Opening 1 of a suit is a very very large range of points, 12-19 or sometimes 20.

### **If your partner Opens 1NT:**

<b>With 0-10 HCP</b>	<b>With 11/12 HCP</b>	<b>With 13+ HCP</b>
Pass	Invite partner to game by bidding <b>2NT</b>	Bid Game, <b>3NT</b>

## If your partner Opens 1 of a suit:

If we are Responder and our Partner bids 1 of a suit, if we have 6 or more HCP we **MUST** respond. Remember opening 1 of a suit could mean Partner has as much as 19 or 20 HCP so  $19+6=25$ ... Opening 1 of a suit is like opening up the conversation. We simply respond with Our Longest suit and see what Partner rebids. Depending on what they rebid we may be able to make a decision or maybe we can pass. Let's pretend this is our hand:

S South
♠ QJ965
♥ 654
♦ Q7
♣ K104

**What would we bid if our Partner Rebids...**

W	N	E	S
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	

W	N	E	S
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	

Take into account our HCP and our Partners HCP... Does it come to 25? Could it come to 25?

**N.B.** Sometimes it's not clear whether we have 25 or 24 between us. If you are unsure I would recommend bidding to game regardless because the gains outway the losses, and it's good practice to challenge yourself!