



LESSON 3

Responder's Limit Bids

Responder has choices:-

The opener's partner, the responder, needs only 6 HCP to enter the auction.
Responder has 3 choices:

- Support bids of partner's suit – limit raise
- Notrump bids – limit bids
- Bid a new suit – unlimited, **forcing** for 1 round – next week's lesson

Limit bids are very useful as they are specific in strength and length.

Responder's Limit Raises

Supporting Partner's Suit Opening (4+ card support)

1♥ – 2♥	6-9	4+ support
3♥	10-12	4+ support
4♥	13+	4+ support

Responder's Limit NT Bids

1♥ – 1NT	6-9	denies 4+ support
2NT	10-12	denies 4+ support
3NT	13+	denies 4+ support

Opener's Rebid

After a Limit Raise

After 1♥ – 2♥	
Pass	12-15
3♥	16-17
4♥	18-19

After 1♥ – 3♥	
Pass	12-13
4♥	14+

Opener's Rebid

After a NT Limit Response

After 1♥ – 1NT		
Pass/rebid suit at min level	12-15	
New suit	12-17	Promises 5+ hearts and 4+ new suit
2NT/3♥	16-17	3♥ shows a 6+ suit
3NT/4♥	18-19	4♥ shows a 6+ suit

After 1♥ – 2NT		
Pass/rebid suit at min level	12-13	
New suit	14+	Promises 5+ hearts and 4+ new suit
3NT/4♥	14+	4♥ shows a 6+ suit

TIP 2: PLAY & DEFENCE

Defence: Opening Leads

Defence – Defence starts with the Opening Lead

Leading against a Notrump Contract

- Lead partner's suit (if they have bid one)
- Lead top of a sequence of 3 honours or broken sequence
- From an honour holding, including the Ace, the lead of a **low card promises an honour**
- Lead an unbid major before an unbid minor - opponents usually bid a major if they have one
- From small cards lead the **top – a high card denies an honour**

KQJ3 KQ109
AJ854 K932
Q64

974 8742

Leading against a Suit Contract

- Lead partner's suit (if they have bid one)
- Lead top of a sequence of 2 or 3 honours
- Lead a singleton in a side suit - you may be able to use a small trump and get a ruff
- Lead low from an honour holding excluding the Ace (**low card promises an honour**)
- From small cards lead the top (**a high card denies an honour**)

QJ932 J1065

Q9762 K842
J73

97642 103

Summary

If there is a suit not bid by the opponents, then without an obvious lead, lead that suit
If you lead a low card you will promise an honour in that suit

If you lead a high card like a 9 or an 8, you deny holding an honour in that suit

If you lead an honour card, it should show at least the honour below

Don't lead away from an Ace in a **suit contract** - you may lose to a singleton K!