

Beginners - Seminar 5



How the bidding works

Opening 1NT and Balanced hand
responses.

Mini Bridge - What you have learnt

- Which Partnership has the most points? They will be declarer.
- How is NT/Suit decided upon?
- How is part score/game decided upon?
- Lead made whilst dummy's hand is visible?
- Everyone can see dummy's hand?

How the Auction works

- Dealer makes the first call – AS IN MINI BRIDGE
- Bidding proceeds in clockwise direction – AS IN MINI BRIDGE
- Each bid must ‘outrank’ the previous bid - NEW
- If you don’t want to join in – PASS - NEW
- Bidding starts at 7, i.e. 1 spade means 7 tricks with spades as trumps, 2 spades means 8 tricks with spades as trumps.
- The play and the scoring – AS IN MINI BRIDGE

THE AUCTION PROCEEDS UNTIL THERE ARE 3 CONSECUTIVE PASSES

Introducing Bidding Boxes

- Look how limited our language is – 4 suits, plus NT, numbers 1 to 7, a pass card and a couple of others we will discuss in a later lesson
- What is a bid? - It's a chance to describe your hand to Partner with a view to winning the contract
- Why do we bid? - To maximise your chance of a positive score, game bonus etc.

Introducing the Opening bid – 1 No Trump

- 12-14 Points (counting A=4, K=3, Q=2 & J=1)
- A balanced hand
 - No voids
 - No singletons
 - No more than one doubleton
- Shape of a balanced hand
 - 4-3-3-3 (One 4-card suit & three 3-card suits)
 - 4-4-3-2 (Two 4-card suits, one 3-card suit & one 2-card suit)
 - 5-3-3-2 (One 5-card suit, two 3-card suits & one 2-card suit)

Opening 1NT

Could you open these hands 1NT, and why?

♠	A 7 5 3	- Open 1NT a balanced hand
♥	J 7 6	- 13 points (It has 4-3-3-3 shape)
♦	K 4 3	
♣	A J 2	

♠	Q J	- Open 1NT a balanced hand
♥	A 7 2	- 14 points (it has 5-3-3-2 shape)
♦	K Q 9 8 6	
♣	Q 10 9	

Neither hand has a singleton, void or more than 1 doubleton.

Opening 1NT

Could you open these hands 1NT, and why?

♠	Q J	- With 2 doubletons this cannot be considered to be a balanced hand (it has a 5-4-2-2 shape)
♥	A 7	
♦	K Q 9 8 6	
♣	Q 10 9 2	

♠	A Q 8 5	- Open 1NT a balanced hand
♥	A 7 5	- 14 points (it has 4-4-3-2 shape)
♦	J 9	
♣	K 10 8 4	

Opening 1NT

Could you open these hands 1NT, and why?

♠ A Q 8 5

♥ A 7 6 5

♦ J

♣ K 10 8 4

- With a singleton this hand cannot be called balanced (it has 4-4-4-1 shape)

♠ Q J 5 4

♥ Q 10 6 2

♦ K 4

♣ A K 9

- a balanced hand

- 15 points, too strong to open 1NT (the shape is ok though, 4-4-3-2)

Opening 1NT

Could you open these hands 1NT, and why?



Q J 5 4

- Open 1NT a balanced hand



Q 10 6 2

- 12 points (4-4-3-2)



A 4



K 9 6



A 8 7 5 3

- With a void this hand cannot be called
balanced (5-5-3-0)



K J 6 4 3



A J 2

Responding to 1NT

Classify your hand into Weak, Invitational or Game going hands.

- Weak hands – These are those between 0 & 10 pts

Here even if partner has a maximum of 14 pts you can only have 24 combined points. So little chance of game – therefore **Pass**.

- Invitational hands – These are those between 11 & 12 pts

Here if partner has a maximum of 14 pts you will have a minimum of 26 pts, but if partner has only 12 then maybe only 24 pts. So invite Partner to bid game by **raising to 2NT**.

- Game going hands – These are those between 13 & 19 pts

Here even if partner has a minimum of 12 pts you have 25 combined points. So a very good chance of game – **raise to 3NT**.

Group Exercise – Hand A

- Your Partner opens 1NT – therefore has 12-14 points.
- Game in NT is 3NT (committing to making 9 tricks and getting the 300 point bonus) and needs 25 points or more between Declarer's two hands
- On the Sheet provided, answer the Questions outlined?

A.

♠	J 10 6 3	How many points?	7
♥	K Q 7	Weak, Invitational or Game going?	Weak
♦	9 8 5 2	What are your sides combined points?	19-21
♣	J 10	What should you bid after partners 1NT?	PASS

If the maximum combined points is less than 25 then Pass

Group Exercise – Hand B & C

B.

♠	J 10 6 3	How many points?	14
♥	K Q 7	Weak, Invitational or Game going?	Game
♦	A K 9 8	What are your sides combined points?	26-28
♣	J 10	What should you bid after partners 1NT?	3NT

C.

♠	J 10 6	How many points?	17
♥	K Q 7	Weak, Invitational or Game going?	Game
♦	A K 9 8	What are your sides combined points?	29-31
♣	K J 10	What should you bid after partners 1NT?	3NT

If the minimum combined points is 25 or more then bid 3NT

Group Exercise continued

D.

♠	J 10 6	How many points?	11
♥	K Q 7	Weak, Invitational or Game going?	Invitational
♦	A 9 8 7	What are your sides combined points?	23-25
♣	J 10 9	What should you bid after partners 1NT?	2NT

If the combined total might be 25 pts then raise to 2NT – Invite Partner to bid on.

E.

♠	J 10 6	How many points?	10
♥	K Q 7	Weak, Invitational or Game going?	Weak
♦	A 9 8 7	What are your sides combined points?	22-24
♣	10 9 2	What should you bid after partners 1NT?	PASS

If the maximum combined points is less than 25 then Pass

Openers Responsibilities after Partners response to your 1NT

♠	A J 10 6	How many points?	14
♥	K Q 7	Partner Response	2NT
♦	A 9 8 7	What are your sides combined points?	25-26
♣	10 9	What should you bid after partners 2NT?	3NT

Partner has Invited you to bid game (3NT) if you have a maximum hand (so 14 pts, not 12 pts). With 13 pts you have to take a view (10's & 9's are useful).

♠	Q 10	How many points?	12
♥	K Q 7	Partner Response	2NT
♦	A 9 8 7	What are your sides combined points?	23-24
♣	J 10 9 2	What should you bid after partners 2NT?	PASS

Even if Partner has a maximum of 12 pts you only have 24 pts between you.

Review

- Bidding Process
- What is a balanced hand?
- When do we open 1NT?
- When do we Pass openers bid of 1NT?
- When do we bid 2NT in response to Partners 1NT?
- When do we bid 3NT in response to Partners 1NT?
- Lots of new terms today – auction, denomination, pass, balanced, raise, bidding, bidding box, responder, opener, contract, opening bid, response,

Work at home – page 27 quiz, reading pages 19-22

Next time, other options after partner opens 1NT