

## Bridge level 2 lessons (2)

Below is a summary of opener's re-bids after opening a suit.

### Dividing hand into three groups as per points

You need to divide your hand into the following three groups:-

12-15 points-Minimum hand

16-18 points-Strong hand

19 points -Maximum hand

Also if your hand is balanced divide it as follows:-

15-16 points

17-18 points

19 points

You may re-bid your suit or bid another suit or support partner's suit.

To keep it simple just do whatever you wish to do without a jump if minimum.

Similarly, do whatever you wish to do with a jump if strong or maximum.

If sure about contract for example wishing to support partner's suit then go straight to game with a maximum hand.

With balanced hand if partner bids a suit at one level your 1 No-trump bid shall be 15-16 points while 2 No-trumps shall be 17-18 points and 3 No-trumps shall be 19 points.

As far as counting points for distribution is concerned only add extra points if suit is agreed and preferably only for majors.

Above mentioned discussion is a simplified explanation of opener's re-bids.

### Reverse bidding

This aspect of bidding is quite confusing and I will try to explain it in very simple terms. If you wish to bid a new suit after partner's response and your hand is minimum either re-bid your original suit or bid a suit below 2 of your original suit. To show a strong hand I have explained above that you would need to jump but it would take the bidding too high and make bidding a bit difficult. To avoid that problem any new suit bid higher than two of your original suit shows strong hand.

Let us look at a few examples to decide what you would re-bid

S- X

H- KJXX

D- AQXXX

C- KXX

S- X

H- AKXX

D- AQXXX

C- AXX

S- XX

H-AX

D- AJXX

C- AJXXX

S-XX

H-AX

D-AQXX

C-AKJXX

For all the above hands what is your re-bid after partner responds 1 Spade

First hand you re-bid 2 Diamonds  
Second hand re-bid 2 hearts (reverse)  
Third hand re-bid 2 Clubs  
Fourth hand re-bid 2 Diamonds (reverse)

As you can see if you did not play reverse bids you would have to bid 3 Hearts on hand 2 and 3 Diamonds on hand 4.

Conversely, you must not bid 2 Hearts on hand 1 and 2 Diamonds on hand 3.

It is very common for most of you to try and bid 2 Hearts on 1<sup>st</sup> hand because I have always told you to show your major suit at the first opportunity but in this case it is a bit different in the sense that if partner does have the Heart suit he is going to bid it in any case.

Look at the following two hands and decide what your re-bid will be in each case

S- AQXXX	S-AQXXX
H- KX	H-AX
D- Xx	D-AX
C- KJXX	C-KJXX

Partner responds 2 Hearts what do you bid as per the explanation given at the top.

First hand is 13 points and is therefore a minimum hand so re-bid 2 Spades.  
Second hand is 18 points and is therefore a strong hand so re-bid 3 Clubs.  
Please note in the 1<sup>st</sup> hand you have not gone higher than 2 of your original call and in the 2<sup>nd</sup> hand you have bi-passed 2 of your original call.

What is your re-bid with the following two hands after partner responds 1 Heart?

S- AXXX	S- AQXX
H- KXX	H- KXX
D- JX	D- KX
C- AKXX	C- AQXX

Both the hands you should only bid 1 Spade even though one hand has 15 points and another has 18 points because partner will not pass your bid and you also wish to know his points to decide how far you want to go.

I hope you will now be able to judge that partner has reversed and is showing more points without bidding with a jump.