

1/1 Bridge System Chapter 3

Responding with weaker hands:

After a 1 of a suit opening bid:

Because 1NT is a game force, all other bids are natural and bidding continues in a normal fashion, but a lot of responses are not strong and hence not forcing, something to be kept in mind. Keeping in mind also that we are playing 5 card majors and that 1C can be as short as TWO.

Let's take a look at responses to a 1C opening bid:

1D, 1H, 1S: 6+ HCP and natural.

2C 6-9 raise in clubs

2D weak, 6 card suit and no interest in any other suit

2H, 2S weak, no interest in any other suit. Generally, expect this to be really weak, as with a normal response of 6-11 HCP would bid 1H or 1S.

2NT 10-12 and balanced, no major, probably 4+ clubs

3C 10-12 5+ clubs

3D, 3H, 3S longer but still weak.

3NT balanced 13-15 with no interest in game forcing 1NT

Responses to 1D opening are much the same as to 1C but keep in mind that opener has 4+ diamonds.

Responses to 1H opening:

1S 4+ spades and 6-11 HCP forcing for one round. 1NT rebid now denies 3+ spades or 6+ hearts and is 12-15 HCP, 2NT rebid 16-18.

1NT of course is game forcing.

2C 8-11 and 4+ clubs

2D 8-11 and 4+ diamonds

2H 3 card support and 6-9

2S weak 6+ card suit

2NT denies 3+ hearts, 10-12 HCP balanced.

3C, 3D long and weak, denies 3+ hearts

3H 4 card support and 6-9

4H 10-12 and four card support

PASS can be *as strong as 8 HCP* without 3+ card heart support or 4+ spades.

Responses to 1S opening:

PASS can be as strong as 8 HCP if fewer than 3 spades.

1NT game force..

2C, 2D 8-11 and 4+ card suits

2H 8-11 5+ card suit. Not forcing!

2NT 10-12 denies 3+ spades, balanced.

3C, 3D, 3H long and weak.

3S 4 card support and 6-9

4S 4 card support and 10-12

