



□ **BIDDING AND BENDING THE RULES**



❖ **Let the points be your guide but not your master!**

*Remember in trumps .....  
You could win all thirteen tricks in your hand with only 10 points – think about it!*

**EVALUATING YOUR HAND- HOW STRONG IS IT**



❖ **Length Points ( can be added before suit agreement or in NT)**

LENGTH	in NT	in a Suit
5	1	same as NT, switch to shortage points after suit agreed
6	2	

❖ **HCP**

❖ **Shortage Points ( should only be added once you have a suit agreement – never for NT)**

SHORTAGE	lots of trumps	fewer trumps
Void	5	4
Singleton	3	2
Doubleton	1	1

**SHOWING SHAPE**

- A 1NT or 2NT opening shows a balanced hand in a given point range
- A reverse bid shows a strong hand with the first bid suit longer than the second.
- Opening pre-empts show length e.g 3 level opening 7 cards in suit

**HAND EVALUATION. SELECTION OF OPENING SUIT  
HOW TO CHOOSE THE FIRST SUIT TO BID**



LENGTH BEFORE STRENGTH FOR  
YOUR FIRST BID

*However it's not  
always that easy*

.....



WITH 4 CARD SUITS AGAIN OPEN THE  
HIGHEST DENOMINATION FIRST  
( SPADES, HEARTS, DIAMONDS, CLUBS)  
EXCEPT WITH 4 SPADES AND 4 HEARTS  
WHEN YOU SHOULD OPEN HEARTS  
FIRST




HAND EVALUATION SHOWING SHAPE  
SHOW SHAPE WITH 5-5, 6-6, 6-5  
HANDS

- ❖ Remember our saying – "6 and 4, bid some more".
- ❖ These suits are **POWERFUL**



ALWAYS BID DOWN THE LINE WITH 5  
OR 6 CARD SUITS I.E. THE HIGHEST  
DENOMINATION FIRST  
( SPADES, HEARTS, DIAMONDS, CLUBS)





**KEEPING TO THE RULES  
WHAT DO YOU OPEN WITH THIS HAND?**


**Length is strength!**

♠	9 8 7 5 3
♥	6
♦	A K J 6 4
♣	A 3

HOW WOULD YOU BID THESE HANDS  
(P.98/9 – BOOK 2)



**IT IS IMPORTANT TO WORK OUT  
WHAT THE BIDDING SHOWS**



**Whether you are in the driving seat or defending**

**WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT EACH  
PLAYERS HANDS IF THE BIDDING GOES  
... (A) – P.99**

West	East
1S	2D
2H	2NT
3H	3S
4S	

**West** – 5 or 6 spades and 5 hearts, about 14-15 points. Strong enough to accept partner's invitation to game.  
**East** – 10-12 points. 5+ diamonds, 2 spades, 2 hearts. Would have bid 3S over 2H with three spades

**WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT EACH PLAYERS HANDS IF THE BIDDING GOES ... (C)**

West	East
1H	1S
2D	2S
3H	4H

**West** – 6 hearts and 4 diamonds. Probably 0 or 1 spade.  
**East** – 6+ spades and 2 hearts. No more than 9 points.

**HAND EVALUATION OPENING WITH A 4-4-4-1 HAND**



These hands do not always play well and are difficult to bid, so with 12 points you should consider passing. ( especially if vulnerable)

**With 4441 shape and red suit singleton, open the suit below the singleton**  
**With 4441 shape and black suit singleton, open the middle of the touching suits**  
*Have a go! ( p.91)*

**WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT EACH PLAYERS HANDS IF THE BIDDING GOES ... (D)**

West	East
1C	1D
1H	1S
2S	PASS

**West** – 4-4-1-4 or 4-4-0-5 with short diamonds, minimum values as opener only raised 1S to 2S.  
**East** – has 4+ diamonds and 4 spades, about 6-9 points, not more because 2S was passed

LETS PLAY SOME CARDS -

