

Franklin Bridge Club

2026 BRIDGE LESSONS



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Lesson 4.5

Recap on Responder's Bidding



Recall the Fundamental Rules

How many HCP are required to OPEN? 12-19

How many HCP are required to RESPOND? 6+

How many cards of same suit MUST you have between your hands to have a FIT?? 8+

As Responder you can **SUPPORT** or you can bid
A NEW SUIT or you can bid **NO TRUMPS**



Recall the Fundamental Rules

If you choose to SUPPORT PARTNER'S SUIT,
the rules are:

- **Minimum HCP (6-9)** ... bid at the 2-level
- **Nearly game HCP (10-12)** ... bid at the 3-level
- **Game HCP (13+)** ... bid at the Game level

These are **LIMIT BIDS** – you are telling your partner you like the suit they bid (confirming a fit) and telling them HOW MANY POINTS you have within a range
THEN LET THEM DECIDE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT



Recall the Fundamental Rules

If you choose to BID A NEW SUIT, the rules are:

- **Your HCP (6+)** ... bid new suit at the 1-level
- **Your HCP (10+)** ... bid new suit at the 2-level

These are **FORCING BIDS** – you are telling your partner you DON'T like the suit they bid (possibly no fit) and telling them HOW MANY POINTS you have with lower range, unlimited upper range

THEN LET THEM DECIDE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Note: they MUST and WILL BID AGAIN
because you forced them



Recall the Fundamental Rules

Which suit do you bid first?

1. Longest suit
2. Lower ranking of two 4-card suits
3. Higher ranking of two 5-card suits

These are UNLIMITED **FORCING BIDS** – you are telling your partner you DON'T like the suit they bid (possibly no fit) and telling them HOW MANY POINTS you have with lower range, unlimited upper range

THEN LET THEM DECIDE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Note: they MUST and WILL BID AGAIN
because you forced them



Recall the Fundamental Rules

Remembering the difference between a **LIMIT BID** and a **FORCING BID** is extremely important.

It makes the difference between stopping before you get in too deep (***PASS is the hardest bid to make***) AND getting to GAME level where you get a good score



Recap on the Quiz this week

Hand I Scenario A

Opener's
Hand

♠	Q952
♥	AK962
♦	5
♣	AK5

How many
HCP?

16

Opener Bids 1♥

Responder Bids 1♠

What did Responder tell Opener?

“Partner, I can’t give you a ♥ fit, however I have 6+ points and at least 4 ♠”

What does Opener bid next?

1♠ was a FORCING BID

Opener REBIDS 3♠ ... why?

Opener has 4♠ so there is a FIT

Recall Lesson 3 Opener Rebid choices:

Min HCP (12-15) PASS

Close to Game HCP (16-17) INVITE

Game HCP (18-19) Bid GAME



Recap on the Quiz this week

Hand 2 Scenario A

Opener's
Hand

♠	A52
♥	KQ743
♦	5
♣	A1085

How many
HCP?

13

Opener Bids 1♥

Responder Bids 1♠

What did Responder tell Opener?

“Partner, I can’t give you a ♥ fit, however I have 6+ points and at least 4♠”

What does Opener bid next?

1♠ was a FORCING BID

Opener REBIDS 2♣ ... why?

Opener can bid 2♣ to show a second suit and has 12-15 HCP, also opener was forced to bid because of the suit change by responder.

Opener knows there is minimum 19 points between the hands. Responder can figure out minimum point count also.



Recap on the Quiz this week

Hand 2 Scenario B

Opener's
Hand

Opener Bids 1♥

Responder Bids 2♣

What did Responder tell Opener?

“Partner, I can’t give you a ♥ fit, however I have 10+ points and at least 4♣”

What does Opener bid next?

2♣ was a FORCING BID

Opener REBIDS 3♣ ... why?

Opener can support ♣ so bids 3♣ to show there is a FIT and has 12-15 HCP, also opener was forced to bid because of the suit change by responder. Opener now knows there is minimum 23 points between the hands. Responder can figure out minimum point count also.

♠	A52
♥	KQ743
♦	5
♣	A1085

How many
HCP?

13



Recap on the Quiz this week

Hand 4 Scenario C

Opener's
Hand

♠	A53
♥	KQJ654
♦	K5
♣	A8

How many
HCP?

17

Opener Bids 1♥

Responder Bids 2♦

What did Responder tell Opener?

“Partner, I can’t give you a ♥ fit, however I have 10+ points and at least 4 ♦”

What does Opener bid next?

2♦ was a FORCING BID

Opener REBIDS 3♥ ... why?

Recall Lesson 4 Opener Rebid choices:

Min HCP (12-15) PASS

Close to Game HCP (16-17) INVITE

Game HCP (18-19) Bid GAME

Opener rebids their own suit if they have 6+ cards of that suit, shortage of ♦



Recap on the Quiz this week

Hand 7 Scenario D

Opener's
Hand

♠	QJ6
♥	A2
♦	AKQ73
♣	K85

How many
HCP?

19

Opener Bids 1♦

Responder Bids 1♥

What did Responder tell Opener?

“Partner, I can’t give you a ♦ fit, however I have 6+ points and at least 4♥”

What does Opener bid next?

1♥ was a FORCING BID

Opener REBIDS 3NT ... why?

Opener has 19 HCP. Knows that Partner has minimum 6 HCP... 19+6 is 25 HCP.

“You know, you go”

Opener has stopper card in ♠ and ♣.



Recap on the Quiz this week

Hand 8 Scenario D

Opener's
Hand

♠	KQ87
♥	74
♦	KQ943
♣	AJ

How many
HCP?

15

Opener Bids 1♦

Responder Bids 1♥

What did Responder tell Opener?

“Partner, I can’t give you a ♦ fit however I have 6+ points and at least 4♥”

What does Opener bid next?

1♥ was a **FORCING BID**

Opener REBIDS 1♠ ... why?

Opener cannot support ♥ but has 4♠

Opener can show their other 4 card suit,
in this case it is ♠.



Questions?



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