

Responding without a fit

If you have a fit you can show this by raising partners suit.

After 1 ♥/♠	2♥/♠ shows 6-9 TPs
	3♥/♠ shows 10-12 TPs
	Another suit followed by 4♥/♠ shows 12+ TPs
After 1 ♣/♦	2♣/♦ shows 6-9 TPs 5 clubs or 4 diamonds
	3♣/♦ shows 10-12 TPs and a fit
	3 NT shows 12+ HCPs

But what if you do not have a fit;

- You can bid a new suit at the 1 level which shows 6+ HCPs and 4 cards in that suit
- You can bid 1 NT which shows 6-9 HCPs may be unbalanced
- You can bid a new suit at the 2 level which shows 10+ pts and a 5 card suit.
- You can bid 2NT which shows balanced hand 10 -11 HCPs.
- You can bid 3NT which shows balanced hand and 12-15 HCP

Supporting partners suit or bidding NT are called "Limit Bids. You have cut the range of your hand to 3 or 4 pts.

Because partner know more about your hand now than you know about his he becomes the **"Captain" of the hand**". Partner will set the level and denomination of the hand. He may require more information from you but it is his/her decision.

Some examples;

Openers Bid	meaning	Responders Bid	Meaning
1♥	12+ HCPs, 5+ Hearts	1♠	<3 Hearts 4 Spades 6+ HCPs
1♥	12+ HCPs, 5+ Hearts	1NT	<3 Hearts, <4 Spades 6-10 HCPs
1♠	12+ HCPs, 5+ Spades	1NT	<3 Spades 6-10 HCPs
1♠	12+ HCPs, 5+ Spades	2♦	<3 Spades, 5 Diamonds, 10+ HCPs
1♣	12+ HCPs, 3+ Clubs	1♥	4+ Hearts, 6+ HCPs
1♣	12+ HCPs, 3+ Clubs	1♦	4+ Diamonds, <4 Hearts and spades, 6+ HCPs
1♦	12+ HCPs, 3+ Diamonds	1♠	4+ Spades, 6+ HCPs
1♣	12+ HCPs, 3+ Clubs	1NT	<4 Diamonds, Hearts and Spades 6-9 HCPs

A new suit by responder is unlimited unless he had a chance to open the bidding but could not ie they have already passed. Opener does **NOT** know how many points responder has and therefore **MUST bid again**.

No one is *Captain* yet and so opener must continue to describe his hand