

USEFUL BIDDING AGREEMENTS – 1

GETTING TO THE RIGHT GAME

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Partner opens 1D. You respond 1S and partner rebids 2C. What now?

A bid of 2H would be "fourth suit forcing" i.e. an artificial bid that is forcing to game.

Partner's first priority is to show a stopper in the fourth suit for a possible 3NT contract.

If she held the South hand shown, she would rebid 2NT, which you would raise to 3NT.

	♠ A10862	
	♥ J8	
	♦ K95	
	♣ AK8	
♠ 43		♠ QJ97
♥ Q109532		♥ A76
♦ 6		♦ J432
♣ J632		♣ 95
	♠ K5	
	♥ K4	
	♦ AQ1087	
	♣ Q1074	

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If instead she held this South hand, she would rebid 2S showing 3-card support and you would raise to 4S.

	♠ A10862	
	♥ J8	
	♦ K95	
	♣ AK8	
♠ 43		♠ Q97
♥ Q109532		♥ AK76
♦ 6		♦ J432
♣ J632		♣ 95
	♠ KJ5	
	♥ 4	
	♦ AQ1087	
	♣ Q1074	

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And if she held this hand, she would rebid 3D showing extra length but no stopper or support, so you would raise to 5D.

	♠ A10862	
	♥ J8	
	♦ K95	
	♣ AK8	
♠ 43		♠ QJ97
♥ Q109532		♥ AK76
♦ 6		♦ J32
♣ J632		♣ 95
	♠ K5	
	♥ 4	
	♦ AQ10874	
	♣ Q1074	

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	♠ A10862 ♥ J82 ♦ K9 ♣ AK8	
♠ 43 ♥ Q10953 ♦ 654 ♣ J63	♠ K5 ♥ 4 ♦ AQ1087 ♣ Q10742	♠ QJ97 ♥ AK76 ♦ J32 ♣ 95

What would she rebid with this hand?

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Partner opens 1D. You respond 1S and partner rebids 1NT. What now?

A bid of 2C would be "checkback" i.e. an artificial bid that is at least forcing to 2NT.

Partner's first priority is to show 3-card support for your major suit.

If she held the South hand shown, she would rebid 2NT, which you would raise to 3NT.

	♠ A10862 ♥ J8 ♦ K95 ♣ AK8	
♠ 43 ♥ Q10432 ♦ J4 ♣ J632	♠ Q5 ♥ K75 ♦ AQ108 ♣ Q1075	♠ KJ97 ♥ A96 ♦ 7632 ♣ 94

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If instead she held this South hand, she would rebid 2S showing 3-card support and you would raise to 4S.

	♠ A10862 ♥ J8 ♦ K95 ♣ AK8	
♠ 43 ♥ Q10432 ♦ J4 ♣ J632	♠ KQ5 ♥ 75 ♦ AQ108 ♣ Q1075	♠ J97 ♥ AK96 ♦ 7632 ♣ 94

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2C is artificial even if partner had opened 1C as on this deal, where the first 3 bids were 1C-1H-1NT.

	♠ AJ8 ♥ K10862 ♦ 954 ♣ AK	
♠ 6532 ♥ J4 ♦ KJ8 ♣ J863	♠ K104 ♥ Q5 ♦ AQ10 ♣ Q10975	♠ Q97 ♥ A973 ♦ 7632 ♣ 42

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Partner opens 1D. What will you bid?

If you respond 3D, is that forcing? How can you find out if 3NT might be a good idea?

♠ 102
♥ K8
♦ KQ972
♣ AJ108

If you can bid 2D promising 10+ hcp, it's easy to show stoppers for 3NT.

♠ Q843		♠ AJ975
♥ Q42		♥ J963
♦ J64		♦ 3
♣ K63	♠ K6	♣ 952
	♥ A1075	
	♦ A1085	
	♣ Q74	

With the South hand shown, partner can rebid 2NT showing stoppers in both majors, which you raise to 3NT.

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♠ 102
♥ K8
♦ KQ972
♣ AJ108

With this hand, after 1D-2D South would bid 2H, promising a heart stopper but denying a spade stopper. Now with spades unstopped you might try a hopeful 5D, which makes thanks to the successful club finesse.

♠ K843		♠ AJ975
♥ Q42		♥ J963
♦ 1064		♦ 3
♣ K63	♠ Q6	♣ 952
	♥ A1075	
	♦ AJ85	
	♣ Q74	

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With this hand, after 1D-2D South would bid 3D, denying a major suit stopper. Now you might pass, making 10 tricks; or you might bid a hopeful 5D and go one down.

	♠ 102	
	♥ K8	
	♦ KQ972	
	♣ AJ108	
♠ KQ43		♠ AJ875
♥ A752		♥ J10943
♦ 106		♦ 3
♣ 632	♠ 96	♣ 95
	♥ Q6	
	♦ AJ854	
	♣ KQ74	

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It follows that holding the hand shown here, North jumps to 3D. This makes life very difficult for East-West, who happen to be cold for game in either major. As East, would you bid or double over 3D?

	♠ 1042	
	♥ K8	
	♦ KQ972	
	♣ 1086	
♠ KQ3		♠ AJ875
♥ J752		♥ A10943
♦ 106		♦ 3
♣ A932	♠ 96	♣ J5
	♥ Q6	
	♦ AJ854	
	♣ KQ74	

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