

## Lesson 3: Limit Bid Responses to Partner's opening Suit Bid

### Responding to Partner's Opening 1-Level Suit Bid

The opener's partner, the responder, needs only **6 high card points (HCP)** to enter the auction.

Responder has 3 choices:

- Support bids of partner's suit – limit\* raise
- Notrump bids – limit\* bids
- Bid a new suit (next lesson)

*\* A Limit Bid defines a player's hand very accurately in terms of both strength and shape.*

### Responder's Limit Raises

#### a) Supporting Partner's Suit Opening (4+ card support)

1♠ – 2♠	6-9 points	4+ spade support
3♠	10-12 points	4+ spade support
4♠	13+ points	4+ spade support

#### b) Responder's No Trump Limit Bids

1♠ – 1NT	6-9 points	denies 4+ spade support
2NT	10-12 points	denies 4+ spade support
3NT	13+ points	denies 4+ spade support

### Opener's Rebid after a Limit Raise

After 1♥ – 2♥

Pass	12-15	game Invitational if partner has 8-9 points
3♥	16-18	
4♥	19+	

After 1♥ – 3♥

Pass	12-13
4♥	14+

After 1♣ – 2♣

Pass	12-15	
3♣	16-18	Unbalanced
2NT	18-19	Balanced, invitational to 3NT

### Shortage Points (with an 8+ card fit)

Once an 8+ card fit has been found you can add shortage points to your High Card Points (HCP) to evaluate the strength of your hand:

- Doubleton (two cards) in a side suit = 1 shortage point
- Singleton (one card) in a side suit = 3 shortage point
- Void (no cards) in a side suit = 5 shortage point

### Opener's Limit Rebids after a No Trump Limit Response

After 1♥ – 1NT

Pass/rebid suit at min level	12-15	
2NT/3♥	16-18	3♥ shows a 6+ suit
3NT/4♥	19+	4♥ shows a 6+ suit

After 1♥ – 2NT

Pass/rebid suit at min level	12-13	
3NT/4♥	14+	4♥ shows a 6+ suit