

Franklin Bridge Club

2025 BRIDGE LESSONS



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Lesson Two

I-Level Opening Bids



Ranking of the Suits

No **T**rumps

Spades



Hearts



Major Suit

Diamonds



Clubs



Minor Suits

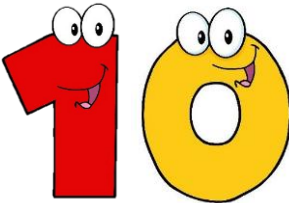
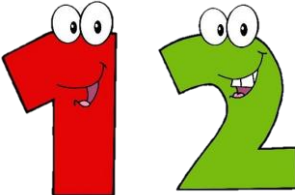


Finding a Fit

- A **Fit** is 8+ cards in one suit between the two hands
- If there is a fit in a **major** suit, then this will be the trump suit
- If there is no fit, then choose
NoTrumps



Levels of Bidding

- The number of tricks you must make to get a score = 6 + the level you bid
 - 1-level contracts ... Must make 7 tricks (6 + 1)
 - 2-level contracts ... Must make 8 tricks (6 + 2)
 - 3-level Contracts ... Must make tricks (6 + 3) etc
 - 4-level Contracts ... Must make  tricks
 - 6-level Contracts ... Must make  tricks



The Auction

- Every suit has a ranking order
- Each **bid** must be higher than the previous bid

| | | | | |
|-----|----|----|----|-----|
| 1♣ | 1♦ | 1♥ | 1♠ | 1NT |
| 2♣ | 2♦ | 2♥ | 2♠ | 2NT |
| 3♣ | 3♦ | 3♥ | 3♠ | 3NT |
| 4♣ | 4♦ | 4♥ | 4♠ | 4NT |
| etc | | | | |

- The first person to bid is the **Opener**
- Opener's partner is the **Responder**



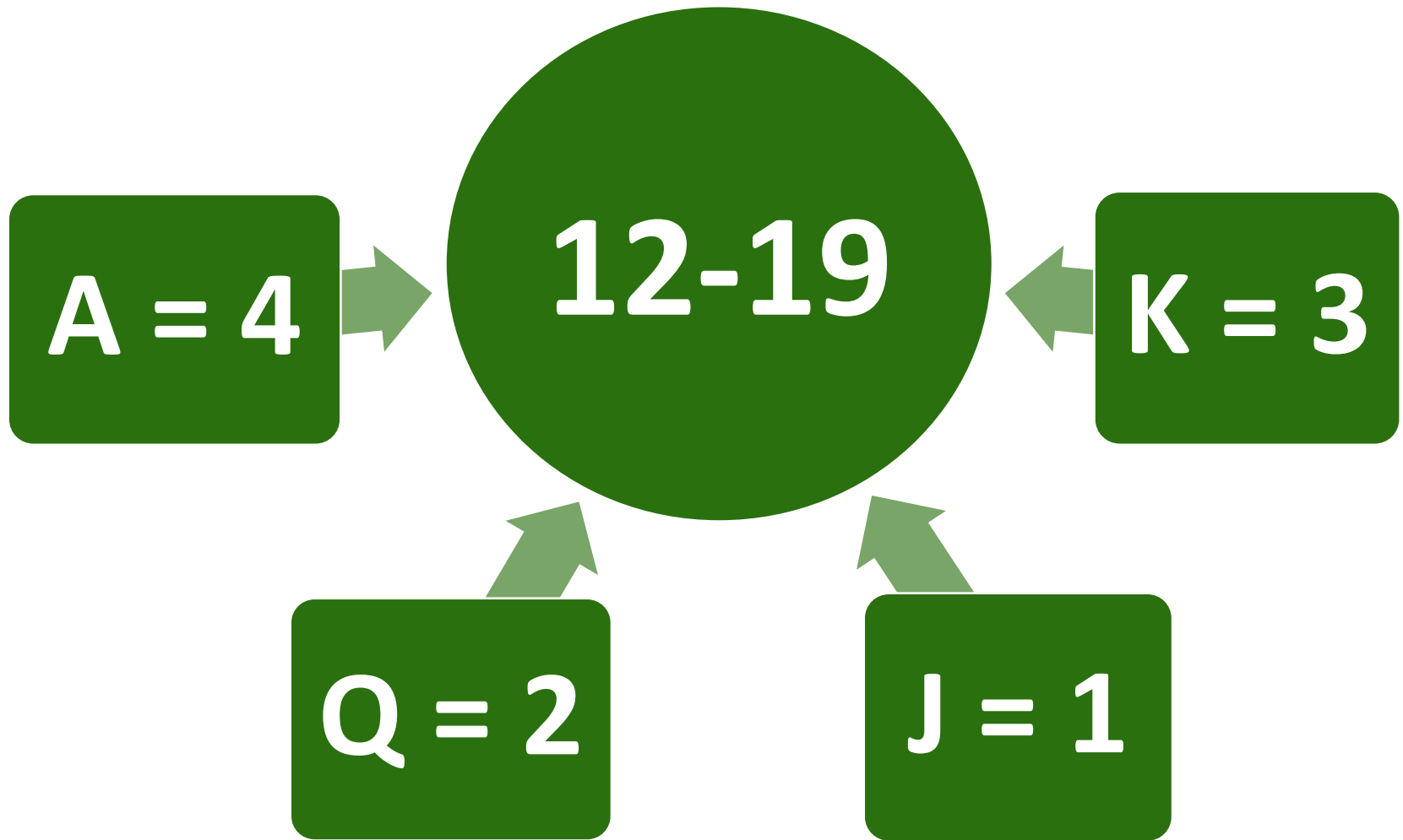
Basic Rules for Opening 1-suit

- You must have enough **High Card Points**

12-19



Basic Rules for Opening 1-suit



Opener's First Bid

| | Points | Description |
|------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| 1♣ | 12 - 19 | 4 + clubs |
| 1♦ | 12 - 19 | 4 + diamonds |
| 1♥ | 12 - 19 | 4 + hearts |
| 1♠ | 12 - 19 | 4 + spades |
| 1NT | 12 - 14 | Balanced hand (SPECIAL CASE) |



Rules for 1-level suit openings

Bid your **longest** suit first



Basic Rules for I-level suit openings

Bid your lower ranking **4-card** suit first



What do you open?

Bid your higher ranking **5-card** suit first



What do you open with this hand?



?



What do you open with this hand?



Open 1♣

... open your
lower ranking 4-card suit first



What do you open with this hand?



?



What do you open with this hand?



Open 1♠

... open your higher ranking 5-card suit first



Further Bidding ... To come in more detail

- **Responder** needs 6 + points to bid (At least $\frac{1}{2}$ of what Opener needs)
- Try to find a **Fit** as soon as possible
- There are 3 choices of level to bid to:
 1. Minimum (6 – 9)
 2. Close to Game (10 – 12)
 3. Enough for Game (13+)
- If there is NO fit, then bid NoTrumps
- To bid **Game** you need **25+** points between the two hands



Summary for 1-level suit openers

12-19

- Open with 12-19 points
- Bid your longest suit first
- If you have two 4-card suits bid the lower ranked suit first
- If you have two 5-card suits bid the higher ranked suit first
- Suit quality does not matter



Homework

LESSON 2 QUIZ

NZBBridge

1-Level Opening Bids

What do you open with the following hands?

♠ AQ6542

♥ 72

♦ A2

♣ A92

♠ AJ52

♥ J8

♦ A105

♣ J1085

♠ K2

♥ AKQ2

♦ J9875

♣ 97

♠ AJ952

♥ AQ862

♦ K5

♣ 4

♠ A52

♥ AK62

♦ AJ85

♣ 97

What do you open with the following hands?



Questions?



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