# **Priority 1): Open a 5+card Major Suit**

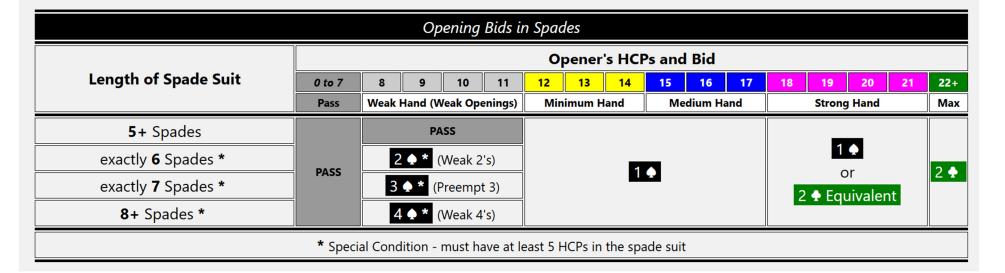
#### **Yellow Card Bidding System**

- The partnerships want to play contracts in the following priority:
  - 1) play a MAJOR suit contract first; or if not possible
  - 2) play a NO TRUMP contract second; or as a last result
  - 3) play a MINOR suit contract.
- After the suit or no trump is known, then determine the contract level to play.

# Opening Bid of 1 •

The 1 • opening bid has two requirments:

- 1) Points: 12-21 HCPs (no distribution points). The suit location of the HCPs is NOT important.
- 2) Suit length: **5+spades**, with the same number of hearts or less. Lengths of the other suits are not important.



# **Priority 1)A: Open a 5+card Major Suit**

### **Yellow Card Bidding System**

- The partnerships want to play contracts in the following priority:
  - 1) play a MAJOR suit contract first; or if not possible
  - 2) play a NO TRUMP contract second; or as a last result
  - 3) play a MINOR suit contract.
- After the suit or no trump is known, then determine the contract level to play.

# Opening Bid of 1

The 1 opening bid has two requirments:

- 1) Points: 12-21 HCPs (no distribution points). The suit location of the HCPs is NOT important.
- 2) Suit length: 5+hearts, with more hearts than spades. Lengths of the other suits are not important.

Opening Bids in Hearts																	
	Opener's HCPs and Bid																
Length of Heart Suit	0 to 7	8	9	1	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22+
	Pass	Weak Hand (Weak Openings)					Minimum Hand Medium Hand					Strong Hand				Max	
<b>5</b> Hearts		PASS				1 ♥						1 ♥ or 2 ♠ Equivalent					
exactly <b>6</b> Hearts <b>*</b>	PASS	2 * (Weak 2's)														2 🛧	
exactly <b>7</b> Hearts *	PASS	3 ♥ * (Preempt 3)														2 7	
8+ Hearts *		4 ♥ * (Weak 4's)															
* Special Condition - must have at least 5 HCPs in the heart suit																	

## **Yellow Card Bidding System**

- The partnerships want to play contracts in the following priority:
  - 1) play a MAJOR suit contract first; or if not possible
  - 2) play a NO TRUMP contract second; or as a last result
  - 3) play a MINOR suit contract.
- After the suit or no trump is known, then determine the contract level to play.

### 1) No 5+card major

- When holding a 5+card major, open that 5+card major instead of NT.
- This practice clarifies the nature of the NT opening hand, and makes it easier to identify an 8+card fit in a major suit.
- SAYC allows a NT opening with a 5-card major, but I suggest not opening a NT when holding a 5+card major.

#### 2) Must be Balanced

- no voids, no singletons, and 1 or 0 doubleton
- distributions of balanced hands are described by the general notation:

4-3-3-3

4-4-3-2

5-3-3-2 (major suit cannot be 5-cards)

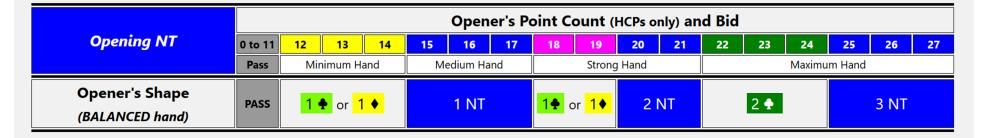
## 3) Specific Point Count Ranges

Each No Trump opening bid must be in one of three specific honor card point ranges

• 15 to 17 HCPs - 1 NT

• 20 to 21 HCPs - 2 NT (Strong Opening)

• 25 to 27 HCPs - 3 NT (Strong Opening)



A No Trump opening bid is a limit bid that can be passed by the partner.

# **Priority 3): Open the Better Minor Suit**

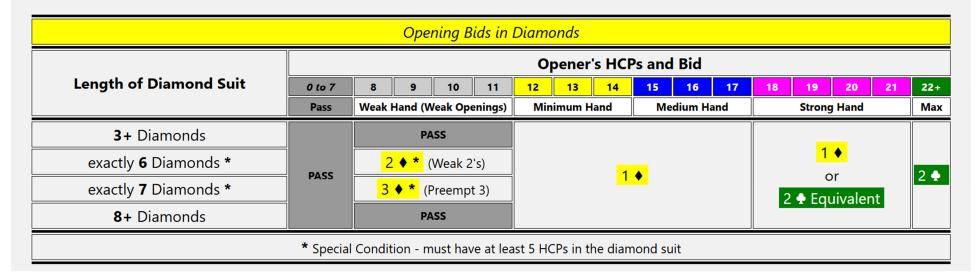
### **Yellow Card Bidding System**

- The partnerships want to play contracts in the following priority:
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  - 3) play a MINOR suit contract.
- After the suit or no trump is known, then determine the contract level to play.

# Opening Bid of 1 ♦

The 1 ♦ opening bid has four requirments:

- 1) Points: 12-21 HCPs (no distribution points). The suit location of the HCPs is NOT important.
- 2) Cannot contain a 5+card major.
- **3)** Cannot qualify for a 1 NT opening.
- 4) Suit length: 3+diamonds where diamonds is the Better Minor. (Go to the Better Minor web page for more information.)



# **Priority 3): Open the Better Minor Suit**

### **Yellow Card Bidding System**

- The partnerships want to play contracts in the following priority:
  - 1) play a MAJOR suit contract first; or if not possible
  - 2) play a NO TRUMP contract second; or as a last result
  - 3) play a MINOR suit contract.
- After the suit or no trump is known, then determine the contract level to play.

# Opening Bid of 1 •

The 1 • opening bid has four requirments:

- 1) Points: 12-21 HCPs (no distribution points). The suit location of the HCPs is NOT important.
- 2) Cannot contain a 5+card major.
- **3)** Cannot qualify for a 1 NT opening.
- 4) Suit length: 3+clubs where clubs is the Better Minor. (Go to the Better Minor web page for more information.)

