Priority 1) Open a 5+card Major Suit

Yellow Card Bidding System Mantras

First, determine which suit to play in the following priority:

- 1) try for a MAJOR suit contract.
- 2) try for a **NO TRUMP** contract.
- 3) settle for a MINOR suit contract.

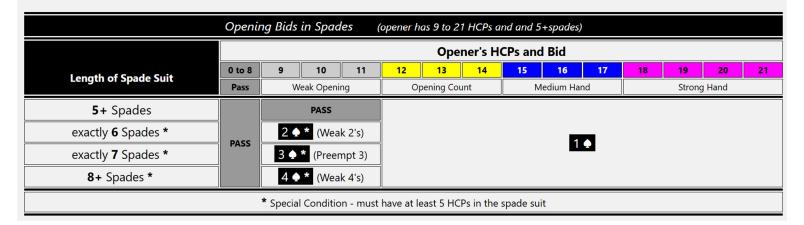
After the suit is determined, then determine the contract level.

During the bidding process:

- support a major suit when possible
- propose the other major suit when possible
- when proposing a new suit, propose it at the lowest possible level

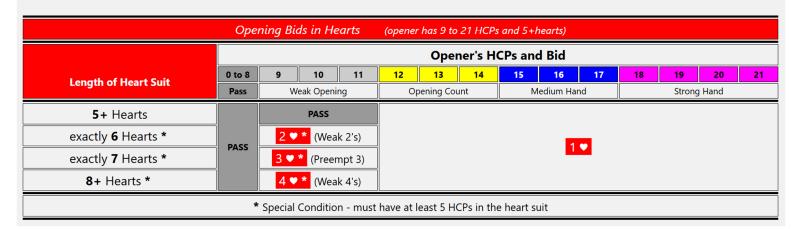
The 1 opening bid has two requirments:

- 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.



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.



Priority 2) Open 1 NT

The 3 criteria for opening a No Trump hand are:

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

• 25 to 27 HCPs - 3 NT

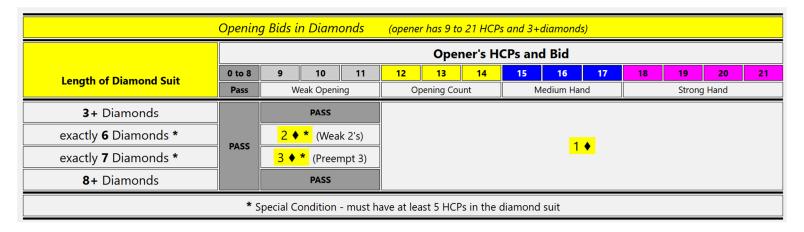
Opening Bids in No Trump																	
	Opener's HCPs and Bid																
Opener's Requirements	0 to 11 Pass	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Hand	21	22	23	24	25 ım Hand	26	27
NO 5+card Major & Balanced	PASS	Opening Count 1 ♣ or 1 ♦			Medium Hand 1 NT			1 ♣ c		2 NT		2 🖈			3 NT		

Priority 3) Open the Better Minor Suit

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) Does not have a 5+card major (otherwise open with that major).

 It is possible that the opener has a 4-card major suit and prefers to play a major suit contract, but could not open that major. The responder assumes this as the responder determines its response.
- **3)** Does not qualify for a 1 NT opening.
- 4) Suit length: 3+diamonds where diamonds are the Better Minor. (Go to the Better Minor web page for more information.)



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) Does not have a 5+card major (otherwise open with that major).

 It is possible that the opener has a 4-card major suit and prefers to play a major suit contract, but could not open that major. The responder assumes this as the responder determines its response.
- 3) Does not qualify for a 1 NT opening.
- 4) Suit length: 3+clubs where clubs are the Better Minor. (Go to the Better Minor web page for more information.)

