

## WHICH SUIT TO RESPOND AFTER AN OPENING OF ONE OF A SUIT

- 1. WITH TWO 5 or 6 CARD SUITS:** Respond with the higher ranking suit first
- 2. WITH 4 CARD SUITS:** Bid 'up the line' – starting with cheapest 4 card suit.
- 3. USUALLY BID A FOUR CARD MAJOR AT THE ONE LEVEL**

- It is almost always right to respond with a four card major at the one level if you can.
- It doesn't matter how poor the suit – a one level response doesn't promise any suit quality.
- But with 12+ points always bid **longest** suit first.

<b>a</b>	WEST EAST 1♦ ?	EAST ♠ K J 6 ♥ 8 7 5 2 ♦ A J 8 7 6 ♣ 9	<b>Bid a 4 card major rather than supporting partner's minor.</b>  Start with a 1♥ response – not 3♦. You can always support diamonds later.
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<b>b</b>	WEST EAST 1♦ ?	EAST ♠ K J 6 ♥ 8 7 5 2 ♦ 8 2 ♣ Q J 4 2	<b>Bid a 4 card major rather than 1NT.</b>  Start with a 1♥ response – not 1NT.
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<b>c</b>	WEST EAST 1♦ ?	EAST ♠ K J 6 ♥ K J 5 2 ♦ A J 8 ♣ 9 5 4	<b>Bid a 4 card major rather than 2NT or 3NT.</b>  Start with a 1♥ response – not 3NT.
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<b>d</b>	WEST EAST 1♥ ?	EAST ♠ 8 7 6 5 ♥ K J 5 ♦ A J 8 5 4 ♣ 9	<b>Bid a 4 card major rather than bidding a longer minor at the two level (unless 12+).</b>  Start with a 1♠ response – not 2♦. Without enough points to bid twice it's more important to show the 4 card major than the 5 card minor
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## BUT

<b>a</b>	WEST EAST 1♥ ?	EAST ♠ K J 6 5 ♥ K J 5 ♦ A Q 8 5 4 ♣ 9	<b>With 12+ points always start with longest suit.</b>  Start with a 2♦ response – not 1♠.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You are strong enough to bid the 2<sup>nd</sup> suit later</li> <li>• You might miss a minor suit slam</li> </ul>
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<b>b</b>	WEST EAST 1♦ ?	EAST ♠ K J 6 5 2 ♥ Q J 5 3 ♦ 3 ♣ 9 8 2	<b>With 5 spades and 4 hearts and 6+ points</b>  Bid 1♠ - not 1♥.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Without enough points to bid twice it's more important to show the 5 card major than the 4.</li> </ul>
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