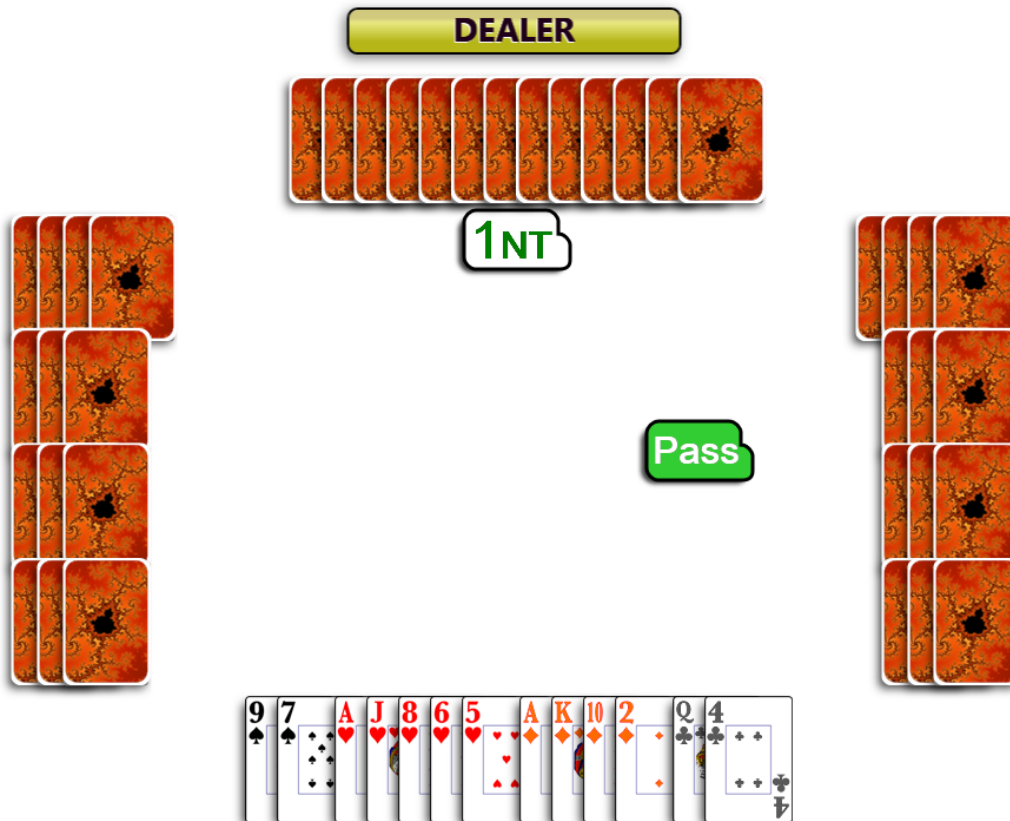


REVISION EXERCISE 3

You are south with partner (north) as dealer:

North opens



What should you bid?

2♥

3♥

2NT

3NT

Explain your decision.

DO NOT GO TO THE NEXT PAGE UNTIL YOU HAVE ANSWERED.

You should have responded 3♥.



This is weak takeout no more than 10 HCPs.
Opener will PASS and game will be missed.



This shows a hand with values for game (14 HCPs here) and exactly five hearts. But is it better in 3NT of 4♥? Opener decides.



This shows a hand with 11–12 HCPs and no 5+ card major.
It is not the case here.



This shows a hand with 13+ HCPs and no 5+ card major.
It is not the case here.

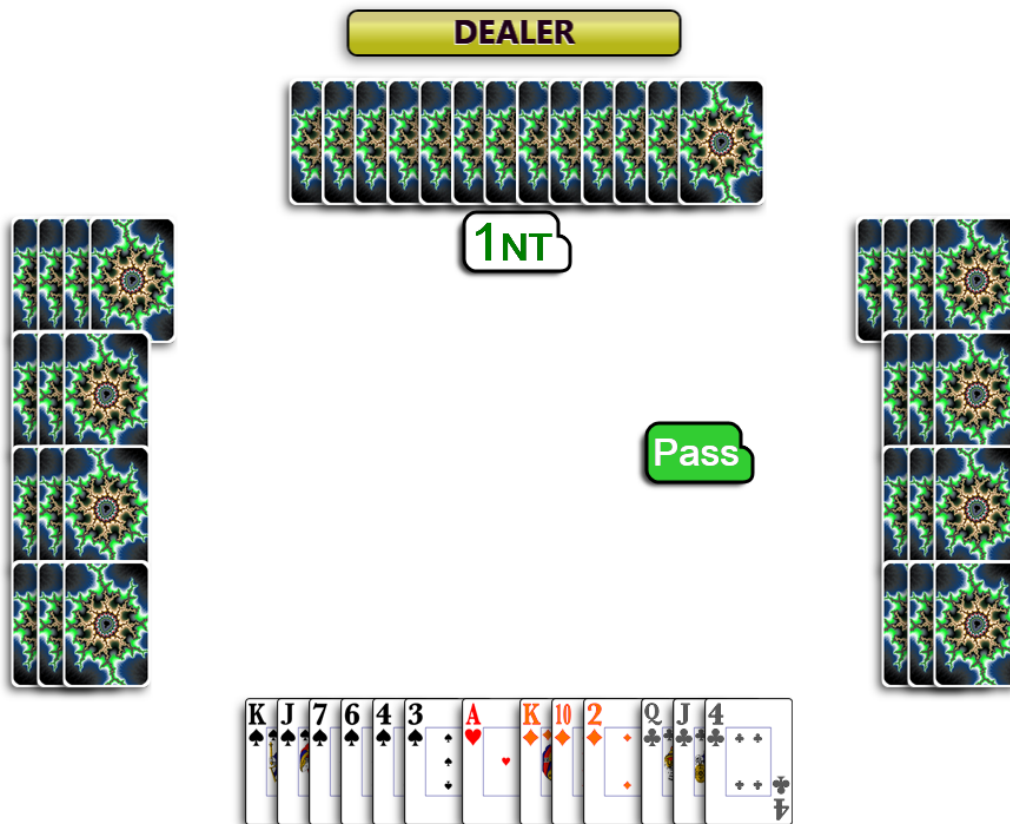
The three most common mistakes in bidding hands similar to this are:

1. Bidding 2♥ which is interpreted by opener as a weak takeout and passed. This is one of the most common mistakes in bidding after a 1NT opening and needs to be avoided.
2. Bidding 3♥ with 11–12 HCPs, forcing to game, but game values (13+ HCPs) are not present.
3. Opener's failure to bid on to game not realising that the 3-level bid is game forcing. Opener rebids 3NT with two cards in responder's (hearts here) or four-of-the-major otherwise. Bidding game is required; opener chooses which one.

Always remember that responder is in control after a 1NT opening. It is opener's only task to make the correct rebids, not to be 'creative' with the bidding.

You are south with partner (north) as dealer:

North opens



What should you bid?

3♠

4♠

3NT

Explain your decision.

DO NOT GO TO THE NEXT PAGE UNTIL YOU HAVE ANSWERED.

You should have responded 4♠.



This shows a hand with values for game (14 HCPs here) and exactly five Spades. You have six.



This shows a hand with values for game (14 HCPs here) and 6+ cards. Opener must have at least two spades to have opened 1NT. You have a fit.



This shows a hand with 13+ HCPs and no 5+ card major. It is not the case here.

Frequently, south initially responds 3♠ but, after a 3NT rebid by opener, south rebids 4♠ anyway. There is no need to ask opener to support spades when you already know 4♠ is the final contract. You don't need to ask a question of partner when you already know the answer.

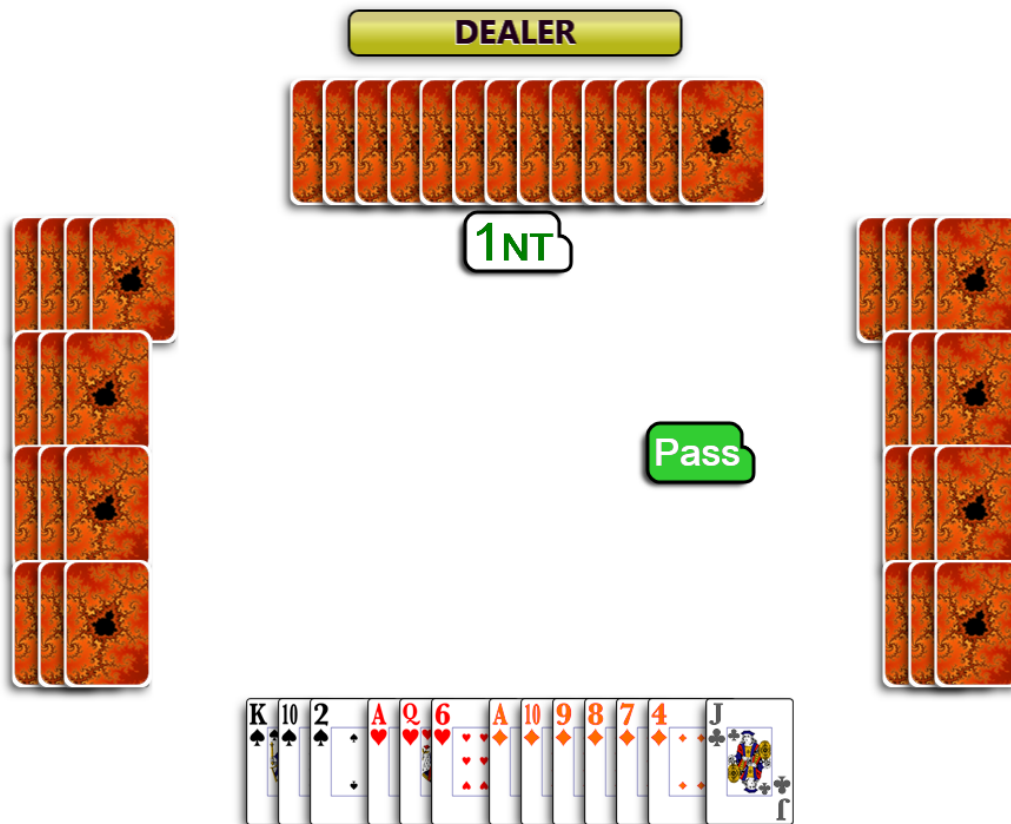
What about this hand with only 10 HCPs?



You have already decided you have a spade fit so you should be counting ruffing points as well. You have 3 RPs from hearts giving 13 Total Points in all, so 4♠ is still the correct response!

You are south with partner (north) as dealer:

North opens



What should you bid?

3♦

4♦

5♦

3NT

Explain your decision.

DO NOT GO TO THE NEXT PAGE UNTIL YOU HAVE ANSWERED.

You should have responded 3NT.

3♦

4♦

Both bids show a possibility of a diamond slam, the 4♦ bid being forcing to at least 5♦ (game).

The hand given does not have any clear slam potential so neither diamond bid is appropriate.

5♦

If you are prepared to play in 5♦, then 6♦ cannot be far away.

Use 3♦ or 4♦ to investigate a slam. 5♦ is of no use as a natural bid.

3NT

This shows a hand with 13+ HCPs and no 5+ card major.

This is the case here, so 3NT is the correct bid.

If there is a choice between playing in a minor suit game or 3NT, then it will be almost always correct to play in 3NT. Long minor suits are an important source of tricks in a no-trumps contract. Also, making 9 tricks is much easier than making 11. Remember that, if you think you can make 11 tricks, then you might well be on for a small slam. It cannot be far away.

But, you say, what about the short club suit? Isn't it a risk that the opponents will run away with clubs in no-trumps? Yes, there is a risk, but bridge is not about possible bad luck in one hand, it is all about doing better in the long run. And in the long run 3NT will give you a much better overall score.

END