



Opener's rebid after the Responder's Sputnik double

The Opener's rebid after the Responder's Sputnik double

Caution !

These rebids are different from the ones made after the Responder has named a suit as the opener is definitely obliged to bid something if player n°4 has passed after the Sputnik !

- a 1 NT rebid doesn't promise a stopper in the opponent's suit.
- a strong two suiter is not strong anymore ! If the opener bids a suit higher than the first one, he doesn't promise 17-18 HCP, not at all.
- supporting the major called for by the Sputnik double at level 3 or 4 is not preempting, but showing either a 2nd or 3rd zone hand.

S	W	N	E
1 ♦	1 ♠	X	Pass
1 NT			

9	7	4	K	Q	4	J	9	5	A	Q	9	8
♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦	♦

Problem 5968 1 NT 1st zone balanced hand, no ♠ stopper....but no other option !

S	W	N	E
1 ♣	1 ♠	X	Pass
2 ♦			

7	4	2	4	A	K	J	10	6	A	K	10	7
♠	♠	♠	♥	♣	♣	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦	♦

Problem : 20021 : Here, South's rebid doesn't promise 17-18HCP !



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Different options for a rebid

As a priority the opener gives a fit in one of the majors called for by the double. If there is no major fit, but stoppers in the opponent's overcalled suit, he looks for a NT contract.

- With a 1st zone hand : support at level 2
- With a 2nd zone hand : jump raise
- With a 3rd zone hand, go to game
- With a 3rd zone unbalanced hand, look for a slam (Splinter, Controls, Blackwood ...)

S	W	N	E
1 ♦	1 ♠	X	Pass
2 ♥			



Problem E5971 : 2 ♥ Minimum support with this 1st zone hand.

S	W	N	E
1 ♣	1 ♠	X	Pass
2 NT			



Problem 20022 : 2NT ..with a 2nd zone hand and a singleton, Opener couldn't open 1 NT.



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Looking for a NT contract

If the opener doesn't have a fit in one of the majors called for by the Sputnik double, he can look for a NT contract.

- With a 1st-zone hand: 1NT. This bid doesn't guarantee a stopper in the opponents' suit.
- With a 2nd-zone hand and stoppers in the opponents' suit : 2NT.
- With a 3rd-zone hand and stoppers in the opponents' suit : bid 3NT.
- With a 3rd-zone balanced hand, without stoppers in the opponents' suit, use the cue bid.

S	W	N	E
1 ♦	1 ♠	X	Pass
2 NT			

A	J	10	4	Q	K	J	8	A	J	9	8	7
♠	♠	♠	♠	♥	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦

Problem E5969 : 2NT. NT is your only possible game. Your partner will understand that you weren't able to open 1NT because of your unbalanced distribution and he'll know that you have a ♥ singleton!

S	W	N	E
1 ♣	1 ♠	X	Pass
1 NT			

10	4	3	A	K	J	K	Q	9	8	J	8	7
♠	♠	♠	♥	♥	♥	♣	♣	♣	♣	♦	♦	♦

Problem E20020 : 1NT 1st-zone balanced hand, no ♠ stopper but no other possible bid !



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The other options when the opener has no fit support

- With a 1st-zone one-suited hand : rebid your suit at the lowest level.
- With a 1st-zone two-suiter, bid your second suit.
- With a strong hand and no available natural bid, cue bid the overcalled suit.

S	W	N	E
1 ♦	1 ♠	X	Pass
2 ♣			



Problem 5975 : 2 ♣. Reassess your hand, and downgrade it. Your hand has lost some value: the K ♠ isn't worth much nor is the singleton in your partner's suit. No game-forcing jump shift with this hand!

S	W	N	E
1 ♣	1 ♠	X	Pass
2 ♠			



Problem 20029 With a 3rd zone hand, not knowing much about your partner's hand... investigate !