## Suit shift 2/1

## Basic principles

A $2 / 1$ suit change promises 11 HCP (10HCP with a 6 carder) and no maximum.

- It is forcing
- and auto-forcing, The responder commits to bidding again after any rebid below game.

Rules for responding:

- First the longest suit
- With 24 carders, The cheapest suit first
- With 25 carders, bid the most expensive suit first. The second will often be bid later, economically


Exercise E20365 2 With 2 5-carders, the responder bids the most expensive suit first.

## Suit shift 2/1



## Opener's rebids at 2NT or 3NT

- On a $1 \downarrow$ or $1 \leadsto$ opening and after a suit change $2 / 1$, a 2 NT rebid shows a regular hand 5/3/3/2 with 15 to 17HCP That could not be opened 1NT.
- On an opening of 1 and a $2 \&$ response, $2 N T$ shows a regular hand and 12-14HCP. It can't show 15-17, as such a hand would have been opened 1NT
- In all cases, in that situation (Suit change by the responder at the 2 level), a 3NT rebid shows a 3rd zone hand (18-19HCP)


Exercise E20366 2SA With 15-17HCP Could not open 1NT because of his 5 cards in


Exercise E20367 The opener has a regular hand and 18-19HCP. With a very strong hand, the responder can continue the bidding to investigate a possible slam.

## Suit shift 2/1

## Support in the responder's suit

Suit changes by the responder promise at least 4 cards in the suit ; il So the opener must have 4 cards in that suit to show support.There is one exception : A $2 \boldsymbol{V}$ response after a $1 \boldsymbol{A}$ opening promises 5 cards in $\boldsymbol{\downarrow}$


Exercise E20360 The responder's bid promises 5 cards in $\vee$. The opener can show support with 3 cards

## Suit shift 2/1

## The repetition of the opening suit after a $\mathbf{2 / 1}$ suit change by the responder

The repetition of the opening suit after a $2 / 1$ suit change by the responder may be the only way to keep the bidding at a low level. Let's not forget that the $2 / 1$ response is auto-forcing.

- The repetition of the opening suit by the opener is merely a 'waiting bid' showing a 1st zone hand (12-14H)
- The jump repetition of the opening suit by the opener shows a strong 6 cards suit and a 2 nd zone hand.(15-17H)


Exercise E20372 The opener is forced to repeat his $\vee$, although he only has 5 cards. (2NT would show 15-17HCP...which he does not have...)

