

# Comprehensive System Focusing On The Bidding Of The Major Suits At Duplicate

Duplicate bridge is a fascinating and challenging card game that requires skill, strategy, and communication. One of the most crucial aspects of duplicate bridge is bidding, which determines the contract that the partnership will play. Accurate bidding is essential for maximizing your chances of making your contract and scoring well.



## THE MAJOR SUITS: A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM Focusing of the bidding of the major suits at duplicate bridge by Tom Jordan

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This comprehensive guide will focus on the bidding of major suits in duplicate bridge. We will delve into the various systems and techniques used by experts to assess their hands and communicate their findings to their partners. By understanding these principles, you can significantly improve your bidding skills and enhance your overall game.

## Understanding the Basics of Major Suit Bidding

In duplicate bridge, the bidding process begins with the opening bid. The opening bidder must assess their hand and determine the strength of their suit holdings. The strength of a suit is typically measured by the number of high cards (honors) and the distribution of the cards.

There are various suit bidding systems used in duplicate bridge. Two of the most popular systems are the Standard American Yellow Card system and the Precision Club system. These systems provide guidelines for opening bids, responses, and rebids based on the strength of your suit holdings.

## **Assessing Your Hand**

Before you can bid, you need to carefully assess your hand. Consider the following factors:

- **Number of high cards (honors):** Aces, kings, queens, and jacks are considered high cards. The more high cards you have in a suit, the stronger it is.
- **Distribution of cards:** The distribution of your cards in a suit is also important. A suit with evenly distributed cards is stronger than a suit with a long sequence of cards.
- **Shape of the suit:** The shape of your suit refers to the number of cards you have in each rank. A suit with a balanced shape (e.g., 4-3-3-2) is stronger than a suit with an unbalanced shape (e.g., 5-2-1-5).

## **Opening Bids**

The opening bid in duplicate bridge indicates the strength of your suit and your desired contract level. The most common opening bids are:

- **1 of a suit:** Shows a weak opening hand with 12-14 points and a five-card suit.
- **2 of a suit:** Shows a strong opening hand with 15-17 points and a six-card suit.
- **3 of a suit:** Shows a very strong opening hand with 18-19 points and a seven-card suit.

## Responses to Opening Bids

The partner of the opening bidder responds to the opening bid based on their own hand strength and distribution. The most common responses are:

- **Pass:** Indicates a weak hand with no support for the opening bid.
- **Raise:** Indicates support for the opening bid and a desire to play at a higher contract level.
- **Overcall:** Indicates a strong hand with a different suit that the responder believes is better than the opening bid.
- **Double:** Indicates a strong hand with a suit that is opposite to the opening bid.

## Rebids

After the opening bid and response, the opening bidder may rebid to further define their hand and indicate their desired contract level. The most common rebids are:

- **Rebid the opening suit:** Indicates a stronger hand with additional support for the opening bid.

- **Bid a new suit:** Indicates a different suit that the opening bidder believes is better than the opening bid.
- **Jump shift:** Indicates a very strong hand with a long suit and a desire to play at a high contract level.

## Advanced Bidding Techniques

Once you have mastered the basics of major suit bidding, you can start exploring more advanced techniques. These techniques can help you to more accurately assess your hand and communicate your findings to your partner.

Some of the most common advanced bidding techniques include:

- **Weak two bids:** A weak two bid is an opening bid of 2 in a suit that shows a weak hand with a specific distribution.
- **Preempts:** A preempt is a bid that is made at a higher level than normal to prevent the opponents from bidding.
- **Stayman:** The Stayman convention is used to ask partner if they have a major suit with at least four cards.
- **Texas transfers:** Texas transfers are a series of bids that are used to show a strong hand with a specific distribution.

Bidding in duplicate bridge is a complex and challenging skill that requires practice and experience. By understanding the principles of major suit bidding and applying the techniques described in this guide, you can significantly improve your bidding skills and enhance your overall game.

Remember, the key to successful bidding is to accurately assess your hand and communicate your findings to your partner in a clear and concise manner. With practice and dedication, you can become a proficient bridge bidder and enjoy the rewards of this fascinating game.

## Call to Action

If you are looking to improve your duplicate bridge bidding skills, I highly recommend enrolling in my online course, "Mastering Major Suit Bidding." This course will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of the principles and techniques of major suit bidding. You will learn how to assess your hand, communicate effectively with your partner, and bid with confidence.

Click here to learn more about my online course and start your journey to becoming a bidding expert!



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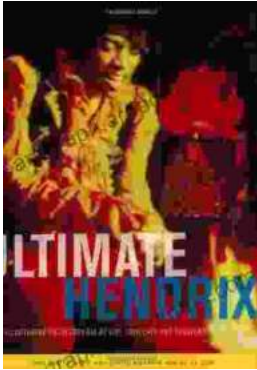
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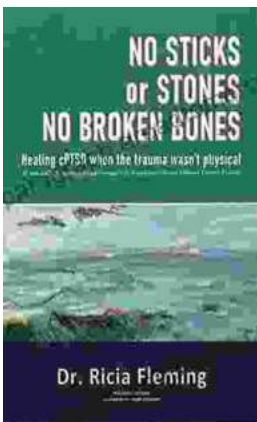
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