



**Basic Reasons** why when either Opener or Responder bid an unsupported suit twice, it evidences at least six pieces and their hand is, therefore, unbalanced:

- (a) Suits are bid by length not quality. Thus repeating a suit promises more cards, not greater strength.
- (b) In the Standard American System of bidding, a Major suit opening promises at least 5-pieces by definition. It does not have to be re-bid to repeat this same message.
- (c) If the second bid by the Opener or the Responder is at the 2-level or higher, and in a new suit, it implies a distributional hand and the greater likelihood of at least 5-cards in the first bid suit.
- (d) Reserving the repeat of a suit to show 6-cards makes it very easy for Partner to support Partner with only 2-pieces.
- (e) It isn't necessary to repeat a 5-card suit, since Partner can always give an immediate raise with four cards or a later raise with three.
- (f) Repeating an unsupported 5-card suit is an acceptable option **only** if Partner's bidding creates pressure and no better call is available.

**Sample Auctions:**

1H – 1S  
2C – 2D (Opener has promised exactly 5-Hearts and 4-Clubs)  
2-NT (5-4)

1H – 1S  
2C – 2D (Opener has promised at least a 5-5 distribution)  
3C (5-5) or (6-5) or (6-6)

1H – 1S  
2C – 2D (Opener has promised at least a 6-5 distribution)  
3C – 3-NT (6-5-5) or (6-6)  
4H

1H – 1S  
2C – 2D (Opener has promised at least a 6-6 distribution)  
3C – 3-NT (6-6)  
4C

1H – 1S  
2C – 2D (Opener has promised at least a 6-4 distribution)  
2H (6-4-6)

1C – 1H  
1S – 1-NT (Opener has promised at least a 6-4 distribution)  
2C (6-4-6)

1C – 1H  
1S – 1-NT (Opener has promised at least a 6-5 distribution)  
2S (6-5)