

## BRIDGE – INTERMEDIATE LESSONS I – 16

# Describing The Count

Bidding guidelines offer a method of description of high-card point count for both the Opener and his/her responding Partner.

## Opener's Description

An Opening bid in a suit at the 1-level promises 13-21 points. Subsequent bids by the Opener reduce this count to a 3-point range, either: 13-15, Minimum  
16-18, Moderate, or  
19-21, Maximum: High-Card Points.

### How the Opener can re-bid at his/her second turn to show 13-15 high-card points:

- a) Make a non-jump bid in No-Trump: **1H - 1S**  
**1-NT**
- b) Repeat the same suit at the 2-level: **1H – 1S**  
**2H**
- c) Raise Partner to the 2-level: **1H - 1S**  
**2S**

### How the Opener can re-bid to show 16-18 high-card points:

- a) Jump to the 3-level in the same suit: **1H - 1S**  
**3H**
- b) Jump to the 3-level in Partner's suit: **1H - 1S**  
**3S**

### How the Opener can re-bid to show 19-21 high-card points:

- a) Jump to the 4-level in the same suit or in Partner's suit:  
**1H – 1S (or) 1H – 1S**  
**4H 4S**
- b) Jump in No-Trump or Jump-shift in a new suit:  
**1H – 1S or 1H – 1S**  
**2-NT 3C**

If the Opener re-bids in a new suit without jumping, the promised count is 11 - 18 high-card points. A third bid is then necessary to define it as a minimum (11-15) or a moderate (16-18) holding.

