

BRIDGE – INTERMEDIATE LESSONS I – 32

RESPONDER’S JUMP RESPONSES

In response to Partner’s opening bid of one-of-a-suit, Partnerships have available the option to permit Responder to show either a ***strong jump-shift response*** (19 or more HCP’s with or without a predominance of any one suit), else a ***weak jump-shift response*** showing (2-5 HCP’s with a long one-suited holding). Both are accepted and used, but, naturally, are mutually exclusive. Partnerships need to decide, therefore, which of the two they will utilize!

WEAK JUMP-SHIFT RESPONSES

Typically, ***Weak Jump-Shift Responses*** by a Responder evidence a pre-emptive 2-5 HCP’s (a **KQ** holding or less; i.e., fewer HCP’s necessary to respond **1-NT**), with a 6-card suit at the 2-level (Example 1), or a 7-card suit at the 3-level (Example 2). In the case of all preempts, vulnerability is important to consider. With unfavorable vulnerability, do not make a weak jump-shift without a decent suit quality. Weak jump- shift responses by a Responder deny any support for the suit bid by Opener. By Partnership agreement, such bids can be made in a competitive auction as seen in **Example 2. *Weak Jump-Shift Responses by a Responder are alertable.***

<p><u>North</u> (1) 1C</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>East</u> Pass</p> <p><u>South</u> 2S (KJXXXX XX XXX XX)</p>	<p><u>North</u> (2) 1S</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>East</u> 1H</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>West</u> 3D (X XX KQXXXXX XXX)</p>
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Note: This treatment is **off** when any of the conventional higher jump-shift responses are used, including a ***Splinter Bid*** which is a convention for responding to a one-of-a-suit opening with a 4-card or greater fit, game-forcing strength (13+ points), and singleton (not an Ace), or a void in the ***Splinter Suit*** (Example 3).

<p><u>North</u> (3) 1H</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>West</u> Pass</p> <p><u>South</u> “4D” (AJX KJXX X AXXXX)</p>	
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STRONG JUMP RESPONSES

Typically, ***Strong Jump-Shift Responses*** by a Responder evidence a 19 or more HCP holding (Example 4), are natural, and by inference, are game-forcing, as well as invitational to slam. Responder should **NOT** make a strong jump-shift response when holding, (1) A two-suited or three-suited hand, (2) A weak suit (missing 2 or more top honors), or (3) A very strong, balanced hand (20+ HCP’s). **Note:** A jump-response into a No-Trump call is not considered synonymous with strong suit jump-shift responses. Over a Major suit opening by Partner, a **2-NT** bid shows 13-15 HCP’s (natural, conventional ‘**Jacoby 2-NT**’ or ‘**Multi-Purpose 2-NT**’), or 11-12 HCP’s if bid over a Minor suit opening by Partner (Example 5).

<p><u>North</u> (4) 1H</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>West</u> Pass</p> <p><u>South</u> 3D (AJX KJ AKXXX AX)</p>	<p><u>North</u> (5) Pass</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>East</u> 1D <u>or</u> 1H</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>West</u> 2-NT <u>or</u> 3-NT</p>
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