

RESPONDER’S FIRST BID AFTER 3NT OPENING

Your partner has opened 3NT on 6-9 HCPs only, but does have a very strong 7+ card ♣ or ♦ or suit and nothing much else. This opening bid is called “Gambling 3NT” for a reason, but if nothing else it may prevent the opposition from declaring and winning a Game contract. The gambling 3NT opening bid will have made it difficult for the opposition, but it may well succeed in its own right. If you go down it will be relatively cheap and probably well worth preventing the opposition from being able to match up their strong hands. Opener wants you to help decide whether the contract should remain at 3NT or be changed to a Minor suit contract at the 4-level.

Your Hand		You can now Advise Your Partner
A	<p>Stoppers in Three Suits: If you have stoppers in three of the four suits, with the fourth hopefully covered by partner, chances are that the opposition will only be able to take three tricks before you are able to cash seven. The gamble then comes down to which cards the opposition have discarded in the process, whether you are able to take two or three more.</p>	<p>With stoppers in three suits: Pass closing off at 3NT</p>
B	<p>Stoppers in Two Suits Only: If you only have stoppers in two of the four suits, a 3NT contract is likely to fail, and a cheaper less risky Minor suit contract is then preferable. Only partner knows which Minor suit contract it should be, so bid the lowest and let partner change it, if necessary.</p>	<p>With stoppers in two suits only: Bid 4♣ Go to 3NT 1</p>

OPENER’S SECOND BID AFTER 3NT OPENING

Your Partner’s Bid was		You can now Advise Your Partner	
1	<p>4♣ Your partner has stoppers in only two of the four suits, making a 3NT contract too risky.</p>	<p>If you hold a 7+ card ♣ suit: Pass closing off at 4♣</p>	<p>If you hold a 7+ card ♦ suit: Bid 4♦ closing off at 4♦</p>