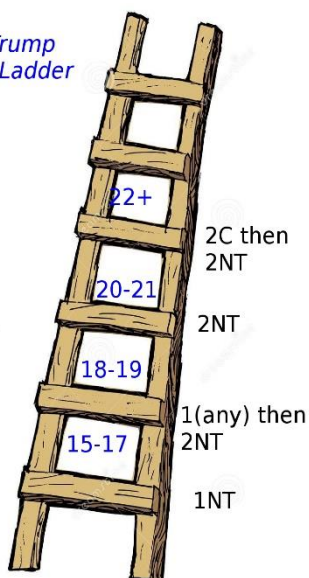


Reverses and Jump Shifts

No Trump Ladder

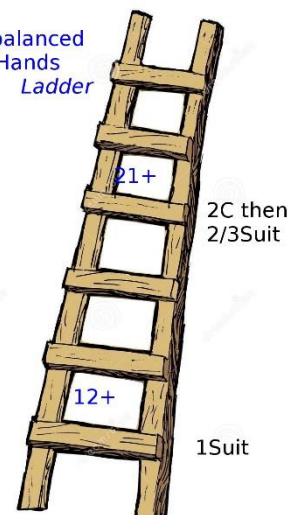


Our No Trump ladder is quite defined 3 point on the first rung and two for the subsequent rungs up to 26pts. But what about the unbalanced hands.

At the moment we have only three 12-20 and 21+ and if we have a fit or a 6 card suit we can bid at the three level

e.g 1H – 2H -3H (16-18pts)
or 1C – 1H -3H (16-18pts)
or 1H – 1NT -3H (16-18 pts).

Unbalanced Hands Ladder



I think we need some rungs in the middle so that we don't have to guess.

These extra rungs are for two suited hands where there is no agreement with the first suit.

Barriers.

You first bid whether by opener or responder establishes a barrier. The barrier is the same suit but one level up. So if you open 1D then your barrier is 2D if partner responds to you bid by bidding 1H then their barrier is 2H. To bid over your barrier requires extra points.

For opener you need 16+ pts and for responder you need 12+. You also need more cards in the first suit than in the second.

So for opener;

1C – 1S – **2D** the 2D bid shows 5Cs and 4+ diamonds and **16-18pts**. It is not forcing but you have to be very weak with no fit for either suits but prefer the second to pass.

1D – 1NT – **2S** this shows 5Ds and 4+ S and **16-18pts**.

1D- 1NT – **2C** this shows 5D's and 4+C and **12-18pts** and is not forcing but you should bid again if you have more than 8 pts just in case partner is top of his range. Notice Opener is below his barrier of 2D and therefore not **promising** 16+ pts.

Reverses

This is called a **Reverse**.

A **REVERSE** is a bid that is over your barrier and ends at the two level.

Responders can reverse too but in this case you only need 12+ points and is game force.

1C – 1H – 1NT – **2S**. You should have 5 Hs + 4S and at least twelve points. With two opening hands you should be in game. NB the 1NT by opener denies 4 spades so there is no point in bidding spades except to show an opening hand.

Jump Shifts

If you are even stronger you can do a jump shift. This has the same shape as a reverse. (Two suited hand with more cards in the first than the second) but you end up at the 3 level.

e.g. 1C- 1S- 3H. You will need to be stronger because you are bidding to the three level and with no fit you will probably end up in 3NT. This requires 19-20 pts and because responder has already shown at least 6 points you will bid to game in a major or NT but if you have a minor suit fit it may still be right to be in NT. but you may need a bit extra to bid game in a minor suit.

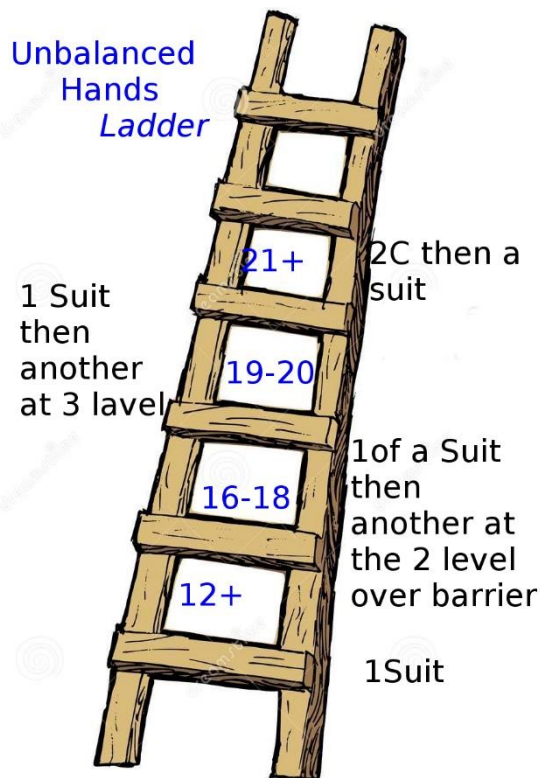
Here are some examples;

1S – 2D- **3C**. You are promising 5 Spades 4 Clubs and 18-19 Pts. If you don't have this strength, then you can't bid your second suit. Make a limiting bid and see if partner can bid Clubs later. This is important as it stops you getting too high.

1D – 1NT – **3C** You would have the same shape. 5 Ds and 4 Cs but also 19-20 pts.

So now we have two more rungs on our ladder.

A **Jump shift** is a bid that is over your barrier and ends at the three level.



Quiz

Q1 Describe both the opener and responders hand

	Opener	You
A	1D 2H	1S
B	1D 1NT	1H 2S
C	1D 2C	1NT 2D
D	1D 3C	1NT
E	1S 3C	2H 3NT
F	1H 3C	1NT 3NT
G	1H 3C 3NT	1NT 3S
H	1D 2H	1S 3D

Q2. As opener what would you rebid after partner as responded 1NT to your 1D opening with the following hands. 1D – 1NT - ??

A	S -- A85 H – AK98 D – KQ982 C -- 5
B	S -- A8 H – AK98 D – KQ982 C – K8
C	S -- Q8 H – KT98 D – KQ982 C – K8
D	S - H – AK98 D – KQ982 C – Q875

Q1 A. Partner will have 5+ ♦ and 4 ♥ and 15-18 pts. You as responder have not limited your hand yet and have told partner that you 6+ pts and at least 4 spades. You know more about partner's hand than he knows about yours you are going to set the level and the suit of this hand.

B. Partner has shown a minimum hand 12-14 pts and less than 3 hearts and less than 4 spades. You have shown 5 Hearts and 4 spades and opening points 12+. You have done a reverse as you have bid over your barrier of 2 hearts. You are in control; partner cannot stop bidding until you reach game.

C. This time partner has NOT bid over his barrier so is not showing extra values. He does however have 5 diamonds and 4 clubs. You have limited (6-9 pts) your hand with the 1NT bid. You are now giving control to partner, and he is asking to pick one of these two suits by passing or correcting to 2♦.

D. This hand is the same as the previous one except that partner is showing 19-21 pts and is forcing you to bid. You should show any stoppers you may have in the majors. Partner already knows you do not have 4 of them.

E. Here we are showing a Diamond stopper

F. Here by bidding 3NT you are showing stoppers in both majors.

G. Your 3S is showing a Spade stopper.

H. Your support of partner's 1st suit is a preference bid and denies stopper in the Clubs.

Q2 A. Bid 2 Hearts. This shows 5 diamonds and 4 hearts and 15-18 pts forcing for 1 round. What more does partner need to know?

B. Bid 3 hearts. You have 19 pts and partner at least 6 so force to game.

C. Pass you both have minimum hands and responder has denied 4 hearts

D. Bid 2 hearts. You are just shy of the 15 pts but you have a 6 loser hand and little desire to play in NT. You will bid three clubs next giving him a 3 way choice. And he will know your 0-4-5-4 shape. Why haven't the opposition bid spades with at least a 10 card fit – beware of NT!!