

Opener's rebid with and without Reverses

Board 1

North Deals
No-one Vul

♠ 10 7
♥ K 8
♦ A K 10 8 3
♣ Q J 4 3

♠ 6 5 4 2
♥ A Q 10 7 5
♦ Q 4
♣ 7 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 8 3
♥ J 9 6
♦ 9 6 2
♣ A K 8 5

♠ K Q J 9
♥ 4 3 2
♦ J 7 5
♣ 10 9 6

13
8 12
7

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
All pass			
2 ♦ by North			
Lead: ♣ A			

North's 2 ♣ is below the 2 ♦ 'barrier' (the simple rebid of the opened suit), North's 2 ♣ rebid is not a reverse and shows a minimum hand. Given equal length, South should prioritise bidding partner's first suit of diamonds. This is a preference bid and doesn't guarantee three-card support.

East leads the ♣ A and ♣ K. West should play high-low to suggest a doubleton. East should play the ♣ 8 to give partner West a ruff. The higher card asks for the higher ranking suit to be returned. West ruffs the 4th club with the ♦ Q.

The play theme on these hands: Beating contracts by taking ruffs and suit preference signals. All of them can be beaten.

Copyright. 2026 English Bridge Education and Development. All rights reserved

Opener's rebid with and without Reverses

Board 2

East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ 8 6 2
♥ 10 8
♦ A 8
♣ A 6 5 4 3 2

♠ J 10 9 7 4
♥ K Q J 7
♦ Q
♣ 10 9 8

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A
♥ A 4 3 2
♦ K J 6 3 2
♣ K Q J

♠ K Q 5 3
♥ 9 6 5
♦ 10 9 7 5 4
♣ 7

8
9 18
5

West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	All pass		
4 ♥ by East			
Lead: ♣ 7			

East's rebid of 2 ♥ is above the barrier (the level of a simple rebid of the suit opened i.e. above 2 ♦). It is a reverse showing 16+ points. It is forcing for one round. West has the points to bid game in hearts.

South should lead the singleton club. North wins the Ace and gives South a ruff with the ♣ 2. This is the lowest club asking for a diamond to be played so that South can score a second ruff to beat the contract.

Copyright. 2026 English Bridge Education and Development. All rights reserved

Opener's rebid with and without Reverses

Board 3

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 9 8 6 3

♥ K Q 4 3 2

♦ 7 3

♣ Q 8

♠ A 7 5

♥ 10 9 8 6 5

♦ A 6 2

♣ 9 2



♠ Q J 10 4

♥ A

♦ Q J 10 8

♣ 7 6 4 3

♠ K 2

♥ J 7

♦ K 9 5 4

♣ A K J 10 5

7
8 10
15

West

North

East

South

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

1 ♣

All pass

2 ♣ by South

Lead: ♥ 10

South should not rebid 2 ♦, as this above the level of a simple rebid of the first suit, and would be a reverse showing 16+ points. South should repeat the clubs.

Leading the 10 ♥, defeats the contract, allowing the defense to secure two spade tricks, one heart, two diamonds, and two ruffs. Note the contract can be made if West underleads an unsupported ace.

Opener's rebid with and without Reverses

Board 4

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ Q 10 8 7

♥ 2

♦ A 8 5 4 3

♣ 8 7 6

♠ J 4 3 2

♥ J 3

♦ K Q

♣ A K 10 5 4



♠ 9 6 5

♥ K Q 10 6 5

♦ 7 6

♣ Q 9 2

♠ A K

♥ A 9 8 7 4

♦ J 10 9 2

♣ J 3

6
14 7
13

West

North

East

South

1 ♣

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

1 ♠

Pass

2 ♣

All pass

2 ♣ by West

Lead: ♥ 2

West rebids of 1 ♠, promises at least five cards in the first suit bid. East should show preference to clubs. West has bid a lower ranking suit followed by a higher ranking suit, but at the one level, the 1 ♠ is not a reverse and does not promise a stronger hand.

Leading the ♥ 2, South wins with the Ace and plays the ♥ 9, the highest heart, to ask for spades, the higher ranking suit (out of spades and diamonds) to be returned.

Opener's rebid with and without Reverses

Board 5

North Deals
N-S Vul

♠ A K 9
♥ 4
♦ A J 8 6
♣ A Q J 10 9

♠ 10 7 5 4
♥ A 5 3 2
♦ K Q 5
♣ 8 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 6 3
♥ Q J 10 9
♦ 10 7 4
♣ 5 3 2

19
9 5
7

♠ J 8 2
♥ K 8 7 6
♦ 9 3 2
♣ K 7 6

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	3 NT	All pass	

3 NT by North
Lead: ♥ Q

North's 2 ♦ rebid is a reverse, as it is above barrier, the level of a repeat of the club suit. This bid guarantees 16+ points, a five-card club suit, and a four-card diamond suit. With a minimum hand and club support, South bids 3 ♣. North has the values for game opposite an minimum response, and so can bid 3 NT.

The lead of the ♥ Q, top of a sequence, will beat the contract. The defenders can cash the first four heart tricks, followed by a trick in diamonds or spades.

Copyright. 2026 English Bridge Education and Development. All rights reserved

Opener's rebid with and without Reverses

Board 6

East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ J 6 4
♥ A 4 2
♦ 8 7
♣ A 10 8 6 5

♠ Q 5 3
♥ J 5
♦ K Q 5 4 2
♣ Q 4 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K 10 9 8
♥ K 9
♦ A 3
♣ K J 9 3

9
10 18
3

♠ 7 2
♥ Q 10 8 7 6 3
♦ J 10 9 6
♣ 7

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
4 ♠	All pass		

4 ♠ by East
Lead: ♣ 7

In response to East 1 ♠ opening, West can bid 2 ♦ as the hand has the required 10 points. East makes a reverse in clubs (i.e. a bid above barrier, the repeat of the spade suit) which, at the three level shows about 16+ points and is game forcing. With three-card support, West can bid game in spades.

To defeat the contract, West should lead their singleton 7 ♣. Upon winning with the ♣ A, East should return the ♣ 10 (a high-card signal) to request a heart return for a potential ruff.

Copyright. 2026 English Bridge Education and Development. All rights reserved