

ALEX'S BRIDGE TIP

1.You hold this hand:

S AKQ5
H 98
D 1073
C 8754

Your partner opens 1D. It goes 1H by RHO.
It is your turn to bid.

2.You hold this hand:

S J9632
H 74
D 975
C AK5

Your partner opens 1D. It goes 1H by RHO.
It is your turn to bid.

ANSWERS:

1.Double. You may not bid 1S as that will promise a five-card suit. You only have four even though they look like five! This of course is a negative double. It guarantees a 4-card Spade suit.

2.1S. When you have a 5-card suit, you may bid it freely. Partner knows you have five because with only four, you would have made a negative double.

BUT now check out the following:

Your partner opens 1C. It goes 1D by RHO. It is your turn to bid.

S AQ87
H 76
D 754
C 8754

The two bids that have been made are the two lowest bids in the deck. On the above hand, you DO bid 1S.

Your partner opens 1C. It goes 1D by RHO. It is your turn to bid. This bid does NOT guarantee a five card suit. BECAUSE it has gone 1C (**1D**) to you.

S 65
H KQ85
D 842
C J975

On the above hand, you DO bid 1H. This bid does NOT guarantee a five card suit. BECAUSE it has gone 1C (**1D**) to you.

This is because if the auction proceeds 1C by partner and your RHO bids 1D and you now bid DOUBLE, then this guarantees holding BOTH majors. At least FOUR of each.

With 6-10 points and 5-4 in the majors, you still have to make a negative double. With 11 or more, you can bid the longer suit because you will be able to bid again.

BARBARA 'S BRIDGE TIP THIS WEEK IS A FREE RECORDED LESSON

Listen to this half hour recording by Barbara on FOURTH SUIT FORCING
This was done a week ago for ACBL. You may have heard it already.
This is a freebie.

<https://youtu.be/A4KD2ZJYQGg>

This is SUCH an important convention. An abbreviated version of the notes can be seen if you click on this next link:

barbaraseagram.com/pdf/FOURTH-SUIT-FORCING-Mini-handout.pdf