

Standard American Yellow Card (SAYC) Bidding Concepts

First Process

Determine which suit to play in the following priority:

- 1) MAJOR** suit contract
- 2) NO TRUMP** contract
- 3) MINOR** suit contract

Second Process

Determine the contract level **AFTER** the contract suit is known

Hand Evaluation

For an Opening Bid - 2 Criteria:

Criteria 1) Sum of HCPs (Honor Card Points) in the hand - suit location of the HCPs does not matter - **NO** distribution points are used to evaluate the opening hand

Criteria 2) Suit Length - the number of card in each suit - a 5+card major suit is the most important

For a Suit Contract:

Use distribution points to evaluate both hands **AFTER** the suit to be played is known

For a No Trump Contract:

Do not use Distribution Points

Response Priority

In order of priority:

- 1)** Support the opened major suit at the appropriate level
- 2)** Propose the other 4-card major suit at the lowest possible level
- 3)** Propose a new 4-card suit at the lowest possible level