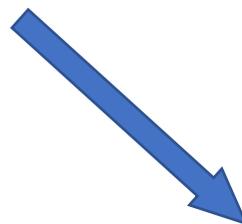
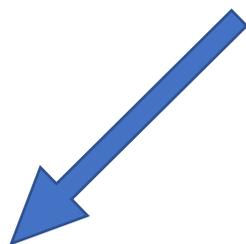




## Assess your hand

**Count HCP** – Can you open the bidding? You need **\*11+ HCP**  
Is your hand **balanced** or **unbalanced**?



### Balanced hand?

No voids, no singleton, only 1 doubleton

E.g. ♠ A K x x  
♥ x x x  
♦ K x  
♣ Q J x x

- **11 or fewer HCP** Pass
- **12-14 HCP** Open 1NT
- **15+ HCP** Bid your longest suit

### Unbalanced hand?

9+ cards in two suits

E.g. ♠ A K x x x  
♥ x  
♦ x x x  
♣ K Q J x

- **10 or fewer HCP** Pass
- **\*11 -19 HCP** Open 1 of your longest suit;  
(\*Add your HCP to the total number of cards in your 2 longest suits. If this comes to 20+ open the bidding!)

When you are **Opener** look at the **shape** of your hand, then **count your HCP**