

Perhaps partner has opened 1NT and you have a distributional responding hand.

N	E	S	W
1NT	P	?	
		AQ7	
		5	
		AQJ872	
		943	

The answer here is to bid 3NT and really not waste time worrying.
Yes 3NT will go down sometimes BUT equally 5D is not going to make very often.
Bridge (and the Acol system in particular) is not very scientific.
With 25 pts game should be bid and 3NT is the game you should almost always go for.

Will there ever be a hand that should try 5 of a minor ?.
Going back to our preempt opener :-

N	E	S	W
3D	P	?	
		6	
		Q52	
		AJ73	
		AKQJ8	

Perhaps here with two weak suits, bidding 3NT is pushing our luck { though I might try it !};
I suppose on balance 5D has a better chance though.

Going back to how to respond to preempts ;
you might like to know what a change of suit opposite a preempt means.

N	E	S	W
3D	P	3S	

Does 3Sp show :-

- i) a similar hand to partner with weakish points and a 7 card suit ?
AQJ7653 -----765---3----J3
- ii) A strongish hand with a presentable suit but one with no fit for partner ?
KQJ542 ----A43 ----3 ----Q54
- iii) A strong hand with a presentable suit that has high points (and is 100% forcing).
AQJ87 ---- AK3----65 ----KJ6

And it is (iii) that is the answer. So if you open 3 of a suit and partner replies with their own suit they are saying {nay insisting) that you must bid again.
What *you* should bid *next* is too big a subject to go into here { !! } but no doubt you will be told in due course.

