

Deal 1
South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 3 2
♥ 9 6
♦ Q J 5
♣ 10 9 8 3 2

12
7 7
14

West
Pass
Pass
Pass
3 NT by South

♠ J 8 4
♥ A 2
♦ K 10 9 6 3
♣ K J 4

N
W E
S

♠ K 9 7 6
♥ 8 7 4 3
♦ A 8 2
♣ 7 5

♠ Q 10 5
♥ K Q J 10 5
♦ 7 4
♣ A Q 6

North
2 ♦
3 NT
Pass

East
Pass
Pass
Pass

South
1 ♥
2 NT
Pass

After South's 1 ♥ opening North counts 12 HCP plus one length point for the fifth ♦. That is enough for a 2/1 response so North says 2 ♦.

The partnership is now forced to reach game so South bids 2 NT. This describes a balanced hand with exactly 5 ♥s and no 4-card ♠ suit.

North is happy to play in Notrump, and with no extra strength above the 13 points already promised, uses Quick Arrival and bids 3 NT. South passes and a reasonable game contract is reached.

Notice that you would bid this hand the same way whether or not you play 2/1.

Deal 2
South Deals
None Vul

	♠ K J 8		
	♥ A 2		
	♦ K 10 9 6 3		
	♣ K J 4		
♠ 9 4 2		♠ A Q 10 7 3	
♥ 10 5		♥ 9 7 6	
♦ Q J 7 4		♦ 8 2	
♣ A 7 5 2		♣ 10 9 8	
	♠ 6 5		
	♥ K Q J 8 4 3		
	♦ A 5		
	♣ Q 6 3		
West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by South			

South opens 1 ♥ and North, with 16 points, responds 2 ♦, forcing the partnership to game.

South has a minimum strength hand, but with a 6-card suit he rebids 2 ♥.

Opposite South's 6-card suit, North's doubleton is adequate support. If North had a minimum for her 2/1 response she might just jump to 4 ♥ to show no interest in slam. With a little extra she bids 3 ♥ since she knows the bidding cannot stop until game is reached. From North's perspective South might have a big hand; his 2-level rebid shows suit length but does not say anything about strength. This is one of the beauties of 2/1, the bidding can be kept low while you look for the best place to play. However, this time South merely bids the

game and North passes.

The hand would have been bid the same with or without 2/1.

Deal 3South Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 7 3 2
 ♥ 5
 ♦ J 10 8 4
 ♣ Q 8 5 2

¹⁵
 3 6
¹⁶
 ♠ K 5
 ♥ K Q J 7 4 3
 ♦ 7 5
 ♣ A K 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♥
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass		
6 ♥ by South			



♠ Q 6
 ♥ A 8 2
 ♦ A K Q 6 3
 ♣ 7 6 3

♠ A J 10 8 4
 ♥ 10 9 6
 ♦ 9 2
 ♣ J 10 9

With 16+ points and 3 ♥s, North will insist on a ♥ game at a minimum. But there is no need to start making jump bids, she starts with a simple 2 ♦ bid. South also refrains from a jump, and rebids 2 ♥ to show the 6-card suit.

North now says 3 ♥ to set the trump suit. At this point South reveals some slam interest, making a control-showing bid of 4 ♣. North continues the process, and bids 4 ♦, showing the ♦ A.

South has heard enough. He bids 4 NT, and when North admits to two Aces he bids the slam.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q	♦ A 9 8 6 5	♥ 9 6 2	♣ A 7 4 2
♠ 4 2	♦ A K Q 10 8 3	♥ Q J	♣ 9 8 5
10	12 7	11	♣ K 6 3
W	N	E	S
♠ A K J 8 6 5	♦ 4 3	♥ 7 5	♣ Q J 10

West	North	East	South
2 ♦	2 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	2 ♠
2 ♠ by South			

South has a minimum 1♠ opening bid. After West's 2♦ overcall both South and North know that the 2/1 Game Force is no longer on. North can therefore bid 2♥, showing at least 11 points. This bid is forcing on South for 1 round, but not forcing to game.

South next rebids his ♠s, promising a 6-card suit, but also indicating a minimum strength hand! Since the Game Force is not on, South would have to make a jump bid to show extra strength.

North has nothing further to say so the partnership arrives in a safe contract.

Deal 5	♠ Q 4		
South Deals	♥ Q 10 7		
None Vul	♦ A J 6		
	♣ A 10 9 8 6		
♠ 8 7 3	♠ A 10 2		
♥ J 9 2	♥ 6 5		
♦ K Q 10 9 8	♦ 4 3 2		
♣ J 5	♣ K Q 7 3 2		
	♠ K J 9 6 5		
13 7 9 11	♥ A K 8 4 3		
	♦ 7 5		
	♣ 4		
West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♥ by South			

South opens 1 ♠, the higher ranking of the two 5-card suits.

North, with 14 points, responds 2 ♣, forcing the partnership to game.

South now bids his ♥ suit.

At this point North figures South for 5 ♠s and 4 ♥s. North cannot support either of South's Majors, but with a good stopper in the fourth suit bids 2 NT. The game force is still on and South may not pass this bid.

South bids 3 ♥, indicating that this is also a 5-card suit. Now North can bid the ♥ game, knowing there is an 8-card fit.

Deal 6

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K 2	
♥ J 8 2	
♦ 7 4	
♣ A J 10 8 4 3	

12	6
9	6
13	

N	
W	E
S	

♠ A J 10 7 4	♦ A 9 5	♣ 7 2
♥ K 10 7		
♦ J 10 8 2		
♣ K 6 5		

♠ 6 5	♦ A Q 9 5 3	♣ Q 9
♥ K Q 6 3		

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♥ by South

of success.

North opens 1 ♠ and South, with 14 points, responds 2 ♥. Note that South is not permitted to make this bid without a 5-card or longer ♥ suit.

North, knowing that South has 5, bids 3 ♥ to confirm the trump suit.

South has a minimum strength hand with no slam aspirations, so he uses Fast Arrival and bids 4 ♥. North is also satisfied to just play at game.

2/1 is a good bidding method, and here, 4 ♥ is a good contract. But you can see that it is not a laydown - there is no bidding system that will always reach To% contracts. In this hand a 3-3 ♦ split will provide the Tth trick, or if that fails, taking 2 ♠ finesses provides a 75% chance