

Board 1
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ J T 5
 ♥ K T 7 6
 ♦ Q J 3
 ♣ T 4 3

♠ A Q 8 6 2
 ♥ J 5 3
 ♦ 7 4
 ♣ K Q 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 4
 ♥ A Q 9
 ♦ T 9 8 6 2
 ♣ A 9 8 5

♠ K 9 7 3
 ♥ 8 4 2
 ♦ A K 5
 ♣ J 7 6

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
All Pass			

3 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 17

SOUTH has just 11 points, not enough to open the bidding.

But when NORTH opens 1 SOUTH should show her "almost opening strength"

by jumping to 3 .

NORTH has just 13 points, and knowing SOUTH has less than 13 he passes.

Board 2
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ 5
 ♥ J T 9
 ♦ J T 9 7 4
 ♣ A J 7 3

♠ 7 3
 ♥ Q 8 6 4 2
 ♦ A 8 6
 ♣ K 9 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K Q J 9 6 4
 ♥ -
 ♦ 3 2
 ♣ T 8 4 2

♠ T 8 2
 ♥ A K 7 5 3
 ♦ K Q 5
 ♣ Q 6

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♥	All Pass	1♥

4♥ by North

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 After SOUTH opens with 1

, NORTH has a small "dilemma".

With 11 points she really is only strong enough to make a jump raise to 3

.

But, with five trumps the hand deserves more. So she just bids 4

instead.

Usually, no matter what your strength, when you have five cards in the Major suit that your partner opens with you should just jump right to game.

Board 3

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 2
 ♥ K 9 6 5 4
 ♦ J 7 5
 ♣ A 9 8 4

♠ K T 8 3

♥ J 7 2

♦ 9 8 6

♣ Q J 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q J 7 5

♥ A

♦ A K Q 3

♣ K T 6 2

♠ A 9 6 4

♥ Q T 8 3

♦ T 4 2

♣ 7 5

West	North	East	South
			1 ♦
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
All Pass			

4 ♠ by South

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SOUTH has 19 points, but no 5-card Major suit.

With two 4-card minor suits she should start

with 1

.

NORTH has a poor hand, but with 7 points he must respond. His first priority is to show a Major suit

so he responds 1 .

SOUTH now knows that ♠ will be trumps, so she revalues her hand to 21 points, enough for game.

She bids 4 .

Board 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 5 2
♥ A T 6 3
♦ K 8 3 2
♣ 8 7

♠ T 9 6 3

♥ 7 5 4

♦ Q 7

♣ A K 6 4



♠ A

♥ J 9 8

♦ T 9 5 4

♣ Q J T 5 2

♠ K Q J 7 4

♥ K Q 2

♦ A J 6

♣ 9 3

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

4 ♠ by North

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NOTE: There is a better way to bid this hand using special conventions.

SOUTH has 17 points, but with a 5-card Major opens 1 ♠ rather than 1NT.

NORTH isn't quite strong enough for a jump raise, so she bids 2 ♠.

SOUTH has enough extra to make a try for game, so she invites with 3 ♠.

NORTH has enough extra to accept the invitation, bids 4 ♠.