

Deal 1

West Deals
None Vul

♠ A 8 4
♥ K Q J 6
♦ 9 2
♣ K Q J 7

♠ K 2
♥ A 5 4
♦ K J 10 6 5 3
♣ 5 3



♠ Q 10 7 3
♥ 10 9 2
♦ A Q 7
♣ 10 9 2

16
11 8
5

♠ J 9 6 5
♥ 8 7 3
♦ 8 4
♣ A 8 6 4

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Dbl	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♦	Dbl	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	
3 ♣ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

Now that East has stolen your response you aren't strong enough to make a free-bid at the 2-level. You pass, West bids 2 ♦ and partner doubles again. Now what?

This is not a penalty double, partner is merely repeating his request for you to name a suit. But now he expects you to choose between ♥s and ♣s.

You bid 3 ♣ and everybody passes.

You may be one too high, but that still might be a good score if they can make 2 ♦.

Deal 2

West Deals

None Vul

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

13
 12 9
 6

West

1 ♦

Pass

2 ♥ by South

♠ A 9 7 5

♥ K J 3

♦ 9 7

♣ K Q 5 2



♠ 8 3

♥ Q 10 9 6 5

♦ 8 4 2

♣ A 8 4

North

Dbl

Pass

East

1 ♠

Pass

South

2 ♥

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

After East bids you are no longer forced to respond to partner's Takeout Double. You may pass if you want to.

But if you don't pass you are making what is called a "free bid". You should have 6 or more points and a reason for wanting to bid - like your 5-card ♥ suit.

You bid 2 ♥ and everybody passes.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8 7 3

♥ K J 4

♦ 7 6

♣ A Q 5 2

13

13 2

12

West

Dbl

Pass

Pass

2 ♦ by South

♠ Q 9 2

♥ A 6 3

♦ A Q 10 3

♣ J 10 9



♠ A J 10 6

♥ 10 8

♦ K J 8 4

♣ K 8 4

North

Rdbl

2 ♦

East

1 ♥

Pass

South

1 ♦

Pass

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

The redouble has taken the force from you - you can pass if you want to. But if you pass, the most likely scenario is that South will also pass. So partner will either have to let them play 1 ♦ redoubled (which will be a disaster for your side) or take out his own double by bidding some suit. So he will bid a suit and it will almost surely be 1 ♠.

You can help your side the most by bidding 1 ♥ immediately. You don't have to worry that partner will believe you have a good hand; both he and South have 13+ points and North's redouble shows T or more. He knows there are no points remaining for you to have.

On this deal your ♥ bid gets passed around to North who bids 2 ♦, the final contract.

Deal 4

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q J 2

♥ J 10 9 6 4 3

♦ 8 5 4

♣ —

♠ K 10 9 7

♥ 8

♦ A K 7 3

♣ A J 9 6



♠ 8 6 5 4

♥ A 7 5 2

♦ 9

♣ 7 5 3 2

♠ 3

♥ K Q

♦ Q J 10 6 2

♣ K Q 10 8 4

$$\begin{matrix} 15 \\ 8 & 4 \\ 13 \end{matrix}$$
West

2 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

5 ♣ by South

North

Dbl

3 ♠

5 ♣

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

3 ♥

4 ♣

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

The problem with making a Takeout Double of a preemptive bid is that the bidding for your side starts out a level or two higher. So you can't risk doubling with a flimsy hand. However, this hand is certainly good enough so you double. Partner responds 3 ♥. What do you bid?

After partner cuebids the next job is to find a suit, so you bid 3 ♠. Partner now bids 4 ♣. What do you say?

You cannot stop short of game. Partner has apparently rejected your ♠ suggestion. Since you are happy to play in ♣s you bid 5 ♣.

Deal 5

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A Q 8 6
♥ A 7 4 2
♦ K J 10 5
♣ 7

6
14 8
12

West

Dbl
1 ♣ × by South

♠ 10 7 4 2
♥ Q J 9 6
♦ 7 4 3
♣ K 5



♠ J 5 3
♥ K 10 3
♦ A 9 8
♣ A 8 4 2

North

Pass

East

Pass

South

1 ♣
Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

You could certainly say 1NT if you wanted to. You have 8 HCP and a very good ♣ stopper. However, you will probably make a lot more points by letting them play 1 ♣ doubled.

This is exactly the kind of hand you need to pass and convert partner's Takeout Double to a Penalty Double. Partner should lead a ♣ so you can pull declarer's trumps as soon as possible.