

**Deal 1**

West Deals  
None Vul

♠ K 8 3  
♥ A 10 5 4  
♦ A J 10 9  
♣ K 3

14  
15 6  
5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2 ♥ by South			

♠ A J 9 7  
♥ J 7 3  
♦ K Q 5  
♣ Q J 4

N  
W E  
S

♠ 4  
♥ K Q 9 8 6 2  
♦ 8 6 3  
♣ 10 7 5

♠ Q 10 6 5 2  
♥ —  
♦ 7 4 2  
♣ A 9 8 6 2

In the balancing seat it is distribution that counts, not point count. With a 6-card Major suit and a singleton you should not let them play 1 NT. You double.

Partner makes the relay bid of 2 ♣.

You bid your suit, 2 ♥, and everybody passes. Notice that partner had a decent hand, but could not bid over 1 NT in the immediate seat.

**Deal 2**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 5 4  
 ♥ A Q 10 9 7  
 ♦ 10  
 ♣ 10 8 7

7  
 9 15  
 9

West

Pass

Pass

2 ♣ by South

♠ K 2

♥ 6 3

♦ 7 5 3

♣ K J 9 6 5 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 8 7 3

♥ J 8 5 2

♦ Q 9 6 4

♣ Q

North

Dbl

Pass

East

1 NT

Pass

Pass

South

Pass

2 ♣

You don't have a 6-card suit, nor do you have a 5-4 pair of suits. So even with a singleton you don't want to use DONT here. So you pass.

Partner makes a DONT double in the balancing seat.

Right now you probably have a premonition about what is going to happen next. But there really is nothing you can say other than 2 ♣.

Your premonition came true. Partner passes and you are left playing 2 ♣ with a singleton. Nobody promised that DONT would always get you to a good contract.

**Deal 3**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A 10 7 2

♥ A 9 5

♦ A K 3

♣ Q 10 7

8  
17 8  
7

♠ 8 5

♥ 8 2

♦ 10 9 6

♣ A K J 9 8 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 4

♥ K Q J 10 7 4 3

♦ 7 5

♣ 6 2

♠ K Q 9 6 3

♥ 6

♦ Q J 8 4 2

♣ 5 4

*West*

1 NT

Pass

2 ♥ by South

*North*

Dbl

Pass

*East*

Pass

Pass

*South*

2 ♥

Pass

You only have 8 HCP but with such a good 6-card suit you should interfere with a DONT bid. You double and partner surprises you by saying 2 ♥.

There is a reason partner didn't say 2 ♣ (which you were going to pass). And the reason is that he figures you will be better off in his ♥s. Since you trust your partner you pass.

**Deal 4**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 9 4 2

♥ 9 3

♦ 8 3 2

♣ 10 5 4 2

8

4 15

13

♠ 7

♥ Q J 8 2

♦ K Q 10 7 4

♣ 9 7 3



♠ 10 6 5

♥ K 5

♦ A J 9 5

♣ A Q J 6

♠ K Q J 8 3

♥ A 10 7 6 4

♦ 6

♣ K 8

*West**North**East**South*

1 NT

2 ♥

Pass

3 ♥

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

Since partner has entered the bidding in the immediate seat he should have a pretty good hand, with 9+ cards in ♥s and ♠s.

Usually you are happy to settle for partscore after a DONT sequence, but with such an excellent fit for ♥s your hand is worth a raise.

So you bid 3 ♥ and partner says 4 ♥.

**Deal 5**

West Deals  
None Vul

♠ Q 5 4  
♥ A Q 8 5  
♦ K 4 2  
♣ A Q 3

13  
17 3  
7

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2 ♠ by South			

♠ K J 9 6  
♥ K 9 7 3  
♦ A Q 6 5  
♣ 8



♠ A 10 3 2  
♥ 6 4  
♦ 9 8  
♣ K 10 9 7 5

♠ 8 7  
♥ J 10 2  
♦ J 10 7 3  
♣ J 6 4 2

You have only 7 HCP but expect partner to have a reasonable hand since East could not keep the bidding open. With your black 2-suiter you bid the lowest one, 2 ♣.

Partner says 2 ♦.

Partner's 2 ♦ bid, the next suit up the line, asks you to name your other suit (or pass if your other suit is ♦s).

You bid 2 ♠ and everybody passes.

**Deal 6**

West Deals  
None Vul

♠ Q 4  
♥ A 5 4  
♦ K 9 7 4 2  
♣ K Q J

16  
15 5  
4

West  
1 NT  
Pass  
Pass  
4 ♠ by South

♠ A J 7 3  
♥ K Q 9  
♦ A Q 8 6  
♣ 6 3



♠ K 10 8 6 5 2  
♥ J 6 3  
♦ 10 5  
♣ 8 7

North

Pass  
4 ♠

East

Pass  
Pass

South

2 ♠  
Pass

You would have opened 1 NT but West beat you to it. You cannot double for penalties when you use DONT, so you pass.

Partner bids 2 ♠ in the balancing seat.

The 2 ♠ bid shows a weak hand, with more strength partner would have first doubled, then bid 2 ♠.

Still, you know he has a 6-card suit and you also know that every finesse is going to work. You either bid 3 ♠ or 4 ♠. Be bold.