

Deal 1
 West Deals
 None Vul

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

17	♠ 8 6 3
6 3	♥ 7 3
14	♦ A Q 4
	♣ A K J 10 4

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

W	N	E	S
♦ 10 7 5	♠ 9 7 4	♥ Q J 10 4	♣ 9 8 6

North opens 1 ♥ and South responds 2 ♣. Using standard bidding North would now jump to 3 NT to show his 19 points, but in 2/1 this is not necessary since the partnership must not stop bidding until game is reached. So North just bids 2 NT. South shows her minimum by bidding 3 NT.

North will now disclose his extra strength. He bids 4 NT. This is not Blackwood, but rather a quantitative raise in Notrump, and an invitation to slam.

South has 15 points, and they are good ones. She accepts the invitation and bids 6 NT.

There are 11 top tricks. A 3-3 ♥ split would provide the 12th winner, but this is against the odds. Better to try two ♠ finesses, a 75% chance.

Deal 2

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 6 3
♥ Q 3
♦ A K J 9 4
♣ 9 6 4

8
12 15
5

West
2 ♦
4 ♠
4 ♣ by East

♠ K 10
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ 10 7 2
♣ A 5 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ A J 8 7 5 2
♥ A K
♦ Q 6
♣ J 8 7

♠ 9 4
♥ 10 8 7 6 4
♦ 8 5 3
♣ K Q 10

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

East opens 1 ♠ and West responds 2 ♦. East has a pretty good hand, 17 points, but no stopping power in the minor suits. Also, East's ♠ suit is pretty ragged. Taking these points into consideration, East should just rebid his 6-card suit.

West should now jump to 4 ♠. This is Fast Arrival, indicating a minimum hand with no particular interest in slam.

East is happy to rest in the game contract.

Even with a combined 30 points, T tricks are certainly not a sure thing. East must hope that North holds the trump King.

Deal 3

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 8 4 3
♥ J 7
♦ K 9 7 5
♣ K 5 3

12
7 5
16

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A J 10 6 2
♥ A 6 2
♦ Q J
♣ 10 8 7

♠ Q 7
♥ 10
♦ 10 8 6 3 2
♣ Q J 9 6 2

♠ K 5
♥ K Q 9 8 5 4 3
♦ A 4
♣ A 4

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

6 ♥ by South

North opens 1 ♠. South has a powerhouse, plenty strong enough to jump-shift. But playing 2/1 it's usually simpler when you make the 2/1 response, and save your jumping for later - if at all. So South bids just 2 ♥, knowing North must keep the bidding open.

North knows South has at least 5 ♥s, so his first priority is to agree on the trump suit. He bids 3 ♥.

South now makes the slam try. She knows North has at least three trumps, and all she wants to find out is how many Aces/Kings North holds. So she bids Blackwood and North confesses to two Aces.

Still hoping for the Grand, South bids 5 NT. Oops, North doesn't have any kings so South settles for a small slam.

This is a good slam, cold if West makes any opening lead other than a ♣. With a ♣ lead, South will have to pull trumps and play to discard a loser on the ♠T.

Deal 4

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A	♦ 8 4 2
♥ A Q J 7 5 3	♦ J 3
♦ 7 4 2	♣ A 5 3 2
♣ K J 4	

8	♠ 9 8 6 4 3
15	♥ 9 6
13	♦ A 10 9
4	♣ 10 9 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		
4 ♥ by West			

N	
W	E
S	

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

West opens 1 ♥ and East responds 2 ♦.

West has a good-looking hand, but needs to find a trump suit before she starts showing her extra strength, so she bids just 2 ♥.

Knowing that West holds 6 ♥s, East can support with the honor doubleton so he agrees the trump suit with a Fast Arrival bid of 4 ♥.

West has some extra strength, but not enough to push on after East's weak bid. Notice that if West DID try a 4 ♠ Control bid East would just bid 5 ♥ and the pair might be one trick too high.

Deal 5

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 7 4 3

♥ 6

♦ Q J 10 7

♣ A 10 9 2

♠ J
 ♥ K Q J 7 5 3
 ♦ 4 3 2
 ♣ Q 5 4

	N		E
W		S	
	♦ A 9 8 2		♣ J 6 3
	♦ A 9 8		
	♣ J 6 3		

♠ A Q 8 6 2

♥ 10 4

♦ K 6 5

♣ K 8 7

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

Pass

1 NT

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

Pass

2 ♥ by North

South opens 1 ♠. North has 11 points, enough to respond 2 ♥ in standard bidding, but not when using 2/1. So she bids 1 NT.

South would love to pass 1 NT but is not permitted to do so. He has no good bid, so he must bid a 3-card suit. When holding two 3-card minors, usually bid ♣s. North now shows the ♥ suit that she could not bid first round.

South was forced to reply to 1 NT, but he is not forced to bid again. With his minimum hand and a tolerance for partner's suit he just passes and the partnership ends up in a reasonable contract.

This hand demonstrates one of the benefits of Forcing 1 NT. In standard

bidding North's first response would be 2 ♥, and South would have to bid again, probably 2 NT. The partnership might go even higher but in any case would probably not reach a good contract.