

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 5
♥ A Q 10 6 3
♦ A J 10 4
♣ 10 7 2

8
11 8
13

West

Pass

2 ♠ by North

♠ A K 9 8 7 3

♥ 8 2

♦ 9 8 6

♣ J 4

W N
S E

♠ Q J 2

♥ K 9 7 5

♦ K Q 2

♣ Q 5 3

North

2 ♠

East

Pass

South

Pass

NORTH has a perfect hand for an opening bid of 2♠.

SOUTH will be tempted to respond with his opening hand and good trump support, but he should

resist the temptation. To raise a Weak Two-bid to game you should have quick winners, not just points.

Deal 2

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 5
 ♥ Q J 9 6 3
 ♦ K Q J 4
 ♣ 10 7 2

8
 9 5
 18

West

Pass

4 ♠ by North

♠ A K 9 8 7 3

♥ 8 2

♦ 9 8 6

♣ J 4



♠ Q J 2

♥ A K 7 5

♦ A 7 2

♣ A 5 3

North

2 ♠

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

4 ♠

NORTH has the same hand as in Deal 1 and again opens 2♠.

This is the type of hand SOUTH needs to bid game. Notice that even with all those winners the

pair is nowhere close to having a slam. They will probably make just ten tricks.

Deal 3

North Deals

None Vul

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

	♠ Q J 6 2
8	♥ 7 5
13 10	♦ A 7 2
9	♣ Q 7 5 3

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

Once more, NORTH has the same hand as Deals 1 and 2.

This time SOUTH has a very poor hand without any chance of making game. However, he should bid

4♠ anyway.

It is very likely that the opponents can make 4

♥

if West gets the

opportunity to get into the bidding. Hopefully the 4♠ bid will shut him out, and 4♠ probably

won't go down more than a couple of tricks.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A 10 9

♥ J 9 7 3

♦ 10 7 4

♣ K 6 5

15
8 11
6

West

Pass

3 ♦ by South

♠ K Q 7 6

♥ A 6 2

♦ 5 3

♣ A Q 8 3



♠ 4 3

♥ 8 5

♦ K Q J 9 8 6 2

♣ 9 7

North

Pass

East

Pass

South

3 ♦

SOUTH has a pretty normal preemptive 3

♦

bid.

NORTH has the equivalent of an opening
1 NT bid and will be very tempted to bid
3 NT.

That might turn out to be a disaster,
particularly if NORTH is unable to reach
the SOUTH hand.

NORTH should assume SOUTH can win
six tricks if

♦

s are trumps. Thinking this way points NORTH to her

best call - PASS.

Deal 5

North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 9 5 2
♥ 8 6
♦ J 7 3 2
♣ A K 3

6
10 8
16

♠ 8 7
♥ K Q J 9 7 3 2
♦ 5
♣ 8 6 4

N
W E
S

♠ A J 10 6 4 3
♥ A
♦ A K 6 4
♣ 9 7

♠ K
♥ 10 5 4
♦ Q 10 9 8
♣ Q J 10 5 2

West	North	East	South
	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by North			

Here SOUTH has the kind of hand you need to raise a preempt to game.

SOUTH assumes that NORTH has a hand with six winners in it. He can provide four more, so

that is just enough for game. He bids 4

♥

.

Deal 6

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 8
♥ A 6 3
♦ Q J 10 6 5
♣ A 9 5

13
11 7
9

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

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

1 ♠

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

4 ♠ by South

♠ K 4
♥ K J 5
♦ 9 4 2
♣ K Q J 7 2



♠ A Q J 9 7 6 5
♥ Q 10 2
♦ 7
♣ 6 3

♠ 3 2
♥ 9 8 7 4
♦ A K 8 3
♣ 10 8 4

SOUTH has a 7-card ♠ suit but he is too strong to open with a preemptive bid.

So he opens 1♠ instead.

NORTH should respond 2♣, and SOUTH can do nothing but rebid the ♠ suit.

NORTH thinks there should be game and bids 4♠

Deal 7

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 5 2
♥ 8 6 2
♦ 10 4
♣ A 9 7 6 3

9
4 6
21

West

Pass

4 ♥ by North

North

2 ♥

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

4 ♥

♠ 7 6 4

♥ A K 9 7 4 3

♦ 7 2

♣ Q 5



♠ A J 9 8 3

♥ 10 5

♦ J 9 8 3

♣ 10 8

♠ K Q

♥ Q J

♦ A K Q 6 5

♣ K J 4 2

NORTH is too weak to open 1

♥

but just right for 2

♥

.

Wow! SOUTH has 21 HCP and two good

♥

s. Could this be time for a slam try?

Nope, no slam here. Suppose NORTH has six

♥

s headed by the AK. The trump suit

would certainly be solid, but then NORTH couldn't possibly have an outside Ace as well or he would have been

too strong for a Weak-two opening. So SOUTH just bids 4

♥

.

Deal 8

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 4
♥ A 9 8 3
♦ J 6 2
♣ Q 9 6 3

15
7 11
7

West

Pass
2 ♥ by South

♠ A Q 5

♥ 4

♦ K Q 9 4

♣ K J 7 4 2



♠ J 8 3

♥ K Q J 7 6 2

♦ 8 5

♣ 8 5

North

Pass

East

Pass

South

2 ♥

NORTH really hates that 2



opening by SOUTH.

But there's no sense bidding and probably making matters worse, so she grits her

teeth and passes.

If you think 3 NT has a chance you are delusional.

Deal 9

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 3 2
♥ K 9 8
♦ Q 7 6 3 2
♣ A 4

9
9 7
15

♠ K 8 4
♥ A Q 10 6 4 2
♦ 4
♣ 9 6 5



♠ A Q J 10 6 5
♥ 7
♦ A 9 5
♣ K J 3

♠ 9
♥ J 5 3
♦ K J 10 8
♣ Q 10 8 7 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♠ by South			

SOUTH expects to be better off in ♠s than NORTH would be in 2

♥

.

Whether or not you play a new suit as a one round force or not, NORTH should make the 3♠ bid with

a hand this good. SOUTH then bids the ♠ game.

Deal 10

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 8 4 2

♥ 10 2

♦ A 10 9

♣ K 9 5 2

20
7 6
7

♠ A K 7 5

♥ K 6 3

♦ K Q J 5 4

♣ A

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 6

♥ A Q J 8 7 5 4

♦ 6 3 2

♣ 8 4

♠ Q J 9 3

♥ 9

♦ 8 7

♣ Q J 10 7 6 3

West

North

East

South

Pass

4 NT

Pass

3 ♥

Pass

6 ♥

Pass

5 ♦

Pass

6 ♥ by South

Pass

SOUTH has a pretty normal 3

♥

opening bid.

NORTH, however, has a big hand, and she launches into Blackwood.

When SOUTH shows one Ace NORTH can bid 6

♥

with confidence.

Deal 11

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 5 4 2
 ♥ 10 5 4 2
 ♦ A 4 2
 ♣ 6 4

6
 7 7
 20

West

Pass

3 NT by South

♠ J 3

♥ 7 6

♦ 9 7

♣ K Q 9 8 7 5 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A Q 10

♥ K Q J

♦ Q J 10 3

♣ A J 10

North

3 ♣

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

3 NT

NORTH doesn't have much of a 3♣ opening bid.

But SOUTH has just the type of hand you need to bid 3 NT after partner's preempt. The other three

suits well stopped, and certain entry in Opener's long suit. Notice here that 3 NT is a good contract,

but 5♣ would go down 1.

Deal 12

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 7 5
♥ A 7 4
♦ J 10 9 3
♣ 9 6 3

23
5 7
5

West

Pass
Pass
Pass

4 ♥ by South

♠ A Q 6 3
♥ Q 8 2
♦ A K Q
♣ K Q J



♠ J 4
♥ K J 10 9 6 3
♦ 8 7 5
♣ 4 2

North

2 NT
4 ♥

East

Pass
Pass

South

2 ♥
3 ♥
Pass

When SOUTH opens with a Weak 2

♥

bid, NORTH knows she will

force to game but is thinking about slam.

But first she needs to know if SOUTH has anything extra. She bids 2 NT to get more information.

SOUTH returns to

♥

s to show bare minimum so NORTH settles for game.

Deal 13

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q 9 8 6 2

♥ 8 6 4

♦ 9 4

♣ K 6

♠ 5

♥ Q J 9 7

♦ K J 10 8

♣ A 9 5 2



♠ A 7 4

♥ 10 2

♦ 6 5

♣ Q J 10 8 7 3

♠ J 10 3

♥ A K 5 3

♦ A Q 7 3 2

♣ 4

8
11 7
14

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

2 ♠

Pass

2 NT

Pass

3 ♣

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 ♠ by North

SOUTH has one of those hands which might or might not be helpful to NORTH. He needs

more information about NORTH's hand, so he bids 2 NT.

NORTH has a better than average hand, so she bids 3 ♣ to show a high card in the suit.

SOUTH was hoping for a high card in

♦

s rather than ♣s, so

he signs off in 3 ♠

Deal 14

South Deals

None Vul

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

18
 9 5
 8

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 NT by North

♠ A 6 4

♥ Q 4 2

♦ A J 4

♣ A K 6 5

W N
 S E

♠ 7 3

♥ K 5 3

♦ K Q 10 8 7 2

♣ 9 4

North

2 NT

3 NT

East

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♦

3 ♥

Pass

With four fast winners NORTH should think about game. The best approach is usually to

use 2 NT to find out more about SOUTH's hand.

NORTH found out that SOUTH has good opening strength, and, most importantly, either the

♥

A or

♥

K. Now that she doesn't

have to worry about the opponents taking the first five

♥

tricks

she bids 3 NT.

Deal 15

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 10 6 4 3
 ♥ Q 9 5
 ♦ 7 5
 ♣ K 7 2

9
 9 5
 17

♠ 9 7 5
 ♥ 7 6
 ♦ A K Q 9 6 2
 ♣ 8 3



♠ K Q 8
 ♥ A K 8
 ♦ J 4 3
 ♣ A 10 6 5

♠ J 2
 ♥ J 10 4 3 2
 ♦ 10 8
 ♣ Q J 9 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 NT by South			

SOUTH is strong enough to be thinking about game, depending on how good NORTH's hand is.

So he bids 2 NT to get more information.

NORTH has the exact hand to say 3 NT - a suit headed by AKQ.

Game (and bidding) doesn't get much easier.

Deal 16

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 4
♥ Q 10
♦ A K J 9 6
♣ Q 8 7 4 3

11
12 10
7

West

Pass
Pass

4 ♠ by South

♠ 10 9 2
♥ A 8 7 4 3
♦ 3
♣ A K 9 2



♠ K Q J 8 7 5 3
♥ 2
♦ 7 5 4
♣ J 5

North

4 ♠

East

Pass

South

3 ♠
Pass

NORTH assumes her partner can win six tricks. So she will need to contribute four more to

make game.

Three of them are obvious, and she expects to get a

♦

ruff also.

Deal 17

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 5 3
 ♥ K 6 4
 ♦ K J 7 4
 ♣ 10 9 7 3

10
 7 9
 14

♠ A K 8 7 6 2

♥ 8 3

♦ 8 3

♣ K 6 5



♠ Q 9

♥ J 7 5

♦ A 9 6

♣ A Q J 4 2

♠ J 10 4

♥ A Q 10 9 2

♦ Q 10 5 2

♣ 8

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♠ by North			

NORTH's hand has the look of a Weak Two-bid, but it is one point too strong. So she opens 1♠.

SOUTH naturally bids 2♣ and NORTH rebids the ♠ suit.

SOUTH always knew there would be a game bid, so with an 8-card fit he bids 4♠

Deal 18

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 9 4
♥ K 9 2
♦ A 10 8 2
♣ 10 3 2

13
11 9
7

West

Pass
3 ♥ by South

♠ Q J 8 3
♥ 10 6
♦ K J 4
♣ K Q J 4



♠ 6 5
♥ A Q J 8 7 5 3
♦ 9 7 5
♣ 5

North

Pass

East

Pass

South

3 ♥

NORTH may have an opening hand, but it is just the wrong kind of hand to respond to

partner's preemptive bid. She doesn't have the immediate winners that SOUTH is likely

to need, but she is in good shape for defense should the opponents bid.

In other words, NORTH has the perfect hand with which to pass.

Deal 19

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 10 9 7

♥ J 10 2

♦ 8 2

♣ Q 10 9 7

9
7 3
21

♠ 5 4

♥ 8 6 3

♦ A K Q 9 7 4

♣ 8 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q J

♥ A K 7

♦ J 6 3

♣ A K 4 2

♠ 8 6 3 2

♥ Q 9 5 4

♦ 10 5

♣ J 6 3

West	North	East	South
	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 NT by South

The 2 NT response to a Weak Two opening is a wonderful tool. You can learn a lot about

partner's hand and you are absolutely certain that it will not be passed out.

In this Deal SOUTH has a huge hand and NORTH opens 2

♦

.

There are a lot of approaches SOUTH might try, but the simplest is to start with 2 NT.

When NORTH shows

♦

A K Q x x x SOUTH has an easy 6 NT bid.

Deal 20
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ 4
 ♥ 10 9 7
 ♦ A K J 7 3
 ♣ J 9 8 4

15
 9 7
 9

♠ K J 6
 ♥ A Q J 4 2
 ♦ 9 6 4
 ♣ A 5



♠ A Q 9 7 5 2
 ♥ K 3
 ♦ 8 5 2
 ♣ 7 3

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♠ by South			

NORTH is unsure whether to bid game or not. So she temporizes with 2 NT.

SOUTH shows an above average hand plus a high card in

♥

s.

NORTH is no longer unsure, so she bids 4♠.

Deal 21

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 7 5

♥ K 6

♦ A 10 2

♣ Q J 9 8 6

6
10 9
15

♠ A Q 9 8 6 4

♥ 5 3

♦ 8 7 3

♣ 7 2



♠ K J 3

♥ A Q J 4 2

♦ 9 6 4

♣ A 5

♠ 2

♥ 10 9 8 7

♦ K Q J 5

♣ K 10 4 3

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

2 ♠

Pass

2 NT

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 ♠ by North

SOUTH is unsure whether to bid game or not, so he bids 2 NT to get more information about

NORTH's hand.

NORTH's 3 ♠ is discouraging, a hand below average in strength and no outside high card.

SOUTH passes and hopes for the best.

Deal 22

South Deals

None Vul

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

18
 6 10
 6

West

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ A 6 3
 ♥ A K Q J 7 4 2
 ♦ A 8
 ♣ 4

N
 W E
 S

♠ 5
 ♥ 8
 ♦ 9 7 5 3
 ♣ K Q J 9 8 6 3

North

4 ♥

East

Pass

South

3 ♣

Pass

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

NORTH has no way to tell whether SOUTH can provide one winner or not.

So she takes the bold approach and bids 4

♥

.

If the opening lead is a ♠ or a

♦

then NORTH

will probably make the game. Otherwise she will likely go down one.

Deal 23

North Deals
None Vul

♠ A 6
♥ 10 5 4
♦ J 10 8 6
♣ A Q 3 2

8
11 7
14

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by South			

♠ Q J 10 7 4 2
♥ K Q 7 2
♦ 5 2
♣ 9



♠ K 3
♥ A J 9 6 3
♦ A Q 7
♣ 8 6 4

♠ 9 8 5
♥ 8
♦ K 9 4 3
♣ K J 10 7 5

Most good players have an extra restriction in their Weak Two-bid guidelines - they won't

open with a Weak Two-bid when they hold an outside 4-card Major, even if the hand qualifies

otherwise. This Deal shows why.

If NORTH opened with 2♠, SOUTH might well pass and a

♥

game

would be missed.

Deal 24

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 5
♥ K 9 6 5 3
♦ Q 9
♣ A 6 5

16
10 6
8

♠ A Q 3
♥ A J 10
♦ K 7 5 4
♣ Q 10 4



♠ K 10 8 7 4
♥ Q 8
♦ 6
♣ J 9 8 3 2

♠ 6 2
♥ 7 4 2
♦ A J 10 8 3 2
♣ K 7

West *North* *East* *South*

Pass 2 NT Pass 2 ♦
Pass 3 NT Pass 3 ♣
Pass Pass

3 NT by North

NORTH responds 2 NT, asking for more information.

When SOUTH shows a decent hand with a high ♣ NORTH should bid 3 NT.