**Deal 1**
North Deals
None Vul

                    ♠ A 9 7 6
                    ♡ A Q 4
                    ◇ A J 4
                    ♣ Q 10 8

♠ J 5 2                                    ♠ K Q 3
♡ 10 9 8 5          N                      ♡ J 6 3
◇ 10 8 7        W       E                  ◇ K 9 3 2
♣ A 7 6             S                      ♣ 5 4 2

                    ♠ 10 8 4
       17           ♡ K 7 2
     5   9          ◇ Q 6 5
        9           ♣ K J 9 3

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1 NT  | Pass | 2 NT  |
| Pass | 3 NT  | Pass | Pass  |
| Pass |       |      |       |

3 NT by North

With 9 points SOUTH is unable to decide the final contract. If NORTH has 17 points then the partnership

should be playing 3 NT. If NORTH opened with just 15 points then 3 NT will be too high..

So SOUTH makes the temporizing bid of 2 NT. This tells NORTH that he must make the final call - go on to

game if he has maximum, pass if he has minimum. On this Deal NORTH has 17 points so he bids 3 NT.

**Deal 2**
East Deals
None Vul

```
                ♠ K Q 4 2
                ♡ A 7 3
                ◊ 10 8 4
                ♣ 8 7 4
♠ 8 7 3                      ♠ J 9 5
♡ J 10 6 4      N            ♡ Q 5 2
◊ Q 7 6      W     E         ◊ K 9 5 3
♣ A Q J         S           ♣ 6 3 2
                ♠ A 10 6
      9         ♡ K 9 8
   10   6       ◊ A J 2
      15        ♣ K 10 9 5
```

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      |       | Pass | 1 NT  |
| Pass | 2 NT  | Pass | Pass  |
| Pass |       |      |       |

2 NT by South

This time SOUTH has a minimum 1 NT opener; a balanced hand with 15 points.

NORTH has 9 points; he knows that the partnership is somewhere between

24 (9 + 15) and 26 (9 + 17). So he invites with a 2 NT bid.

SOUTH, with a minimum, declines the invitation by passing.

***Deal 3***
North Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q 6
♡ A J 10 3
◇ A Q
♣ K J 5 2

| | N | |
|---|---|---|
| W | | E |
| | S | |

♠ 9 8 3
♡ Q 9 7 4
◇ 10 8 7 3
♣ A Q

♠ A 10 5
♡ K 6 2
◇ K 9 6 5
♣ 10 6 4

20
8　　10
2

♠ J 7 4 2
♡ 8 5
◇ J 4 2
♣ 9 8 7 3

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| | 2 NT | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | | | |

2 NT by North

NORTH has a strong hand, 20 points and balanced distribution.

It is just right to open 2 NT (20-21 points).

SOUTH adds her 2 points to NORTH's promised number of 20 or 21. Since she doesn't reach the

magic game number of 26 points she just passes.

**Deal 4**
East Deals
None Vul

♠ K 7 3
♡ Q 7 2
◊ J 9 4
♣ Q J 10 8

♠ Q 6 4 2          ♠ J 9 5
♡ 6 3              ♡ K J 8 5 4
◊ A 7 3 2          ◊ 6 5
♣ 6 5 2            ♣ A 4 3

```
      N
  W       E
      S
```

♠ A 10 8
♡ A 10 9
◊ K Q 10 8
♣ K 9 7

9
6   9
  16

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      |       | Pass | 1 NT |
| Pass | 2 NT | Pass | 3 NT |
| Pass | Pass | Pass |       |

3 NT by South

SOUTH has an mid-range 1 NT opener; a balanced hand with 16 points.

NORTH has 9 points. He bids 2 NT, asking SOUTH to pass if she has 15 or bid 3 NT if she has 17.

But SOUTH has 16 points, which leaves her with no clear choice.

In this case she must decide whether her hand is a "good" 16 points or a "poor" 16 points.

Since her supporting cards are mostly 10's, 9's and 8's she figures it as "good"

and bids 3 NT.

**Deal 5**
North Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q J
♡ A 4
♢ K Q 10 8
♣ A J 7 3

♠ 7 5 3
♡ J 10 9 6
♢ A 7 6
♣ 10 9 8

N
W E
S

♠ A 8 4
♡ Q 8 3 2
♢ J 3 2
♣ 5 4 2

20
5   7
8

♠ 10 9 6 2
♡ K 7 5
♢ 9 5 4
♣ K Q 6

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 2 NT  | Pass | 3 NT  |
| Pass | Pass  | Pass |       |

3 NT by North

NORTH has 20 points and 4-4-3-2 distribution, so he opens 2 NT.

SOUTH has 8 points. She adds NORTH's 20 or 21 for a total of 28 or 29, enough for game but

nowhere close to the slam requirement. So she bids 3 NT and NORTH passes.