

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

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

13	♦ K J 7 2
9 6	♦ K J 10 3 2
12	♦ 7

N	♦ 9 4 3
W	♦ 9 6 4
E	♦ A Q 10 8
S	♣ 9 8 3

♣ A 7 4

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♠ by North

you will play your last trump.

As you can imagine, declarer will be in a whole lot of trouble.

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 4 ♠ and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

You have ♦ winners, but dummy will surely be short since he has at least 8 cards in the Major suits.

Partner has whatever ♥ strength your side possesses.

It is very likely that declarer will want to do some cross-trumping. To try to cut that down your best lead is a trump.

Just imagine that declarer wins the first ♠ in his hand and plays a ♥ to dummy's honors. West will win and play another trump. Whenever you win your first ♦

Deal 2East Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 7 2
♥ K 8 7
♦ K Q J
♣ A 8 5 4

2
13 21
4

West	North	East	South
6 NT	Pass	2 NT	Pass
6 NT by East			
Lead: ♥ 6			

♠ 10 5 ♥ J 10 4 2 ♦ 9 6 5 4 3 ♣ J 9	♠ A Q 6 ♥ A Q 9 ♦ A 10 7 ♣ K Q 7 3
 N S E W	

♠ K J 9 4 3
♥ 6 5 3
♦ 8 2
♣ 10 6 2

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 6 NT and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

You held this identical hand in Deal 3. The declarer was playing 3 NT and the best lead was the ♠ 4, fourth down.

It's different when the contract is 6 NT. Against 6 NT you should make a passive lead, which means don't underlead any honors. Against 6 NT you have little chance of establishing a suit to win four or five tricks. Instead, you just want to try to not give declarer an undeserved trick.

So any passive lead would be OK, you pick the ♥ just because they are less likely to have an unbid 4-card Major in either

hand.

Declarer has 11 winners sitting there; if you had led a low ♠ you would have handed him his 12 trick on a platter.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8 5 4

♥ 8 6 5 2

♦ K 6 2

♣ 10 2

$$\begin{matrix} & 17 \\ 6 & 2 \\ & 15 \end{matrix}$$

♠ A 2
♥ A 9 7
♦ 10 5 3
♣ A K Q 7 6

W	N
E	S

♠ Q 9 7 6 3
♥ 10 4 3
♦ 4
♣ 9 8 4 3

♠ J 10
♥ K Q J
♦ A Q J 9 8 7
♣ J 5

West	North	East	South
			1 ♦
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	Pass

Pass
6 ♦ by South
Lead: ♣ 4

smooth sailing.

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 6 ♦ and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

Against a notrump slam it is best to make a passive lead so you don't give declarer an undeserved winner.

Against a suit slam the situation is very different. Against strong dummy bidding like this you are pretty sure that if you don't establish a winner early declarer will find something in dummy to discard losers on. In this hand it is dummy's ♣ suit.

Your most promising suit is ♠s. Obviously partner has a very weak hand, but if he has the ♠Q you can set up your ♠K before your King of trumps is dislodged.

Without a ♠ lead declarer will have

Deal 4West Deals
None Vul

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

9
 15 10
 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

♠ 9 7 5
 ♥ J 7
 ♦ K Q 8
 ♣ K J 9 8 2

♠ K 6 2
 ♥ K 6 3
 ♦ 9 5 4 2
 ♣ 7 6 5

West North East South
 1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
 Pass Pass
 3 NT by West
 Lead: ♥ 4

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 3 NT and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

This is a close call. The top of your ♠ honor sequence is very tempting, but even when you find partner with the ♠ K you can still only establish three ♠ winners to go with your ♣ A. Unfortunately, that's not enough to defeat the contract.

Leading a ♥ from your 5-card suit is riskier, but it has the potential of setting up an additional winner. In this hand, as you see, the ♥ lead gets you 4 ♥ winners to go with your ♣ A.

Deal 5North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 10 6 2
 ♥ 10
 ♦ Q J 9 6
 ♣ Q 10 9 3

13
 7 9
11

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 9 3
 ♥ Q J 7 4 3
 ♦ K
 ♣ K 8 7 4

♠ 8 4
 ♥ 9 8 2
 ♦ A 10 5 3
 ♣ A J 6 2

♠ K J 7 5
 ♥ A K 6 5
 ♦ 8 7 4 2
 ♣ 5

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

4 ♥ by North

Lead: ♥ 9

The bidding has been as shown. The contract is 4 ♥ and it is your lead.

When you have made your choice

A careful look at this hand shows just how bad it can turn out.

And leading from a doubleton in a suit the opponents have bid is almost as bad.

So by process of elimination you lead a trump, probably the ♥ 9.

And when North plays ♣s, (preparing to ruff in dummy), you will win and play another trump. Even if North guesses the ♣s correctly he will not be able to make the contract.

Deal 6

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A Q 10 6

♥ 7

♦ K J 9 6 2

♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 5

♥ A Q 8 5

♦ 5 4 3

♣ Q J 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ 9 4 3

♥ 9 6 4

♦ A Q 10 8

♣ 9 8 3

♠ K J 7 2

♥ K J 10 3 2

♦ 7

♣ A 7 4

13
9 6
12

Deal 7

South Deals ♠ 10 5
Both Vul ♥ J 10 4 2
 ♦ 9 6 5 4 3
 ♣ J 9

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

N
W E
S

2
13 21
4
♠ K J 9 4 3
♥ 6 5 3
♦ 8 2
♣ 10 6 2

Deal 8

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A 2
♥ A 9 7
♦ 10 5 3
♣ AKQ 7 6

♠ K 8 5 4
♥ 8 6 5 2
♦ K 6 2
♣ 10 2

17
6 2
15

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 7 6 3
♥ 10 4 3
♦ 4
♣ 9 8 4 3

♠ J 10
♥ K Q J
♦ A Q J 9 8 7
♣ J 5

Deal 9

North Deals

E-W Vul

♦ A 3

♥ A 9 8

♦ A J 10 6

♣ Q 10 4

♠ Q J 10 8

♥ Q 10 5 4 2

♦ 7 3

♣ A 3

N
W S E

♠ 9 7 5

♥ J 7

♦ K Q 8

♣ K J 9 8 2

♠ K 6 2

♥ K 6 3

♦ 9 5 4 2

♣ 7 6 5

9
15 10
6

Deal 10

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ A 9 3

♥ Q J 7 4 3

♦ K

♣ K 8 7 4

♠ Q 10 6 2

♥ 10

♦ Q J 9 6

♣ Q 10 9 3



♠ 8 4

♥ 9 8 2

♦ A 10 5 3

♣ A J 6 2

♠ K J 7 5

13 7 9
7 11

♥ A K 6 5

♦ 8 7 4 2

♣ 5

Deal 11 ♠ A Q 10 6

South Deals ♥ 7

None Vul ♦ K J 9 6 2

♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 5

♥ A Q 8 5

♦ 5 4 3

♣ Q J 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ 9 4 3

♥ 9 6 4

♦ A Q 10 8

♣ 9 8 3

♠ K J 7 2

♥ K J 10 3 2

♦ 7

♣ A 7 4

13
9 6
12

Deal 12

West Deals
N-S Vul
♠ 10 5
♥ J 10 4 2
♦ 9 6 5 4 3
♣ J 9

♠ 8 7 2
♥ K 8 7
♦ K Q J
♣ A 8 5 4

2
13 21
4

N
W E
S
♠ A Q 6
♥ A Q 9
♦ A 10 7
♣ K Q 7 3

♠ K J 9 4 3
♥ 6 5 3
♦ 8 2
♣ 10 6 2

Deal 13

North Deals

Both Vul

♠ A 2

♥ A 9 7

♦ 10 5 3

♣ A K Q 7 6

♠ K 8 5 4

♥ 8 6 5 2

♦ K 6 2

♣ 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 7 6 3

♥ 10 4 3

♦ 4

♣ 9 8 4 3

♠ J 10

♥ K Q J

♦ A Q J 9 8 7

♣ J 5

¹⁷
6 2
15

Deal 14

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 4 3

♥ A 9 8

♦ A J 10 6

♣ Q 10 4

♠ Q J 10 8

♥ Q 10 5 4 2

♦ 7 3

♣ A 3

N
W E
S

♠ 9 7 5

♥ J 7

♦ K Q 8

♣ K J 9 8 2

♠ K 6 2

♥ K 6 3

♦ 9 5 4 2

♣ 7 6 5

9
15 10
6

Deal 15

South Deals
N-S Vul

♠ A 9 3
♥ Q J 7 4 3
♦ K
♣ K 8 7 4

♠ Q 10 6 2
♥ 10
♦ Q J 9 6
♣ Q 10 9 3



♠ 8 4
♥ 9 8 2
♦ A 10 5 3
♣ A J 6 2

13
7 9
11

♠ K J 7 5
♥ A K 6 5
♦ 8 7 4 2
♣ 5

Deal 16

West Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A Q 10 6

♥ 7

♦ K J 9 6 2

♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 5

♥ A Q 8 5

♦ 5 4 3

♣ Q J 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ 9 4 3

♥ 9 6 4

♦ A Q 10 8

♣ 9 8 3

♠ K J 7 2

9 13 6
12

♥ K J 10 3 2

♦ 7

♣ A 7 4

Deal 17

North Deals	♠ 10 5
None Vul	♥ J 10 4 2
	♦ 9 6 5 4 3
	♣ J 9
♠ 8 7 2	♠ A Q 6
♥ K 8 7	♥ A Q 9
♦ K Q J	♦ A 10 7
♣ A 8 5 4	♣ K Q 7 3
	♠ K J 9 4 3
	♥ 6 5 3
	♦ 8 2
	♣ 10 6 2

N
W E
S

2
13 21
4

Deal 18

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K 8 5 4

♥ 8 6 5 2

♦ K 6 2

♣ 10 2

♠ A 2

♥ A 9 7

♦ 10 5 3

♣ A K Q 7 6

W N E S

♠ Q 9 7 6 3

♥ 10 4 3

♦ 4

♣ 9 8 4 3

♠ J 10

♥ K Q J

♦ A Q J 9 8 7

♣ J 5

17
6 2
15

Deal 19 ♠ Q J 10 8
South Deals ♥ Q 10 5 4 2
E-W Vul ♦ 7 3
 ♣ A 3

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

N
W E
S

♠ K 6 2
♥ K 6 3
♦ 9 5 4 2
♣ 7 6 5

9
15 10
6

Deal 20

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ A 9 3

♥ Q J 7 4 3

♦ K

♣ K 8 7 4

♠ Q 10 6 2

♥ 10

♦ Q J 9 6

♣ Q 10 9 3



♠ 8 4

♥ 9 8 2

♦ A 10 5 3

♣ A J 6 2

♠ K J 7 5

13 7 9
7 11

♥ A K 6 5

♦ 8 7 4 2

♣ 5

Deal 21 ♠ A Q 10 6

North Deals ♥ 7

N-S Vul ♦ K J 9 6 2

♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 5

♥ A Q 8 5

♦ 5 4 3

♣ Q J 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ 9 4 3

♥ 9 6 4

♦ A Q 10 8

♣ 9 8 3

♠ K J 7 2

♥ K J 10 3 2

♦ 7

♣ A 7 4

13
9 6
12

Deal 22

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 10 5

♥ J 10 4 2

♦ 9 6 5 4 3

♣ J 9

♠ 8 7 2

♥ K 8 7

♦ K Q J

♣ A 8 5 4

N
W E
S

♠ A Q 6

♥ A Q 9

♦ A 10 7

♣ K Q 7 3

♠ K J 9 4 3

♥ 6 5 3

♦ 8 2

♣ 10 6 2

2
13 21
4

Deal 23

South Deals

Both Vul

♦ 10 5 3

♣ A K Q 7 6

♠ K 8 5 4

♥ 8 6 5 2

♦ K 6 2

♣ 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 7 6 3

♥ 10 4 3

♦ 4

♣ 9 8 4 3

♠ J 10

♥ K Q J

♦ A Q J 9 8 7

♣ J 5

17
6 2
15

Deal 24

West Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 10 8

♥ Q 10 5 4 2

♦ 7 3

♣ A 3

♠ A 4 3

♥ A 9 8

♦ A J 10 6

♣ Q 10 4

N
W S E

♠ 9 7 5

♥ J 7

♦ K Q 8

♣ K J 9 8 2

♠ K 6 2

♥ K 6 3

♦ 9 5 4 2

♣ 7 6 5

9
15 10
6

Deal 25

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A 9 3

♥ Q J 7 4 3

♦ K

♣ K 8 7 4

♠ Q 10 6 2

♥ 10

♦ Q J 9 6

♣ Q 10 9 3

N

W

E

S

♠ 8 4

♥ 9 8 2

♦ A 10 5 3

♣ A J 6 2

13
7 9
11

♠ K J 7 5

♥ A K 6 5

♦ 8 7 4 2

♣ 5

Deal 26

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ A Q 10 6
♥ 7
♦ K J 9 6 2
♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 5
♥ A Q 8 5
♦ 5 4 3
♣ Q J 10 2

13
9 6
12

N
W E
S

♠ 9 4 3
♥ 9 6 4
♦ A Q 10 8
♣ 9 8 3

♠ K J 7 2
♥ K J 10 3 2
♦ 7
♣ A 7 4

Deal 27

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 5
♥ J 10 4 2
♦ 9 6 5 4 3
♣ J 9

♠ 8 7 2
♥ K 8 7
♦ K Q J
♣ A 8 5 4

N
W E
S

♠ A Q 6
♥ A Q 9
♦ A 10 7
♣ K Q 7 3

♠ K J 9 4 3
♥ 6 5 3
♦ 8 2
♣ 10 6 2

2
13 21
4

Deal 28

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A 2

♥ A 9 7

♦ 10 5 3

♣ AKQ 7 6

♠ K 8 5 4

♥ 8 6 5 2

♦ K 6 2

♣ 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 7 6 3

♥ 10 4 3

♦ 4

♣ 9 8 4 3

♠ J 10

♥ K Q J

♦ A Q J 9 8 7

♣ J 5

17
6 2
15

Deal 29

North Deals

Both Vul

♠ Q J 10 8

♥ Q 10 5 4 2

♦ 7 3

♣ A 3

♠ A 4 3

♥ A 9 8

♦ A J 10 6

♣ Q 10 4

N
W S E

♠ 9 7 5

♥ J 7

♦ K Q 8

♣ K J 9 8 2

♠ K 6 2

♥ K 6 3

♦ 9 5 4 2

♣ 7 6 5

9
15 10
6

Deal 30

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 9 3

♥ Q J 7 4 3

♦ K

♣ K 8 7 4

♠ Q 10 6 2

♥ 10

♦ Q J 9 6

♣ Q 10 9 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8 4

♥ 9 8 2

♦ A 10 5 3

♣ A J 6 2

♠ K J 7 5

13
7 9
11

♥ A K 6 5

♦ 8 7 4 2

♣ 5

Deal 31 ♠ A Q 10 6

South Deals ♥ 7

N-S Vul ♦ K J 9 6 2

♣ K 6 5

♠ 8 5

♥ A Q 8 5

♦ 5 4 3

♣ Q J 10 2

N
W E
S

♠ 9 4 3

♥ 9 6 4

♦ A Q 10 8

♣ 9 8 3

♠ K J 7 2

♥ K J 10 3 2

♦ 7

♣ A 7 4

13
9 6
12

Deal 32

West Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 10 5
♥ J 10 4 2
♦ 9 6 5 4 3
♣ J 9

♠ 8 7 2
♥ K 8 7
♦ K Q J
♣ A 8 5 4

2
13 21
4

N
W E
S

♠ A Q 6
♥ A Q 9
♦ A 10 7
♣ K Q 7 3

♠ K J 9 4 3
♥ 6 5 3
♦ 8 2
♣ 10 6 2

Deal 33

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 2
♥ A 9 7
♦ 10 5 3
♣ AKQ 7 6

♠ K 8 5 4
♥ 8 6 5 2
♦ K 6 2
♣ 10 2

17
6 2
15

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 7 6 3
♥ 10 4 3
♦ 4
♣ 9 8 4 3

♠ J 10
♥ K Q J
♦ A Q J 9 8 7
♣ J 5

Deal 34

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ Q J 10 8

♥ Q 10 5 4 2

♦ 7 3

♣ A 3

♠ A 4 3

♥ A 9 8

♦ A J 10 6

♣ Q 10 4

W N E S

♠ 9 7 5

♥ J 7

♦ K Q 8

♣ K J 9 8 2

♠ K 6 2

♥ K 6 3

♦ 9 5 4 2

♣ 7 6 5

9
15 10
6

Deal 35

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A 9 3

♥ Q J 7 4 3

♦ K

♣ K 8 7 4

♠ Q 10 6 2

♥ 10

♦ Q J 9 6

♣ Q 10 9 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8 4

♥ 9 8 2

♦ A 10 5 3

♣ A J 6 2

13
7 9
11♠ K J 7 5
♥ A K 6 5
♦ 8 7 4 2
♣ 5