

Deal 1

West Deals

None Vul

♠ J 8 6 3 2

♥ Q 10 8 4

♦ 9 8 3

♣ A

11
7 10
12

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



♠ K 7 4
♥ K 5
♦ A 6 4
♣ Q 8 7 4 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

5 ♣ by North

Lead: ♦ Q

can lead up to the ♠ K and make a winner out of it.

Suppose you win the ♦ Q in dummy and play a ♣. Somebody will win the ♣ A and play another ♦. You win this and lead toward the ♠ K. No good. East jumps up with his ♠ A and sets you with a ♦ winner.

The problem was that when you played a trump you let the timing go to the defense. They could knock out your last ♦ stopper while they still had the ♠ A. Try it this way.

Win the ♦ in your hand and immediately play the ♠ 9. If East doesn't take his ♠ A he'll never get it, so assume he goes up. Now he leads ♦ J but you win, get to dummy with the ♥ K and play the ♠ K, discarding the ♦ loser.

In this hand that something is to establish the ♠ K so you can discard your ♦ loser.

You are North and it is your bid. Decide what you would say, then on BID.

Is there any doubt? Although you only have 11 HCP your 6-card suit adds 2 more. And with 13 points you should always open. So you open 1 ♣.

Partner responds 3 ♣. What do you bid?

With the ♣ fit your hand is now revalued to 15 points. But it's still a close thing. You may be able to make 5 ♣ or you may not.

Passing would not be horrible - but when in doubt it is usually better to be bold. You cross your fingers and bid 5 ♣.

North plays 5 ♣. East leads the ♦ Q.

Losers: ♠ 1 : ♥ 0 : ♦ 1 : ♣ 1 : Total = 3

The two black Aces aren't going away so if you are to make this contract you must do something about your ♦ loser. And the only likely place to put it is on dummy's ♠ K. If East has the ♠ A, you

Deal 2

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 5

♥ J 8 7 3

♦ Q 7 4

♣ K Q 10

7
11 17
5

♠ K 4 2

♥ 5 2

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ A 7 6 3



♠ A 6 3
♥ K Q 10 9 6 4
♦ A K J
♣ 8

West

North

East

South

Pass	1 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
5 ♣	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	Pass	

5 ♥ by East

Lead: ♠ 10

You are East and it is your bid. Decide what you would say, then on BID.

You have a very good hand. But not good enough to open 2 ♣, so you open 1 ♥.

Partner jumps to 3 ♥. What do you bid?

This is close. Partner has 11 or 12 points and good ♥ support. Your hand revalues to 21 points. You might have a slam. You decide to try for it and bid 4 NT. Partner replies 5 ♣ showing no Aces. So much for the slam. You bid 5 ♥.

East plays 5 ♥. South leads the ♠T. You put on dummy's ♠J, North plays the ♠K and you win the ♠A.

Losers: ♠ 1 : ♥ 1 : ♦ 0 : ♣ 1 : Total = 3

You cannot avoid losing either of the two Aces. So therefore you must do something about the ♠ loser. And the only thing you can do with it is to discard it on one of dummy's ♠s.

Be careful. If you lead a trump now a defender will take the Ace and play another ♠, exposing your loser while the ♠A is still out. You must set up the ♠ first. So at trick 2 play your ♠ to dummy's ♠Q. A defender may win this and play a ♠, but you win the ♠Q and play the ♠K, discarding your ♠ loser. Now you switch to trumps.

Imagine what the defense will do if you lead a round of trumps. Then imagine what they will do if you play a different suit instead.

Deal 3
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ 5 2 ♥ Q J 10 8 4 ♦ K 9 ♣ J 8 6 3 8 7 6 19	♠ A 6 3 ♥ 7 5 2 ♦ A 7 5 3 ♣ 10 5 4 ♠ K 10 9 8 ♥ 9 6 3 ♦ Q J 4 ♣ 9 7 2 ♠ Q J 7 4 ♥ A K ♦ 10 8 6 2 ♣ A K Q
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N
W E
S

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	3 NT
3 NT by South			
Lead: ♥ Q			

You are South and it is your bid. Decide what you would say, then on BID.

With 19 points you are too strong to open 1 NT so you open 1 ♦. Partner responds 2 ♦. What do you bid?

Perhaps you can make 5 ♦. But 9 tricks are easier than 11 so you bid 3 NT. Notice that there was no reason to "show" your ♠ suit. If partner held 4 ♠s he would not have bid 2 ♦.

South plays 3 NT. West leads the ♥ Q.

Winners: ♠ 1 : ♥ 2 : ♦ 1 : ♣ 3 : Total = 7

You can create one winner in ♦s if they split 3-2, but too late, the defense would have set up their ♥s. So you must get 2 more ♠ tricks.

This is one of the most misplayed positions in bridge. The usual approach is to lead the ♠ Q, hoping that West holds the ♠ K. But this can't succeed. If West does hold the ♠ K he will cover, either this trick or the ♠ J, and someone's ♠ T will

become a winner. Of course if East has the ♠ K then the finesse will fail, along with your chance of 2 more winners.

The correct way to play for 2 more tricks is to hope EAST has the ♠ K and lead twice toward your ♠ Q J. So win the first trick, play ♠ 4 to dummy's ♠ A. Lead the ♠ 3 toward your hand, playing the ♠ J if East plays low. (Of course if East ever plays the ♠ K he gives you two winners immediately.) When the ♠ J wins, return to dummy with the ♦ A and lead the ♠ 6 toward your ♠ Q.

Deal 4

East Deals	♠ A 10 2
None Vul	♥ 10 8 4
	♦ J 10 9 3
	♣ Q 10 5
♠ Q J 9 8 7 3	♠ 6 4
♥ K Q 6	W N E
♦ 7 2	♦ A 7 3
♣ J 4	S
	♦ K Q 5 4
	♣ A K 8 2
	♠ K 5
9 7	♥ J 9 5 2
8 16	♦ A 8 6
	♣ 9 7 6 3

West North East South

4 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

4 ♠ by West
Lead: ♦ J

You are West and it is your bid. Decide what you would say, then on BID.

HE WHO KNOWS, GOES You KNOW your side has 26-28 points. You KNOW your side has 8 or more ♠s. You GO to 4 ♠.

West plays 4 ♠. North leads the ♦ J.

Losers: ♠ 2/3 : ♥ 0 : ♦ 1 : ♣ 0 : Total = 3/4

You are definitely going to lose the ♦ A and the ♠ A K. Therefore you must plan to avoid losing a third ♠.

You should lead UP TO your honor cards. Cover the ♦ J and lose to South's ♦ A. Win his return (probably another ♦) in dummy. Lead a small ♠ to your ♠ J. North wins with an honor and probably plays the ♦ T. Ruff it, lead a ♠ to dummy and lead the last ♠. If South plays the other high honor you play low. If South plays low you guess whether to play the ♠ K, or ♠ T. Your best play is to assume the two honors were split and play the ♠ Q.

Now for an alternate possible.

You might think that North is just as likely to have held an original doubleton ♠ A K as doubleton ♠ A T, and that playing the ♠ 9 would be as good a play as ♠ Q.

This is untrue for a very classy-named reason - The Principle of Restricted Choice. You may not even believe it when you read it, but it's mathematically sound. If North were dealt an original ♠ A K, he would have been just as likely to win with the ♠ K as with the ♠ A. The fact that he actually won the ♠ A makes it less likely that he also holds the ♠ K.

Deal 5

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 9
♥ A 9 3
♦ K 5 2
♣ K J 10 9 6 2

♠ J 8 6 3 2
♥ Q 10 8 4
♦ 9 8 3
♣ A

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A Q 10 5
♥ J 7 6 2
♦ Q J 10 7
♣ 5

11
7 10
12
♠ K 7 4
♥ K 5
♦ A 6 4
♣ Q 8 7 4 3

Deal 6

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K 4 2

♥ 5 2

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ A 7 6 3

♠ Q J 5

♥ J 8 7 3

♦ Q 7 4

♣ K Q 10

W N E S

♠ A 6 3
♥ K Q 10 9 6 4
♦ A K J
♣ 8

♠ 10 9 8 7

♥ A

♦ 10 6 5

♣ J 9 5 4 2

7
11
5

17

Deal 7 ♠ A 6 3
South Deals ♥ 7 5 2
Both Vul ♦ A 7 5 3
 ♣ 10 5 4

♠ 5 2
♥ Q J 10 8 4
♦ K 9
♣ J 8 6 3

8
7 6
19

N
W E
S

♠ K 10 9 8
♥ 9 6 3
♦ Q J 4
♣ 9 7 2

♠ Q J 7 4
♥ A K
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ A K Q

Deal 8 ♠ A 10 2
West Deals ♥ 10 8 4
None Vul ♦ J 10 9 3
 ♣ Q 10 5

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

9 ♠ K 5
7 ♥ J 9 5 2
8 ♦ A 8 6
16 ♣ 9 7 6 3



Deal 9

North Deals

♠ 9

E-W Vul

♥ A 9 3

♦ K 5 2

♣ K J 10 9 6 2

♠ J 8 6 3 2

♠ A Q 10 5

♥ Q 10 8 4

♥ J 7 6 2

♦ 9 8 3

♦ Q J 10 7

♣ A

♣ 5

11
7 10
12

♠ K 7 4

♥ K 5

♦ A 6 4

♣ Q 8 7 4 3



Deal 10

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ K 4 2

♥ 5 2

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ A 7 6 3

♠ Q J 5

♥ J 8 7 3

♦ Q 7 4

♣ K Q 10



♠ A 6 3

♥ K Q 10 9 6 4

♦ A K J

♣ 8

♠ 10 9 8 7

♥ A

♦ 10 6 5

♣ J 9 5 4 2

7
11 **17**
5

Deal 11

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

N
W E
S

Deal 12 ♠ A 10 2
West Deals ♥ 10 8 4
N-S Vul ♦ J 10 9 3
 ♣ Q 10 5

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

N
W E
S

♠ K 5
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ A 8 6
♣ 9 7 6 3

7
9 16
8

Deal 13

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

 ♠ K 7 4
 ♥ K 5
 ♦ A 6 4
 ♣ Q 8 7 4 3



11
7 10
12

Deal 14

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K 4 2

♥ 5 2

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ A 7 6 3

♠ Q J 5

♥ J 8 7 3

♦ Q 7 4

♣ K Q 10

N
W E
S

♠ A 6 3

♥ K Q 10 9 6 4

♦ A K J

♣ 8

♠ 10 9 8 7

♥ A

♦ 10 6 5

♣ J 9 5 4 2

7
11 **17**
5

Deal 15 ♠ A 6 3
South Deals ♥ 7 5 2
N-S Vul ♦ A 7 5 3
 ♣ 10 5 4

♠ 5 2
♥ Q J 10 8 4
♦ K 9
♣ J 8 6 3

8
7 6
19

N
W E
S

♠ K 10 9 8
♥ 9 6 3
♦ Q J 4
♣ 9 7 2

♠ Q J 7 4
♥ A K
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ A K Q

Deal 16 ♠ A 10 2
West Deals ♥ 10 8 4
E-W Vul ♦ J 10 9 3
 ♣ Q 10 5

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

N
W E
S

♠ K 5
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ A 8 6
♣ 9 7 6 3

7
9 16
8

Deal 17

North Deals	♠ 9
None Vul	♥ A 9 3
	♦ K 5 2
	♣ K J 10 9 6 2
♠ J 8 6 3 2	♠ A Q 10 5
♥ Q 10 8 4	♥ J 7 6 2
♦ 9 8 3	♦ Q J 10 7
♣ A	♣ 5
	♠ K 7 4
11 7 10 12	♥ K 5
	♦ A 6 4
	♣ Q 8 7 4 3



Deal 18

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K 4 2

♥ 5 2

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ A 7 6 3

♠ Q J 5

♥ J 8 7 3

♦ Q 7 4

♣ K Q 10

W N E S

♠ A 6 3

♥ K Q 10 9 6 4

♦ A K J

♣ 8

♠ 10 9 8 7

♥ A

♦ 10 6 5

♣ J 9 5 4 2

7
11 17
5

Deal 19 ♠ A 6 3
South Deals ♥ 7 5 2
E-W Vul ♦ A 7 5 3
 ♣ 10 5 4

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q J 7 4
♥ A K
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ A K Q

8
7 6
19

Deal 20 ♠ A 10 2
West Deals ♥ 10 8 4
Both Vul ♦ J 10 9 3
 ♣ Q 10 5

♠ Q J 9 8 7 3
♥ K Q 6
♦ 7 2
♣ J 4

9 7
8 16

N
W E
S

♠ 6 4
♥ A 7 3
♦ K Q 5 4
♣ A K 8 2

♠ K 5
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ A 8 6
♣ 9 7 6 3

Deal 21

♠ 9
North Deals ♥ A 9 3
N-S Vul ♦ K 5 2
♣ K J 10 9 6 2
♠ J 8 6 3 2 ♠ A Q 10 5
♥ Q 10 8 4 ♥ J 7 6 2
♦ 9 8 3 ♦ Q J 10 7
♣ A ♣ 5

 ♠ K 7 4
 ♥ K 5
 ♦ A 6 4
 ♣ Q 8 7 4 3

 11
 7 **10**
 12



Deal 22

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K 4 2

♥ 5 2

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ A 7 6 3

♠ Q J 5

♥ J 8 7 3

♦ Q 7 4

♣ K Q 10

W N E S

♠ A 6 3
♥ K Q 10 9 6 4
♦ A K J
♣ 8

♠ 10 9 8 7

♥ A

♦ 10 6 5

♣ J 9 5 4 2

7
11 **17**
5

Deal 23 ♠ A 6 3
South Deals ♥ 7 5 2
Both Vul ♦ A 7 5 3
 ♣ 10 5 4

♠ 5 2
♥ Q J 10 8 4
♦ K 9
♣ J 8 6 3

8
7 6
19

N
W E
S

♠ K 10 9 8
♥ 9 6 3
♦ Q J 4
♣ 9 7 2

♠ Q J 7 4
♥ A K
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ A K Q

Deal 24 ♠ A 10 2
West Deals ♥ 10 8 4
None Vul ♦ J 10 9 3
 ♣ Q 10 5

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

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



Deal 25

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 9

♥ A 9 3

♦ K 5 2

♣ K J 10 9 6 2

♠ J 8 6 3 2

♥ Q 10 8 4

♦ 9 8 3

♣ A

W N E S

♠ A Q 10 5

♥ J 7 6 2

♦ Q J 10 7

♣ 5

11
7 10
12

♠ K 7 4

♥ K 5

♦ A 6 4

♣ Q 8 7 4 3

Deal 26

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ K 4 2

♥ 5 2

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ A 7 6 3

♠ Q J 5

♥ J 8 7 3

♦ Q 7 4

♣ K Q 10



♠ A 6 3

♥ K Q 10 9 6 4

♦ A K J

♣ 8

♠ 10 9 8 7

♥ A

♦ 10 6 5

♣ J 9 5 4 2

7
11 **17**
5

Deal 27 ♠ A 6 3
South Deals ♥ 7 5 2
None Vul ♦ A 7 5 3
 ♣ 10 5 4

♠ 5 2
♥ Q J 10 8 4
♦ K 9
♣ J 8 6 3

8
7 6
19

N
W E
S

♠ K 10 9 8
♥ 9 6 3
♦ Q J 4
♣ 9 7 2

♠ Q J 7 4
♥ A K
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ A K Q

Deal 28

West Deals	♠ A 10 2
N-S Vul	♥ 10 8 4
	♦ J 10 9 3
	♣ Q 10 5
♠ Q J 9 8 7 3	♠ 6 4
♥ K Q 6	♥ A 7 3
♦ 7 2	♦ K Q 5 4
♣ J 4	♣ A K 8 2
9 7 8	♠ K 5
16	♥ J 9 5 2
	♦ A 8 6
	♣ 9 7 6 3



Deal 29

North Deals

Both Vul

♠ 9

♥ A 9 3

♦ K 5 2

♣ K J 10 9 6 2

♠ J 8 6 3 2

♥ Q 10 8 4

♦ 9 8 3

♣ A

W N E S

♠ A Q 10 5

♥ J 7 6 2

♦ Q J 10 7

♣ 5

11
7 10
12

♠ K 7 4

♥ K 5

♦ A 6 4

♣ Q 8 7 4 3

Deal 30

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K 4 2

♥ 5 2

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ A 7 6 3

♠ Q J 5

♥ J 8 7 3

♦ Q 7 4

♣ K Q 10

N
W E
S

♠ A 6 3

♥ K Q 10 9 6 4

♦ A K J

♣ 8

♠ 10 9 8 7

♥ A

♦ 10 6 5

♣ J 9 5 4 2

7
11 **17**
5

Deal 31

South Deals	♠ A 6 3
N-S Vul	♥ 7 5 2
	♦ A 7 5 3
	♣ 10 5 4
♠ 5 2	♠ K 10 9 8
♥ Q J 10 8 4	♥ 9 6 3
♦ K 9	♦ Q J 4
♣ J 8 6 3	♣ 9 7 2
8	♠ Q J 7 4
7 6	♥ A K
19	♦ 10 8 6 2
	♣ A K Q

N
W E
S

Deal 32 ♠ A 10 2
West Deals ♥ 10 8 4
E-W Vul ♦ J 10 9 3
 ♣ Q 10 5

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

 7 ♠ K 5
 9 ♥ J 9 5 2
 8 ♦ A 8 6
 16 ♣ 9 7 6 3



Deal 33

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 9

♥ A 9 3

♦ K 5 2

♣ K J 10 9 6 2

♠ J 8 6 3 2

♥ Q 10 8 4

♦ 9 8 3

♣ A



♠ A Q 10 5

♥ J 7 6 2

♦ Q J 10 7

♣ 5

♠ K 7 4

♥ K 5

♦ A 6 4

♣ Q 8 7 4 3

11
7 10
12

Deal 34

East Deals

N-S Vul

♦ K 4 2

♥ 5 2

♦ 9 8 3 2

♣ A 7 6 3

♠ Q J 5

♥ J 8 7 3

♦ Q 7 4

♣ K Q 10

W N E S

♠ A 6 3

♥ K Q 10 9 6 4

♦ A K J

♣ 8

♠ 10 9 8 7

♥ A

♦ 10 6 5

♣ J 9 5 4 2

7
11 **17**
5

Deal 35 ♠ A 6 3
South Deals ♥ 7 5 2
E-W Vul ♦ A 7 5 3
 ♣ 10 5 4

♠ 5 2
♥ Q J 10 8 4
♦ K 9
♣ J 8 6 3

8
7 6
19

N
W E
S

♠ K 10 9 8
♥ 9 6 3
♦ Q J 4
♣ 9 7 2

♠ Q J 7 4
♥ A K
♦ 10 8 6 2
♣ A K Q

Deal 36

West Deals	♠ A 10 2
Both Vul	♥ 10 8 4
	♦ J 10 9 3
	♣ Q 10 5
♠ Q J 9 8 7 3	♠ 6 4
♥ K Q 6	♥ A 7 3
♦ 7 2	♦ K Q 5 4
♣ J 4	♣ A K 8 2
9 7 8	♠ K 5
16	♥ J 9 5 2
	♦ A 8 6
	♣ 9 7 6 3

