

Deal 1

West Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q 5 2
♥ 6 2
♦ J 8 3 2
♣ 5 3 2

17
6 3
14

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 NT	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
6 NT by North			

♠ A J 10
♥ A K 9 8 5
♦ K 9 6
♣ Q 7



♠ 8 6 3
♥ 7 3
♦ A Q 4
♣ A K J 10 4

♠ 9 7 4
♥ Q J 10 4
♦ 10 7 5
♣ 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

East Deals

None Vul

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

12
 5 8
 15

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by South

♠ Q 6 3
 ♥ Q 3
 ♦ A K J 9 4
 ♣ 9 6 4



♠ A J 8 7 5 2
 ♥ A K
 ♦ Q 6
 ♣ J 8 7

North

2 ♦

4 ♠

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♠

2 ♠

Pass

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

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

South is happy to rest in the game contract.

Even with a combined 30 points, 7 tricks are certainly not a sure thing. South must hope that East holds the trump King.

Deal 3

East Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 7
♥ 10
♦ 10 8 6 3 2
♣ Q J 9 6 2

16
5 7
12

♠ K 5
♥ K Q 9 8 5 4 3
♦ A 4
♣ A 4



♠ A J 10 6 2
♥ A 6 2
♦ Q J
♣ 10 8 7

♠ 9 8 4 3
♥ J 7
♦ K 9 7 5
♣ K 5 3

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	5 NT	Pass	6 ♣
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
6 ♥ by North			

South opens 1 ♠. North 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 North bids just 2 ♥, knowing South must keep the bidding open.

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

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

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

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

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 10 7 5

♥ 8 4 2

♦ J 3

♣ A 5 3 2

13
8 4
15

♠ Q J 2

♥ K 10

♦ K Q 8 6 5

♣ Q 8 7



♠ A

♥ A Q J 7 5 3

♦ 7 4 2

♣ K J 4

♠ 9 8 6 4 3

♥ 9 6

♦ A 10 9

♣ 10 9 6

West

North

East

South

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

South opens 1 ♥ and North responds 2 ♦.

South 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 South holds 6 ♥s, North can support with the honor doubleton so he agrees the trump suit with a Fast Arrival bid of 4 ♥.

South has some extra strength, but not enough to push on after North's weak bid. Notice that if South DID try a 4 ♠ Control bid North 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

9
10 9
12

♠ J
♥ K Q J 7 5 3
♦ 4 3 2
♣ Q 5 4



♠ A Q 8 6 2
♥ 10 4
♦ K 6 5
♣ K 8 7

♠ 10 9 5
♥ A 9 8 2
♦ A 9 8
♣ J 6 3

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	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.