

Deal 1

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8 3
♥ A 10 5 4
♦ A J 10 9
♣ K 3

14
15 6
5
♣ 10 7 5

♠ A J 9 7
♥ J 7 3
♦ K Q 5
♣ Q J 4

♠ Q 10 6 5 2
♥ —
♦ 7 4 2
♣ A 9 8 6 2

W	N
S	E

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2 ♥ by South			

In the balancing seat it is distribution that counts, not point count. With a 6-card Major suit and a singleton you should not let them play 1 NT. Youdouble.

Partner makes the relay bid of 2 ♣.

You bid your suit, 2 ♥, and everybody passes. Notice that partner had a decent hand, but could not bid over 1 NT in the immediate seat.

Deal 2

East Deals

None Vul

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

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

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



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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	Dbl	1 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	2 ♣
2 ♣ by South			

You don't have a 6-card suit, nor do you have a 5-4 pair of suits. So even with a singleton you don't want to use DONT here. So you pass.

Partner makes a DONT double in the balancing seat.

Right now you probably have a premonition about what is going to happen next. But there really is nothing you can say other than **2 ♣**.

Your premonition came true. Partner passes and you are left playing **2 ♣** with a singleton. Nobody promised that DONT would always get you to a good contract.

Deal 3

West Deals

None Vul

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

Deal 4East Deals
None Vul

♠ A 9 4 2
 ♥ 9 3
 ♦ 8 3 2
 ♣ 10 5 4 2

8
 4 15
 13

♠ 7
 ♥ Q J 8 2
 ♦ K Q 10 7 4
 ♣ 9 7 3

♠ 10 6 5
 ♥ K 5
 ♦ A J 9 5
 ♣ A Q J 6

♠ K Q J 8 3
 ♥ A 10 7 6 4
 ♦ 6
 ♣ K 8

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

Since partner has entered the bidding in the immediate seat he should have a pretty good hand, with 9+ cards in ♥s and ♠s.

Usually you are happy to settle for partscore after a DONT sequence, but with such an excellent fit for ♥s your hand is worth a raise.

So you bid 3 ♥ and partner says 4 ♥.

Deal 5West Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 5 4
 ♥ A Q 8 5
 ♦ K 4 2
 ♣ A Q 3

13
17 3
 7

♠ K J 9 6
 ♥ K 9 7 3
 ♦ A Q 6 5
 ♣ 8

W N
S E

♠ 8 7
 ♥ J 10 2
 ♦ J 10 7 3
 ♣ J 6 4 2

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Pass	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2 ♠ by South			

You have only 7 HCP but expect partner to have a reasonable hand since East could not keep the bidding open. With your black 2-suiter you bid the lowest one, 2 ♣.

Partner says 2 ♦.

Partner's 2 ♦ bid, the next suit up the line, asks you to name your other suit (or pass if your other suit is ♦s).

You bid 2 ♠ and everybody passes.

Deal 6West Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 4
 ♥ A 5 4
 ♦ K 9 7 4 2
 ♣ K Q J

16
15 5
 4

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

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

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

4 ♠ by South

You would have opened 1 NT but West beat you to it. You cannot double for penalties when you use DONT, so you pass.

Partner bids **2 ♠** in the balancing seat.

The **2 ♠** bid shows a weak hand, with more strength partner would have first doubled, then bid **2 ♠**.

Still, you know he has a 6-card suit and you also know that every finesse is going to work. You either bid **3 ♠** or **4 ♠**. Be bold.