

Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K 6 5
♥ A J 6
♦ 10 9 6 3 2
♣ Q 9

12
10 12
6

West

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ 7 4 2

♥ K 10 7 4 2

♦ A Q 4

♣ K 3



♠ 8

♥ Q 9 8 5 3

♦ K J 8 5

♣ 8 6 4

North

1 ♥

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

4 ♥

♠ A Q J 10 9 3

♥ —

♦ 7

♣ A J 10 7 5 2

When you have a weak, distributional hand with 5 of partner's suit an immediate jump to game is usually the best approach. If he has a good hand you will probably make the contract. If he is minimum then you might get a preemptive effect and stop your LHO from entering the bidding.

This is a good example. Partner may be lucky and make 4 ♥. But if they had had an opportunity to compete the opponents might well be able to make 4 ♠.

Deal 2

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 9 7 2

♥ Q 5

♦ 7 4 2

♣ 10 6 5

9
9 15
7

West

1 ♠

4 ♥

4 ♥ by East

♠ J

♥ 10 6 4 2

♦ K 10 8 6

♣ K Q 8 2



♠ Q 10 8 6 5 4

♥ 9

♦ 9 5

♣ A J 9 4

North

Pass

Pass

East

1 ♥

3 ♥

Pass

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

You can't support partner's ♥s with only 2 of them so you bid your nice ♠ suit. Partner then jumps to 3 ♥. Now what do you bid?

Here's where a lot of players go wrong. Since they only promised 4 ♠s with their first response they think they should now rebid them to show partner they had 5. And this MIGHT work if it turns out partner has 3 ♠s. Not only is this a risky bid, it is unnecessary. When partner jump rebid ♥s he showed 16-18 points and 6 ♥s. So you know of an 8-card fit and you know you should be in game. Bid 4 ♥.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 5 4

♥ K Q 7

♦ 9

♣ J 9 8 6 3 2

13
6 5
16

♠ K J 7 2

♥ 8 5

♦ 7 4 2

♣ A K Q 5



♠ A Q 10 9 3

♥ A 9 2

♦ K Q J 3

♣ 4

♠ 6

♥ J 10 6 4 3

♦ A 10 8 6 5

♣ 10 7

*West**North**East**South*

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

1 ♠

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

5 ♦

Pass

4 NT

ALL

Pass

6 ♠

6 ♠ by South

As soon as partner opens 1 ♠ you know you will settle for nothing less than the ♠ game. The problem with bidding 4 ♠ right now is that partner will take you for the "weak-distributional-with-five-trumps" hand. So you temporize by first bidding 2 ♣. Partner rebids 2 ♦. What do you say now?

You now jump to 4 ♠, completing the picture of an opening hand with good ♠ support. Partner bids 4 NT. What say you?

This is Blackwood so you answer 5 ♦ for one Ace. Partner says 6 ♠.

Deal 4

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 5

♥ A K 10 7 6 4

♦ K J

♣ Q J 10

10
14 9
7

West

1 ♥

4 ♥

4 ♥ by West

♠ Q 9 2

♥ J

♦ 7 3 2

♣ A K 9 7 5 3

N
W E
S

♠ J 6 4 3

♥ Q 2

♦ A 8 5 4

♣ 6 4 2

North

Pass

Pass

East

3 ♥

Pass

South

Pass

Pass

♠ A K 10 8

♥ 9 8 5 3

♦ Q 10 9 6

♣ 8

You could bid 1♠. Many would do so, thinking "I have to show partner my ♠ suit."

In fact, you don't have to show partner your ♠ suit. You already know of a partnership 9-card fit in ♥s, so there is no reason to search for a possible 8-card fit in ♠s.

With 11 points and 4 trumps you bid 3♥, a limit raise. Partner raises to game.

Deal 5

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q 10 8

♥ Q 6

♦ Q J 9 6

♣ A 9 6

♠ J 5 4 3

♥ 10 5

♦ 7

♣ K J 10 5 4 2



♠ 7

♥ 9 8 3 2

♦ A K 8 4 3 2

♣ Q 8

♠ A 9 6 2

♥ A K J 7 4

♦ 10 5

♣ 7 3

14
5 9
12

*West**North**East**South*

1 ♥

Pass

1 ♠

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by North

You MIGHT jump to 2 NT to "show your points". However, a notrump bid now would deny a 4-card ♠ suit. Instead, your priority is to show that Major, so you respond 1 ♠. Partner bids 2 ♠. What do you say next?

Partner would not support a response which might be 4 cards unless he had 4 himself. Knowing that you have two opening hands facing each other, each containing 4 ♠s, you bid the ♠ game.

Deal 6

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q 8 6
 ♥ J 7 6
 ♦ Q J 7 6
 ♣ 9 6

6
 9 17
 8

West

2 ♠

4 ♠

4 ♠ by East

♠ 4

♥ 9 8 4 3 2

♦ A 9 4 3 2

♣ Q 5



♠ J 3 2

♥ A 10 5

♦ 8

♣ K 10 8 4 3 2

North

Pass

Pass

East

1 ♠

3 ♠

Pass

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

With 4-card support you respond 2 ♠.
 Partner raises to 3 ♠. What do you say next?

Partner's bid is an invitation. You have told him you have 6-10 points and he probably has about 17-18. If you are at the high end of your 6-T he wants you to bid game, at the low end he wants you to pass. You actually have T, definitely high end, so you bid 4 ♠.