

**Deal 1**East Deals  
None Vul

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

**13**  
 6 9  
**12**

♠ 6 5  
 ♥ A Q 9 5 3  
 ♦ K Q 6 3  
 ♣ Q 9

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

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

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

South opens 1 ♠ and North, with 14 points, responds 2 ♥. Note that North is not permitted to make this bid without a 5-card or longer ♥ suit.

South, knowing that North has 5, bids 3 ♥ to confirm the trump suit.

North has a minimum strength hand with no slam aspirations, so he uses Fast Arrival and bids 4 ♥. South is also satisfied to just play at game.

2/1 is a good bidding method, and here, 4 ♥ is a good contract. But you can see that it is not a laydown - there is no bidding system that will always reach To% contracts. In this hand a 3-3 ♦ split will provide the Tth trick, or if that fails, taking 2 ♠ finesses provides a 75% chance of success.

<b>Deal 2</b>	♠ 7		
South Deals	♥ A K 7 5		
None Vul	♦ K 7 6 2		
	♣ K Q 10 6		
♠ 8 3	♠ Q J 10 4		
♥ J 6	♥ Q 4 2		
♦ Q J 10 8 5	♦ A 9 3		
♣ J 4 3 2	♣ 9 7 5		
	♠ A K 9 6 5 2		
15 5 9 11	♥ 10 9 8 3 ♦ 4 ♣ A 8		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by South			

South has 13 points and naturally opens 1 ♠.

North, with 15 points, would bid 2 ♥ in standard bidding, but with 2/1 this promises a 5-card suit. So instead, North responds 2 ♣, forcing the partnership to game. Note that holding two 4-card minors North bids them up-the-line, just as in standard bidding.

South has a nice 6-card ♠ suit, so you might think he would rebid them. But Opener's first responsibility with his second bid is to show a 4-card Major if he has one. This isn't much of a suit, but South still bids 2 ♥.

You can see why it is important for Opener to show a 4-card Major. Since North couldn't bid ♥s in her first

response the fit would have been lost if South had not mentioned the suit. North now confirms the trump suit with a 3 ♥ bid, and South shows his minimum by just bidding the game.

**Deal 3**  
South Deals  
None Vul

♠ Q 3  
♥ J 10 5  
♦ 6 4 2  
♣ Q J 10 3 2

13  
6 8  
13

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

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

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

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

South opens 1 ♥, his 5-card Major. North, with 14 points, naturally responds 2 ♦, forcing the partnership to game.

South next bids 2 ♠, showing the other Major suit. In standard bidding South would not be able to bid the ♠s since that would be a Reverse and South is far too weak to Reverse. But after a 2/1 Response the concept of a Reverse does not apply, and the priority of showing a 4-card Major certainly does apply.

North assumes South to be 4-5 in the Majors, so she cannot support either. She bids 2 NT. If South actually has 6 ♥s (or 5 ♠s) he will rebid the suit. North's 2 NT bid guarantees a stopper in the fourth suit.

South does not have either 6 ♥s or 5 ♠s so he just bids 3 NT. Notice that South never once considered the possibility of passing what might be a misfit - the initial 2/1 response unconditionally forced the partnership to reach a game somewhere.

### *Deal 4*

South Deals    J 10 7  
None Vul        9 7 5  
                    A K J 6 2

♠ Q 3  
 ♥ K Q 4  
 ♦ J 10 4 2  
 ♣ 10 9 4 3

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

3 NT by South

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

**♠ J 10 6 5**  
**♥ 6 5 2**  
**♦ A Q 8 3**  
**♣ 8 5**

65  
33

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

♦ A Q 8 3  
♣ 8 5

♦ 8 5

- 1 -

South opens 1♠, his 5-card Major. North, with 14 points, responds 2♣, a 2/1 force to game.

South next bids 2♥, showing the other Major suit.

North assumes South to be 5-4 in the Majors, so she cannot support either. She cannot bid 2 NT without a stopper in ♦s. So North bids the fourth suit, 3♦, telling South she knows she must make a bid, but can't find anything appropriate.

South now must find a bid. His choices include rebidding the 5-card ♠s, supporting North's ♣s with a doubleton Queen, or bidding 3 NT with the ♦ K 6 as a stopper. He chooses this last option. It appears that 3 NT is the best game for these two hands.

**Deal 5**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ A 4	♦ K J 10 8 6 5 3
♥ K Q	♦ 8 7
♦ 10 9 5 2	♣ Q 8
♦ 9 2	♦ 4
♦ A 10 7 5	♦ J 9 6 3 2
♣ K 4 3	♣ 10 9 6 5 2
13	♠ K J 7 6 3
7 3	♦ A Q 7
17	♦ 8 4
♣ A Q J	



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

South opens 1 ♠, her 5-card Major and North responds 2 ♥. South knows this is a 5-card suit, and bids 3 ♥, confirming the 8+card trump fit.

Once the trump fit is known, North revalues his hand to about 19 points. He makes a slam try with a control-showing bid of 3 ♠. He knows South won't take this as ♠ support since the partnership has agreed that ♥'s are going to be trumps.

South now shows her control by bidding 4 ♣.

That was what North needed to hear; when Blackwood uncovers two Aces he bids 6 ♥.

The slam is a good one. If either the ♠ Q or ♣ K is right there are 12 tricks by way

of a finesse. But the best way to play the hand would be to try to establish a ♠ in the South hand, and if that fails try the ♣ finesse.