

**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

N  
W E  
S

♠ 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	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	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.

**Deal 2**

East Deals  
None Vul

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

9  
15 11  
5

West

2 ♣  
3 ♥  
Pass  
4 ♥ by East

♠ Q J 10 4

♥ Q 4 2

♦ A 9 3

♣ 9 7 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

North

1 ♠

Pass  
Pass  
Pass

East

2 ♥  
4 ♥

Pass  
Pass

South

Pass

East has 13 points and naturally opens 1 ♠.

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

East 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 East still bids 2 ♥.

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

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

**Deal 3**North Deals  
None Vul

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

<sup>13</sup>  
8 6  
<sub>13</sub>

West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
3 NT by South			

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

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

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



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

North next bids 2 ♠, showing the other Major suit. In standard bidding North would not be able to bid the ♠s since that would be a Reverse and North 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.

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

North does not have either 6 ♥s or 5 ♠s so he just bids 3 NT. Notice that North 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**

West Deals

None Vul

**♠ A 9 7 4 2****♥ A 9 8 3****♦ K 6****♣ Q 7****8****13 12****7**

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



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

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

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

these two hands.

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

West next bids **2 ♥**, showing the other Major suit.

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

West now must find a bid. His choices include rebidding the 5-card ♠s, supporting East'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

**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.