

Deal 1
East Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 5 3
♥ 10 6
♦ Q J 8 3 2
♣ K 10 7

5
6 15
14

West North East South
Pass Pass Pass 1 ♠
1 ♠ by South

♠ Q 9 6 2
♥ 9 5 2
♦ K 9
♣ 9 8 6 2

♠ 8
♥ A K Q J 4 3
♦ 10 5 4
♣ A J 3

♠ A K J 7 4
♥ 8 7
♦ A 7 6
♣ Q 5 4

1 ♠

SOUTH has an opening hand, 15 points, and a 5-card \hat{a}^{TM} suit. Unfortunately EAST beat her to

the punch by opening 1

$\hat{a}^{\text{TM}} \hat{Y}$

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But SOUTH should get into the bidding anyway, by Overcalling 1 \hat{a}^{TM} . This shows a good \hat{a}^{TM} suit

and somewhere between 9 and 16 points.

NORTH has 6 points. If SOUTH had actually OPENED 1 \hat{a}^{TM} , NORTH would be obligated to bid. But knowing that

the Overcall will not be made with more than 16 points, NORTH just passes.

Deal 2
 East Deals
 None Vul

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

N
 W E
 S

♠ Q 9 6 2
 ♥ 10 5 2
 ♦ K Q 4
 ♣ K J 6

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

11
 4 11
 14

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

4 ♠ by South

SOUTH has an opening hand, 15 points and five ♠'s. But EAST beat him to the punch,

so he overcalls 1♦.

NORTH has 11 points, and if SOUTH had opened she would make a Limit Raise to 3♦.

But when replying to an Overcall, the strength needs to be a little higher. In Deal 1 it was OK to

pass a 1♦ Overcall with 6 points, here it is correct to just raise to 2♦ with 11 points.

SOUTH actually has a strong Overcall so he bids 4♦.

Deal 3East Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 5 3
 ♥ 9 6
 ♦ Q J 8 3 2
 ♣ Q 9 7

12
5 14
9

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
| | | 1 ♥ | 1 ♠ |
| Pass | 3 ♠ | Pass | Pass |
| 3 ♠ by South | | | |

♠ Q 9 6 2
 ♥ 10 5 2
 ♦ A K
 ♣ K 8 6 2

♠ 8
 W N E
 S
 ♥ A K Q J 4 3
 ♦ 10 5 4
 ♣ A 10 3

♠ A K J 7 4
 ♥ 8 7
 ♦ 9 7 6
 ♣ J 5 4

This time SOUTH has just 10 points, nowhere near an opening hand. Still, when EAST opens

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SOUTH should Overcall 1â™ . This shows a good â™ suit

and somewhere between 9 and 16 points.

NORTH has 13 points. If SOUTH had actually OPENED 1â™ , NORTH would insist on game. But SOUTH didn't

Open, she just Overcalled. So NORTH must be more cautious. He jumps to 3â™ and SOUTH shows her

minimum type hand by passing.

Deal 4
 West Deals
 None Vul

♠ Q J 7 2
 ♥ A K J 9 6
 ♦ 10 9 2
 ♣ 4

15
 11 4
 10

♠ K 9 8 6
 ♥ 4
 ♦ A K 7 3
 ♣ K Q 7 5

♠ 4
 ♥ Q 8 3 2
 ♦ J 6 5 4
 ♣ J 10 9 3

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

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
| 1 ♥ | Dbl | Pass | 2 ♠ |
| Pass | 4 ♠ | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | | | |
| 4 ♠ by South | | | |

NORTH has 15 points, a singleton in the opponent's suit and 4-card support for any suit

partner might name. In other words, a perfect Takeout Double.

SOUTH needs to make a medium-strong bid to apprise NORTH of her 10 points. She jumps to 2 \hat{a} TM.

NORTH's hand is now worth 17 points because of the singleton. Since he is quite happy with

\hat{a} TM s he bids 4 \hat{a} TM.