

Deal 1
South Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 7 3
♥ J 9 2
♦ K Q 10 9 8
♣ J 5

♠ Q 4
♥ Q 10 7
♦ A J 6
♣ A 10 9 8 6

W N E S

♠ A 10 2
♥ 6 5
♦ 4 3 2
♣ K Q 7 3 2

13
7 9
11

♠ K J 9 6 5
♥ A K 8 4 3
♦ 7 5
♣ 4

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

South opens 1 ♠, the higher ranking of the two 5-card suits.

North, with 14 points, responds 2 ♣, forcing the partnership to game.

South now bids his ♥ suit.

At this point North figures South for 5 ♠s and 4 ♥s. North cannot support either of South's Majors, but with a good stopper in the fourth suit bids 2 NT. The game force is still on and South may not pass this bid.

South bids 3 ♥, indicating that this is also a 5-card suit. Now North can bid the ♥ game, knowing there is an 8-card fit.

Deal 2

West Deals

None Vul

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

12	♠ 6 5
9 6	♥ A Q 9 5 3
13	♦ K Q 6 3
	♣ Q 9

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♥ by South			

N		E
W		S
♠ Q 9 8 3	♥ 6 4	♦ J 10 8 2
♣ K 6 5		

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

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

South has a minimum strength hand with no slam aspirations, so he uses Fast Arrival and bids 4 ♥. North 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 3

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 3
♥ J 6
♦ Q J 10 8 5
♣ J 4 3 2

15
5 9
11

<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

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

N	E
W	S

♠ A K 9 6 5 2
♥ 10 9 8 3
♦ 4
♣ A 8

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 4North Deals
None Vul

♠ J 10 6 4
 ♥ 7 6 2
 ♦ K 9 3
 ♣ A 5 4

¹³
8 6
₁₃

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

N		
W		E
S		

♠ 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.