

**Deal 1**

South Deals	♠ 9 7 5
None Vul	♥ A 5
	♦ A 10 6 4
	♣ A K 8 2
♠ A Q 6 4	♠ K J 10 2
♥ 10 8 2	♥ K 3
♦ Q 9 2	♦ J 8 5 3
♣ Q 5 3	♣ J 10 7



15	♠ 8 3
10 9	♥ Q J 9 7 6 4
6	♦ K 7
	♣ 9 6 4

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

At favorable vulnerability you decided to open 2 ♥.

In reply to partner's Oust 2 NT you say 3 ♣, showing a minimum hand along with a poor suit. Partner says 3 ♥ and you gratefully pass.

**Deal 2**

East Deals

None Vul

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

15  
 8 11  
 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 7 5  
 ♥ 8 5  
 ♦ A 10 6 4  
 ♣ A K 8 2

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

♠ 8 3  
 ♥ K 10 9 7 6 4  
 ♦ K 7  
 ♣ 9 6 4

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

With four top tricks it is tempting to go straight to 4 ♥.

But you use discretion and bid an Oust 2 NT instead. Partner responds 3 ♣. What do you bid next?

Partner's 3 ♣ bid shows a weak hand and a poor suit. So you reluctantly settle for 3 ♥.

**Deal 3**South Deals  
None Vul

♠ A 7 6 3  
 ♥ Q 10 3  
 ♦ Q 9  
 ♣ J 7 4 3

**16**  
 9    10  
 5

♠ J 2  
 ♥ A 6 2  
 ♦ A 8 5 3  
 ♣ A K 8 6

	N		
W		E	
	S		

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

♠ K Q 10 8 5 4  
 ♥ 8 5  
 ♦ 7 6 4  
 ♣ 9 2

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

At favorable vulnerability you decided to open 2 ♠.

In reply to partner's Oust 2 NT you say 3 ♦, showing a minimum hand along with a good suit. Partner says 3 ♠ and you pass.

**Deal 4**East Deals  
None Vul

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

**15**  
**10** 7  
**8**

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

N  
W E  
S

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

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

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

With three top tricks it is tempting to go straight to 4 ♠.

But you use discretion and bid an Oust 2 NT instead. Partner responds 3 ♥. What do you bid next?

Partner's 3 ♥ bid shows a maximum hand and a poor suit. Your ♠ K should be enough help for the suit, and with three outside Aces you bid 4 ♠.