

Deal 1East Deals
None Vul

♠ K 5
♥ 8 3
♦ J 7 6 5
♣ A 7 6 5 3

3
8 15
14

♠ Q J 9 8 6 4 3

♥ 6 5

♦ 9 4

♣ 10 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 2
♥ K Q 10
♦ K Q 10 3
♣ J 9 8 4

10 7
♥ AJ 9 7 4 2
♦ A 8 2
♣ K Q

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 NT	Dbl
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
2 ♠ by North			

Partner's double asks you to bid 2 ♣ as a relay bid so he can name his suit.

But you don't want him to bid his 6-card suit, your hand is useless unless ♠s are trumps. So ignore the relay request and bid 2 ♠. Everybody passes.

Deal 2

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8 3
♥ A 10 5 4
♦ A J 10 9
♣ K 3

14
15 6
5
♣ 10 7 5

♠ A J 9 7
♥ J 7 3
♦ K Q 5
♣ Q J 4

♠ Q 10 6 5 2
♥ —
♦ 7 4 2
♣ A 9 8 6 2

W	N
S	E

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

In the balancing seat it is distribution that counts, not point count. With a 6-card Major suit and a singleton you should not let them play 1 NT. Youdouble.

Partner makes the relay bid of 2 ♣.

You bid your suit, 2 ♥, and everybody passes. Notice that partner had a decent hand, but could not bid over 1 NT in the immediate seat.

Deal 3West Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 9 6
 ♥ K 4
 ♦ A K J 8 2
 ♣ A 4 2

♠ A 8 7 3
 ♥ J 8 5 2
 ♦ Q 9 6 4
 ♣ Q



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

♠ K 2
 ♥ 6 3
 ♦ 7 5 3
 ♣ K J 9 6 5 3

9
 15 9
 7

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass	2 ♣ by North		

You don't have a 6-card suit, nor do you have a 5-4 pair of suits. So even with a singleton you don't want to use DONT here. So you pass.

Partner makes a DONT double in the balancing seat.

Right now you probably have a premonition about what is going to happen next. But there really is nothing you can say other than 2 ♣.

Your premonition came true. Partner passes and you are left playing 2 ♣ with a singleton. Nobody promised that DONT would always get you to a good contract.

Deal 4

West Deals

None Vul

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

<table border="0"> <tr><td>♠ A 10 7 2</td><td>♦ 8 5</td></tr> <tr><td>♥ A 9 5</td><td>♦ 8 2</td></tr> <tr><td>♦ A K 3</td><td>♦ 10 9 6</td></tr> <tr><td>♣ Q 10 7</td><td>♣ A K J 9 8 3</td></tr> </table>	♠ A 10 7 2	♦ 8 5	♥ A 9 5	♦ 8 2	♦ A K 3	♦ 10 9 6	♣ Q 10 7	♣ A K J 9 8 3	<table border="0"> <tr><td>♠ K Q 9 6 3</td><td>♦ 6</td></tr> <tr><td>♥ 6</td><td>♦ Q J 8 4 2</td></tr> <tr><td>♦ 5 4</td><td>♣ 5 4</td></tr> </table>	♠ K Q 9 6 3	♦ 6	♥ 6	♦ Q J 8 4 2	♦ 5 4	♣ 5 4
♠ A 10 7 2	♦ 8 5														
♥ A 9 5	♦ 8 2														
♦ A K 3	♦ 10 9 6														
♣ Q 10 7	♣ A K J 9 8 3														
♠ K Q 9 6 3	♦ 6														
♥ 6	♦ Q J 8 4 2														
♦ 5 4	♣ 5 4														
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7	♦ 7 5														
	♣ 6 2														

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Dbl	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
2 ♥ by South			

You only have 8 HCP but with such a good 6-card suit you should interfere with a DONT bid. You double and partner surprises you by saying 2 ♥.

There is a reason partner didn't say 2 ♣ (which you were going to pass). And the reason is that he figures you will be better off in his ♥s. Since you trust your partner you pass.

Deal 5West Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 6 5
 ♥ K 5
 ♦ A J 9 5
 ♣ A Q J 6

¹³
¹⁵
₈ 4

♠ K Q J 8 3
 ♥ A 10 7 6 4
 ♦ 6
 ♣ K 8

W N
S E

♠ A 9 4 2
 ♥ 9 3
 ♦ 8 3 2
 ♣ 10 5 4 2

♠ 7
 ♥ Q J 8 2
 ♦ K Q 10 7 4
 ♣ 9 7 3

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

Since partner has entered the bidding in the immediate seat he should have a pretty good hand, with 9+ cards in ♥s and ♠s.

Usually you are happy to settle for partscore after a DONT sequence, but with such an excellent fit for ♥s your hand is worth a raise.

So you bid 3 ♥ and partner says 4 ♥.