

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 3South 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

West	North	East	South
			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 4East 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 ♠.

Deal 5South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 7 6 3
 ♥ 10 8 3
 ♦ Q 7
 ♣ J 9 3 2

♠ J 2
 ♥ A 6 2
 ♦ A 8 5 3
 ♣ A K 8 6

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

♠ K 10 9 8 5 4
 ♥ K Q
 ♦ 9 6 4
 ♣ 7 5

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

Having opened 2 ♠, you reply to partner's Ougust 2 NT bid with 3 ♥, showing a maximum hand but with a poor suit. Partner says 4 ♠ and you pass.

Deal 6
West Deals
None Vul

♠ J 7 4	♦ 10 6 2
♥ J 10 6	♦ 8 4
♦ J 10	♦ A Q 9 8 7 3
♣ K Q J 10 3	♣ 7 4
	♠ K Q 8 5
	♥ K Q 9 3 2
	♦ 2
	♣ 9 6 5
6	♠ A 9 3
9 10	♥ A 7 5
15	♦ K 6 5 4
	♣ A 8 2

N
W E
S

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
3 NT by South			

You could just guess between pass, 3 NT, or 5 ♦.

But you use Ougust instead. Partner responds 3 ♦. What do you bid next?

Partner's 3 ♦ bid shows a minimum hand but a good suit, which should mean two of the top three honors. Your ♦ K tells you that partner has a 6-card ♦ suit headed by the A Q. With three outside Aces you can count 9 tricks - you bid 3 NT.

Deal 7

North Deals

None Vul

♦ A K Q 10 6 4

♣ 9 8 4

♠ A 10 6 2

♥ Q 5 4

♦ 9 8

♣ Q J 3 2



9

9 6

16

West North East South

2 ♦

Pass

2 NT

Pass

3 NT by South

Having opened 2 ♦, you reply to partner's August 2 NT bid with 3 NT, showing a ♦ suit headed by A K Q. Partner passes.

Deal 8

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



West	North	East	South
		Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♥ by South			

This is a perfect hand for Ogust - when you're not sure what to do! So you bid 2 NT. Partner responds 3 NT. What do you bid next?

Partner's 3 NT bid describes his hand exactly; ♥ A K Q x x x and nothing else. You MIGHT have a ♠ stopper, but they might be arranged so the defenders could take the first 5 ♠ tricks. So you bid the "safe" 4 ♥ game which depends only on a 3-2 trump split.

Deal 9
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ J 9 4 ♠ A 8 7 6
 ♥ J 8 3 2 ♥ K 5
 ♦ K 3 2 ♦ A 9 7 4
 ♣ K 10 5 ♣ A 8 6

15
 8 8
 9

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

♠ K 3
 ♥ A Q 9 7 6 4
 ♦ 8 5
 ♣ 9 7 3

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

After opening 2 ♥ you reply to partner's Ougust 2 NT with 3 ♠, showing a maximum hand along with a good suit. Partner bids 4 ♥ and you pass.

Deal 10

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 6
♥ K J 9 6 4
♦ J 8 6 2
♣ Q 10 6

¹⁶
7 8
9

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 10 3
♥ 5
♦ A K Q 9 4
♣ A 8 7 2

 ♠ J 5 2
♥ A Q 10 2
♦ 10 3
♣ J 9 5 3

 ♠ A Q 9 8 7 4
♥ 8 7 3
♦ 7 5
♣ K 4

West	North	East	South
		Pass	2 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♠ by South			

Before you read this lesson you might have just jumped to a Blackwood 4 NT. But now you bid an Overcall 2 NT. Partner rebids 3 ♠. What do you bid next?

Wow! Partner has a maximum Weak 2-bid and a good trump suit, no doubt headed by the A Q. If he also has the ♥ A you might be cold for 7 ♠. Bid Blackwood if you must, but you don't really need to since partner could not possibly have The ♥ A AND ♠ A Q x x x x. Too many points for a Weak 2-bid. So you bid 6 ♠.