

Deal 1

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 8 3
 ♥ 7 6
 ♦ K Q J 10 6
 ♣ K J 4

4
 12 11
 13

West

Pass

Pass

1♥ by North

♠ K 5
 ♥ J 10 5 3
 ♦ 9 7 4 2
 ♣ 8 7 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 10 7 2
 ♥ Q 4 2
 ♦ A 5 3
 ♣ A 9 2

♠ A 9 6 4
 ♥ A K 9 8
 ♦ 8
 ♣ Q 10 6 5

North East South
 1♦ Dbl Pass

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

You have a perfect hand for a Takeout Double. Singleton in their suit, 4-card support for the other three suits and 13 HCP. You Double. Partner responds 1♥. What do you say next?

Yes, you like the ♥s. But remember, you forced partner to bid and his response showed 8 or fewer points. You are not strong enough to consider a game so you pass.

Deal 2

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q 10 4
♥ A K 9 8
♦ 8
♣ A J 6 5

4
17 7
12

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 7 5 2
♥ 7 5 2
♦ J 4
♣ Q 10 9 7

♠ A 9 8 3
♥ Q J
♦ 7 6 5 2
♣ 8 4 3

♠ 6
♥ 10 6 4 3
♦ A K Q 10 9 3
♣ K 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Dbl	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		1 ♦
4 ♠ by East			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

Naturally you make a Takeout Double. Partner responds 1 ♠. What is your next call?

With 17 HCP and the singleton you are not strong enough to insist on game. On the other hand if partner is at the top of his 0-8 point range then game is likely. A raise to 2 ♠ invites partner to bid game with a maximum. Partner accepts the invitation.

Deal 3West Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 9 7 3
 ♥ A 4 2
 ♦ A
 ♣ K Q J 7 2

19
14 4
3

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

West	North	East	South
1♣	Dbl	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3♥ by South			

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

With 19 HCP and a doubleton you certainly double. What do you bid after partner replies 1♥?

You need to make a strong invitation since partner needs very little for your side to have a game. So you bid 3♥. Partner has almost nothing so he passes. Good thing.

Deal 4North Deals
None Vul

♠ K J 8 3
 ♥ Q 7 5
 ♦ 7 3
 ♣ K 6 5 2

¹⁷
 9 11
 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

2 ♠ by West

♠ 9 2
 ♥ A K J 10 9 6
 ♦ A Q 5
 ♣ Q J

N
W E
S

♠ A Q 6 4
 ♥ 8
 ♦ J 10 8 2
 ♣ A 10 7 3

♠ 10 7 5
 ♥ 4 3 2
 ♦ K 9 6 4
 ♣ 9 8 4

The bidding has been as shown. It is your bid. What do you say?

This is certainly not a great hand, but at least the shape is good. You should strive to get into the bidding whenever possible, and with this hand the only way in is to double. Partner jumps to 2 ♠ and it is your bid again.

Partner shows 9-11 points and a ♠ suit. However, he didn't force you to game, and you barely scraped up the double to begin with. So you pass.