

**Board 1**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 8 7 4 3

♥ -

♦ K 6 5 3 2

♣ Q 5 3

♠ K 5

♥ K Q 9 8 5 4 3

♦ A 4

♣ A 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9

♥ J T 7

♦ T 9 8 7

♣ K J 9 6 2

♠ A J T 6 2

♥ A 6 2

♦ Q J

♣ T 8 7

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	5NT	Pass	6 ♣
Pass	6 ♥	All Pass	

6 ♥ by North

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South opens 1 ♠. North has a powerhouse, plenty strong enough to jump-shift. But playing 2/1 it's usually simpler when you make the 2/1 response, and save your jumping for later - if at all. So North bids just 2 ♥, knowing South must keep the bidding open.

South knows North has at least 5 ♥s, so his first priority is to agree on the trump suit. He bids 3 ♥.

North now makes the slam try. She knows South has at least three trumps, and all she wants to find out is how many Aces/Kings South holds. So she bids Blackwood and South confesses to two Aces.

Still hoping for the Grand, North bids 5NT. Oops, South doesn't have any kings so North settles for a small slam.

This is a good slam, cold if East makes any opening lead other than a ♣. With a ♣ lead, North will have to pull trumps and play to discard a loser on the ♠ T.

**Board 2**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8 7 5

♥ 8 6

♦ A T 9

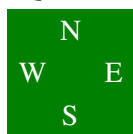
♣ T 5 3 2

♠ Q J 2

♥ K T

♦ K Q 8 6 5

♣ Q 8 7



♠ T 9 6 4 3

♥ 9 4 2

♦ J 3

♣ A 9 6

♠ A

♥ A Q J 7 5 3

♦ 7 4 2

♣ K J 4

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	All Pass	

4 ♥ by North

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South opens 1 ♥ and North responds 2 ♦.

South has a good-looking hand, but needs to find a trump suit before she starts showing her extra strength, so she bids just 2 ♥.

Knowing that South holds 6 ♥s, North can support with the honor doubleton so he agrees the trump suit with a Fast Arrival bid of 4 ♥.

South has some extra strength, but not enough to push on after North's weak bid. Notice that if South DID try a 4 ♠ Control bid North would just bid 5 ♥ and the pair might be one trick too high.

**Board 3**

South Deals  
E-W Vul

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

♠ J  
♥ K Q J 7 5 3  
♦ 4 3 2  
♣ Q 5 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 9 5  
♥ A 9  
♦ T 9 8  
♣ J T 9 6 2

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

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	All Pass	

2 ♥ by North

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South opens 1 ♠. North has 11 points, enough to respond 2 ♥ in standard bidding, but not when using 2/1. So she bids 1NT.

South would love to pass 1NT but is not permitted to do so. He has no good bid, so he must bid a 3-card suit. When holding two 3-card minors, usually bid ♣s. North now shows the ♥ suit that she could not bid first round.

South was forced to reply to 1NT, but he is not forced to bid again. With his minimum hand and a tolerance for partner's suit he just passes and the partnership ends up in a reasonable contract.

This hand demonstrates one of the benefits of Forcing 1NT. In standard bidding North's first response would be 2 ♥, and South would have to bid again, probably 2NT. The partnership might go even higher but in any case would probably not reach a good contract.

**Board 4**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 7 5 4 3  
 ♥ Q 2  
 ♦ K J 6  
 ♣ T 3 2

♠ A Q 8 6 2

♥ A 4

♦ 9 5

♣ A K 8 7



♠ J 9

♥ J T 9 8 6

♦ Q 8 7 4

♣ Q 6

♠ K

♥ K 7 5 3

♦ A T 3 2

♣ J 9 5 4

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

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North opens 1 ♠. South has 11 points, enough to respond 2 ♣, (or 2 ♦), in standard bidding, but not when using 2/1. So she bids 1NT.

North is forced to bid again, but unlike the previous hand, here he wants to keep bidding. He bids 2 ♣. South knows North doesn't have ♥s, so she shows her above-minimum hand by bidding 2NT.

North is happy to play Notrump. He assumes South must have something useful in ♦s and bids 3NT.

3NT seems to be a good contract. There are 8 top tricks and possibilities for a ninth winner in either ♠s, ♦s, or, (the best chance), ♣s.