

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

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

13	5	5
5	17	

N		♠ 10 8 6
W	E	♥ 7 2
S		♦ 10 9 4
		♣ A J 10 5 2

♠ A K 3	
♥ K J 9 5	
♦ K Q J 3	
♣ 9 7	

West	North	East	South
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	1 ♥	Pass	2 NT
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Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 ♠
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Pass	5 ♥	Pass	Pass
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Pass

5 ♥ by North

It is your bid.

Partner's bid is game forcing. With a bare minimum, no singletons, you go ahead and sign off in game. Partner then says 4 ♠. What do you bid next?

Partner is definitely showing slam interest. If you had a first round control in either Minor suit you would bid it now. But you don't. So you sign off again, this time at 5 ♥. Partner finally gives up on the idea of slam and passes.

Deal 2

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q J 4 2
 ♥ —
 ♦ 9 7 5 3
 ♣ K Q 8 4

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

N
 W E
 S

♠ A 9 8 7 5 3
 ♥ 9 5
 ♦ K Q J 10
 ♣ A

♠ 6
 6
 11 14
 9
 ♣ 7 6 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
4 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
Pass	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
6 ♠ by East			

It is your bid.

You want to force partner to game while you describe your hand. So you make a Splinter Bid of 4 ♥. Partner replies 5 ♣. What do you bid next?

Partner has the ♣ A. Good. You are pretty worried about ♦s and also your 11 high card points. You are tempted to just sign off at 5 ♠ but you shouldn't. You can make a control-bid below the 5 ♠ level. So you bid 5 ♥. This tells partner that your Splinter must have been a ♥ void. Partner bids 6 ♠.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♦ A K Q

♣ K Q J

♠ 2
♥ J 10 8 5 3 2
♦ 8 7 6 5 3
♣ 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 5
♥ K 9 4
♦ 10 9 2
♣ 9 7 6 4 2

♠ A J 10 8 7
♥ A Q
♦ J 4
♣ A 10 8 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	7 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
7 ♠ by South			

It is your bid.

With 17 points you need to indicate a better than minimum opening. You have no singletons and just a 5-card trump suit so you bid 3 NT. Partner says 4 ♦ and it is your bid again.

Partner's 4 ♦ bid shows first round control (surely the Ace). You bid 4 ♥, showing your first round control. Partner now says 4 NT. What do you bid?

You are being Blackwooded, and with three Aces you reply 5 ♠. That was apparently just what North wanted to hear, so he bid 7 ♠.

Deal 4

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 4 3
♥ A 10 8 5 2
♦ K J
♣ K Q 9

9
13 12
6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K Q 10 8 2
♥ 7 6 4
♦ 3
♣ 7 5 3

♠ 9 6
♥ K Q J 3
♦ A Q 7 6 4
♣ 10 2

♠ J 5
♥ 9
♦ 10 9 8 5 2
♣ A J 8 6 4

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

It is your bid.

You were all set to give a Jacoby 2 NT response when North stuck in his 1 ♠ overcall. Now you can't because Jacoby is off after opponents interfere. Fortunately you have another bid at your disposal. You say 2 ♠, showing good ♥s and a limit raise or better. Partner bids 3 ♥. What do you say now?

Partner didn't have enough to bid game, not knowing if you had more than 11 points. But you know you have opening hand so you bid 4 ♥.