

Deal 1

West Deals
None Vul

♠ K J 8 6
♥ A 4
♦ K 8 4
♣ A 10 7 4

10
15 5
10

West

1 NT

Pass

2 ♥ by South

♠ 5 4
♥ K Q 9 8 2
♦ A J 10 9 6
♣ 3



♠ A 9 3 2
♥ J 10 6
♦ 7 3
♣ K Q 6 5

North

2 ♦

Pass

♠ Q 10 7
♥ 7 5 3
♦ Q 5 2
♣ J 9 8 2

East

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♥

With T HCP and T red cards you have a good enough hand for an immediate DONT bid. So you bid 2 ♦, promising that suit and a Major.

Partner responds 2 ♥.

Don't get carried away, partner isn't really bidding a ♥ suit as much as he is letting you know he doesn't like ♦s. You were only competing for a partscore and here you are in a partscore. You pass.

Deal 2

East Deals

None Vul

♠ J 8 7 3

♥ 7 5

♦ Q 9 4 2

♣ A 10 2

4
7 17
12

West

Pass

Pass

2 ♥ by South

♠ 6 5 4

♥ 9 8 2

♦ A 8 6 5

♣ 9 7 3



♠ A 9 2

♥ A K J 10 6 3

♦ 7 3

♣ 6 5

North

2 ♣

Pass

East

1 NT

Pass

Pass

South

Dbl

2 ♥

♠ K Q 10

♥ Q 4

♦ K J 10

♣ K Q J 8 4

You have a terrible hand but you still cannot pass partner's double. He is requesting you to bid 2 ♣ as a relay bid so he can name his suit.

You dutifully respond 2 ♣ and he says 2 ♥.

You didn't want to bid the first time, this time you definitely pass.

Deal 3

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 6 3 2

♥ 6

♦ J 10 9 6

♣ K Q J 3 2

4
7 15
14

♠ Q 10 8 5 4

♥ Q 10 9 8 2

♦ 5 3

♣ 7



♠ K J 9

♥ A 4

♦ Q 8 7 2

♣ A 9 6 5

♠ A 7

♥ K J 7 5 3

♦ A K 4

♣ 10 8 4

*West**North**East**South*

Pass

2 ♥

1 NT

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

2 ♠

2 ♠ by South

OK, you only have 4 HCP. But you have T cards in the Majors. And, you are in the balancing seat. If West is willing to let it die at 1 NT your partner must have some strength. So you should use DONT. You bid 2 ♥, showing both Major suits.

Partner responds 2 ♠.

Partner prefers ♠s to ♥s. Since you were bare minimum you pass.

Deal 4

West Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 4 2
♥ A Q 9 4
♦ A 3
♣ K 8 4 2

10
15 6
9

West

1 NT

Pass

2 ♦ by South

♠ 8 3
♥ K J 8 2
♦ 9 6 4
♣ A Q 7 3



♠ A 9 7 5
♥ 6 3
♦ K Q 7 5 2
♣ 6 5

North

Pass

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

♠ K J 10 6
♥ 10 7 5
♦ J 10 8
♣ J 10 9

South

2 ♦

Your hand is too balanced to intervene over West's 1 NT so you pass.

Then partner overcalls 2 ♦.

Partner has two suits, ♦s and one of the Majors. If his other suit is ♥s then a 2 ♥ bid by you would work great. But if his other suit is ♠s anything you say would not be good.

Since you can tolerate ♦s your safest call is pass.

Deal 5

East Deals

None Vul

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

10
 3 17
 10

West

Pass

Pass

2♥ by South

♠ Q J 4

♥ 7 4

♦ Q 7 5

♣ A J 9 6 2

N
 W E
 S

♠ 10 7 5

♥ K Q J 9 8 2

♦ A 9 6

♣ 3

North

2♣

Pass

♠ A K 9 6 2

♥ A 5 3

♦ K 10

♣ K 8 4

East

1NT

Pass

Pass

South

Dbl

2♥

With T HCP and a solid 6-card suit this is an ideal DONT bid. You double and partner follows procedure by saying 2♣.

Now you follow procedure by showing your 6-card suit. You bid 2♥ and everybody passes.

Deal 6

West Deals
None Vul

♠ A 2
♥ K Q 10
♦ K Q 10 3
♣ J 9 8 4

14
15 8
3

West

1 NT

Pass

2 ♠ by South

♠ 10 7
♥ A J 9 7 4 2
♦ A 8 2
♣ K Q



♠ Q J 9 8 6 4 3
♥ 6 5
♦ 9 4
♣ 10 2

North

Dbl

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♠

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 7

West Deals
None Vul

♠ K 8 3
♥ A 10 5 4
♦ A J 10 9
♣ K 3

14
15 6
5

<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			

♠ A J 9 7
♥ J 7 3
♦ K Q 5
♣ Q J 4



♠ 4
♥ K Q 9 8 6 2
♦ 8 6 3
♣ 10 7 5

♠ Q 10 6 5 2
♥ —
♦ 7 4 2
♣ A 9 8 6 2

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. You double.

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 8

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 5 4

♥ A Q 10 9 7

♦ 10

♣ 10 8 7

7
9 15
9*West*

Pass

Pass

2 ♣ by South

♠ K 2

♥ 6 3

♦ 7 5 3

♣ K J 9 6 5 3



♠ A 8 7 3

♥ J 8 5 2

♦ Q 9 6 4

♣ Q

North

Dbl

Pass

East

1 NT

Pass

Pass

South

Pass

2 ♣

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 9

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A 10 7 2

♥ A 9 5

♦ A K 3

♣ Q 10 7

8
17 8
7

♠ 8 5

♥ 8 2

♦ 10 9 6

♣ A K J 9 8 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 4

♥ K Q J 10 7 4 3

♦ 7 5

♣ 6 2

♠ K Q 9 6 3

♥ 6

♦ Q J 8 4 2

♣ 5 4

West

1 NT

Pass

2 ♥ by South

North

Dbl

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♥

Pass

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 10

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 9 4 2

♥ 9 3

♦ 8 3 2

♣ 10 5 4 2

8

4 15

13

♠ 7

♥ Q J 8 2

♦ K Q 10 7 4

♣ 9 7 3



♠ 10 6 5

♥ K 5

♦ A J 9 5

♣ A Q J 6

♠ K Q J 8 3

♥ A 10 7 6 4

♦ 6

♣ K 8

*West**North**East**South*

1 NT

2 ♥

Pass

3 ♥

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

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 ♥.

Deal 11

West Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 5 4
♥ A Q 8 5
♦ K 4 2
♣ A Q 3

13
17 3
7

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2 ♠ by South			

♠ K J 9 6
♥ K 9 7 3
♦ A Q 6 5
♣ 8



♠ A 10 3 2
♥ 6 4
♦ 9 8
♣ K 10 9 7 5

♠ 8 7
♥ J 10 2
♦ J 10 7 3
♣ J 6 4 2

You have only 7 HCP but expect partner to have a reasonable hand since East could not keep the bidding open. With your black 2-suiter you bid the lowest one, 2 ♣.

Partner says 2 ♦.

Partner's 2 ♦ bid, the next suit up the line, asks you to name your other suit (or pass if your other suit is ♦s).

You bid 2 ♠ and everybody passes.

Deal 12

West Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 4
♥ A 5 4
♦ K 9 7 4 2
♣ K Q J

16
15 5
4

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

♠ A J 7 3
♥ K Q 9
♦ A Q 8 6
♣ 6 3



♠ K 10 8 6 5 2
♥ J 6 3
♦ 10 5
♣ 8 7

♠ 9
♥ 10 8 7 2
♦ J 3
♣ A 10 9 5 4 2

You would have opened 1 NT but West beat you to it. You cannot double for penalties when you use DONT, so you pass.

Partner bids 2 ♠ in the balancing seat.

The 2 ♠ bid shows a weak hand, with more strength partner would have first doubled, then bid 2 ♠.

Still, you know he has a 6-card suit and you also know that every finesse is going to work. You either bid 3 ♠ or 4 ♠. Be bold.

Deal 13

West Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J
 ♥ A K 6 3
 ♦ A J 8
 ♣ 7 6 5 2

10
 15 4
 11

West

1 NT

Pass

2 ♣ by South

♠ 7 5

♥ 5 2

♦ Q 9 5

♣ A K J 9 8 3



♠ A 8 6 4

♥ Q 10 8 7

♦ K 6 4 2

♣ Q

North

Dbl

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♣

This is a perfect hand with which to Disturb the Opponent's No Trump. You double and partner bids 2 ♣, the relay bid.

What do you say next?

You say pass, of course.

Deal 14

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 4 3

♥ J 9 8 2

♦ A Q 3

♣ J 7 6 4

7
8 15
10

♠ A 7 6

♥ Q 10 5 3

♦ J 7 4 2

♣ 8 5



♠ J 10 2

♥ A K 7

♦ K 10 9 5

♣ A 10 3

♠ K Q 9 8 5

♥ 6 4

♦ 8 6

♣ K Q 9 2

*West**North**East**South*

Pass

2 ♦

1 NT

2 ♣

Pass

Pass

Pass

2 ♠

2 ♠ by South

Partner has two suits, ♣s and something else.

With ♣s your worst suit, you prefer to play in something else. So you bid the next suit up-the-line, which is 2 ♦.

Partner corrects to 2 ♠, his "something else" and you pass.

Deal 15

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9 5

♥ 5

♦ Q J 10 7 3 2

♣ A 4 2

12
7 15
6

West

Pass

Pass

2 ♥ by South

♠ A K 6 3 2

♥ 9 4

♦ 8

♣ K Q 9 7 5

N
W E
S

♠ 8 7

♥ K Q J 10 8 7

♦ 9 6 5

♣ 8 3

North

2 ♣

Pass

East

1 NT

Pass

Pass

South

Pass

2 ♥

You have 12 HCP, certainly enough to use DONT in either seat. With your black 2-suiter you bid the lowest one, 2 ♣.

Partner says 2 ♥.

Partner would have bid 2 ♦, the next suit up the line, to ask you to name your other suit. His 2 ♥ bid says he wants to play right there.

So you pass.

Deal 16

West Deals
None Vul

♠ K J 10 6
♥ A Q 3 2
♦ K 10
♣ A 10 5

14
17 4
5

West

1 NT

Pass

2 ♥ by South

♠ A 3
♥ J 6 5
♦ A Q 8 6
♣ K 8 6 3



♠ Q 9 7 4 2
♥ K 10 9 4
♦ 7 5
♣ 4 2

North

Pass

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♥

You would have opened 1 ♦ but after West opens 1 NT you must pass.

Partner bids 2 ♥ in the balancing seat.

The 2 ♥ bid shows ♥s and ♠s.

You like ♥s better and don't have enough strength to think about game so you pass.

Deal 17

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 6 4

♥ J 10 8 3

♦ A J 8

♣ A 7 5

♠ 2

♥ K 7 6

♦ 7 4 3 2

♣ K J 10 6 4



♠ A 8 3

♥ A Q 9 4

♦ K 10 6

♣ Q 9 2

♠ K Q J 9 7 5

♥ 5 2

♦ Q 9 5

♣ 8 3

10
7 15
8

*West**North**East**South*

Pass

Pass

1 NT

2 ♠

Pass

2 ♠ by South

You have a good 6-card suit but only 8 HCP. This is bare minimum for a DONT bid. The fact that your suit is ♠s should sway you toward bidding.

But with the weak hand you bid 2 ♠ instead of double. Everybody passes.

Deal 18

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A J 10
 ♥ K J 7
 ♦ Q J 9 6
 ♣ A 10 7

4
 16 4
 16

West

Pass

1 NT by South

♠ 9 7 4 2

♥ A 10 5

♦ 8 3 2

♣ 5 4 2

N
 W E
 S

♠ K Q

♥ 8 6 4 3

♦ A K 10

♣ K J 9 8

North

Pass

East

Pass

♠ 8 6 5 3
 ♥ Q 9 2
 ♦ 7 5 4
 ♣ Q 6 3

South

1 NT

With 16 points and a balanced hand you were planning on opening 1 NT yourself.

But one of the consequences of playing DONT is that you have no bid to describe this hand. You cannot double because then partner would just bid 2 ♣ as a relay and you wouldn't know where to go.

So you pass.

Deal 19

West Deals
None Vul

♠ A 7 5
♥ J 4
♦ A 10 7 5 3
♣ A Q 6

13
15 7
5

West

1 NT

Pass

2 ♠ by South

♠ J 6 4
♥ A 10 8 6 5
♦ K Q 9
♣ K 4



♠ K Q 10 9 3 2
♥ 9
♦ 8 6 4
♣ 9 7 5

North

Pass

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♠

Would you really bid over 1 NT with only 5 HCP? In the balancing seat you should. Partner is marked with a pretty good hand, and you have a 6-card Major suit.

You do bid just 2 ♠ though, rather than a double followed by 2 ♠, which would show a stronger hand. Everybody passes.

Deal 20

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 5

♥ 8 2

♦ K J 9 7 4 3

♣ J 10 6

5
5 16
14

West

Pass

Pass

2 ♠ by South

♠ Q 10 7 4 2

♥ K 10 9 7 4

♦ 5

♣ 4 2



♠ J 9 3

♥ A 6 5

♦ A Q 8 6

♣ K 8 3

North

2 ♥

Pass

♠ A K 6

♥ Q J 3

♦ 10 2

♣ A Q 9 7 5

East

1 NT

Pass

Pass

South

Pass

2 ♠

You would have opened 1 ♦ but after East opens 1 NT you must pass.

Partner bids 2 ♥ in the balancing seat.

The 2 ♥ bid shows ♥s and ♠s.

You have absolutely no preference between the two suits. But you do have a preference as to where the opening lead will be coming from - you'd like West to have to lead through East's strength. Besides you feel like playing the last hand so you say 2 ♠ and everybody passes.