

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 10 8 3

♥ A J 4

♦ A 10

♣ 9 6 2

♠ 5

♥ 10 3 2

♦ 9 6 2

♣ A J 10 8 7 4



♠ 7 2

♥ 9 8 7 6

♦ 8 5 4 3

♣ K Q 5

♠ A K 9 6 4

♥ K Q 5

♦ K Q J 7

♣ 3

12
5 5
18

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

1 ♠

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♥

Pass

6 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♠ by North

NORTH has a minimum 1st opening bid - 13 points and five trumps. She doesn't even suspect

what's about to befall!

SOUTH hears the 1st bid and all he wants to know is whether NORTH has one, two or three Aces.

So he uses the Blackwood convention, 4 NT.

NORTH has two Aces so she bids 5

5th

(5th would show zero Aces,

5

5th

would show one Ace, etc).

SOUTH has heard enough and bids 6th.

Deal 2

East Deals
None Vul

♠ A 7 4
♥ Q 5
♦ K 7 6 4
♣ 7 6 5 3

8
9 15
8

West

1 NT PASS 3H
4♥
4♥ by East

♠ K J 10 9 3
♥ J 10 3
♦ Q
♣ J 10 8 4



♠ Q 8 5
♥ 9 4
♦ J 9 8 5 2
♣ K Q 2

North

Pass
Pass

♠ 6 2
♥ A K 8 7 6 2
♦ A 10 3
♣ A 9

East

1♥
3♥
Pass

South

Pass
Pass
Pass

EAST has an above-minimum strength hand with a good 6-card suit. He opens 1

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WEST, with 9 points, is a little too weak to bid at the 2-level so she bids a catchall 1 NT.

EAST shows his 6-card suit and extra strength by jumping to 3

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, which

WEST raises to 4

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since two trumps is now adequate support.

Deal 3

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 6 5 2
♥ 10 9 6
♦ A K
♣ 9 8 5 4

8
11 7
14

West

Pass
Pass
Pass

2 ♠ by South

♠ J 10 8 3
♥ A Q 7 4
♦ J 5 3
♣ 7 6



♠ K Q 7 4
♥ 8 3
♦ 7 6 2
♣ A K Q 2

North

1 ♥
2 ♠

East

Pass
Pass

South

1 ♣
1 ♠
Pass

SOUTH has 14 points and opens her 4-card ♠ suit.

NORTH must respond, and with two 4-card Majors bids them "up-the-line", saying 1

♠

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SOUTH now shows his 4-card ♠ suit, and NORTH again must bid. Since NORTH is pretty weak he just

raises to 2♠, which SOUTH happily passes.

Deal 4

West Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q 7
♥ K Q J 3
♦ A 10 6
♣ Q 10 8

5
17 15
3

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	4 NT	Pass
6 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
6 NT by West			

♠ J 8 6 3 2
♥ 9 2
♦ 9 5 4
♣ A 7 4

N
W E
S

♠ 10 5
♥ 10 8 6 5 4
♦ Q J 7 2
♣ 5 3

♠ A 9 4
♥ A 7
♦ K 8 3
♣ K J 9 6 2

WEST has a maximum 17 point 1 NT bid.

EAST, with 16 points, can't tell if there are enough points for slam. If WEST has

17 points then a slam should be makeable, but if WEST has only 15 points then he

should settle for game.

The 4 NT raise solves the problem. It tells WEST to bid 6 NT with 17 points, pass

with 15 points, and use best judgment with 16. Here WEST bids the slam.

Deal 5

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 10
♥ A 10 7 6
♦ Q J 9 8 3
♣ 10 5 3

12
7 10
11

♠ A Q 8 6 2
♥ J 5 3
♦ 7 4
♣ K Q 2



♠ K 9 7 3
♥ 8 4 2
♦ A K 5
♣ J 7 6

♠ J 5 4
♥ K Q 9
♦ 10 6 2
♣ A 9 8 4

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

SOUTH has just 11 points, not enough to open the bidding.

But when NORTH opens 1st SOUTH should show her "almost opening strength"

by jumping to 3rd.

NORTH has just 13 points, and knowing SOUTH has less than 13 he passes.

Deal 6

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 3
 ♥ Q 8 6 4 2
 ♦ A 8 6
 ♣ K 9 5

9
 9 14
 8

West

4 ♥

4 ♥ by East

♠ K 6 4

♥ 9

♦ J 10 9 3

♣ A J 10 7 2

W N
 E S

♠ A Q J 9 5

♥ J 10

♦ 7 4 2

♣ 8 4 3

North

Pass

East

1 ♥

Pass

South

Pass

Pass

After EAST opens with 1

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, WEST has a small "dilemma".

With 11 points she really is only strong
 enough to make a jump raise to 3

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But, with five trumps the hand deserves
 more. So she just bids 4

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instead.

Usually, no matter what your strength, when you have five cards in the Major suit that
 your partner opens

with you should just jump right to game.