

**Deal 1**

West Deals  
None Vul

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

12  
7 5  
16

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



♠ K 5  
♥ K Q 9 8 5 4 3  
♦ A 4  
♣ A 4

♠ Q 7  
♥ 10  
♦ 10 8 6 3 2  
♣ Q J 9 6 2

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

North opens 1 ♠. South 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 South bids just 2 ♥, knowing North must keep the bidding open.

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

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

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

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

**Deal 2**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 10 7 5

♥ 8 4 2

♦ J 3

♣ A 5 3 2

13  
8 4  
15

♠ Q J 2

♥ K 10

♦ K Q 8 6 5

♣ Q 8 7



♠ A

♥ A Q J 7 5 3

♦ 7 4 2

♣ K J 4

♠ 9 8 6 4 3

♥ 9 6

♦ A 10 9

♣ 10 9 6

West

North

East

South

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

4 ♥ by South

Pass

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.

**Deal 3**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9 5  
 ♥ A 9 8 2  
 ♦ A 9 8  
 ♣ J 6 3

12  
 9 10  
 9

West

Pass

Pass

2♥ by South

♠ A Q 8 6 2

♥ 10 4

♦ K 6 5

♣ K 8 7



♠ J

♥ K Q J 7 5 3

♦ 4 3 2

♣ Q 5 4

North

1♠

2♣

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1NT

2♥

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

North 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. South now shows the ♥ suit that she could not bid first round.

North 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 South's first response would be 2♥, and North would have to bid again, probably 2NT. The partnership might go even higher but in any case would probably not reach a good contract.

**Deal 4**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 10 9 3  
 ♥ Q 10 8 6  
 ♦ J 4  
 ♣ Q 10 6

17  
 6 6  
 11

♠ A Q 8 6 2

♥ A 4

♦ 9 5

♣ A K 8 7



♠ K

♥ K 7 5 3

♦ A 10 3 2

♣ J 9 5 4

♠ 7 5 4

♥ J 9 2

♦ K Q 8 7 6

♣ 3 2

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

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 1 NT.

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 2 NT.

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

3 NT 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.

**Deal 5**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q 7 4 3  
 ♥ 9 4  
 ♦ A 8 7 4  
 ♣ 9 7

7  
 10 12  
 11

West

Pass

Pass

2 ♥ by South

♠ K 9 5  
 ♥ 10 6  
 ♦ K 10 3 2  
 ♣ J 10 5 4



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

North

1 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♥

2 ♥

South opens 1 ♥. North responds 1 NT, just as in standard bidding. The difference is that in this case the 1 NT response is forcing on South.

South has an easy second bid, he rebids his 6-card suit. North has nothing to say over 2 ♥ except pass.

Notice that this is the same bidding and same final contract that would have been reached with standard bidding. Using 2/1 is often like that.

**Deal 6**

South Deals

None Vul

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

12  
8 7  
13

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



♠ A Q 10 9 5  
♥ 10 9 6  
♦ K 10 8 6  
♣ A

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

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♠ by South			

South opens 1 ♠. North responds 2 ♦, a 2/1 force to game.

South cannot rebid her ♠s, but has decent support for partner's ♦s. So she bids 3 ♦.

North always intended to play a ♠ contract. He now bids 4 ♠, using Fast Arrival to indicate he has no slam aspirations.

4 ♠ is cold, and if the defenders don't take their ♥ tricks immediately South will make an overtrick.