

Deal 1

South Deals	♠ K 8 7
None Vul	♥ A 10 6
	♦ Q 9 7 4
	♣ J 10 8

♠ 10 9 4 2	♠ J 6 3
♥ K 9 8 7	♥ Q J 5 3 2
♦ 2	♦ J 5
♣ 9 7 4 2	♣ 6 5 3

W	N
S	E

10	♠ A Q 5
3 5	♥ 4
22	♦ A K 10 8 6 3
	♣ A K Q

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

Your 2 NT response shows 8+ points, with no 5-card biddable suit. Decide what you would say next, then bid above.

You support the ♦s and partner bids 4 NT. What is your next bid?

With ♦s as trump you have 1 Key-Card, the ♥A. You answer 5 ♣ and partner bids 5 ♥. What is your bid?

This is the Queen Ask, wanting to know if you hold the ♦Q. Since you do have it you should bid a suit in which you hold a King. So you bid 5 ♠. That spurred partner on - he was fishing for 7 ♦ but when you told him you had the ♦Q, ♥A and ♠K he was able to bid 7 NT.

Deal 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 8
♥ A J 9 7
♦ K Q J
♣ A K Q 6

22
7
6
5

	N		
W		E	
	S		

♠ —
♥ K Q 10 8 6 3 2
♦ 5 3
♣ J 10 8 2

♠ A J 10 6 4 3

♥ —
♦ 10 8 7 4 2
♣ 7 4

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

Partner's 2 ♥ is a positive response, 8+ points with a 5+ card suit. Decide what you would say next, then bid above.

Even though it is tempting, bidding RKCB now would be a mistake because of your doubleton ♠ loser. Instead just support the ♥s. Partner cannot pass, you both know you are forced to game. In fact, partner bids 3 ♠. What do you bid next?

Partner promises first round ♠ control so NOW you can bid RCKB. When you bid 4 NT partner answers 6 ♥. This shows 1 Key-Card and a void in a suit higher than ♥s. Knowing you are missing either the ♦ A or ♥ K you pass.

Deal 3South Deals
None Vul

♠ 9
♥ Q 4 2
♦ Q J 10 2
♣ J 7 5 3 2

10
6 3
21

♠ K 10 7 2
♥ A K 8 6 5
♦ 8 3
♣ 6 4

♠ 6
W N E
S ♠ J 10 9 3
♦ 9 7 6 5
♣ Q 10 9 8

♠ A Q J 8 5 4 3
♥ 7
♦ A K 4
♣ A K

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	5 NT
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	7 NT
ALL	Pass		
7 NT by South			

Your 2 ♥ response shows 8+ points, with at least 5 ♥s. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Your hand is looking better and better. You already gave a positive response so you know you are forced to game. It is better to keep the bidding low to allow more investigating room so you bid 3 ♠. Partner bids 4 NT. What is your response?

With ♠s agreed as trumps you have two Key-Cards, the ♠ K and the ♥ A. With no trump Queen you respond 5 ♥. Partner now says 5 NT. What do you reply?

Partner is asking for Kings and you have just 1, the ♥ K. Remember, the ♠ K is not a King, it is a Key-Card which you have already counted. So you bid 6 ♦. Partner counts 13 tricks and bids 7 NT.

Deal 4

South Deals	♠ 10
None Vul	♥ J 9 4 3
	♦ 7 5 3
	♣ A Q 7 6 3

♠ A K 9 6 5 4 ♠ Q J 7 3

♥ K Q 6 ♥ A 8

♦ K Q J 2 ♦ 10 8 6 4

♣ — ♣ K J 5

N
W E
S

7
18 11
4
♣ 10 9 8 4 2

West North East South

1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

6 ♠ by West

Partner's 3 ♠ is a limit raise, 11-12 points and good ♠ support. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

What you DO NOT say next is 4 NT. If partner answered 1 Key-Card you would not know what to do. If he has a red Ace you can make slam, but if his one Key-Card were the ♣ A you couldn't. Instead you make a control-showing bid of 4 ♣, promising first round control. Partner obliges you by bidding 4 ♥. What is your next bid?

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Partner's bidding is like the Sherlock Holmes tale Silver Blaze, about the dog that didn't bark. Partner's ♥ bid shows that he DOES have the ♥ A, but equally important it shows that he DOES NOT

have the ♦ A. So you know you don't have a ♥ loser but do have a ♦ loser. You bid 6 ♠.