

**Deal 1**

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 1<sup>st</sup> SOUTH should show her "almost opening strength"

by jumping to 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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

**Deal 2**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q J 9 5

♥ J 10

♦ 7 4 2

♣ 8 4 3

9  
8 9  
14

♠ 7 3

♥ Q 8 6 4 2

♦ A 8 6

♣ K 9 5

N  
W E  
S

♠ 10 8 2

♥ A K 7 5 3

♦ K Q 5

♣ Q 6

♠ K 6 4

♥ 9

♦ J 10 9 3

♣ A J 10 7 2

West

North

East

South

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

After SOUTH opens with 1

♠™

, NORTH has a small "dilemma".

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

♠™

.

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

♠™

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.

**Deal 3**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 2

♥ 10 8 6 5 4

♦ J 10 5

♣ A 7 4

7  
5 9  
19

West

Pass

Pass

4♠ by North

♠ K 10 8 3

♥ J 7 2

♦ 9 8 6

♣ Q J 3



♠ Q J 7 5

♥ A

♦ A K Q 3

♣ K 10 6 2

North

1♠

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

1♦

4♠

SOUTH has 19 points, but no 5-card Major suit. With two 4-card minor suits she should start

with 1

1<sup>TM</sup>

.

NORTH has a poor hand, but with 7 points he must respond. His first priority is to show a Major suit

so he responds 1<sup>TM</sup>.

SOUTH now knows that 1<sup>TM</sup>s will be trumps, so she revalues her hand to 21 points, enough for game.

She bids 4<sup>TM</sup>.

**Deal 4**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ A 5 2  
♥ J 10 8  
♦ 9 4 2  
♣ Q 10 8 5

9  
7 8  
16

♠ 10 9 6 3  
♥ 7 5 4  
♦ Q 7  
♣ A K 6 4



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

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

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

NOTE: There is a better way to bid this hand using special conventions.

SOUTH has 17 points, but with a 5-card Major opens 1♠<sup>TM</sup> rather than 1 NT.

NORTH isn't quite strong enough for a jump raise, so she bids 2♠<sup>TM</sup>.

SOUTH has enough extra to make a try for game, so she invites with 3♠<sup>TM</sup>.

NORTH has enough extra to accept the invitation, bids 4♠<sup>TM</sup>.