

Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 5
♥ 10 8 6 5 4
♦ Q J 7 2
♣ 5 3

17
3 5
15

West

Pass

Pass

6 NT by North

♠ K Q 7
♥ K Q J 3
♦ A 10 6
♣ Q 10 8



♠ A 9 4
♥ A 7
♦ K 8 3
♣ K J 9 6 2

North

1 NT

6 NT

♠ J 8 6 3 2
♥ 9 2
♦ 9 5 4
♣ A 7 4

East

Pass

Pass

South

4 NT

Pass

NORTH has a maximum 17 point 1 NT bid.

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

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

should settle for game.

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

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

Deal 2

West Deals
None Vul

♠ K 9 7 3
♥ 8 4 2
♦ A K 5
♣ J 7 6

7
11 12
10

West
Pass
3 ♠
3 ♠ by East

♠ 10
♥ A 10 7 6
♦ Q J 9 8 3
♣ 10 5 3



♠ J 5 4
♥ K Q 9
♦ 10 6 2
♣ A 9 8 4

North
Pass
Pass

♠ A Q 8 6 2
♥ J 5 3
♦ 7 4
♣ K Q 2

East
1 ♠
Pass

South
Pass
Pass

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

But when EAST opens 1[♠] WEST should show her "almost opening strength"

by jumping to 3[♠].

EAST has just 13 points, and knowing WEST has less than 13 he passes.

Deal 3

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 4

East Deals
None Vul

♠ K 10 8 3
♥ J 7 2
♦ 9 8 6
♣ Q J 3

9
7 19
5

West

1 ♠

Pass

4 ♠ by West

♠ A 6 4
♥ K Q 9 3
♦ 7 4 2
♣ 9 8 5



♠ 9 2
♥ 10 8 6 5 4
♦ J 10 5
♣ A 7 4

North

Pass

Pass

♠ Q J 7 5
♥ A
♦ A K Q 3
♣ K 10 6 2

East

1 ♦

4 ♠

South

Pass

Pass

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

with 1

1TM

.

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

so he responds 1TM.

EAST now knows that 1TMs will be trumps, so she revalues her hand to 21 points, enough for game.

She bids 4TM.

Deal 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 8

♥ A 9 6 3

♦ K 10 8 5 3

♣ J 7 2

16
8 7
9

♠ K Q J 7 4

♥ K Q 2

♦ A J 6

♣ 9 3



♠ 10 9 6 3

♥ 7 5 4

♦ Q 7

♣ A K 6 4

♠ A 5 2

♥ J 10 8

♦ 9 4 2

♣ Q 10 8 5

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

1 ♠

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by North

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

NORTH has 17 points, but with a 5-card Major opens 1♠TM rather than 1 NT.

SOUTH isn't quite strong enough for a jump raise, so she bids 2♠TM.

NORTH has enough extra to make a try for game, so she invites with 3♠TM.

SOUTH has enough extra to accept the invitation, bids 4♠TM.