

**Deal 1**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 6 5  
 ♥ K Q  
 ♦ 8 7 5 2  
 ♣ Q 10 8 2

6  
 7 9  
 18

West

North

East

South

Pass

1 NT

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 NT

3 NT by North

Lead: ♠ J

♠ Q 3

♥ 4 2

♦ K J 10 9 4

♣ 7 6 5 3



♠ J 10 9 8 2

♥ J 9 7 3

♦ A 6

♣ K 9

♠ A K 4

♥ A 10 8 6 5

♦ Q 3

♣ A J 4

North is to play 3 NT. East leads the ♠ J.

Winners: ♠=3 ♥=1 ♦=0 ♣=1 Total = 5

You need 4 more winners, and they will come from the ♦ suit once you have knocked out the ♦ A. But there is one danger to avoid - if the defenders don't take the ♦ A on the first round dummy won't have a ♦ to lead back to your hand. So to make sure you have an entry back you win the first trick with dummy's ♠ K, saving your ♠ Q.

Next start playing ♦s, first ♦ Q, then ♦ K. Assume the defenders take their ♦ A on the second round.

Win whatever they now play and come to your hand with the ♠ Q to enjoy your three established ♦s for 9 tricks total.

Just don't foul up on your ♠ entry.

**Deal 2**

East Deals  
None Vul

♠ 4  
♥ K Q 10 6 5  
♦ Q J 10 2  
♣ K J 6

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



♠ A K J 9 5 3  
♥ 4 2  
♦ A 5  
♣ A 9 2

12  
5 16  
7

♠ 8 7 6  
♥ A J 9 8  
♦ 9 4  
♣ Q 10 7 3

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		
4 ♠ by East			
Lead: ♠ 6			

You were counting on West to have a little better hand than that East is to play 4 ♠. South leads the ♠ 6, North plays ♠ 4.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=2 ♦=0 ♣=2 Total = 4

You must find a place for one of those losers and that will mean establishing the ♦ suit. If ♦s split 3-3 that will be pretty easy so you should plan to deal with a 4-2 split. Dummy entries are limited so win the first trick in your hand with the ♠ A.

Before you pull any trumps you start on the ♦s by playing ♦ A, ♦ K and then ruffing a ♦ with the ♠ K. South follows to the first two, then discards a ♥.

Play a small trump to dummy's ♠ T (North shows out) and ruff another ♦ with the ♠ J.

Dummy's last ♦ is now good. Play a ♠ to the ♠ Q, (pulling South's last trump), and discard a ♥ or ♣ loser on the ♦ 8.

And once again you had to pay close attention to entries.

**Deal 3**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

10  
5 8  
17

West

Pass

Pass

3 NT by South

Lead: ♦ J

♠ 8 5

♥ J 7 6 2

♦ 8 6

♣ A K Q 4 3



♠ A K 7 2

♥ A 8 3

♦ A Q 7 2

♣ 6 2

North

2 ♣

3 NT

East

Pass

ALL

South

1 NT

2 ♠

Pass

♠ Q 10 9 6 3

♥ Q 9

♦ K 4

♣ J 9 8 7

North's ♣ bid was Stayman, but he didn't match ♠s. South is to play 3 NT. West leads the ♦ J, East plays ♦ K.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=1 ♦=2 ♣=3 Total = 8

With the ♦ K onside you have 8 tricks, and only need one more. If ♣s split 3-3 you can get 2 extras and make an overtrick. But when you are missing 6 cards they are more likely to be 4-2 than 3-3. Since you only need 4 ♣ tricks you should establish the suit with a duck.

Win the ♦ A and play a small ♣ from each hand.

The defense gets a cheap trick in ♣s but you don't mind because you still have a small ♣ for an entry to dummy. You win whatever they return and take the rest of

your winners, including 4 tricks in ♣s!

**Deal 4**

West Deals  
None Vul

♠ A K 7 2  
♥ A 8 3  
♦ A 9 6 4  
♣ 9 2

9  
15 8  
8

West  
1 NT  
Pass  
3 NT by West  
Lead: ♥ 5

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



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

North  
Pass  
Pass

East  
3 NT

South  
Pass

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

West is to play 3 NT. North leads the ♥ 5, South plays the ♥ 2.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=2 Total = 7

You are very lucky. Apparently North led from ♥ K Q so you won an undeserved ♥ trick. Now, if ♣s split 2-2 you can make 12 tricks! But hold it a minute. If you play dummy's two top ♣s and they DON'T split 2-2 you will only win two ♣ tricks and the contract will fail. Instead you should play a small ♣ from dummy right now. The defenders will win the trick easily, but you will win their return and you will still have a ♣ to get to dummy's 6 ♣ winners!

**Deal 5**

North Deals  
None Vul

♠ J 8 3  
♥ J 10 8 5  
♦ K J  
♣ Q 9 8 3

21  
8 7  
4

West

Pass

3 NT by North

Lead: ♠ 2

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



♠ 9 6 4  
♥ 7 3 2  
♦ A 8 5 4 2  
♣ 6 5

North

2 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

3 NT

♠ Q 10 7 2  
♥ Q 9 4  
♦ Q 10 9  
♣ J 10 7

North is to play 3 NT. East leads the ♠ 2, West plays the ♠ J.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=2 Total = 7

You need two more winners and dummy's ♦suit is your only hope. IF ♦s split 3-2 and IF the defenders don't take too many winners in their suit(s) you can establish ♦s by ducking twice.

Win the first ♠. If you hold up they might pocket the ♠ trick and switch to another suit where you only have two stoppers.

Next play a small ♦ from each hand. Win the return (probably a ♠) and duck a second ♦.

If the defenders can only take 2 ♠ tricks now you are home-free since dummy's 3 ♦s are now established.

But in fact you were pretty sure they were going to do so. Since East's ♠ 2 was probably his fourth-down then he couldn't have a fifth-down.

**Deal 6**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 7 4

♥ K 10 9 8 3

♦ J 5 3

♣ Q 3

10  
10 17  
3

♠ J 9 8

♥ A 6 5

♦ Q 10 9 6

♣ K 9 5

N  
W E  
S

♠ Q 10 5 2

♥ 7 4 2

♦ 8 7

♣ J 8 7 2

♠ K 6 3

♥ Q J

♦ A K 4 2

♣ A 10 6 4

West

North

East

South

2 ♦

Pass

1 NT

Pass

3 NT

ALL

2 ♥

Pass

3 NT by East

Lead: ♠ 2

West's 3 ♦ bid was a transfer to ♥s. East is to play 3 NT. South leads the ♠ 2.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=0 ♦=2 ♣=1 Total = 5

Obviously you need to establish 4 ♥ winners and by driving out the ♥ A you can manage that handily. The problem is that dummy has only one sure entry, (the ♠ A), and the defenders may be good enough to hold up their ♥ A twice.

To assure the contract you should win the first trick in your hand with the ♠ K. Then play ♥ Q, ♥ J overtaking with dummy's ♥ K so you can continue establishing the suit while you still have that ♠ entry.