

Deal 1

North Deals	♠ 6		
None Vul	♥ A Q J 9 8		
	♦ A K 8 5		
	♣ K Q J		
♠ K J 9 8 7 3	♠ Q 5 4		
♥ —	♥ 10 6 4 3		
♦ J 2	♦ Q 10 9 6		
♣ 8 6 4 3 2	♣ 10 5		
	♠ A 10 2		
20	♥ K 7 5 2		
5 4	♦ 7 4 3		
11	♣ A 9 7		
West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♥ by North			

This is a big hand. But not quite enough to open 2 ♣. So you open 1 ♥ and partner responds 3 ♥. Now what?

You might bid 4 ♦ as a slam try, but it is probably just as well to go ahead and ask for Aces. So you bid 4 NT and partner owns up to holding 2 Aces. What is your next bid?

You have all the Aces but don't go crazy. Partner only has 11-12 points so don't think too Grand! Bid 6 ♥.

Deal 2East Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 8 7
 ♥ 10 8 6
 ♦ A Q 8 5
 ♣ 6 3 2

♠ Q 3 2
 ♥ 9 4 3 2
 ♦ J 9 7 4
 ♣ K 9



♠ K 5
 ♥ A K Q 7 5
 ♦ K 6 3
 ♣ A 10 8

♠ A J 10 6 4

♥ J

♦ 10 2

♣ Q J 7 5 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 ♥	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		
4 ♥ by East			

With 6 points you must respond and you should let partner know you have support for his suit. So you bid 2 ♥ and he promptly raises to 4 ♥. It's a good thing he had 20 points isn't it.

Deal 3

	♠ 8		
South Deals	♥ Q 9 8 5 3		
None Vul	♦ K J 8 5		
	♣ 8 6 4		
♠ A Q J 10 9 3	♠ K 6 5		
♥ —	♥ A J 6		
♦ 7	♦ 10 9 6 3 2		
♣ A J 10 7 5 2	♣ Q 9		
	♠ 7 4 2		
6 12 10 12	♥ K 10 7 4 2 ♦ A Q 4 ♣ K 3		
West	North	East	South
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			1 ♥
4 ♥ by South			

When you have a weak, distributional hand with 5 of partner's suit an immediate jump to game is usually the best approach. If he has a good hand you will probably make the contract. If he is minimum then you might get a preemptive effect and stop your LHO from entering the bidding.

This is a good example. Partner may be lucky and make 4 ♥. But if they had had an opportunity to compete the opponents might well be able to make 4 ♠.

Deal 4

West Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 10 8 6 5 4
♥ 9
♦ 9 5
♣ A J 9 4

♠ 3

♥ A K J 8 7 3

♦ A Q J 3

♣ 7 3

N	E
W	S
♠ A K 9 7 2	♥ Q 5
♦ 7 4 2	♣ 10 6 5

♠ J

7

15 9

9

♥ 10 6 4 2

♦ K 10 8 6

♣ K Q 8 2

West North East South

1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

3 ♥ Pass 4 ♥ Pass

Pass Pass

4 ♥ by West

You can't support partner's ♥s with only 2 of them so you bid your nice ♠ suit. Partner then jumps to 3 ♥. Now what do you bid?

Here's where a lot of players go wrong. Since they only promised 4 ♠s with their first response they think they should now rebid them to show partner they had 5. And this MIGHT work if it turns out partner has 3 ♠s. Not only is this a risky bid, it is unnecessary. When partner jump rebid ♥s he showed 16-18 points and 6 ♥s. So you know of an 8-card fit and you know you should be in game. Bid 4 ♥.

Deal 5

North Deals

None Vul

♣ 4

♠ 6

♥ J 10 6 4 3

♦ A 10 8 6 5

♣ 10 7

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

16
5 6
13

♠ K J 7 2

♥ 8 5

♦ 7 4 2

♣ A K Q 5

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♠	ALL	Pass

6 ♠ by North

As soon as partner opens 1 ♠ you know you will settle for nothing less than the ♠ game. The problem with bidding 4 ♠ right now is that partner will take you for the "weak-distributional-with-five-trumps" hand. So you temporize by first bidding 2 ♣. Partner rebids 2 ♦. What do you say now?

You now jump to 4 ♠, completing the picture of an opening hand with good ♠ support. Partner bids 4 NT. What say you?

This is Blackwood so you answer 5 ♦ for one Ace. Partner says 6 ♠.