

Deal 1

West Deals
None Vul

♠ A K J 7 4
♥ 8 7
♦ A 7 6
♣ Q 5 4

♠ 8
♥ A K Q J 4 3
♦ 10 5 4
♣ A J 3



♠ 10 5 3
♥ 10 6
♦ Q J 8 3 2
♣ K 10 7

14
15 6
5

♠ Q 9 6 2
♥ 9 5 2
♦ K 9
♣ 9 8 6 2

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
1 ♠ by North			

NORTH has an opening hand, 15 points, and a 5-card ♠ suit. Unfortunately WEST beat her to

the punch by opening 1

♠

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But NORTH should get into the bidding anyway, by Overcalling 1♠. This shows a good ♠ suit

and somewhere between 9 and 16 points.

SOUTH has 6 points. If NORTH had actually OPENED 1♠, SOUTH would be obligated to bid. But knowing that

the Overcall will not be made with more than 16 points, SOUTH just passes.

Deal 2

North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 9 6 2
♥ 10 5 2
♦ K Q 4
♣ K J 6

11
11 14
4

West

2 ♠

Pass

4 ♠ by East

♠ 8

♥ A K Q J 6 3

♦ J 8 3

♣ 10 8 3



♠ 10 5 3

♥ 9 4

♦ 10 9 5 2

♣ A 9 7 2

North

1 ♥

Pass

Pass

East

1 ♠

4 ♠

South

Pass

Pass

EAST has an opening hand, 15 points and five \hat{a}^{TM} s. But NORTH beat him to the punch,

so he overcalls $1\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$.

WEST has 11 points, and if EAST had opened she would make a Limit Raise to $3\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$.

But when replying to an Overcall, the strength needs to be a little higher. In Deal 1 it was OK to

pass a $1\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$ Overcall with 6 points, here it is correct to just raise to $2\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$ with 11 points.

EAST actually has a strong Overcall so he bids $4\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$.

Deal 3

East Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 5 3
♥ 9 6
♦ Q J 8 3 2
♣ Q 9 7

12
5 14
9

West

Pass
Pass

3 ♠ by South

♠ Q 9 6 2
♥ 10 5 2
♦ A K
♣ K 8 6 2



♠ A K J 7 4
♥ 8 7
♦ 9 7 6
♣ J 5 4

North

3 ♠

East

1 ♥
Pass

South

1 ♠
Pass

This time SOUTH has just 10 points, nowhere near an opening hand. Still, when EAST opens

1

1TM

SOUTH should Overcall 1TM. This shows a good 1TM suit

and somewhere between 9 and 16 points.

NORTH has 13 points. If SOUTH had actually OPENED 1TM, NORTH would insist on game. But SOUTH didn't

Open, she just Overcalled. So NORTH must be more cautious. He jumps to 3TM and SOUTH shows her

minimum type hand by passing.

Deal 4

North Deals

None Vul

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

11
 10 15
 4

West

2 ♠

Pass

4 ♠ by West

♠ Q J 7 2
 ♥ A K J 9 6
 ♦ 10 9 2
 ♣ 4



♠ 4
 ♥ Q 8 3 2
 ♦ J 6 5 4
 ♣ J 10 9 3

North

1 ♥

Pass

Pass

East

Dbl

4 ♠

South

Pass

Pass

EAST has 15 points, a singleton in the opponent's suit and 4-card support for any suit

partner might name. In other words, a perfect Takeout Double.

WEST needs to make a medium-strong bid to apprise EAST of her 10 points. She jumps to 2[♠].

EAST's hand is now worth 17 points because of the singleton. Since he is quite happy with

2[♠] he bids 4[♠].

Deal 5

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 6 4 2

♥ 7 6 3

♦ 8 6 4

♣ J 9 8

♠ A

♥ Q 10 9

♦ A 10 9 7 3

♣ Q 10 5 3



♠ K Q J 10 9 8

♥ K 8 5

♦ 5 2

♣ A 6

♠ 5 3

♥ A J 4 2

♦ K Q J

♣ K 7 4 2

1
12 13
14

West

North

East

South

Pass

2 ♣

1 ♠

Pass

Dbl

Pass

Pass

2 ♣ by North

SOUTH has 14 points, a doubleton in the opponent's \hat{a}^{TM} suit and at least three cards in

each of the other suits. This is a normal Takeout Double.

NORTH has a really awful hand. He has just one point and his only 4-card suit is the one the

opponents have already bid. He wants nothing more than to pass.

But he cannot pass. Partner's Double said "Bid your best suit.", so he bids $2\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}\text{E}$.

Mercifully SOUTH also passes.