

Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K 9 2

♥ A K 8 7 4

♦ K 10 7

♣ 10 8

♠ Q 7 3

♥ J 10 6 5 3 2

♦ A Q 4

♣ 4



♠ A 8 5 4

♥ Q

♦ J 9 6 2

♣ A 7 6 3

♠ J 10 6

♥ 9

♦ 8 5 3

♣ K Q J 9 5 2

13
9 11
7

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

1 ♥

Dbl

2 ♣

Pass

Pass

Pass

2 ♣ by South

North opens 1 ♥ and East Doubles.

After the intervening Takeout Double 2/1 is OFF. If South had T or more points she would Redouble. So even with only 9 points South can bid 2 ♣ without fear that North will think she has a strong hand.

North also knows everything mentioned above so he passes.

Deal 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 5 3

♥ 10 9 8 5 4

♦ A 9 4

♣ 9 4 3

15
4 6
15

♠ Q J 2

♥ J 2

♦ Q J 8 6 2

♣ A K J



♠ A K 9 8 7 6 4

♥ K Q 7

♦ K 7 3

♣ —

♠ 10

♥ A 6 3

♦ 10 5

♣ Q 10 8 7 6 5 2

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|------|-------|------|-------|

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

1 ♠

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

4 ♠

ALL

4 ♣

4 ♠ by South

Pass

South opens 1 ♠. North responds 2 ♦, a 2/1 force to game.

South has a big hand, perhaps in the slam range, but first priority is to set a trump suit. So she contents herself with a rebid of 2 ♠. North agrees on trumps by bidding 3 ♠ (not Fast Arrival).

South now makes her slam try by using a Control-showing cue-bid. She bids 4 ♣, showing first round control of the suit (Ace or Void).

North's next bid would be a control-showing bid of her own - IF SHE HAD ONE. Since she cannot win the first round of either red suit she just returns to 4 ♠. South realizes that they are off two red Aces and passes.

Notice that South did not fall into the Blackwood trap. If she HAD asked for Aces, North would have shown one Ace and South wouldn't know what to do next. She might have figured the odds favored that one Ace being a red one and tried the slam. Moral: Don't use Blackwood when you have a void.

Deal 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 9 5 3

♥ J 9 6 4

♦ 9 6

♣ A 4 3

14

7 5

14

♠ A J 10 8 2

♥ A K 8 2

♦ Q 2

♣ 10 5



♠ 7 4

♥ Q 7 3

♦ A K J 7 3

♣ K J 9

♠ K 6

♥ 10 5

♦ 10 8 5 4

♣ Q 8 7 6 2

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|------|-------|------|-------|

| | | | |
|--|-----|------|-----|
| | 1 ♠ | Pass | 2 ♦ |
|--|-----|------|-----|

| | | | |
|------|-----|------|------|
| Pass | 2 ♥ | Pass | 2 NT |
|------|-----|------|------|

| | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| Pass | 3 NT | Pass | Pass |
|------|------|------|------|

Pass

3 NT by South

North opens 1 ♠. South responds 2 ♦, a 2/1 force to game.

North's priority is to now show the 4-card ♥ suit. Remember that South might also have 4 ♥s.

South doesn't have 4 ♥s, nor does she have 3 ♠s. She does, however, have stoppers in ♣s so she bids 2 NT. North happily says 3 NT.

Deal 4

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K 6
♥ 9 5
♦ 10 8 5 4
♣ Q J 8 6 2

13
6 7
14

♠ 7 4
♥ K Q 3
♦ A K J 7 3
♣ 10 9 7



♠ Q 9 5 3
♥ J 7 6 4
♦ 9 6
♣ A 4 3

♠ A J 10 8 2
♥ A 10 8 2
♦ Q 2
♣ K 5

| West | North | East | South |
|---------------|-------|------|-------|
| | | | 1 ♠ |
| Pass | 2 ♦ | Pass | 2 ♥ |
| Pass | 3 ♣ | Pass | 3 NT |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | |
| 3 NT by South | | | |

South opens 1 ♠. North responds 2 ♦, a 2/1 force to game.

South's priority is to now show the 4-card ♥ suit. Remember that North might also have 4 ♥s.

North doesn't have 4 ♥s, nor does she have 3 ♠s. Furthermore, she does not have stoppers in ♣s so she cannot bid NT. Since she has to keep bidding, but has no reasonable bid she can make, she bids the fourth suit, 3 ♣. Compare this Deal with Deal 21.

South understands that North's ♣ bid is Fourth-Suit-Forcing, and does not actually show ♣s. However since South does have a ♣ stopper he bids 3 NT. In this case this turns out to be the best game contract.

Deal 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 6 3

♥ J 10 8 7 4

♦ Q 10

♣ A 4 3

10
8 10
12

♠ 10 8 2

♥ A 2

♦ A 8 5 4 2

♣ Q 8 5



♠ Q 5

♥ 9 5

♦ K J 9 6

♣ K J 9 6 2

♠ A K 9 7 4

♥ K Q 6 3

♦ 7 3

♣ 10 7

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

Pass

Pass

1 ♠

Pass

2 ♦

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

2 ♠ by South

North passes and South opens 1 ♠.

North now bids 2 ♦. Since North originally passed this is NOT 2/1 Game Force. Instead, it is forcing for one round and shows 11 or more points.

South next shows her 4-card ♥ suit. North gives a preference to 2 ♠.

Knowing that North does not have opening strength South passes 2 ♠.

Deal 6

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 8
♥ Q 5
♦ K J 9 5
♣ J 10 9 7 2

9
11 7
13

West

North

East

South

Pass

1 NT

Pass

1 ♠

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

2 ♠ by South

♠ 7 4
♥ 9 8 6 3
♦ A 7 6 2
♣ K Q 3



♠ K Q 10 6 2
♥ A 7 4
♦ 8 4
♣ A 8 5

♠ J 9 5 3
♥ K J 10 2
♦ Q 10 3
♣ 6 4

South opens 1 ♠. With 9 points and a doubleton ♠ North must respond 1 NT.

In standard bidding South would happily pass a 1 NT response. But in 2/1 the 1 NT response is forcing for 1 round. South is forced to bid a 3-card minor so he says 2 ♣.

North prefers ♣ over ♠ but must allow for the possibility that South has bid a 3-card suit. So North gives a preference to 2 ♠. This is called a "false preference", but it assures the team of being in at least a 7-card fit.

South happily passes and the pair lands in a reasonable contract, probably better than 1 NT.