

**Deal 1**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 5

♥ A Q 10 6 3

♦ A J 10 4

♣ 10 7 2

8  
11 8  
13

♠ A K 9 8 7 3

♥ 8 2

♦ 9 8 6

♣ J 4

♠ Q J 2

♥ K 9 7 5

♦ K Q 2

♣ Q 5 3



♠ 10 6 4

♥ J 4

♦ 7 5 3

♣ A K 9 8 6

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

2 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

2 ♠ by North

NORTH has a perfect hand for an opening bid of 2♠.

SOUTH will be tempted to respond with his opening hand and good trump support, but he should

resist the temptation. To raise a Weak Two-bid to game you should have quick winners, not just points.

**Deal 2**

East Deals  
None Vul

♠ Q J 2  
♥ A K 7 5  
♦ A 7 2  
♣ A 5 3

9  
18 8  
5

West

4 ♠  
4 ♠ by East

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



♠ 10 6 4  
♥ 10 4  
♦ 10 5 3  
♣ K Q 9 8 6

North

Pass

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

East

2 ♠

Pass

South

Pass

Pass

EAST has the same hand as in Deal 1 and again opens 2♠.

This is the type of hand WEST needs to bid game. Notice that even with all those winners the

pair is nowhere close to having a slam. They will probably make just ten tricks.

**Deal 3**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 10 5  
♥ A J 6  
♦ J 10 4 3  
♣ A 10 9 6

9  
10 13  
8

West

Pass  
Pass

4♠ by South

♠ Q J 6 2  
♥ 7 5  
♦ A 7 2  
♣ Q 7 5 3



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

North

4♠

East

Pass

South

2♠

Pass

♠ 4  
♥ K Q 10 9 4 3  
♦ K Q 5  
♣ K 8 2

Once more, SOUTH has the same hand as Deals 1 and 2.

This time NORTH has a very poor hand without any chance of making game. However, he should bid

4♠ anyway.

It is very likely that the opponents can make 4

♥

if East gets the

opportunity to get into the bidding. Hopefully the 4♠ bid will shut him out, and 4♠ probably

won't go down more than a couple of tricks.

**Deal 4**

West Deals  
None Vul

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

8  
6 15  
11



WEST has a pretty normal preemptive 3



bid.

EAST has the equivalent of an opening 1 NT bid and will be very tempted to bid 3 NT.

That might turn out to be a disaster, particularly if EAST is unable to reach the WEST hand.

EAST should assume WEST can win six tricks if



s are trumps. Thinking this way points EAST to her

best call - PASS.

**Deal 5**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

6  
10 8  
16

West

Pass

4 ♥ by North

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



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

North

3 ♥

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

4 ♥

Here SOUTH has the kind of hand you need to raise a preempt to game.

SOUTH assumes that NORTH has a hand with six winners in it. He can provide four more, so

that is just enough for game. He bids 4

♥

.

**Deal 6**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ K 4  
 ♥ K J 5  
 ♦ 9 4 2  
 ♣ K Q J 7 2

7  
 13 9  
 11

*West*

2 ♣

4 ♠

4 ♠ by East

♠ 3 2

♥ 9 8 7 4

♦ A K 8 3

♣ 10 8 4



♠ 10 8

♥ A 6 3

♦ Q J 10 6 5

♣ A 9 5

*North*

Pass

Pass

*East*

1 ♠

2 ♠

Pass

*South*

Pass

Pass

Pass

EAST has a 7-card ♠ suit but he is too strong to open with a preemptive bid.

So he opens 1♠ instead.

WEST should respond 2♣, and EAST can do nothing but rebid the ♠ suit.

WEST thinks there should be game and bids 4♠

**Deal 7**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A J 9 8 3  
♥ 10 5  
♦ J 9 8 3  
♣ 10 8

21  
6 4  
9

West

Pass

Pass

4♥ by South

♠ K Q

♥ Q J

♦ A K Q 6 5

♣ K J 4 2



♠ 7 6 4

♥ A K 9 7 4 3

♦ 7 2

♣ Q 5

North

4♥

East

Pass

South

2♥

Pass

SOUTH is too weak to open 1

♥

but just right for 2

♥

.

Wow! NORTH has 21 HCP and two good

♥

s. Could this be time for a slam try?

Nope, no slam here. Suppose SOUTH has six

♥

s headed by the AK. The trump suit

would certainly be solid, but then SOUTH couldn't possibly have an outside Ace as well or he would have been

too strong for a Weak-two opening. So NORTH just bids 4

♥

.

**Deal 8**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ J 8 3

♥ K Q J 7 6 2

♦ 8 5

♣ 8 5

7  
7 15  
11

*West*

2 ♥

2 ♥ by West

♠ 9 4

♥ A 9 8 3

♦ J 6 2

♣ Q 9 6 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 10 7 6 2

♥ 10 5

♦ A 10 7 3

♣ A 10

*North*

Pass

*East*

Pass

*South*

Pass

EAST really hates that 2

♥

opening by WEST.

But there's no sense bidding and probably making matters worse, so she grits her

teeth and passes.

If you think 3 NT has a chance you are delusional.



**Deal 9**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q J 10 6 5

♥ 7

♦ A 9 5

♣ K J 3

♠ 9

♥ J 5 3

♦ K J 10 8

♣ Q 10 8 7 2



♠ 7 3 2

♥ K 9 8

♦ Q 7 6 3 2

♣ A 4

♠ K 8 4

♥ A Q 10 6 4 2

♦ 4

♣ 9 6 5

15  
7 9  
9

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

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

2 ♥

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

4 ♠ by North

NORTH expects to be better off in ♠s  
than SOUTH would be in 2

♥

.

Whether or not you play a new suit as a  
one round force or not, SOUTH should  
make the 3♠ bid with

a hand this good. NORTH then bids the ♠  
game.

**Deal 10**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 7 5  
 ♥ K 6 3  
 ♦ K Q J 5 4  
 ♣ A

6  
 20 7  
 7

*West*

4 NT

6 ♥

6 ♥ by East

♠ Q J 9 3

♥ 9

♦ 8 7

♣ Q J 10 7 6 3

N  
 W E  
 S

♠ 10 8 4 2

♥ 10 2

♦ A 10 9

♣ K 9 5 2

*North*

Pass

Pass

*East*

3 ♥

5 ♦

Pass

*South*

Pass

Pass

Pass

EAST has a pretty normal 3

♥

opening bid.

WEST, however, has a big hand, and she launches into Blackwood.

When EAST shows one Ace WEST can bid 6

♥

with confidence.

**Deal 11**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 5 4 2  
 ♥ 10 5 4 2  
 ♦ A 4 2  
 ♣ 6 4

6  
 7 7  
 20

West

Pass

3 NT by South

♠ J 3

♥ 7 6

♦ 9 7

♣ K Q 9 8 7 5 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A Q 10

♥ K Q J

♦ Q J 10 3

♣ A J 10

North

3 ♣

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

3 NT

NORTH doesn't have much of a 3♣ opening bid.

But SOUTH has just the type of hand you need to bid 3 NT after partner's preempt. The other three

suits well stopped, and certain entry in Opener's long suit. Notice here that 3 NT is a good contract,

but 5♣ would go down 1.

**Deal 12**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 7 5

♥ A 7 4

♦ J 10 9 3

♣ 9 6 3

♠ J 4

♥ K J 10 9 6 3

♦ 8 7 5

♣ 4 2



♠ A Q 6 3

♥ Q 8 2

♦ A K Q

♣ K Q J

♠ K 10 8 2

♥ 5

♦ 6 4 2

♣ A 10 8 7 5

5

5 23

7

*West*

2 ♥

3 ♥

Pass

4 ♥ by West

*North*

Pass

Pass

Pass

*East*

2 NT

4 ♥

*South*

Pass

Pass

When WEST opens with a Weak 2

♥

bid, EAST knows she will

force to game but is thinking about slam.

But first she needs to know if WEST has anything extra. She bids 2 NT to get more information.

WEST returns to

♥

s to show bare minimum so EAST settles for game.

**Deal 13**

North Deals  
None Vul

♠ K Q 9 8 6 2

♥ 8 6 4

♦ 9 4

♣ K 6

♠ 5

♥ Q J 9 7

♦ K J 10 8

♣ A 9 5 2



♠ A 7 4

♥ 10 2

♦ 6 5

♣ Q J 10 8 7 3

♠ J 10 3

♥ A K 5 3

♦ A Q 7 3 2

♣ 4

8  
11 7  
14

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

2 ♠

Pass

2 NT

Pass

3 ♣

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

3 ♠ by North

SOUTH has one of those hands which might or might not be helpful to NORTH. He needs

more information about NORTH's hand, so he bids 2 NT.

NORTH has a better than average hand, so she bids 3 ♣ to show a high card in the suit.

SOUTH was hoping for a high card in

♦

s rather than ♣s, so

he signs off in 3 ♠

**Deal 14**

West Deals  
None Vul

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

9  
8 18  
5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 ♦	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		
3 NT by East			

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

W N  
S E

♠ 10 8 5 2  
♥ A 9 8 7  
♦ 9 5  
♣ J 3 2

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

With four fast winners EAST should think about game. The best approach is usually to

use 2 NT to find out more about WEST's hand.

EAST found out that WEST has good opening strength, and, most importantly, either the

♥

A or

♥

K. Now that she doesn't

have to worry about the opponents taking

the first five

♥

tricks

she bids 3 NT.

**Deal 15**

North Deals

None Vul

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

9  
 9 5  
 17

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



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

♠ J 2  
 ♥ J 10 4 3 2  
 ♦ 10 8  
 ♣ Q J 9 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 NT by South			

SOUTH is strong enough to be thinking about game, depending on how good NORTH's hand is.

So he bids 2 NT to get more information.

NORTH has the exact hand to say 3 NT - a suit headed by AKQ.

Game (and bidding) doesn't get much easier.

**Deal 16**

West Deals

None Vul

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

12  
7 11  
10

♠ A 6
♥ K J 9 6 5
♦ Q 10 8 2
♣ 10 6



West	North	East	South
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		
4 ♠ by West			

EAST assumes her partner can win six tricks. So she will need to contribute four more to

make game.

Three of them are obvious, and she expects to get a

♦

ruff also.



**Deal 17**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 5 3  
 ♥ K 6 4  
 ♦ K J 7 4  
 ♣ 10 9 7 3

10  
 7 9  
 14

♠ A K 8 7 6 2

♥ 8 3

♦ 8 3

♣ K 6 5



♠ Q 9

♥ J 7 5

♦ A 9 6

♣ A Q J 4 2

♠ J 10 4

♥ A Q 10 9 2

♦ Q 10 5 2

♣ 8

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♠ by North			

NORTH's hand has the look of a Weak Two-bid, but it is one point too strong. So she opens 1♠.

SOUTH naturally bids 2♣ and NORTH rebids the ♠ suit.

SOUTH always knew there would be a game bid, so with an 8-card fit he bids 4♠

**Deal 18**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 8 3

♥ 10 6

♦ K J 4

♣ K Q J 4

9  
13 7  
11

West

Pass

3 ♥ by East

♠ K 10 7 2

♥ 4

♦ Q 6 3

♣ A 9 8 7 6



♠ A 9 4

♥ K 9 2

♦ A 10 8 2

♣ 10 3 2

North

Pass

East

3 ♥

South

Pass

WEST may have an opening hand, but it is just the wrong kind of hand to respond to

partner's preemptive bid. She doesn't have the immediate winners that EAST is likely

to need, but she is in good shape for defense should the opponents bid.

In other words, WEST has the perfect hand with which to pass.

**Deal 19**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 10 9 7

♥ J 10 2

♦ 8 2

♣ Q 10 9 7

9  
7 3  
21

♠ 5 4

♥ 8 6 3

♦ A K Q 9 7 4

♣ 8 5

N  
W E  
S

♠ 8 6 3 2

♥ Q 9 5 4

♦ 10 5

♣ J 6 3

♠ K Q J

♥ A K 7

♦ J 6 3

♣ A K 4 2

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

2 ♦

Pass

2 NT

Pass

3 NT

Pass

6 NT

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 NT by South

The 2 NT response to a Weak Two opening is a wonderful tool. You can learn a lot about

partner's hand and you are absolutely certain that it will not be passed out.

In this Deal SOUTH has a huge hand and NORTH opens 2

♦

.

There are a lot of approaches SOUTH might try, but the simplest is to start with 2 NT.

When NORTH shows

♦

A K Q x x x SOUTH has an easy 6 NT bid.

**Deal 20**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q 9 7 5 2  
 ♥ K 3  
 ♦ 8 5 2  
 ♣ 7 3

9  
 9 15  
 7

*West*

2 ♠

3 ♥

Pass

4 ♠ by West

♠ 4

♥ 10 9 7

♦ A K J 7 3

♣ J 9 8 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 10 8 3

♥ 8 6 5

♦ Q 10

♣ K Q 10 6 2

*North*

Pass

Pass

Pass

*East*

2 NT

4 ♠

*South*

Pass

Pass

EAST is unsure whether to bid game or not. So she temporizes with 2 NT.

WEST shows an above average hand plus a high card in

♥

s.

EAST is no longer unsure, so she bids 4♠.

**Deal 21**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

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



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

6  
10 9  
15

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	2 ♠	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 ♠ by North			

SOUTH is unsure whether to bid game or not, so he bids 2 NT to get more information about

NORTH's hand.

NORTH's 3 ♠ is discouraging, a hand below average in strength and no outside high card.

SOUTH passes and hopes for the best.

**Deal 22**

West Deals  
None Vul

♠ 5  
♥ 8  
♦ 9 7 5 3  
♣ K Q J 9 8 6 3

6  
6 18  
10

West  
3 ♣  
Pass  
4 ♥ by East

♠ K 10 8 4 2  
♥ 9 6 3  
♦ K 10 4  
♣ 5 2



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

North  
Pass  
Pass

East  
4 ♥

South  
Pass

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

EAST has no way to tell whether WEST can provide one winner or not.

So she takes the bold approach and bids 4

♥

.

If the opening lead is a ♠ or a

♦

then EAST

will probably make the game. Otherwise she will likely go down one.

**Deal 23**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

8  
11 7  
14

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 ♥ by South

♠ Q J 10 7 4 2  
♥ K Q 7 2  
♦ 5 2  
♣ 9



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

♠ 9 8 5  
♥ 8  
♦ K 9 4 3  
♣ K J 10 7 5

Most good players have an extra restriction in their Weak Two-bid guidelines - they won't

open with a Weak Two-bid when they hold an outside 4-card Major, even if the hand qualifies

otherwise. This Deal shows why.

If NORTH opened with 2♠, SOUTH might well pass and a

♥

game

would be missed.

**Deal 24**  
 East Deals  
 None Vul

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

6  
 16 8  
 10

*West*

2 NT

3 NT

3 NT by West

♠ K 10 8 7 4

♥ Q 8

♦ 6

♣ J 9 8 3 2



♠ J 9 5

♥ K 9 6 5 3

♦ Q 9

♣ A 6 5

*North*

Pass

Pass

*East*

2 ♦

3 ♣

Pass

*South*

Pass

Pass

Pass

WEST responds 2 NT, asking for more information.

When EAST shows a decent hand with a high ♣ WEST should bid 3 NT.