

**Deal 1**

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| West Deals | ♠ A K J 7 4 |
| None Vul   | ♥ 8 7       |
|            | ♦ A 7 6     |
|            | ♣ Q 5 4     |

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

|     |
|-----|
| N   |
| W E |
| S   |

|           |
|-----------|
| ♠ 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  $\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$  suit. Unfortunately WEST beat her to

the punch by opening 1

$\hat{a}^{\text{TM}} \hat{Y}$

.

But NORTH should get into the bidding anyway, by Overcalling 1 $\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$ . This shows a good  $\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$  suit

and somewhere between 9 and 16 points.

SOUTH has 6 points. If NORTH had actually OPENED 1 $\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$ , 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**  
 East Deals  
 None Vul

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

<sup>11</sup>  
 4    <sup>11</sup>  
<sup>14</sup>

|              |              |             |              |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>West</i>  | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
| Pass         | 2 ♠          | Pass        | 4 ♠          |
| Pass         | Pass         | Pass        |              |
| 4 ♠ by South |              |             |              |

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

N  
 W   E  
 S

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

♠ A K J 7 4

♥ 8 7

♦ A 7 6

♣ Q 5 4

1 ♥

1 ♠

SOUTH has an opening hand, 15 points and five ♠'s. But EAST beat him to the punch,

so he overcalls 1♦.

NORTH has 11 points, and if SOUTH had opened she would make a Limit Raise to 3♦.

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

pass a 1♦ Overcall with 6 points, here it is correct to just raise to 2♦ with 11 points.

SOUTH actually has a strong Overcall so he bids 4♦.

**Deal 3**

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| West Deals | ♠ A K J 7 4 |
| None Vul   | ♥ 8 7       |
|            | ♦ 9 7 6     |
|            | ♣ J 5 4     |

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



|      |           |
|------|-----------|
| 9    | ♠ Q 9 6 2 |
| 14 5 | ♥ 10 5 2  |
| 12   | ♦ A K     |
|      | ♣ K 8 6 2 |

West      North      East      South  
 1 ♥      1 ♠      Pass      3 ♠  
 Pass      Pass      Pass  
 3 ♠ by North

3â™ and NORTH shows her

minimum type hand by passing.

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

1  
 â™Y

NORTH should Overcall 1â™. This shows a good â™ suit

and somewhere between 9 and 16 points.

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

Open, she just Overcalled. So SOUTH must be more cautious. He jumps to

**Deal 4**  
 West Deals  
 None Vul

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

15  
 11 4  
 10

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

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

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

|              |              |             |              |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>West</i>  | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
| 1 ♥          | Dbl          | Pass        | 2 ♠          |
| Pass         | 4 ♠          | Pass        | Pass         |
| Pass         |              |             |              |
| 4 ♠ by South |              |             |              |

NORTH 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.

SOUTH needs to make a medium-strong bid to apprise NORTH of her 10 points. She jumps to 2 $\hat{a}$ <sup>TM</sup>.

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

$\hat{a}$ <sup>TM</sup> s he bids 4 $\hat{a}$ <sup>TM</sup>.