

**Deal 1**

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

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

N  
W E  
S

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**  
North Deals  
None Vul

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

11  
11 14  
4

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

N  
W    E  
S

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

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

EAST has an opening hand, 15 points and five  $\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$ 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**

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

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

♠ 8  
 W N E  
 S  
 ♥ A K Q J 4 3  
 ♦ 10 5 4  
 ♣ A 10 3

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

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

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

and somewhere between 9 and 16 points.

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

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

minimum type hand by passing.

**Deal 4**North Deals  
None Vul**♠ 4****♠ A 10 5 3**  
**♥ 10 7 5**  
**♦ Q 8**  
**♣ A 8 6 2****10**  
**11**  
**15**  
**4**

	N	
W		E
	S	

**♠ 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**

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

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  $2\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$ .

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

$\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$  s he bids  $4\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$ .

**Deal 5**  
 East Deals  
 None Vul

♠ A	♠ 7 6 4 2		
♥ Q 10 9	♥ 7 6 3		
♦ A 10 9 7 3	♦ 8 6 4		
♣ Q 10 5 3	♣ J 9 8		
	N W E S		
	♠ K Q J 10 9 8		
	♥ K 8 5		
	♦ 5 2		
	♣ A 6		
	♠ 5 3		
<sup>1</sup> <sub>12</sub> <sub>13</sub>	♥ A J 4 2		
<sub>14</sub>	♦ K Q J		
	♣ K 7 4 2		
West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	Dbl
Pass			Pass
2 ♣ by North			

SOUTH has 14 points, a doubleton in the opponent's ♠ 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♦.

Mercifully SOUTH also passes.

**Deal 6**

South Deals	♠ 4
None Vul	♥ 9 6 3 2
	♦ 7 6 4 2
	♣ Q 10 9 5
♠ Q 9 8 5	♠ A J 10 7
♥ K Q 10 5	♥ J 7
♦ A K 3	♦ Q J 9 5
♣ 4 2	♣ A 8 3

2	♠ K 6 3 2
14 13	♥ A 8 4
11	♦ 10 8
	♣ K J 7 6

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

With 14 points, a shortage, and support for the other suits WEST makes a Takeout Double.

EAST has 13 points so she bids 2a<sup>TM</sup>. This is an artificial bid, apprising WEST of EAST's opening

hand strength, and forcing the partnership to reach the game level.

WEST suggests

a<sup>TM</sup>

s as trumps.

EAST doesn't like

a<sup>TM</sup>

s so she suggests a<sup>TM</sup> s.

WEST agrees with a<sup>TM</sup> s and bids game, 4a<sup>TM</sup>.