

Deal 1
South Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 5 4
♥ 10 6 4 3
♦ Q 10 9 6
♣ 10 5

11
4 5
20

N
W E
S

♠ A 10 2
♥ K 7 5 2
♦ 7 4 3
♣ A 9 7

♠ K J 9 8 7 3
♥ —
♦ J 2
♣ 8 6 4 3 2

♠ 6
♥ A Q J 9 8
♦ A K 8 5
♣ K Q J

West North East South
Pass 3 ♥ Pass 4 NT
Pass 5 ♥ Pass 6 ♥
Pass Pass Pass

6 ♥ by South

This is a big hand. But not quite enough to open 2 ♣. So you open 1 ♥ and partner responds 3 ♥. Now what?

You might bid 4 ♦ as a slam try, but it is probably just as well to go ahead and ask for Aces. So you bid 4 NT and partner owns up to holding 2 Aces. What is your next bid?

You have all the Aces but don't go crazy. Partner only has 11-12 points so don't think too Grand! Bid 6 ♥.

Deal 2

South Deals
None Vul

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



| |
|-----------|
| ♠ Q 3 2 |
| ♥ 9 4 3 2 |
| ♦ J 9 7 4 |
| ♣ K 9 |

♠ K 5
6
9 6
19
♥ A K Q 7 5
♦ K 6 3
♣ A 10 8

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| | | | 1 ♥ |
| Pass | 2 ♥ | Pass | 4 ♥ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | |
| 4 ♥ by South | | | |

With 6 points you must respond and you should let partner know you have support for his suit. So you bid 2 ♥ and he promptly raises to 4 ♥. It's a good thing he had 20 points isn't it.

Deal 3

| | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|------|-------|
| | ♠ 8 | | |
| South Deals | ♥ Q 9 8 5 3 | | |
| None Vul | ♦ K J 8 5 | | |
| | ♣ 8 6 4 | | |
| ♠ A Q J 10 9 3 | ♠ K 6 5 | | |
| ♥ — | ♥ A J 6 | | |
| ♦ 7 | ♦ 10 9 6 3 2 | | |
| ♣ A J 10 7 5 2 | ♣ Q 9 | | |
| | ♠ 7 4 2 | | |
| 6 12 10 12 | ♥ K 10 7 4 2 ♦ A Q 4 ♣ K 3 | | |
| West | North | East | South |
| Pass | 4 ♥ | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | | | 1 ♥ |
| 4 ♥ by South | | | |

When you have a weak, distributional hand with 5 of partner's suit an immediate jump to game is usually the best approach. If he has a good hand you will probably make the contract. If he is minimum then you might get a preemptive effect and stop your LHO from entering the bidding.

This is a good example. Partner may be lucky and make 4 ♥. But if they had had an opportunity to compete the opponents might well be able to make 4 ♠.

Deal 4

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| South Deals | ♠ A K 9 7 2 |
| None Vul | ♥ Q 5 |
| | ♦ 7 4 2 |
| | ♣ 10 6 5 |

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

N
 W E
 S

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| | | | 1 ♥ |
| Pass | 1 ♠ | Pass | 3 ♥ |
| Pass | 4 ♥ | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | | | |
| 4 ♥ by South | | | |

You can't support partner's ♥s with only 2 of them so you bid your nice ♠ suit. Partner then jumps to 3 ♥. Now what do you bid?

Here's where a lot of players go wrong. Since they only promised 4 ♠s with their first response they think they should now rebid them to show partner they had 5. And this MIGHT work if it turns out partner has 3 ♠s. Not only is this a risky bid, it is unnecessary. When partner jump rebid ♥s he showed 16-18 points and 6 ♥s. So you know of an 8-card fit and you know you should be in game. Bid 4 ♥.

Deal 5

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| South Deals | ♠ K J 7 2 |
| None Vul | ♥ 8 5 |
| | ♦ 7 4 2 |
| | ♣ A K Q 5 |

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



♠ A Q 10 9 3

13
6 5
16

♦ K Q J 3

♣ 4

| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | | | 1 ♠ |
| Pass | 2 ♣ | Pass | 2 ♦ |
| Pass | 4 ♠ | Pass | 4 NT |
| Pass | 5 ♦ | Pass | 6 ♠ |
| ALL | Pass | | |
| 6 ♠ by South | | | |

As soon as partner opens 1 ♠ you know you will settle for nothing less than the ♠ game. The problem with bidding 4 ♠ right now is that partner will take you for the "weak-distributional-with-five-trumps" hand. So you temporize by first bidding 2 ♣. Partner rebids 2 ♦. What do you say now?

You now jump to 4 ♠, completing the picture of an opening hand with good ♠ support. Partner bids 4 NT. What say you?

This is Blackwood so you answer 5 ♦ for one Ace. Partner says 6 ♠.