

**Deal 1**

South Deals

None Vul

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

♠ A Q 8 6 2

♥ J 5 3

♦ 7 4

♣ K Q 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

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

SOUTH has just 11 points, not enough to open the bidding.

But when NORTH opens 1 $\hat{a}$ <sup>TM</sup> SOUTH should show her "almost opening strength"

by jumping to 3 $\hat{a}$ <sup>TM</sup>.

NORTH has just 13 points, and knowing SOUTH has less than 13 he passes.

**Deal 2**

East Deals

None Vul

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

9  
9 14  
8

*West*  
4 ♥  
4 ♥ by East

♠ K 6 4

♥ 9

♦ J 10 9 3

♣ A J 10 7 2



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

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

*North*      *East*      *South*  
Pass      1 ♥      Pass  
Pass      Pass      Pass

After EAST opens with 1

â™¥

, WEST has a small "dilemma".

With 11 points she really is only strong enough to make a jump raise to 3

â™¥

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But, with five trumps the hand deserves more. So she just bids 4

â™¥

instead.

Usually, no matter what your strength, when you have five cards in the Major suit that your partner opens

with you should just jump right to game.

**Deal 3**

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

19	♠ K 10 8 3
9 5	♥ J 7 2
7	♦ 9 8 6
	♣ Q J 3

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass

4 ♠ by South

	♠ 9 2
	♥ 10 8 6 5 4
	♦ J 10 5
	♣ A 7 4

NORTH has 19 points, but no 5-card Major suit. With two 4-card minor suits she should start

with 1

â™!

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SOUTH has a poor hand, but with 7 points he must respond. His first priority is to show a Major suit

so he responds 1â™.

NORTH now knows that â™'s will be trumps, so she revalues her hand to 21 points, enough for game.

She bids 4â™.

**Deal 4**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q J 7 4

♥ K Q 2

♦ A J 6

♣ 9 3

16  
7  
9  
8

♠ A 5 2

♥ J 10 8

♦ 9 4 2

♣ Q 10 8 5



♠ 10 9 6 3

♥ 7 5 4

♦ Q 7

♣ A K 6 4

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by West

NOTE: There is a better way to bid this hand using special conventions.

WEST has 17 points, but with a 5-card Major opens 1 $\hat{a}$ <sup>TM</sup> rather than 1 NT.

EAST isn't quite strong enough for a jump raise, so she bids 2 $\hat{a}$ <sup>TM</sup>.

WEST has enough extra to make a try for game, so she invites with 3 $\hat{a}$ <sup>TM</sup>.

EAST has enough extra to accept the invitation, bids 4 $\hat{a}$ <sup>TM</sup>.