

**Deal 1**

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

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

W	N
S	E

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2 ♣
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	7 NT
ALL	Pass		
7 NT by North			

Your 2 NT response shows 8+ points, with no 5-card biddable suit. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

You support the ♦s and partner bids 4 NT. What is your next bid?

With ♦s as trump you have 1 Key-Card, the ♥A. You answer 5 ♣ and partner bids 5 ♥. What is your bid?

This is the Queen Ask, wanting to know if you hold the ♦Q. Since you do have it you should bid a suit in which you hold a King. So you bid 5 ♠. That spurred partner on - he was fishing for 7 ♦ but when you told him you had the ♦Q, ♥A and ♠K he was able to bid 7 NT.

**Deal 2**

West Deals	♠ Q 8
None Vul	♥ AJ 9 7
	♦ K Q J
	♣ A K Q 6

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

N  
W E  
S

♠ —  
22  
5 7      ♠ K Q 10 8 6 3 2  
6      ♦ 5 3  
♣ J 10 8 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	6 ♥
ALL	Pass		

6 ♥ by South

Partner's 2 ♥ is a positive response, 8+ points with a 5+ card suit. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Even though it is tempting, bidding RCKB now would be a mistake because of your doubleton ♠ loser. Instead just support the ♥s. Partner cannot pass, you both know you are forced to game. In fact, partner bids 3 ♠. What do you bid next?

Partner promises first round ♠ control so NOW you can bid RCKB. When you bid 4 NT partner answers 6 ♥. This shows 1 Key-Card and a void in a suit higher than ♥s. Knowing you are missing either the ♦ A or ♥ K you pass.

**Deal 3**North Deals  
None Vul

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

**21**  
**3 6**  
**10**

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	5 NT	Pass	6 ♦
Pass	7 NT	ALL	Pass
7 NT by North			

Your 2 ♥ response shows 8+ points, with at least 5 ♥s. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Your hand is looking better and better. You already gave a positive response so you know you are forced to game. It is better to keep the bidding low to allow more investigating room so you bid 3 ♠. Partner bids 4 NT. What is your response?

With ♠s agreed as trumps you have two Key-Cards, the ♠ K and the ♥ A. With no trump Queen you respond 5 ♥. Partner now says 5 NT. What do you reply?

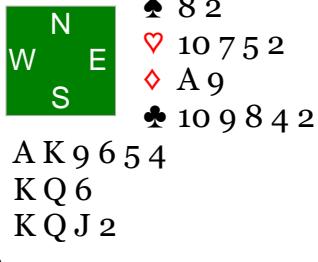
Partner is asking for Kings and you have just 1, the ♥ K. Remember, the ♠ K is not a King, it is a Key-Card which you have already counted. So you bid 6 ♦. Partner counts 13 tricks and bids 7 NT.

**Deal 4**East Deals  
None Vul

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

<sup>11</sup>  
7 4  
**18**

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



<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
<b>6 ♠ by South</b>			

Partner's 3 ♠ is a limit raise, 11-12 points and good ♠ support. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

What you DO NOT say next is 4 NT. If partner answered 1 Key-Card you would not know what to do. If he has a red Ace you can make slam, but if his one Key-Card were the ♣A you couldn't. Instead you make a control-showing bid of 4 ♣, promising first round control. Partner obliges you by bidding 4 ♥. What is your next bid?

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Partner's bidding is like the Sherlock Holmes tale Silver Blaze, about the dog that didn't bark. Partner's ♥ bid shows that he DOES have the ♥A, but equally important it shows that he DOES NOT

have the ♦A. So you know you don't have a ♥ loser but do have a ♦ loser. You bid 6 ♠.