

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9 6 3 2

♥ A 4 3 2

♦ J 10

♣ 9 5

17
5 10
8

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

♠ K J 5

♥ K J 7

♦ A 9 6

♣ K Q 10 2



♠ Q 7 4

♥ Q 10 9 6 5

♦ 8 3

♣ A 8 3

North

1 NT

3 ♣

4 ♥

East

2 ♦

Pass

Pass

South

2 NT

3 ♥

Pass

With 9 points you don't want to sign-off with 2 ♥. But you aren't strong enough to force to game with a 3 ♥ bid either. So you start an invitational sequence by bidding 2 NT.

Partner says 3 ♣. What do you bid?

Now you bid 3 ♥. Partner will realize you have better than a sign-off, but were not good enough to bid 3 ♥ immediately. He has a maximum, and he knows you have a 5-card suit, so he bids 4 ♥.

Deal 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 4 2
 ♥ A K Q 6 5 2
 ♦ J 9 2
 ♣ 6

13
 10 1
 16

West

2 ♥

Pass

Pass

5 ♣ by South

♠ A J 6 3

♥ 9 4

♦ A 8 5

♣ K J 10 3



♠ K Q 5

♥ 10 8

♦ K Q 7 3

♣ A Q 7 4

North

3 ♥

5 ♣

East

Pass

Pass

♠ 10 9 7

♥ J 7 3

♦ 10 6 4

♣ 9 8 5 2

South

1 NT

4 ♣

Pass

Partner's bid asks if you have 4 ♠s, and denies a ♥ stopper. (DIRECT DENIES)

You don't have 4 ♠s, nor can you stop ♥s. You have no choice but to bid one of the 4-card Minor suits, so you go up-the-line and bid 4 ♣. Partner bids 5 ♣.

Deal 3

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 8
 ♥ 7 6 4
 ♦ A J 9 7
 ♣ 10 9 6 4

3
 9 17
 11

West

Dbl

2 ♦ × by South

♠ Q J 10 9 6 5 4 2

♥ 8 3

♦ 6

♣ 8 2



♠ —

♥ K Q J 10

♦ K 10 8 4 3 2

♣ Q 7 3

North

Pass

East

1 NT

Pass

South

2 ♦

Pass

It is possible your side can make 3 NT on this deal. You have 9 points, invitational strength, and your ♦ stopper is excellent.

However you should look for an even bigger reward by doubling. South is in serious trouble, and when the opponents make a mistake you should punish them.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A 6

♥ 10 9

♦ K Q 8 4 3 2

♣ J 9 5

12
10 2
16

♠ Q 10 8 4

♥ K 6

♦ A 10 7

♣ K 10 8 3



♠ K J 9 3

♥ A Q 8 7

♦ 9 5

♣ A Q 7

♠ 7 5 2

♥ J 5 4 3 2

♦ J 6

♣ 6 4 2

West

North

East

South

2 ♦

Pass

Pass

Pass

4 ♠ by South

2 NT

3 ♦

3 NT

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

1 NT

3 ♣

3 ♥

4 ♠

Partner's 2 NT bid requests that you bid 3 ♣, so you do. He next says 3 ♦.

Partner's bid is game-forcing Stayman, but with a ♦ stopper (SLOW SHOWS). Holding 4 cards in each Major you bid up-the-line, 4 ♥. Partner now bids 3 NT. What do you say?

Partner would not have asked for a 4-card Major unless he held one himself. Since it wasn't ♥s it must be the other one. You bid 4 ♠.