

**Deal 1**

North Deals

None Vul

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

**10**  
**11**  
**12** 7

♠ K 9 7 3

♥ 8 4 2

♦ A K 5

♣ J 7 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 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

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

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

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

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

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

**Deal 2**

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

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



♠ 10 8 2
♥ A K 7 5 3
♦ K Q 5
♣ Q 6

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

After SOUTH opens with 1

â™¥

, NORTH 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**South Deals  
None Vul

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

9  
 7 8  
**16**

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

♠ K Q J 7 4

♥ K Q 2  
 ♦ A J 6

♣ 9 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass			Pass
4 ♠ by South			

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

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

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

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

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