

**Deal 1**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

14  
9 11  
6

*West*

Pass  
3 ♦ by South

♠ A 8 7  
♥ K Q 8 7 3  
♦ J

♣ A 9 5 4



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

*North*

Pass

*East*

Pass

*South*

3 ♦

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3 ♦]

You estimate you can win 6 ♦ tricks so you open 3 ♦. Everybody passes.

**Deal 2**

North Deals  
None Vul

♠ A 7  
♥ A 10 6 3  
♦ 10 3 2  
♣ A 7 6 2

6  
12 9  
13

West

Pass

3 ♠ by North

♠ K Q J 10 8 6 4

♥ 9 7

♦ 6 5

♣ 10 4



♠ 9 2

♥ K J 8 5

♦ K J 9

♣ K Q 8 3

North

3 ♠

East

Pass

South

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID pass]

You have 13 points and if partner had opened with a 1♠ bid you'd be feeling "jumpy". But what a preemptive bidder needs from dummy are immediate winners, not points. So you pass.

Here's a pretty good tip: When partner opens with a 3-bid and you are trying to decide whether to take him to game, visualize him holding this very hand: K Q J T x x x of trumps and nothing in any other suit. Then base your decision on that.

**Deal 3**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

12  
9 12  
7

West

Pass  
Pass

4 ♥ by South

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



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

North

4 ♥

East

Pass

South

3 ♥  
Pass

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3 ♥]

You expect your hand to produce 5 ♥ tricks and the ♠A. So you open 3 ♥. Partner responds 4 ♥. What do you bid? [BID pass]

When you preempted 3 ♥ you described your hand perfectly. You have nothing more to say except pass.

**Deal 4**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

5  
10 13  
12

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
4 ♥ by North	Pass	Pass	

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 4 ♥]

No matter how much we try to reduce bridge to rules and guidelines we will never get rid of the judgement factor. With this hand you definitely have 3 fast tricks for partner. In theory he can take 6 of his own, so 3 ♥ should be the right contract. BUT, maybe he could ruff a ♦ in your dummy?

Fortune favors the bold so you bid 4 ♥ . . . and live happily ever after.

**Deal 5**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

7  
15 12  
6

West

Pass  
4 ♠ by South

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



♠ K Q J 9 8 7 5 2  
♥ 9  
♦ 5 2  
♣ 8 7

North

Pass

East

Pass

South

4 ♠

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 4 ♠]

With 7 estimated winners and an 8-card suit you preempt 4 ♠. And you are not going to make it. In fact you are only going to make 8 tricks so you will go down 2.

You may be wishing that you had opened just 3 ♠, rather than following the guidelines and opening at the 4-level. The problem with that thinking is that the lower your preempt, the less difficult it is for the opponent's to enter the bidding. If you had opened 3 ♠ West might have

been able to make a Takeout Double and they could have found their ♥ fit. Just visualize their combined hands; they have 9 ♥s between them, they have no ♠ losers, no ♣ losers and just one ♦ loser. If they decide to finesse your partner for the ♥ Q they can make slam.

This is what preempting is all about.

**Deal 6**

North Deals

None Vul

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

6  
9 5  
20

West

Pass

6 ♠ by North

♠ K Q J 9 8 7 3

♥ 6

♦ 9 8 4 2

♣ 7



♠ 10 6

♥ A K Q 8 5

♦ A K

♣ A 8 6 4

North

3 ♠

Pass

East

Pass

South

6 ♠

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 6 ♠]

If is hard to imagine any hand partner could have where the slam wouldn't be there. Maybe you should use Blackwood, just to be sure? If partner shows 1 Ace you would then bid 6 ♠. And if he shows no Aces you would then . . . bid 6 ♠ anyway. So you leave out the middle step and bid 6 ♠.

Did you think about bidding 6 NT instead? Ugh, they would have led a ♣.

**Deal 7**  
 South Deals  
 None Vul

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

  

	♠ 9 5	
8	♥ K Q 10 8 7 6 3	
20 7	♦ 8 2	
5	♣ 10 9	

  

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			3 ♥
Dbl	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		
3 ♠ by East			

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3 ♥]

You make a simple 3 ♥ opening bid and then the fireworks start. West doubles, your partner passes and East bids 3 ♠. What do you bid now? [BID pass]

Do not preempt the same hand twice. The idea of a preemptive bid is that you bid it's maximum at your first turn. If there is to any further competing on this hand partner will have to do it.

**Deal 8**

North Deals

None Vul

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

6  
10 13  
11

West

Pass

4 ♦ by North

♠ 4

♥ 6 5 2

♦ K Q J 10 8 7 3

♣ 8 5



♠ 8 6 3 2

♥ K 8

♦ A 9 6 4

♣ A 7 3

North

3 ♦

Pass

East

3 ♠

Pass

South

4 ♦

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 4 ♦]

You do not have the 4 fast winners you need to raise partner to the 4-level. But you do have 4 of his trumps and 2 and a half winners. And your side doesn't have much defense against a 3 ♠ contract. You should raise partner to 4 ♦ because you think they can make 3 ♠. With these hands it appears they might have gone to 4 ♠ in which case you would have had to decide whether to continue to 5 ♦. More judgement would be called for, based on Vulnerability, whether you think they can make the game, etc. The Law of

Total Tricks can be a help in these competitive situations; it would lead you to 5 ♦.



**Deal 9**

South Deals  
None Vul

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

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



♠ K J 6 4 3  
♥ A Q J 9  
♦ —  
♣ A J 7 4

8  
10 16  
6

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

West	North	East	South
			3♦
Dbl	4♦	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		
4♥ by East			

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3♦]

You open 3♦. West doubles, partner raises to 4♦, and East bids 4♥. What do you say? [BID pass]

You just pass. Partner's raise was probably just advancing your preempt and they got to 4♥ anyway. Sometimes preempts don't do the full job.

It is partner's decision, not yours, whether to continue to 5♦ as a sacrifice.

**Deal 10**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

7  
11 12  
10

West

Pass

3 ♥ by North

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



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

North

3 ♥

East

Pass

South

Pass

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID pass]

The guidelines in the summary would have you bid 4 ♥. After all you very clearly have four quick winners.

But you also have seven quick losers in the other suits, and a trump void to boot.

Somewhere in some of these lessons there should be a guideline that says:

```
<table bgcolor="#ccccff" border="2"
bordercolor="#000099" cellpadding="3"
cellspacing="0"><tr><td>
```

**Deal 11**

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 5

♥ A J 8 3

♦ Q 7 6 5

♣ K Q 2

♠ 4 2

♥ 9 7 2

♦ A K 10 3 2

♣ J 8 6



♠ J 9

♥ K Q 10 5 4

♦ J 9

♣ A 7 4 3

♠ A K 10 8 7 6 3

♥ 6

♦ 8 4

♣ 10 9 5

14  
8 11  
7

West

North

East

South

Pass

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

3 ♠

3 ♠ by South

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3 ♠]

The fact that East opened doesn't change your hand at all. You had planned on Opening 3 ♠, now you make a Weak Jump Overcall of 3 ♠. If partner has some "stuff" you might get to a makeable contract, and if he doesn't you may keep the opponents out of a ♥ game.

This time everybody passes.

**Deal 12**

West Deals  
None Vul

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

6  
12 5  
17

*West*

1 ♣

Pass

4 ♥ by North

♠ Q

♥ K J 10 9 6 4 2

♦ 10 8

♣ 7 6 4



♠ A K 7 2

♥ Q 7

♦ A 5 4 2

♣ A 9 5

*North*

3 ♥

Pass

*East*

Pass

Pass

*South*

4 ♥

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 4 ♥]

You have four quick winners. If partner had opened 3 ♥ you would have bid 4 ♥ in the blink of an eye. His Weak Jump Overcall describes the exact same hand. So blink and bid 4 ♥.