

**Deal 1**South Deals  
None Vul

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

8  
 9 10  
 13

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

**♠ A K 7 4**  
**♥ K Q 9 6**  
**♦ J 8**  
**♣ 9 7 6**

*West*      *North*      *East*      *South*  
 Pass      **1♠**      Pass      **1♣**  
 Pass      Pass                **2♣**

**2♣ by North**

The bidding is shown. Decide what you would say, then BID.

You have plenty good support to raise partner's ♣ suit. But your first priority is to show a 4-card Major suit if you have one. You do, so you respond 1♠. Partner raises you to 2♠.

Are you tempted to take partner back to ♣s since you have such good support? Don't be. Partner has 4 ♣s, but he might have only 3 ♣s.

Are you tempted to bid 3♠ since partner raised you? Don't be. He showed a minimum hand with his single raise and you only have 9 points. Just pass.

**Deal 2**

West Deals  
None Vul

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

6  
14 13  
7

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

N  
W E  
S

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		
4 ♥ by East			

The bidding is shown. Decide what you would say, then BID.

Some might jump to 2 NT, "to show partner my point count". Some might jump to 3 ♦, "to force partner to game and show my ♦ support". The wise ones will just bid 1 ♥, striving to find an 8-card Major fit, the first priority of bidding.

You choose the 1 ♥ route, and partner obligingly says 2 ♥. What do you bid next?

Remember "She who knows, goes"? You know of the 8-card Major fit. You know of at least 26 combined points. You know you should bid 4 ♥, so you do.

**Deal 3**  
South Deals  
None Vul

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

13  
8 6  
13

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

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

♠ 4  
♥ 6 5 3  
♦ A Q 5 4 3  
♣ 9 6 4 3

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

N  
W    E  
S

The bidding is shown. Decide what you would say, then BID.

When you have two 4-card suits to show you bid them "up-the-line". In this case it means you say 1 ♥. Partner replies 1 ♠. What do you bid?

There are enough points for game and a known 8-card Major fit. So you bid 4 ♠.

Perfect bidding isn't always rewarded. They can win three ♦ tricks and the Ace of trumps. If the opening lead is a ♥ or a ♣ you might make it, so it just depends on luck.

**Deal 4**East Deals  
None Vul

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

8  
14 14  
4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 NT	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		
3 NT by West			

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

N  
W E  
S

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

♠ Q 8 3 2  
♥ Q 8 5 3 2  
♦ 10 4  
♣ 4 2

The bidding is shown. Decide what you would say, then BID.

You have two very good choices, neither of which is really wrong. You could bid 2 NT, showing 13-16 points, balanced, or you could bid 3 ♦, showing 13-16 points, good trump support.

What should decide you is the bidding priorities. You'd much rather try to play a 9-trick game than an 11-trick game. And at the same time you must trust your partner not to leave you hung out in Notrump with an unsuitable hand. (Can you believe I wrote Notrump and unsuitable in the same sentence?)

Anyway, you bid 2 NT and partner raises to 3 NT.

**Deal 5**  
South Deals  
None Vul

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

14  
7 5  
14

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

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

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	3 NT	Pass	1 ♠
Pass			Pass

3 NT by North

The bidding is shown. Decide what you would say, then BID.

With 14 points and a 4-3-3-3 distribution this could be the perfect hand for a jump to 2 NT. But not when the 4-card suit is a Major - you should not skip bidding a Major when you have the opportunity.

So you respond 1 ♥. Partner says 1 ♠. What do you bid?

Partner doesn't have 4 ♥s so you go back to thinking this is an ideal notrump hand. So ideal that you apply the "She who knows, goes" principle and bid 3 NT. Partner smiles and passes.