

Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

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



♠ K 7 6 3
♥ J 4 2
♦ 9 7 4
♣ 8 6 5

West North East South
1 ♥ Pass Pass

Pass
1 ♥ by North

NORTH has 18 points and a 5-card



suit. This is a good hand
to open 1



.

SOUTH has three



s which is adequate support. But SOUTH
only

has 4 points which is not strong enough to respond. So SOUTH passes.

Deal 2
South Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 5
♥ J 10 7
♦ Q 5 3 2
♣ A 7 5 4

6
7 11
16

♠ K 8 2
♥ K 5 4 3
♦ 8 6
♣ 9 8 3 2

♠ A 10 3
♥ Q 8 6 2
♦ A J 10 9
♣ 10 6

N
W E
S

♠ Q J 9 6 4
♥ A 9
♦ K 7 4
♣ K Q J

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

now bid 4♦ - but with 7 she passes.

SOUTH has 17 points counting 1 extra for the fifth ♠. This is a middle-range hand with five ♠s.

So he opens 1♠.

NORTH only has 7 points, 6 in high cards and one more for the doubleton

♦

.

But she does have three ♠s, so she can respond 2♠.

Since SOUTH is middle-range, he makes one more try by bidding 3♠.

If NORTH had 9 or 10 points she would

Deal 3

North Deals
None Vul

♠ K 10 3
♥ Q 10 9 6
♦ 10 7
♣ A 9 6 3

8
9 12
11

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

2♠ by South

♠ Q 7 5
♥ K J 7 4
♦ J 9 4 2
♣ J 8

♠ 8
W N E
S ♠ A 5 2
♦ K Q 8 5 3
♣ K 10 7 2

♠ A J 9 6 4 2

♥ 8 3
♦ A 6

♣ Q 5 4

With 8 points, NORTH is not strong enough to open the bidding.

SOUTH has 13 points, barely meeting the minimum for a 1-opening. Note that the fifth and

sixth ♠ each added 1 point to his count.
He opens 1♠.

Although NORTH passed originally, she must respond to SOUTH's opening bid. Since she has

three ♠s she raises to 2♠.

In light of NORTH's weak response SOUTH passes.

Deal 4

South Deals
None Vul

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

8	9	8	15
♠ A K	♥ Q J 8 6 4 2	♦ K Q 3	♣ 7 5

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♥ by South			



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

SOUTH has 17 points and six

♥

s.

This is a mid-range 1

♥

opening bid.

With 9 points, (1 for the doubleton), NORTH raises to 2

♥

.

SOUTH's hand is worth one more try. He invites with 3

NORTH had a strong 2

♥

raise, considering that she might

have only had 6 points. So she carries on to 4

♥

.

Deal 5

North Deals	♠ 10 9 2
None Vul	♥ A K 5 4 2
	♦ 8 5
	♣ A K Q
♠ A K J 5 3	♠ Q 8
♥ J 10	♥ 9 8
♦ 10 7 2	♦ K Q 9 6 3
♣ 7 4 3	♣ J 10 6 2



16	♠ 7 6 4
9 8	♥ Q 7 6 3
7	♦ A J 4
	♣ 9 8 5

West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 ♥ by North			

NORTH opens 1

♥

with 17 points and five

♥

s.

SOUTH, with 7 points and four trumps raises to 2

♥

.

NORTH has a mid-range hand, good enough to invite SOUTH to bid the game.

Too bad, but SOUTH is too weak to accept any invitations.

Deal 6
South Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 9 5
♥ A Q 10
♦ J 2
♣ J 10 7 6 4

10 9
4
♣ 9 2

♠ K J 8 7 4
♥ K 7 2
♦ A 9 5
♣ A Q

N
W E
S

♠ 10 2
♥ J 6 4
♦ K Q 10 7
♣ K 8 5 3

♠ A 6 3
♥ 9 8 5 3
♦ 8 6 4 3
♣ 9 2

West North East South
Pass 1 ♠ Pass Pass
Pass
1 ♠ by North

SOUTH has a terrible hand, and naturally passes.

NORTH, however, has a nice 18 points and opens 1♠.

SOUTH still has a terrible hand, and passes again. You need at least 6 points to respond to

an opening one bid.

Deal 7

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A
♥ J 9 8 5 3
♦ J
♣ 10 9 5 4 3 2



♠ 8 7 2
♥ 10 6 2
♦ A 10 8 7 3
♣ K Q

♠ 10 9 6 3
♥ K Q 4
♦ 9 6 4 2
♣ A 7

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

NORTH has 17 points and might open 1 NT. But with the 5-card Major suit she prefers

to open 1 ♠.

SOUTH has good ♠ support and 10 points, counting 1 for the doubleton ♣.

It is easily worth a raise to 2 ♠

NORTH cannot bid game yet, after all, SOUTH could have as few as 6 points. But she can

continue with a 3 ♠ bid in hopes that SOUTH actually has 9 or 10 points.

SOUTH comes through with 4 ♠.

Deal 8South Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 9 5 3
♥ A 7
♦ J 9 8 5
♣ 9 6 4

¹¹
₇ ¹⁰
₁₂

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 8 7 2
♥ Q 9 6 4
♦ K 6 2
♣ A Q 3

♠ A 10 4
♥ 10 3
♦ Q 10 3
♣ K J 10 7 2

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

SOUTH has a bare minimum 13 point hand, and he should open 1

♥

.

NORTH has 11 points and good

♥

support so she jumps to 3

♥

.

SOUTH knows he has been invited to bid higher, but with nothing above minimum he must pass.

Deal 9

North Deals	♠ Q J
None Vul	♥ J 8 5 4
	♦ A 9 8 3
	♣ Q J 7
♠ K 5 4	♠ A 10 9 7 2
♥ 6 3	♥ 10 9
♦ 10 7 5 4 2	♦ Q J
♣ A K 2	♣ 8 6 4 3

11	♠ 8 6 3
10	♥ A K Q 7 2
12	♦ K 6
	♣ 10 9 5

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	Pass
3 ♥ by South			

points will

be either 24 or 25. So he passes 3

♥

.

NORTH has 11 points and she should pass.

SOUTH has a minimum 1

♥

opening, 13 points and five trumps.

NORTH, with 4-card trump support, jumps to 3

♥

(This is called a Limit Raise.)

A Limit Raise is an invitational bid, but SOUTH can add and he knows the total

Deal 10
South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 5 4
♥ 10 9 6
♦ J 4
♣ K Q 9 8 3

6
10 11
13

West North East South
Pass 2 ♠ Pass Pass
Pass
2 ♠ by South

♠ J 9 6 2
♥ K Q 7 5
♦ 8 3
♣ 10 7 4

♠ 8
♥ J 8 3
♦ A K Q 10 6 2
♣ J 5 2

♠ K Q 10 7 3
♥ A 4 2
♦ 9 7 5
♣ A 6

1 ♠

SOUTH has a normal 1 ♠ opening bid, 14 points and five trumps.

NORTH has good 4-card support and 7 points, so she raises to 2 ♠.

SOUTH passes, knowing he is not missing a game contract. NORTH can have a maximum of 10 points, which would

only reach 24 points when added to his 14.

Deal 11

North Deals

None Vul

♦ A Q 7 5 3

♦ K Q

♦ A 8 7 6

♣ 9 4

♠ J 9 8

♥ 10 9 6

♦ J 5

♣ K Q 10 8 5



♠ 10

♥ A 7 4 3 2

♦ Q 10 9 4

♣ J 7 3

15
7 7
11

♠ K 6 4 2

♥ J 8 5

♦ K 3 2

♣ A 6 2

West North East South

1 ♠

Pass

3 ♠

Pass

4 ♠ by North

With a 5-card ♠ suit and 16 points NORTH should open 1♠.

SOUTH has 11 points and four ♠s. So even though he has a balanced hand,

he jumps to 3♠, a Limit Raise.

NORTH adds: her 16 plus SOUTH's 11/12 equals a game, 4♠.

Deal 12South Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 3 2
♥ Q J 9
♦ J 7 3
♣ A 8 7 4

¹¹
8 5
¹⁶

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 5
♥ K 10 8 5 2
♦ Q 10 9 4
♣ 10 6 2

♠ J 10 8 6 4

♥ A 6
♦ A K 6
♣ K J 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	4 ♠
4 ♠ by South			

SOUTH has the type of 5-card Major hand that many players would open 1 NT.

He has 17 points with most of them OUTSIDE the Major suit. But, many others

would disagree so for this Deal SOUTH will open 1 ♠.

NORTH has 11 points and excellent (is that strong enough?) ♠ support.

So she naturally makes a Limit Raise of 3 ♠.

SOUTH adds the points and ignores the fact that his ♠ suit is Jack high.

He bids 4 ♠.

Deal 13North Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9
♥ A 7 6
♦ A 4 2
♣ 10 8 7 5 3

12
9 5
14

West
Pass
4 ♥ by North

♠ K 5
♥ Q J 10 8 3
♦ K Q J
♣ 9 6 2

N
W E
S

♠ Q 10 8 7 3 2
♥ 4
♦ 10 9 8
♣ Q J 4

♠ A 6 4
♥ K 9 5 2
♦ 7 6 5 3
♣ A K

North
1 ♥
Pass
Pass

East
Pass
Pass

South
4 ♥

NORTH has a minimum 1

♥

opening bid - 13 points and five trumps.

SOUTH also has opening hand strength, 14 points for him. He also has four of NORTH's

♥

s. He applies the "He who knows, goes" principle and

bids 4

♥

IMPORTANT NOTE: Most experienced bridge pairs would not bid the hand quite this way, although they

would arrive at the same contract. See some of the other BakerBridge lessons for more details.

Deal 14
South Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q 9 2
♥ Q J
♦ Q 7 6 4
♣ J 8 4

♠ 5
♥ 10 4 3 2
♦ 10 2
♣ A 10 7 6 5 2

N
W E
S

♠ 6 3
♥ 9 8 7 6
♦ J 9 8 5
♣ K Q 3

♠ A J 10 8 7 4

11
4 6
19

♥ A K 5
♦ A K 3
♣ 9

West North East South
Pass 3 ♠ Pass 6 ♠

Pass Pass
6 ♠ by South

SOUTH has a powerful hand (21 points) with a good 6-card suit. He opens 1♠.

NORTH has an 11-point Limit Raise with four trumps. She jumps to 3♠.

SOUTH now knows that the partnership holds at least 32 points, perhaps 33. Since he can see that

the opponents have no way to win the first two tricks he decides to bid the slam, 6♠

Deal 15

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8
♥ K J 10 8
♦ J 6 4 2
♣ 10 9 5

13
8 11
8

West North East South
Pass Pass Pass 4 ♠
4 ♠ by North

	N		
W		E	
	S		

♠ A 7 6 5 2
♥ 7 6
♦ A 8 3
♣ AJ 4

NORTH has 14 points and opens 1♠, her 5-card Major.

SOUTH could bid 3♠, a Limit Raise with his 11 points. But it is often a good idea,

when you have five of the Major suit that partner opened with, to just go ahead and bid

the game. So South should bid 4♠ here.

See the NOTE in Deal 13. When you use weaker 5-card support hands for your jump to game, you

need to find another way to describe your opening-hand-strength type hands.

Deal 16

South Deals	♠ 9 4
None Vul	♥ A K 5 2
	♦ K J 3
	♣ K 9 6 2
♠ Q 5 3	♠ K J 10 6 2
♥ 7 4	♥ Q J
♦ 9 8 7 5 4	♦ Q 10
♣ Q J 3	♣ 10 7 5 4



14	♠ A 8 7
5 9	♥ 10 9 8 6 3
12	♦ A 6 2
	♣ A 8

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

least nine



s between

the partners. She who KNOWS, GOES, so NORTH bids 4



.

This is similar to Deal 13.

SOUTH has 13 points so he must open.
He has five



s so he

should open 1



.

NORTH, with 14 points and four



s knows there are

enough points for a game contract and at

Deal 17

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 7
♥ 10 9 7
♦ Q 6 3
♣ 10 9 8 5 3

19
3 6
12

♠ Q 8 2
♥ Q 8 4 3
♦ K 7 4
♣ K Q 2

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

♠ K 9
♥ A K J 6 5
♦ A 10 5
♣ A 7 6

N
W E
S

♠ A 10 6 5 4 3
♥ 2
♦ J 9 8 2
♣ J 4

NORTH has 20 points, a pretty strong hand to open 1

♥

.

SOUTH has 12 points, and makes a Limit Raise, a jump to 3

♥

.

NORTH is very, very close to bidding a slam. But she knows SOUTH has 12 points at most, so she should

take the safe position and just bid 4

♥

.

Deal 18
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ 10 ♥ 6 5 ♦ J 10 3 2 ♣ A K Q J 10 2 12 11 10 7 ♣ 9 5	♠ A J 6 5 3 ♥ J 10 9 ♦ A Q 5 4 ♣ 6 ♠ K ♥ A 8 7 4 2 ♦ K 9 7 ♣ 8 7 4 3 ♠ Q 9 8 7 4 2 ♥ K Q 3 ♦ 8 6 ♣ 9 5		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	4♠
4♠ by North			

SOUTH passes to start with since he only has 9 points.

NORTH naturally opens 1♠ with her 13 point, 5-card ♠ suit hand.

SOUTH might now make a Limit Raise since his hand is now worth 11 points because of the

two doubletons. However, with six trumps he should jump all the way to 4♠.

Deal 19

North Deals

None Vul

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

18	♠ J 10 8 2
7 9	♥ K 5 2
6	♦ 8 6

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♠ by North			

N	W	E	S
♦ A J 8 6 4	♦ J 10	♣ 10 9 8 5	

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

NORTH has 20 points, counting two extra for the fifth and sixth ♠s.

Naturally she opens 1♠.

SOUTH has a poor hand, but with 7 points he must respond. He has four of partner's ♠s

so he responds 2♠.

NORTH

KNOWS

that $6 + 20 = 26$, so she

GOES

to 4♠.

Deal 20

South Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 5 3
♥ 6 3
♦ 8 6 4 2
♣ K Q J 2

6
8 7
19

N
W E
S

♠ A 7 4
♥ AJ 8 7 2
♦ K Q J
♣ A 3

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

♠ J 8
♥ K Q 5 4
♦ 9 7 5 3
♣ 10 6 4

♠ K 10 9 6 2
♥ 10 9
♦ A 10
♣ 9 8 7 5

SOUTH has 20 points, but with a 5-card Major opens 1

♥

rather than 2 NT.

NORTH barely has enough points for a response, but she does have four

♥

s.
So she responds 2

♥

.

SOUTH adds NORTH's 6 to his 20 and bids the game, 4

♥

.

Deal 21

North Deals

None Vul

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

17	♠ J 8 6 3
9 12	♥ 6 3
2	♦ J 8 4 3
	♣ 8 7 5



West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	Pass	Pass

Pass

1 ♥ by North

NORTH has 20 points because she gets to add one point each for her fifth, sixth and seventh

♥

s. So she opens 1

♥

.

SOUTH, with just 2 points, would have passed almost anything NORTH bid. Certainly he

passes the 1

♥

bid.

Deal 22South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 7 3
♥ J 10 5
♦ 9 4 2
♣ Q 10 9 5

¹¹
7 9
₁₃

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 8 4 2
♥ 9 7 6
♦ Q J
♣ A K 7 2

♠ K Q 10 6 5

♥ K Q 2

♦ K 8 7

♣ 8 3

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
4 ♠ by South			

SOUTH has 14 points so he opens one of his 5-card Major suit, 1♠.

NORTH has some good ♣s, but with four of partner's Major she doesn't bother bidding anything else.

Since she has 11 points she jumps to 3♠, a Limit Raise.

SOUTH is very close to passing. He now gets to add a point for his doubleton ♣ which takes

him up to 15 points. So he has enough to bid 4♠.

Deal 23North Deals
None Vul

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

¹⁴
9 6
₁₁

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♠ by North			

♠ K J 8 7 2
 ♥ A 9 8
 ♦ K Q J
 ♣ 6 5



♠ Q
 ♥ Q 6 4 3
 ♦ 10 9 7 6 3
 ♣ Q 9 3

♠ 10 9 5 3
 ♥ K J 2
 ♦ A 5
 ♣ K 7 4 2

NORTH has a normal opening bid of 1♠.

SOUTH has a Limit Raise in ♠s, 11 points and 4 ♠s.

He responds 3♠

NORTH figures that 15 points is enough for game with partner showing 11/12.

She bids 4♠.

Deal 24South Deals
None Vul

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

¹⁴
 8 12
 6

♠ 5 4 3
 ♥ K 5 3
 ♦ 10 6 5
 ♣ Q J 8 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 ♥ by North			

♠ A 6
 ♥ A Q 8 7 6 4 2
 ♦ A 3
 ♣ 4 2

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

N
W E
S

SOUTH has 6 points and wouldn't dream of opening.

NORTH has 17 points, counting three extra length points, so she opens 1

♥

.

SOUTH does have enough to raise to 2

♥

.

NORTH makes one more try, inviting with a 3

♥

bid but SOUTH just passes.