

Deal 1

South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 8 6 3 2
♥ 9 2
♦ 9 5 4
♣ A 7 4

15
5 3
17

West

Pass

Pass

6 NT by South

♠ A 9 4

♥ A 7

♦ K 8 3

♣ K J 9 6 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q 7

♥ K Q J 3

♦ A 10 6

♣ Q 10 8

North

4 NT

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

6 NT

SOUTH has a maximum 17 point 1 NT bid.

NORTH, with 16 points, can't tell if there are enough points for slam. If SOUTH has

17 points then a slam should be makeable, but if SOUTH has only 15 points then he

should settle for game.

The 4 NT raise solves the problem. It tells SOUTH to bid 6 NT with 17 points, pass

with 15 points, and use best judgment with 16. Here SOUTH bids the slam.

Deal 2

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 5 4
 ♥ K Q 9
 ♦ 10 6 2
 ♣ A 9 8 4

11
 10 7
 12

West

Pass

Pass

3 ♠ by South

♠ K 9 7 3

♥ 8 4 2

♦ A K 5

♣ J 7 6



♠ A Q 8 6 2

♥ J 5 3

♦ 7 4

♣ K Q 2

North

Pass

3 ♠

East

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♠

Pass

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

But when SOUTH opens 1♠ NORTH should show her "almost opening strength"

by jumping to 3♠.

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

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q J 9 5

♥ J 10

♦ 7 4 2

♣ 8 4 3

9
8 9
14

♠ 7 3

♥ Q 8 6 4 2

♦ A 8 6

♣ K 9 5

N
W E
S

♠ 10 8 2

♥ A K 7 5 3

♦ K Q 5

♣ Q 6

♠ K 6 4

♥ 9

♦ J 10 9 3

♣ A J 10 7 2

West

North

East

South

Pass

4 ♥

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

Pass

4 ♥ by South

After SOUTH opens with 1

♠™

, NORTH has a small "dilemma".

With 11 points she really is only strong enough to make a jump raise to 3

♠™

.

But, with five trumps the hand deserves more. So she just bids 4

♠™

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 4

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 6 4

♥ K Q 9 3

♦ 7 4 2

♣ 9 8 5

19
9 5
7

West

Pass

Pass

4♠ by South

♠ Q J 7 5

♥ A

♦ A K Q 3

♣ K 10 6 2



♠ K 10 8 3

♥ J 7 2

♦ 9 8 6

♣ Q J 3

North

1♦

4♠

East

Pass

Pass

South

1♠

Pass

NORTH has 19 points, but no 5-card Major suit. With two 4-card minor suits she should start

with 1

1TM

.

SOUTH has a poor hand, but with 7 points he must respond. His first priority is to show a Major suit

so he responds 1TM.

NORTH now knows that 1TMs will be trumps, so she revalues her hand to 21 points, enough for game.

She bids 4TM.

Deal 5

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 5 2
♥ J 10 8
♦ 9 4 2
♣ Q 10 8 5

9
7 8
16

♠ 10 9 6 3
♥ 7 5 4
♦ Q 7
♣ A K 6 4



♠ K Q J 7 4
♥ K Q 2
♦ A J 6
♣ 9 3

♠ 8
♥ A 9 6 3
♦ K 10 8 5 3
♣ J 7 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	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♠TM rather than 1 NT.

NORTH isn't quite strong enough for a jump raise, so she bids 2♠TM.

SOUTH has enough extra to make a try for game, so she invites with 3♠TM.

NORTH has enough extra to accept the invitation, bids 4♠TM.