

**Deal 1**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

|    |            |
|----|------------|
| 14 | ♠ A K 10 8 |
| 7  | ♦ 9 8 5 3  |
| 9  | ♦ Q 10 9 6 |
|    | ♣ 8        |

| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Pass        | 1 ♥          | Pass        | 3 ♥          |
| Pass        | 4 ♥          | Pass        | Pass         |

4 ♥ by North



You could bid 1 ♠. Many would do so, thinking "I have to show partner my ♠ suit."

In fact, you don't have to show partner your ♠ suit. You already know of a partnership 9-card fit in ♥s, so there is no reason to search for a possible 8-card fit in ♠s.

With 11 points and 4 trumps you bid 3 ♥, a limit raise. Partner raises to game.

**Deal 2**

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| North Deals   | ♠ A 9 6 2      |
| None Vul      | ♥ A K J 7 4    |
|               | ♦ 10 5         |
|               | ♣ 7 3          |
| ♠ 7           | ♠ J 5 4 3      |
| ♥ 9 8 3 2     | W N E          |
| ♦ A K 8 4 3 2 | S              |
| ♣ Q 8         | ♣ K J 10 5 4 2 |

|     |            |
|-----|------------|
| 12  | ♠ K Q 10 8 |
| 9 5 | ♥ Q 6      |
| 14  | ♦ Q J 9 6  |
|     | ♣ A 9 6    |

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

You MIGHT jump to 2 NT to "show your points". However, a notrump bid now would deny a 4-card ♠ suit. Instead, your priority is to show that Major, so you respond 1 ♠. Partner bids 2 ♠. What do you say next?

Partner would not support a response which might be 4 cards unless he had 4 himself. Knowing that you have two opening hands facing each other, each containing 4 ♠s, you bid the ♠ game.

**Deal 3**North Deals  
None Vul

♠ 4  
 ♥ 9 8 4 3 2  
 ♦ A 9 4 3 2  
 ♣ Q 5

6<sup>17</sup>  
 8  
 9

♠ A 10 9 7 5  
 ♥ K Q  
 ♦ K 10 5  
 ♣ A J 7

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   | N |   |
| W |   | E |
|   | S |   |

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

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
|      | 1 ♠   | Pass | 2 ♠   |
| Pass | 3 ♠   | Pass | 4 ♠   |
| Pass | Pass  | Pass |       |

4 ♠ by North

With 4-card support you respond 2 ♠. Partner raises to 3 ♠. What do you say next?

Partner's bid is an invitation. You have told him you have 6-10 points and he probably has about 17-18. If you are at the high end of your 6-T he wants you to bid game, at the low end he wants you to pass. You actually have T, definitely high end, so you bid 4 ♠.

**Deal 4**

|             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| South Deals | ♠ K Q 8 6 |
| None Vul    | ♥ J 7 6   |
|             | ♦ J 7 6   |
|             | ♣ 9 6 5   |

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

|     |              |
|-----|--------------|
| 7   | ♠ A 10 9 7 5 |
| 9 9 | ♥ K Q        |
| 15  | ♦ A 3        |

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

|   |   |
|---|---|
| W | N |
| S | E |

|              |       |      |       |
|--------------|-------|------|-------|
| West         | North | East | South |
|              |       |      | 1 ♠   |
| Pass         | 2 ♠   | Pass | 3 ♣   |
| Pass         | 3 ♠   | Pass | Pass  |
| Pass         |       |      |       |
| 3 ♠ by South |       |      |       |

With 7 points and good trumps you respond 2 ♠. Partner now bids 3 ♣. What do you bid next?

Again partner is inviting you to bid game. He wants you to bid it if you are at the top of your 6-T range, and he wants you to particularly promote any Help you can give him in ♣s.

You are at the bottom of your range and you have no help in ♣s, so you just return to ♠s. Partner passes.

**Deal 5**North Deals  
None Vul

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

**16**  
**10** 7  
7

N  
W E  
S

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

| <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

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

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

Your only reasonable response is 2 ♥. Partner now bids 3 ♦. What do you say?

With 8 points you are right in the middle of the 6-10 points you promised. So you could either accept partner's invitation or decline it. BUT, he said you should particularly look at any Help you could provide in ♦s. Since you have lots of good stuff in that suit you upgrade your 8 points and bid 4 ♥.