

**Deal 1**

East Deals

None Vul

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

<b>16</b>	♠ A J 10 6 2
5 7	♥ A 6 2
<b>12</b>	♦ Q J
	♣ 10 8 7

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	5 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	6 ♣
Pass			
6 ♥ by North			

W	N	E	S
♠ K 5	♦ K Q 9 8 5 4 3	♣ A 4	♠ 9 8 4 3
♥ K 7	♦ K 9 7 5	♣ K 5 3	♥ J 7

South opens 1 ♠. North has a powerhouse, plenty strong enough to jump-shift. But playing 2/1 it's usually simpler when you make the 2/1 response, and save your jumping for later - if at all. So North bids just 2 ♥, knowing South must keep the bidding open.

South knows North has at least 5 ♥s, so his first priority is to agree on the trump suit. He bids 3 ♥.

North now makes the slam try. She knows South has at least three trumps, and all she wants to find out is how many Aces/Kings South holds. So she bids Blackwood and South confesses to two Aces.

Still hoping for the Grand, North bids 5 NT. Oops, South doesn't have any kings so North settles for a small slam.

This is a good slam, cold if East makes any opening lead other than a ♣. With a ♣ lead, North will have to pull trumps and play to discard a loser on the ♠T.

**Deal 2**  
 East Deals  
 None Vul

	♠ 9 8 6 4 3		
	♥ 9 6		
	♦ A 10 9		
	♣ 10 9 6		
♠ Q J 2	♠ A		
♥ K 10	♥ A Q J 7 5 3		
♦ K Q 8 6 5	♦ 7 4 2		
♣ Q 8 7	♣ K J 4		
	♠ K 10 7 5		
4	♥ 8 4 2		
13 15	♦ J 3		
8	♣ A 5 3 2		
West	North	East	South
		1 ♥	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
4 ♥ by East			

East opens 1 ♥ and West responds 2 ♦.

East has a good-looking hand, but needs to find a trump suit before she starts showing her extra strength, so she bids just 2 ♥.

Knowing that East holds 6 ♥s, West can support with the honor doubleton so he agrees the trump suit with a Fast Arrival bid of 4 ♥.

East has some extra strength, but not enough to push on after West's weak bid. Notice that if East DID try a 4 ♠ Control bid West would just bid 5 ♥ and the pair might be one trick too high.

**Deal 3**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

<sup>12</sup>  
9    10  
9

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♠	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2 ♥ by South			

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


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

North opens 1 ♠. South has 11 points, enough to respond 2 ♥ in standard bidding, but not when using 2/1. So she bids 1 NT.

North would love to pass 1 NT but is not permitted to do so. He has no good bid, so he must bid a 3-card suit. When holding two 3-card minors, usually bid ♣s. South now shows the ♥ suit that she could not bid first round.

North was forced to reply to 1 NT, but he is not forced to bid again. With his minimum hand and a tolerance for partner's suit he just passes and the partnership ends up in a reasonable contract.

This hand demonstrates one of the benefits of Forcing 1 NT. In standard bidding South's first response would be 2 ♥, and North would have to bid again, probably 2 NT. The partnership might go even higher but in any case would probably not reach a good contract.

**Deal 4**East Deals  
None Vul

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

6  
11 17  
6

West  
1 NT  
2 NT  
Pass  
3 NT by West

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

N  
W E  
S

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

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

North      East      South  
Pass      1 ♠      Pass  
Pass      2 ♣      Pass  
Pass      3 NT      Pass

East opens 1 ♠. West has 11 points, enough to respond 2 ♣, (or 2 ♦), in standard bidding, but not when using 2/1. So she bids 1 NT.

East is forced to bid again, but unlike the previous hand, here he wants to keep bidding. He bids 2 ♣. West knows East doesn't have ♥s, so she shows her above-minimum hand by bidding 2 NT.

East is happy to play Notrump. He assumes West must have something useful in ♦s and bids 3 NT.

3 NT seems to be a good contract. There are 8 top tricks and possibilities for a ninth winner in either ♠s, ♦s, or, (the best chance), ♣s.

**Deal 5**

North Deals

None Vul

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

11  
 12 10  
 7

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

W N E  
 S

♠ A Q 7 4 3  
 ♥ 9 4  
 ♦ A 8 7 4  
 ♣ 9 7

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

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

North opens 1 ♥. South responds 1 NT, just as in standard bidding. The difference is that in this case the 1 NT response is forcing on North.

North has an easy second bid, he rebids his 6-card suit. South has nothing to say over 2 ♥ except pass.

Notice that this is the same bidding and same final contract that would have been reached with standard bidding. Using 2/1 is often like that.

**Deal 6**  
East Deals  
None Vul

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

12 7  
8 13

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

N  
W E  
S

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

East opens 1 ♠. West responds 2 ♦, a 2/1 force to game.

East cannot rebid her ♠s, but has decent support for partner's ♦s. So she bids 3 ♦.

West always intended to play a ♠ contract. He now bids 4 ♠, using Fast Arrival to indicate he has no slam aspirations.

4 ♠ is cold, and if the defenders don't take their ♥ tricks immediately East will make an overtrick.