

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 10 4
 ♥ Q 4 2
 ♦ A 9 3
 ♣ 9 7 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K 9 6 5 2
 ♥ 10 9 8 3
 ♦ 4
 ♣ A 8

♠ 8 3
 ♥ J 6
 ♦ Q J 10 8 5
 ♣ J 4 3 2

♠ 7
 ♥ A K 7 5
 ♦ K 7 6 2
 ♣ K Q 10 6

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

4 ♥ by North

response the fit would have been lost if North had not mentioned the suit. South now confirms the trump suit with a 3 ♥ bid, and North shows his minimum by just bidding the game.

North has 13 points and naturally opens 1 ♠.

South, with 15 points, would bid 2 ♥ in standard bidding, but with 2/1 this promises a 5-card suit. So instead, South responds 2 ♣, forcing the partnership to game. Note that holding two 4-card minors South bids them up-the-line, just as in standard bidding.

North has a nice 6-card ♠ suit, so you might think he would rebid them. But Opener's first responsibility with his second bid is to show a 4-card Major if he has one. This isn't much of a suit, but North still bids 2 ♥.

You can see why it is important for Opener to show a 4-card Major. Since South couldn't bid ♥s in her first

Deal 2

West Deals

None Vul

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

6	♠ J 10 6 4
13 13	♥ 7 6 2
8	♦ K 9 3
	♣ A 5 4

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



West opens 1 ♥, his 5-card Major. East, with 14 points, naturally responds 2 ♦, forcing the partnership to game.

West next bids 2 ♠, showing the other Major suit. In standard bidding West would not be able to bid the ♠s since that would be a Reverse and West is far too weak to Reverse. But after a 2/1 Response the concept of a Reverse does not apply, and the priority of showing a 4-card Major certainly does apply.

East assumes West to be 4-5 in the Majors, so she cannot support either. She bids 2 NT. If West actually has 6 ♥s (or 5 ♠s) he will rebid the suit. East's 2 NT bid guarantees a stopper in the fourth suit.

West does not have either 6 ♥s or 5 ♠s so he just bids 3 NT. Notice that West never once considered the possibility of passing what might be a misfit - the initial 2/1 response unconditionally forced the partnership to reach a game somewhere.

Deal 3

South Deals
None Vul

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

♦ K9742
♥ A983
♦ K6
♣ Q7

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

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

♠ A 9 7 4 2
♥ A 9 8 3
♦ K 6
♣ Q 7

South
1 ♠

2 ♥
3 NT

South opens 1♠, his 5-card Major. North, with 14 points, responds 2♣, a 2/1 force to game.

South next bids 2♥, showing the other Major suit.

North assumes South to be 5-4 in the Majors, so she cannot support either. She cannot bid 2 NT without a stopper in ♦s. So North bids the fourth suit, 3♦, telling South she knows she must make a bid, but can't find anything appropriate.

South now must find a bid. His choices include rebidding the 5-card ♠s, supporting North's ♣s with a doubleton Queen, or bidding 3 NT with the ♦ K 6 as a stopper. He chooses this last option. It appears that 3 NT is the best game for these two hands.

Deal 4

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 4	♦ Q 8	♥ 4	♣ K J 7 6 3
♥ K J 10 8 6 5 3		♦ J 9 6 3 2	
♦ K Q			♣ 10 9 6 5 2
♣ 8 7			
			♠ N
			W E
			S
		♥ A Q 7	♦ 8 4
			♣ A Q J
	♠ 10 9 5 2		
	♥ 9 2		
	♦ A 10 7 5		
	♣ K 4 3		
West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♥	ALL	Pass	
6 ♥ by West			

hand would be to try to establish a ♠ in the East hand, and if that fails try the ♣ finesse.

East opens 1 ♠, her 5-card Major and West responds 2 ♥. East knows this is a 5-card suit, and bids 3 ♥, confirming the 8+card trump fit.

Once the trump fit is known, West revalues his hand to about 19 points. He makes a slam try with a control-showing bid of 3 ♠. He knows East won't take this as ♠ support since the partnership has agreed that ♥s are going to be trumps.

East now shows her control by bidding 4 ♣.

That was what West needed to hear; when Blackwood uncovers two Aces he bids 6 ♥.

The slam is a good one. If either the ♠ Q or ♣ K is right there are 12 tricks by way of a finesse. But the best way to play the

Deal 5

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q 5 2

♥ 6 2

♦ J 8 3 2

♣ 5 3 2

$$\begin{matrix} & 17 \\ 6 & 3 \\ & 14 \end{matrix}$$

♠ A J 10
♥ A K 9 8 5
♦ K 9 6
♣ Q 7

W	N
S	E

♠ 9 7 4
♥ Q J 10 4
♦ 10 7 5
♣ 9 8 6

♠ 8 6 3
♥ 7 3
♦ A Q 4
♣ A K J 10 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 NT	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
6 NT by North			

North opens 1 ♥ and South responds 2 ♣. Using standard bidding North would now jump to 3 NT to show his 19 points, but in 2/1 this is not necessary since the partnership must not stop bidding until game is reached. So North just bids 2 NT. South shows her minimum by bidding 3 NT.

North will now disclose his extra strength. He bids 4 NT. This is not Blackwood, but rather a quantitative raise in Notrump, and an invitation to slam.

South has 15 points, and they are good ones. She accepts the invitation and bids 6 NT.

There are 11 top tricks. A 3-3 ♥ split would provide the 12th winner, but this is against the odds. Better to try two ♠ finesses, a 75% chance.

Deal 6

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 6 3
♥ Q 3
♦ A K J 9 4
♣ 9 6 4

8
12 15
5

West
2 ♦
4 ♠
4 ♣ by East

♠ K 10
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ 10 7 2
♣ A 5 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ A J 8 7 5 2
♥ A K
♦ Q 6
♣ J 8 7

♠ 9 4
♥ 10 8 7 6 4
♦ 8 5 3
♣ K Q 10

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

East opens 1 ♠ and West responds 2 ♦. East has a pretty good hand, 17 points, but no stopping power in the minor suits. Also, East's ♠ suit is pretty ragged. Taking these points into consideration, East should just rebid his 6-card suit.

West should now jump to 4 ♠. This is Fast Arrival, indicating a minimum hand with no particular interest in slam.

East is happy to rest in the game contract.

Even with a combined 30 points, T tricks are certainly not a sure thing. East must hope that North holds the trump King.