

Deal 1

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 7 4
♥ Q J 10 4
♦ 10 7 5
♣ 9 8 6

¹⁴
3 6
₁₇

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

♠ 8 6 3
♥ 7 3
♦ A Q 4
♣ A K J 10 4



♠ K Q 5 2
♥ 6 2
♦ J 8 3 2
♣ 5 3 2

♠ A J 10
♥ A K 9 8 5
♦ K 9 6
♣ Q 7

South opens 1 ♥ and North responds 2 ♣. Using standard bidding South 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 South just bids 2 NT. North shows her minimum by bidding 3 NT.

South 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.

North 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 2

East Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 4
♥ 10 8 7 6 4
♦ 8 5 3
♣ K Q 10

12
5 8
15

♠ Q 6 3
♥ Q 3
♦ A K J 9 4
♣ 9 6 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 10
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ 10 7 2
♣ A 5 3 2

♠ A J 8 7 5 2
♥ A K
♦ Q 6
♣ J 8 7

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

4 ♠ by South

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

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

South is happy to rest in the game contract.

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

Deal 3

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 8 4 3
♥ J 7
♦ K 9 7 5
♣ K 5 3

12
7 5
16

♠ K 5
♥ K Q 9 8 5 4 3
♦ A 4
♣ A 4

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

N
W E S

♠ A J 10 6 2
♥ A 6 2
♦ Q J
♣ 10 8 7

♠ Q 7
♥ 10
♦ 10 8 6 3 2
♣ Q J 9 6 2

North opens 1 ♠. South 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 South bids just 2 ♥, knowing North must keep the bidding open.

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

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

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

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

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 10 7 5
♥ 8 4 2
♦ J 3
♣ A 5 3 2

¹³
8 4
¹⁵
13
♦ A Q J 7 5 3
♦ 7 4 2
♣ K J 4

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

♠

Q J 2

♥ K 10

♦ K Q 8 6 5

♣ Q 8 7

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 8 6 4 3
♥ 9 6
♦ A 10 9
♣ 10 9 6

South opens 1 ♥ and North responds 2 ♦.

South 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 South holds 6 ♥s, North can support with the honor doubleton so he agrees the trump suit with a Fast Arrival bid of 4 ♥.

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

Deal 5North Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 9 5
 ♥ A 9 8 2
 ♦ A 9 8
 ♣ J 6 3

¹²
 9 10
 9

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
2 ♥ by South			

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

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.