

Deal 1
South Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 5 4
♥ J 9 2
♦ K Q 8 7 6
♣ 3 2

11
6 6
17

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

♠ K
♥ K 7 5 3
♦ A 10 3 2
♣ J 9 5 4

♠ J 10 9 3
♥ Q 10 8 6
♦ J 4
♣ Q 10 6

♠ A Q 8 6 2

♥ A 4
♦ 9 5

♣ A K 8 7

N
W E
S

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

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

South is happy to play Notrump. He assumes North 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 2East Deals
None Vul

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

12
 7 11
10

West

♠ J 10
 ♥ K 8 2
 ♦ Q J 6
 ♣ K Q 8 6 3



♠ 8 6 2
 ♥ A Q J 7 5 3
 ♦ 9 5
 ♣ A 2

♠ A Q 7 4 3
 ♥ 9 4
 ♦ A 8 7 4
 ♣ 9 7

North East South
 1 ♥ Pass Pass

1 NT Pass 2 ♥
 Pass Pass
 2 ♥ by East

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

East has an easy second bid, he rebids his 6-card suit. West 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 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 6 3
♥ A K J 5 2
♦ 4 2
♣ 10 5 4

¹²
8 7
¹³

♠ K J 2
♥ 8 7 4
♦ A Q 9 7 5
♣ Q 2



♠ 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

| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Pass | 2 ♦ | Pass | 1 ♠ |
| Pass | 4 ♠ | Pass | 3 ♦ |
| Pass | | | Pass |
| 4 ♠ by South | | | |

South opens 1 ♠. North responds 2 ♦, a 2/1 force to game.

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

North 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 South will make an overtrick.

Deal 4

East Deals

None Vul

♠ J 10 6

♥ 9

♦ 8 5 3

♣ K Q J 9 5 2

♠ Q 7 3
 ♥ J 10 6 5 3 2
 ♦ A Q 4
 ♣ 4



♠ K 9 2
 ♥ A K 8 7 4
 ♦ K 10 7
 ♣ 10 8

♠ A 8 5 4
 ♥ Q
 ♦ J 9 6 2
 ♣ A 7 6 3

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
| | | 1 ♥ | Dbl |
| 2 ♣ | Pass | Pass | Pass |

2 ♣ by West

East opens 1 ♥ and South Doubles.

After the intervening Takeout Double 2/1 is OFF. If West had T or more points she would Redouble. So even with only 9 points West can bid 2 ♣ without fear that East will think she has a strong hand.

East also knows everything mentioned above so he passes.

Deal 5

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 10
♥ A 6 3
♦ 10 5
♣ Q 10 8 7 6 5 2

¹⁵
6 4
₁₅

♠ A K 9 8 7 6 4

♥ K Q 7
♦ K 7 3
♣ —

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

♠ 5 3
♥ 10 9 8 5 4
♦ A 9 4
♣ 9 4 3

♠ Q J 2
♥ J 2
♦ Q J 8 6 2
♣ A K J

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| | 1 ♠ | Pass | 2 ♦ |
| Pass | 2 ♡ | Pass | 3 ♢ |
| Pass | 4 ♣ | Pass | 4 ♪ |
| ALL | Pass | | |

4 ♪ by North

North opens 1 ♠. South responds 2 ♦, a 2/1 force to game.

North has a big hand, perhaps in the slam range, but first priority is to set a trump suit. So she contents herself with a rebid of 2 ♡. South agrees on trumps by bidding 3 ♢ (not Fast Arrival).

North now makes her slam try by using a Control-showing cue-bid. She bids 4 ♣, showing first round control of the suit (Ace or Void).

South's next bid would be a control-showing bid of her own - IF SHE HAD ONE. Since she cannot win the first round of either red suit she just returns to 4 ♪. North realizes that they are off two red Aces and passes.

Notice that North did not fall into the Blackwood trap. If she HAD asked for Aces, South would have shown one Ace and North wouldn't know what to do next. She might have figured the odds favored that one Ace being a red one and tried the slam. Moral: Don't use Blackwood when you have a void.