

**Board 1**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

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

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

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

EW 4♥; EW 3♠; NS 4♣; NS 2♦; Par -100: NS 5♣×-1

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

Lead: ♦ 8

After North opens 1♦, East has a great 1♠ overcall. South does NOT have enough to bid 2♣ here - you'd need 10+ points to introduce a new suit.

West has a great hand in support of spades - with the extra spade and side singleton, we can add 3 additional shortness points and get up to 10 points - this is invitational. With an invitational+ hand, we can CUEBID (bid the opponent's suit) to show support for partner and 10+ points.

North may hazard a 3♣ bid, but with partner passing, it is not clear. If North passes, East will bid 2♠ to show a minimum. If North introduces clubs at some point, N/S may compete to 4♣ which would be a good result, so being aggressive pas off today.

**Board 2**  
 East Deals  
 N-S Vul

♠ K 10 8 6	♠ Q J 4 2	♠ 7 5 3									
♥ 10 7 6 4	♥ A Q 5	♥ J 9 2									
♦ A K 5	♦ 10 7	♦ 6 4									
♣ 7 3	♣ Q J 9 4	♣ A 8 6 5 2									
<table style="border: 2px solid green; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>				N		W		E		S	
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A 9										
	♥ K 8 3										
	♦ Q J 9 8 3 2										
	♣ K 10										

12  
 10 5  
 13

NS 3N; NS 2♠; NS 3♦; NS 2♣; NS 1♥; Par +600

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 N	Pass	3 N
All pass			
3 NT by North			
Lead: ♣ 5			

After South rebids 2 ♦ showing an extra diamond, no spade fit, and a relative minimum, North is very close between inviting to game and forcing to game. This depends on how light your opening hand might be (the 1 ♦ bidder here). Try to get a feel for how aggressively you like opening/bidding so you know your style as a player.

Because North has good stoppers in the side suits, he should be bidding NT even with an 8-card diamond fit. If you judge the North hand as invitational, bid 2N, and if South has a 12 or bad 13 count, he will pass. With anything more, he'd bid game, almost always in NT. If you judge the North hand as game-forcing, just jump to 3N.

East should lead a 4th best club. North's project suit is diamonds, so work on getting the ♦ AK out first. N/S can hold the contract to 9 tricks, but it is tough. After East leads a club, West gets in with a big diamond. He should play back his partner's suit. Once East wins the ♣ A, he can look at the rest of his hand and realize he has no entry, and his clubs are not even close to being set up. So, it may be a good time to switch, to set up a trick in partner's hand. If partner has the ♥ A, we will always get it, but it may be a good time to switch to a spade in case partner has the ♠ K. Tough to figure out, and many tables will take 10 tricks E/W.

**Board 3**  
 South Deals  
 E-W Vul

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

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

NS 3N; EW 2♥; NS 3♣; NS 1♦; Par +400

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	3 N	All pass	1 N
Lead: ♥ J			

N/S should have a simple auction to game in NT. West should lead TOP of an INTERIOR sequence, but leading 4th best on hands like this is generally fine as well. South can DUCK the opening heart lead a couple of times, but once we win the Ace, we have no more heart stopper. Luckily, we have 9 top tricks (5 ♣, 3 ♦, and 1 ♥). HOWEVER --> we have to PLAN AHEAD and PRESERVE the ♣ 2 in our hand. If we play the ♣ 2 to the Ace, then play the ♣ K and ♣ Q, we will have the 8 or 7 or 6 in our hand remaining, and the suit is blocked. This is TOUGH, but doable!

**Board 4**

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ A K 5 ♥ A K J 8 2 ♦ 9 3 ♣ K J 9	♠ 10 4 ♥ Q 9 6 4 ♦ A J 8 7 ♣ 10 6 4	<table style="border: 2px solid green; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"><tr><td style="border: none;"> </td><td style="border: none;">N</td><td style="border: none;"> </td></tr><tr><td style="border: none;">W</td><td style="border: none;"> </td><td style="border: none;">E</td></tr><tr><td style="border: none;"> </td><td style="border: none;">S</td><td style="border: none;"> </td></tr></table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 9 8 7 2 ♥ 7 3 ♦ 6 5 ♣ A Q 7 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											
7 19 8 6	♠ J 6 3 ♥ 10 5 ♦ K Q 10 4 2 ♣ 8 5 2											

EW 5♠; EW 5♣; EW 3♥; EW 2N; EW 1♦; Par -650

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 N	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All pass
4 ♠ by West			
Lead: ♦ K			

After the 2N rebid showing 18-19 balanced, East doesn't technically have "New Minor Forcing" available (as West opened 1♥), but he can bid his stronger minor as a "checkback" for 3-card support in his first bid suit. Here, West has three spades, and should bid 3♠.

East can now comfortably bid 4♠ knowing we have a fit there.

South should lead top of an honor sequence in diamonds, and E/W have to lose two diamond tricks to make an overtrick in spades.

**Board 5**  
 North Deals  
 N-S Vul

	♠ 5 3	
	♥ A 10 5 3	
	♦ Q 5 4	
	♣ A 10 3 2	
♠ K 10 9 8	<div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 10px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;">       N        W     E        S     </div>	♠ Q J 7 2
♥ K 7		♥ Q 9 6 4
♦ K 7 2		♦ J 10 6
♣ K 7 6 5		♣ Q 9
	♠ A 6 4	
	♥ J 8 2	
10	♦ A 9 8 3	
12 8	♣ J 8 4	
10		

W 2♠; NS 2♥; NS 1N; NS 2♦; E 1♠; NS 1♣; Par -110

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	All pass
Lead: ♦ 4			

After partner opens 1minor and we are 4-4 in the majors, we bid up the line, so we start by bidding 1♥, Once Opener shows a 4-card spade suit, East can comfortably raise spades to the 2-level. North is close to balancing, but given that N/S is vulnerable, I think ultimately I'd pass.

4-4 trump fits are hard to play. If you have a side suit with 4 cards opposite 2 cards, you often want to ruff some of the losers from the 4 card side suit away with trumps in the other hand. So here, you can either ruff hearts in hand to ruff clubs in dummy.

If you are careful, you should be able to lose 4 aces and the ♦ Q and make your contract.

**Board 6**  
 East Deals  
 E-W Vul

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

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

6	11	13
10		

EW 4♠; EW 3♦; EW 3♣; EW 1N; EW 1♥; Par -620

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 ♦	1 ♥
Dbl	2 ♥	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All pass
4 ♠ by East			
Lead: ♥ A			

After the 1♥ overcall, West should make a **NEGATIVE DOUBLE** to show **EXACTLY 4** spades. If he bid a spade here, it'd show 5+ spades. North can raise to 2♥, and East should bid 2♠ to show the spade fit. South has nothing more to say. West is **INVITATIONAL**, and can raise to the 3-level to invite, showing a good 10 to a bad 12 HCP hand. East has a nice looking 13 count and can accept the invitation to game.

After South cashes two top hearts, and likely plays a third heart, we have to ruff that in hand (East being declarer). This is not an easy hand to play, as we have some transportation issues between hands. I'd pull a round of trumps to get to dummy, and lead a diamond towards our hand. North has to win the Ace (as it is a singleton in dummy). Now, we have all good diamonds, so we can pull trumps and take a club finesse, which works on this hand.

**Board 7**  
 South Deals  
 Both Vul

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

♠ A K 9	<table border="1" style="background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W    E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W    E	S	♠ 7 5 4
N					
W    E					
S					
♥ 3 2		♥ A K Q J 5			
♦ 10 5 4 3		♦ K J 7 2			
♣ J 7 5 4		♣ 6			

6	♠ A K 9
12    14	♥ 3 2
8	♦ 10 5 4 3
	♣ J 7 5 4

EW 4♠; EW 4♥; EW 3N; EW 2♦; EW 2♣; Par -620

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			Pass
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass
4 ♥ by East			
Lead: ♠ A			

After the first three natural bids of the auction, East should use **FOURTH SUIT FORCING** to set up a game-forcing auction and ask West more about his hand. It is similar to new minor forcing given that it is primarily an asking bid.


West's first responsibility is to show 3-card support for East's first bid suit, so he bids 2 ♥ to show 3 cards there. East now knows we have an 8-card heart fit, and enough HCP for game but not slam, so he can jump to game in hearts.

South has a normal high spade lead, and N/S will take 2 ♠ tricks and the ♦ A to hold the contract to 10 tricks.

**Board 8**

West Deals  
None Vul

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



♠ A 3	♠ A 3
♥ J 10 9	♥ J 10 9
♦ A 10 9 3	♦ A 10 9 3
♣ 10 9 4 2	♣ 10 9 4 2

10  
 13 8  
 9

EW 3♠; EW 1N; NS 1♦; EW 1♣; Par -140

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	3 ♦	3 ♠	All pass
2 ♠ by East			
Lead: ♥ J			

E/W should have a simple auction to 2 ♠. East doesn't have a good enough hand to invite to game once West shows a relative minimum. The South hand may consider balancing with a takeout double - it depends on how aggressive of a bidder you are. You know partner has SOME HCP as the opponents stopped at a low level. Here, if South decides to double, North should bid their better 4-card suit, so 3 ♦.

East can now use the Law of Total Tricks to compete to the 3-level in spades, knowing they have a 9-card spade fit. E/W have to lose 2 ♠, 1 ♦, and 1 ♣ to make 9 tricks in spades.



**Board 9**  
 North Deals  
 E-W Vul

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

8	♠ 9 7 6
10 13	♥ K 9 7
9	♦ K 10 9
	♣ K 8 4 3

EW 3♥; EW 2N; EW 1♠; EW 1♦; EW 1♣; Par -140

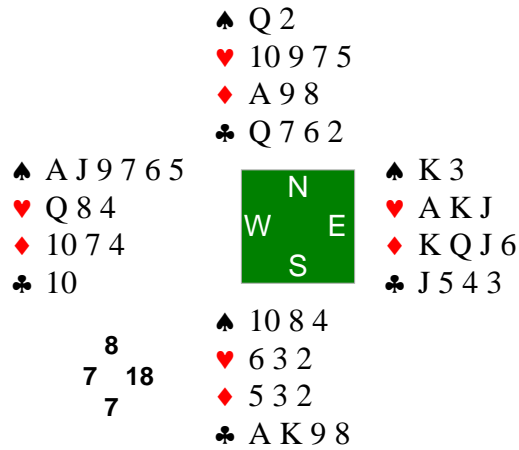
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	All pass

Lead: ♠ Q

After East raises to 2♥, West does have a 10-count, but with such a balanced hand, I would not invite to game.

North has a very safe ♠ Q lead. West has to lose 1♠, 1♥, 2-3♦, and should take a club finesse to avoid a loser there.

**Board 10**  
 East Deals  
 Both Vul



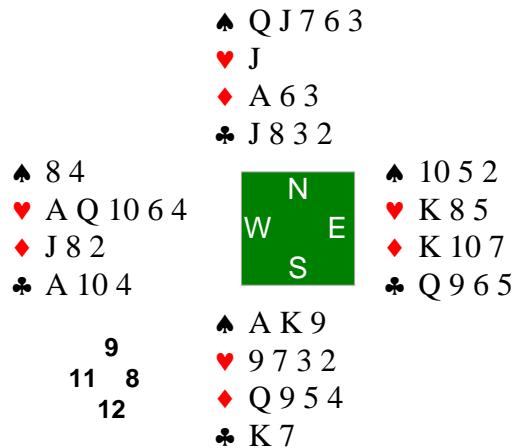
EW 5♠; EW 5♦; EW 2N; EW 2♥; EW 1♣; Par -650

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

East will open 1 ♦, planning to rebid 2 NT later to show 18-19 balanced. Partner starts with 1 ♠, and all goes according to plan so East gets to rebid 2 NT. East is showing a BALANCED hand with 2+ in every suit. This means West KNOWS we have an 8+ card spade fit (as West has 6 spades) and (just) enough HCP for game, so West should go right to 4 ♠.

Declarer will lose to aces in the minors, and should take a spade finesse which happens not to work today, to make 4.

**Board 11**  
 South Deals  
 None Vul



NS 2♠; EW 2♥; EW 1N; NS 1♦; Par +100; EW 2N×-1; EW 3♥×-1

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1♦
1♥	1♠	2♥	2♠
All pass			
Lead: ♥ 5			

After the auction starts with 1 minor, and then a 1♥ overcall, the third hand has the option of making a NEGATIVE DOUBLE or BIDDING 1♠. The double shows exactly 4 spades, and bidding 1♠ shows 5+ spades. Here, we bid 1♠, East raises to 2♥, and now South can comfortably compete to 2♠, knowing we have an 8-card fit. Neither E/W has a particularly interesting hand, so they'd pass 2♠.

Not an easy hand for North, but he should possibly try to ruff club losers from the North hand in dummy. Ideally we can lose only 2-3 clubs, 1♦ (with the K onside), and 1♥ and make our contract, but a tough hand all around.

**Board 12**

West Deals  
N-S Vul

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

9  
15 3  
13

NS 4♣; NS 2N; EW 2♠; NS 2♥; EW 2♦; Par +130

West	North	East	South
1 N	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	All pass		
2 ♠ by West			
Lead: ♠ 7			

After the 1N opening, East is desperate to get out of NT with his singleton. Because he has SPECIFICALLY a singleton club, he can use a tool called GARBAGE STAYMAN.

Garbage Stayman works just like regular Stayman. You bid 2 ♣ asking for a 4-card major, and then PASS whatever partner does. You can do this with as few as 0 HCP IF you have short clubs (because you have to have cards in whatever suit partner may bid). If you decide to play Garbage Stayman, it doesn't change anything about "regular" Stayman, you just pass opener's rebid with a "garbage" hand. Here, we are in luck and we find a 4-4 spade fit, instead of sweating it out in 1 NT.

Trump leads are almost always right on Garbage Stayman auctions, because your opponents don't have a ton of HCP combined, and they are probably going to try to collect tricks by cross-ruffing other suits. So here, I recommend a ♠ lead. This cuts down on the number of clubs declarer can ruff in dummy, and the number of hearts he can ruff in hand. Even so, E/W can probably take 8 tricks in spades after losing a couple of diamonds, spades, and the ♥ A.