

**Board 1**

North Deals  
None Vul

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

2  
15 9  
14

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

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
1 ♠	Pass	1 N	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♠	All pass

Lead: ♥ 10

South will open 1 ♣, and West starts with 1 ♠. North passes, and East should chime in with 1 NT. This shows something like 8-9 HCP and definitely a club stopper. South passes, and West should show his diamond suit. We don't much want to play 1 NT with a singleton. East is now faced with a decision between 7-card fits. Sure, West could have 5 diamonds, but he is only promising 5-4 in his two suits. When faced with a 5-4 or 4-3 fit, you should choose the 5-2. That way, we don't have to burn all of our trumps to pull theirs.

That will be the end of the auction - South should not come back in given that partner didn't bid at the 1-level when given the opportunity.

North has a nice top of a sequence lead in hearts. This knocks out the only entry to dummy, unfortunately, so when we win this, we need to take the diamond finesse right away. It is unlikely we will get back there to take the diamond finesse later. Ultimately, declarer has to lose 1 ♠, 2 ♥, 1 ♦, and 1 ♣ to make 8 tricks.

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

♠ 4 2	♠ Q J 9 8 3	♠ 7 6			
♥ K 7 3 2	♥ A 5 4	♥ J 10 9 8			
♦ K 9 8 7 6	♦ Q 3	♦ J 10 4			
♣ 8 7	♣ A 9 3	♣ 10 6 5 2			
<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 5px;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>			N	W   E	S
N					
W   E					
S					
13	♠ A K 10 5				
6   2	♥ Q 6				
19	♦ A 5 2				
	♣ K Q J 4				

NS 6N; NS 6♠; NS 6♣; NS 2♥; NS 2♦; Par +1440

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	4 N	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	6 ♠	All pass	

South opens 1 ♣, planning on rebidding 2 NT to show 18-19 balanced, but he finds a spade fit with his partner. With 19 HCP, he knows we have 25 combined minimum, so he should go right to game. Now North should take stock of his information - He had only promised 6 HCP by bidding at the 1-level, and partner took us straight to game. So, he's got 19+, and we have 13. That gets us up to 32 combined points. That, coupled with the fact that we have a 9-card spade fit (partner promises 4 here), makes me want to go to slam. I would check back about keycards (or aces) to make sure we have enough, and ultimately go to 6 ♠. Even though we have all of the aces, we don't have enough HCP to go to the 7-level.

East has two sequences, but one is a 4-card run and one is only a 2-card run - he should go with the longer run, so lead a heart. Declarer will win that with the ace, Pull trumps, play the four clubs pitching a DIAMOND loser from his hand, and ultimately he is home free. His other little heart gets ruffed in dummy. We take 5 ♠, 1 ♥, 1 ♦, and 4 ♣, and one ruff in dummy for a 12th trick.

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

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

  

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

  

5	♠ 10 8	♠ A 9
14 11	♥ 9 6 3 2	♥ Q 7
10	♦ A K 9 4	♦ Q 10 5 2
	♣ K 6 3	♣ Q J 10 5 4

EW 5N; EW 5♥; EW 5♣; EW 3♠; EW 3♦; Par -660

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

West opens 1 ♣, and East should jump to 3 ♣ to INVITE to game with a sure club fit. This shows around 10-12 HCP and 5 clubs, as opener could have only 3 clubs. West has a 14-count, which is just enough to accept the invitation to game opposite partner's 10-12. He should bid 3 NT. North has a normal 4th best spade lead which works out better for declarer than the defense. Declarer will work on the club suit - we may not end up taking a club finesse, in favor of just play the ♣ A and another to retain entries to the long club suit. If we do get to dummy and finesse, we have to make sure we can get back there later. All in all, declarer can take 2 ♠, 4 ♥, and 4 ♣ for around 10 tricks. He may take another spade or a diamond in the wash.

**Board 4**

West Deals  
Both Vul

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

14  
5 8  
13

NS 4N; NS 3♥; NS 4♦; NS 3♣; NS 1♠; Par +630

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	2N	Pass	3N
All pass			
Lead: ♣ 7			

After the 1♦ opening by partner, South would like to get to 3NT if possible, but he has no semblance of a spade stopper. Whatever sort of spade stopper we, as a partnership, have, are in North's hand. So, I might fudge a 2♣ bid here to get PARTNER to bid NT first. If he does something else, we'll bid NT later and hope for the best in spades. But here, over 2♣, North should say 2NT and South goes to game in NT. Now the ♠ stopper in North's hand is protected.

If West is on lead, he should lead top of a sequence in spades - it is much safer than leading a heart. If East is on lead, he has a choice between a spade and a club - likely a spade as no one bid a major on the auction. Declarer should take a finesse for the ♦ Q - it will lose today, so declarer will take 2♣, 4♦, 2♥, and 1-2♠ depending on the defense.

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

♠ A J 10 6 4	♠ 8	♠ K 9 7 3									
♥ 10 7	♥ A K Q J 8 4 3	♥ 6 5									
♦ A 9	♦ J 4	♦ K 8 3									
♣ K Q 10 5	♣ A 7 6	♣ J 8 4 2									
<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♠ Q 5 2</td> <td style="padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <div style="display: inline-block; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">           N            W     E            S         </div> </td> <td style="padding: 5px;">♠ 9 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♥ 9 2</td> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">♥ 10 7 6 5 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">♦ Q 10 7 6 5 2</td> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">♣ 9 3</td> </tr> </table>			♠ Q 5 2	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">           N            W     E            S         </div>	♠ 9 2	♥ 9 2		♥ 10 7 6 5 2	♦ Q 10 7 6 5 2		♣ 9 3
♠ Q 5 2	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">           N            W     E            S         </div>	♠ 9 2									
♥ 9 2		♥ 10 7 6 5 2									
♦ Q 10 7 6 5 2		♣ 9 3									
15											
14 7											
4											

EW 4♠; EW 4♣; NS 2♥; NS 1♦; Par -420

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♥	Pass	Pass
1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠	Pass
Pass	3 ♥	3 ♠	All pass

Lead: ♥ A

North starts with 1 ♥, and East and South both pass. South just does not have to come in here even though partner opened. West can balance with a 1 ♠ bid. North is definitely not done, but given that partner didn't even have the 6 HCP needed to bid the first time, there is no need to jump, and North should just bid 2 ♥. East can definitely raise to 2 ♠. North should compete to the 3-level, but then East uses the Law of Total Tricks to compete to the 3-level. Given the vulnerability, North should let them have it. This is why spades are boss!

Declarer should play for the trump Q to drop under the AK (8 ever/9 never). It does not today, so we'll lose 1 ♠, 2 ♥, and the ♣ A to make our 9 tricks.

**Board 6**

East Deals

E-W Vul

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

EW 6N; EW 6♥; EW 6♦; EW 6♣; EW 5♠; Par -1440

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		3 N	Pass

6 N      All pass

Lead: ♣ J

I promise you, folks - the computer dealt this board randomly for me. East has a HUGE hand - he should either open 3 NT, or open 2 ♣ and rebid 3 NT to show the 25-27 range (one range higher than 22-24). Over this, West should think about the fact that we have between 34-36 combined HCP and go to the 6-level. Unfortunately most people don't play Stayman and transfers here - 4 ♣ would be Gerber, but with 34-36 combined HCP, you can't be missing two aces, so I'd just go to 6. You really need a bare minimum of 36-37 HCP to make 7 NT unless someone has a running 6 or 5 card suit. With no assurance that the club suit will set up here, we stop at the 6-level.

South should lead top of a sequence in clubs. Declarer will take 4 ♣ tricks, 3 ♦, 3 ♥, and 2 ♠ for 12 tricks. He should only lose the one club trick.

**Board 7**  
 South Deals  
 Both Vul

♠ K J 8 3	♠ A Q 6 4	♠ 7 2																					
♥ 8 6 3	♥ 10	♥ Q 7																					
♦ K Q 9	♦ J 10 8 6	♦ A 7 4 2																					
♣ J 9 5	♣ K 10 8 4	♣ A Q 7 6 2																					
<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>10</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>12</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>8</td><td></td></tr> </table>		10		10	12			8		<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>♠ 10 9 5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>♥ A K J 9 5 4 2</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>♦ 5 3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>♣ 3</td><td></td></tr> </table>		♠ 10 9 5			♥ A K J 9 5 4 2			♦ 5 3			♣ 3		
	10																						
10	12																						
	8																						
	♠ 10 9 5																						
	♥ A K J 9 5 4 2																						
	♦ 5 3																						
	♣ 3																						

NS 3♥; NS 2N; W 2♦; EW 2♣; NS 1♠; E 1♦; Par +140  
*West North East South*  
 3♥

All pass  
 Lead: ♦ K

South opens a preemptive 3♥ and that should end the auction. No one has enough to come in. Even if South opens 2♥, that may end the auction, although it's possible East could find a 3♣ bid over that. Very close either way.

South has to lose 1♠, 2♦, and 1♣. In the spade suit - he should play to take a double finesse. Lead the ♠T. Here, West has both the KJ, so he covers with the J. Declarer gets back to his hand and now leads the T - West covers with the K, and now West's ♠8 will take a trick to hold the contract to 9 tricks.





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

♠ A 9 5 ♥ 8 ♦ K Q J 8 3 ♣ 10 8 6 3	♠ K 8 7 4 3 ♥ Q 5 2 ♦ A 2 ♣ K J 2	<div style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #008000; color: white; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> <span>S</span> </div>	♠ J ♥ 10 7 6 3 ♦ 10 9 6 5 ♣ A Q 9 7
13 10 7 10	♠ Q 10 6 2 ♥ A K J 9 4 ♦ 7 4 ♣ 5 4		

EW 5♦; NS 3♥; EW 4♣; NS 2♠; Par -300: NS 5♥×-2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠

All pass  
 Lead: ♦ 10

North opens 1 ♠. East is too weak for a t/o double. South should JUMP to 3 ♠ to invite to game (10-12 range). If you play 2/1, this promises 4-card support. Otherwise, it is 3+ card support. That puts a damper on West's plan to introduce his lovely diamond suit at some point.

North has a balanced minimum (12-13 HCP) with crummy spades, so he should not accept the invitation to game.

Declarer has to lose 1 ♠, 1 ♦, an 2 ♣. When west wins either the diamond or the ♠ A, he has to figure out to shift to a club (dummy's weak suit) to get our clubs before declarer throws them away on dummy's good hearts.

**Board 10**  
 East Deals  
 Both Vul

♠ A Q 9 8	♠ K J 10 7 6 3	♠ 5
♥ K 8 6	♥ Q	♥ J 7 5 4 2
♦ Q 10	♦ A K J 3	♦ 9 6 4 2
♣ A J 10 2	♣ 7 5	♣ K Q 3
	<div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; background-color: green; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin: 5px;">             N              W     E              S           </div>	
	♠ 4 2	
	♥ A 10 9 3	
	♦ 8 7 5	
	♣ 9 8 6 4	

14  
 16 6  
 4

W 2N; NS 2♠; EW 2♥; E 1N; EW 2♣; Par -120

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

After West opens 1 NT, North should introduce the spade suit here. It is a good suit and a very nice hand pattern. That will end the auction - East should not introduce his heart suit at the 3-level, unsure about whether we even have a heart fit. If West doubled here, it would be a takeout double, so he can't come in either, as he has the wrong takeout shape.

East should lead a small heart, and declarer has to lose 3 ♠, 1 ♦, and 2 ♣ to go down 1. This is OK - E/W can make 2 ♥ which nets them 110, so going down 100 is OK.

**Board 11**  
 South Deals  
 None Vul

♠ Q 10 7 6	♠ 9 8 4	♠ K 5 3 2									
♥ 7	♥ Q	♥ A K J 8 4 3 2									
♦ Q 9 3	♦ K J 10 8 7 6 2	♦ A									
♣ J 10 4 3 2	♣ K 9	♣ Q									
<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center; width: 60px; height: 60px;"> <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										
9 5 17 9	♠ A J										
	♥ 10 9 6 5										
	♦ 5 4										
	♣ A 8 7 6 5										

EW 4♠; EW 4♥; NS 3♦; Par -300; NS 5♦×-2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	3♦	4♥	Pass
Lead: ♦ 5			All pass

After two passes to North, he should open 3♦. He has a decent suit, 7 of them, and he is in third chair, where we can get a little more aggressive. East has a tough hand - I think it's best to jump right to 4♥. Bidding 3♥ just isn't enough, and doubling won't get you very far. Partner may bid clubs, but even if we do find a spade fit, your spades are pretty crummy.

That should end the auction. Declarer will have to lose a club and a trump, but the spade suit is very friendly so we'll only lose 1♠ and make our 10 tricks.

**Board 12**  
 West Deals  
 N-S Vul

	♠ K J 4 3											
	♥ 10 4											
	♦ A J 4											
	♣ A Q 8 3											
♠ 7 6	<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center; font-size: 10px;"> <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		♠ 9	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ A 6 2		♥ Q J 9 7										
♦ 10 9 8 7 5		♦ K 6 3										
♣ K J 4		♣ 10 7 6 5 2										
15	♠ A Q 10 8 5 2											
8 6	♥ K 8 5 3											
11	♦ Q 2											
	♣ 9											
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>									
Pass	1 N	Pass	4 ♥									
Pass	4 ♠	All pass										
Lead: ♥ Q												

North opens 1 NT, and South has game-going values with a known spade fit. If you use Texas transfers, you can transfer at the 4-level. If not, then transfer at the 2-level and then bid 4 ♠. Your partner has to have at least 2 in every suit to open 1 NT, but you don't have enough to be thinking about slam. Additionally, we don't need to mess around trying to find a heart fit when we know we have a spade fit.

East should lead top of a sequence in hearts, and declarer has to lose 1 ♦ and 2 ♥. He can ruff dummy's other heart losers away in his hand even after pulling trumps, because we have so many trumps.