

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 6 4 3
♥ Q 2
♦ J 10 4
♣ 8 7 6 4

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



♠ A K 7 2
♥ A K 6 4
♦ 6
♣ A K 3 2

♠ J 10 9 5
♥ 10 9 8 3
♦ Q 8 5
♣ J 9

West	North	East	South
1 ♠ ²	1 ♦	Dbl ¹	Pass
	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

1. Take-out double = "partner - please bid".
2. Bidding his best other suit (choosing the major over the minor)

Board 2
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ 10 8 5 2
♥ 10 6
♦ 8 7
♣ Q 10 9 8 6

♠ K Q 6
♥ K 7 5 4 2
♦ A 6 3
♣ J 3



♠ 9 7 4
♥ Q J 8
♦ K Q J 10 9 4
♣ K

♠ A J 3
♥ A 9 3
♦ 5 2
♣ A 7 5 4 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	4 ♥ ²	1 ♦	Dbl ¹
		All pass	

1. For "take-out". Far better than overcalling that moth-eaten club suit, or limply passing.
2. Facing a partner with opening values and support for all unbid suits (at least three hearts).

Board 3
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ 8 7 6 4
♥ J
♦ K 9 7
♣ 10 9 7 5 4

♠ K 10 5 2
♥ 9 8
♦ A Q 8 4
♣ K 8 3

♠ A Q J 9
♥ 7 6 5 2
♦ 5 3
♣ A Q 2



♠ 3
♥ A K Q 10 4 3
♦ J 10 6 2
♣ J 6

West	North	East	South
Dbl ¹	Pass	4 ♠ ²	All pass

1. A minimum take-out double, but he does have 4 cards in the unbid major
2. Enough strength for game, and his four spades are so chunky that even three cards opposite should make a satisfactory trump suit

Board 4
West Deals
Both Vul

♠ A 3 2
♥ A 6 4 2
♦ A K Q 4
♣ 3 2

♠ K J 9
♥ K J 9
♦ 8 3
♣ A K Q 10 8

♠ Q 10 6 5 4
♥ Q 10 7 3
♦ 10 7 5
♣ 4



♠ 8 7
♥ 8 5
♦ J 9 6 2
♣ J 9 7 6 5

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Dbl ¹	Pass	1 ♦ ²
Pass ³	2 ♦ ⁴	All pass	

1. Take-out - "SOS"
2. Bidding his best other suit - NOT passing
3. Perhaps (probably) West should make a take-out double himself at this point (we will discuss such second-round doubles later). This would lead to a successful E-W spade part-score
4. Note that North treads warily. Even though he has 17 prime points and super support, 2 ♦ is sufficient. North must remember that he has forced his partner to speak, that South may have nothing at all.

Board 5
North Deals
N-S Vul

♠ K Q J 8 4
♥ K 9 6 3
♦ Q 6 5
♣ 4

♠ 9 6 3
♥ A Q
♦ 9 2
♣ A Q J 9 6 2

♠ 10 5
♥ J 10 5 2
♦ A K J 4
♣ K 10 8



♠ A 7 2
♥ 8 7 4
♦ 10 8 7 3
♣ 7 5 3

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Dbl ¹	Pass
5 ♣ ²	All pass		

1. Take-out - "please bid your best other suit, jumping with sufficient strength".
2. Big club fit and the values for game.

Board 6
East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ K 9 4 3
♥ A 7 5 2
♦ Q 6 4
♣ A 3

♠ 10 7 2
♥ J 10 6 3
♦ 10 3
♣ J 9 7 4



♠ J 6
♥ Q 9
♦ A K J 8 5 2
♣ Q 5 2

♠ A Q 8 5
♥ K 8 4
♦ 9 7
♣ K 10 8 6

West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	Dbl
Pass	2 ♦ ¹	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	All pass	

1. "We're going to game, but I don't know which one - more information please". Without this sophistication, North would have to guess whether to bid 3 NT (which should fail), 4 ♥ (which has no chance), or 4 ♠.

Board 7

South Deals

Both Vul

♠ J 9 5 3
 ♥ 9 6
 ♦ Q J 9
 ♣ A K Q 10

♠ 7

♥ 7 5 2

♦ 8 7 6 4 3

♣ 8 6 5 4

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

♠ A K

♥ K Q J 4

♦ A 10 5

♣ J 9 7 3

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Dbl	Pass	4 ♠ ¹	All pass

1. Just nine points, but facing a partner who has shown an opening hand with short hearts and support for the other major, it is clear to bid 4 ♠. For Losing Trick Count fans (like me - although performing the LTC when partner has not guaranteed four-card support is less than ideal), you have just six Losing Tricks (♠ AK, ♥ KQ, ♦ A, ♣ A), facing a presumed seven for the double.

Board 8

West Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 3
 ♥ A K 10 6 3
 ♦ A 10 5 3
 ♣ Q

♠ A 9 5 2

♥ —

♦ Q 7 6 4

♣ A K 10 7 5

♠ 8 6
 ♥ J 9 7 4 2
 ♦ K J 9 2
 ♣ 9 4

♠ K 10 7 4

♥ Q 8 5

♦ 8

♣ J 8 6 3 2

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Dbl	3 ♥ ¹	Pass ²
4 ♥	All pass		

1. Aggressive raises after a double. In truth East is closer to 4 ♥ than 2 ♥
2. Would have bid 2 ♠ over 2 ♥, leading to North competing to 4 ♠(making) over 4 ♥.

Board 9

North Deals
E-W Vul

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

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Dbl	Rdbl ¹
1 ♠ ²	Pass	Pass	Dbl ³
All pass			

- 10+ points, no good suit or fit for partner.
Thus looking for a juicy penalty...
- Redouble counts as a bid, so West can pass the bidding round to partner.
Generally a five card minor or four-card major should be volunteered, however, so West cannot be faulted.
- For penalties - "I think they're going down".

Board 10

East Deals
Both Vul

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

West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	Dbl
1 ♥	1 ♠ ¹	2 ♣	2 ♠
All pass			

- With a likely spade fit and five working points, it is clear to bid, even though West's bid has removed the obligation.
Note that this is not a strong bid - with nine+ points, North would jump.

Board 11

South Deals
None Vul

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

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Dbl	2 ♥ ¹	Pass ²	Pass
Pass			

1. Support boldly after a double.
2. Normally a position to be bold. But don't take the principle to excess - with this barren, defensive hand.

Board 12

West Deals
N-S Vul

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	2 ♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl ¹	Pass	2 ♦	All pass

1. Still for take-out. Because partner hasn't yet bid, double asks him to speak

Board 13

North Deals

Both Vul

♠ A K J 9 6 3

♥ K Q 2

♦ K J 10

♣ 9

♠ Q 5 4 2

♥ 9

♦ 8 5 4

♣ K J 10 7 6



♠ 7

♥ A J 8 7 5 3

♦ A Q 6

♣ Q 5 3

♠ 10 8

♥ 10 6 4

♦ 9 7 3 2

♣ A 8 4 2

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass
Pass	2 ♠	Dbl ¹	Pass
3 ♣	All pass		

1. Take-out. Partner has not yet bid, so double says "bid".

Board 14

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 8 6

♥ J 2

♦ A Q 5 3 2

♣ 8 6

♠ J 10 4

♥ A Q 9 8 7

♦ J 9 8 7

♣ 10



♠ 9 5

♥ 10 3

♦ K 10 6

♣ A K Q 7 4 2

♠ Q 7 3 2

♥ K 6 5 4

♦ 4

♣ J 9 5 3

West	North	East	South
		1 ♣	Pass
1 ♥	Dbl ¹	2 ♣	2 ♠ ²
All pass			

1. Take-out - partner hasn't yet bid - and a clever way to bid both diamonds and spades in one go.
2. When the opponents have bid two suits and partner doubles, he is (98%) guaranteeing four+ cards in both unbid suits. Knowing of the eight-card spade fit, South must bid 2 ♠

Board 15

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 9 7 6

♥ 7

♦ K J 10 7 3

♣ A Q 6 4

♠ A Q 5 3

♥ 6

♦ A Q 6 2

♣ K J 10 9



♠ K J 10 2

♥ A 8 2

♦ 9 5 4

♣ 7 3 2

♠ 8 4

♥ K Q J 10 9 5 4 3

♦ 8

♣ 8 5

West	North	East	South
			4 ♥
Dbl ¹	Pass	4 ♠ ²	All pass

1. Take-out - partner has not bid.
2. Delighted to have the one suit that he can bid at the four-level. It is worth pointing out that, although the double of 4 ♥ is take-out, partner always has the option (at this high level) of passing and playing for four + tricks on defense. Swap East's spades with a minor, and it would be more sensible for him - with his flat, defensive-looking collection - to pass the double (converting the take-out into penalties) rather than bid 5 ♣/♦.

Board 16

West Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A Q J

♥ A K 7 2

♦ 5

♣ K Q 9 6 2

♠ 7 5 4

♥ J 10 9

♦ A Q J 10 8 4

♣ A



♠ K 10 9 8

♥ Q 6

♦ K 6 2

♣ J 10 8 3

♠ 6 3 2

♥ 8 5 4 3

♦ 9 7 3

♣ 7 5 4

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Dbl ¹	1 ♠ ²	Pass ³
2 ♦	Dbl ⁴	3 ♦	Pass ⁵
Pass	Dbl ⁶	Pass	3 ♥ ⁷
Pass	Pass ⁸	Pass	

1. Take-out - you can never be too strong.
2. Ignoring the double.
3. Delighted the double has been cancelled.
4. More take-out
5. Again delighted the double has been cancelled
6. Even more take-out - North now clearly has a fair bit more than minimum opening values
7. Taking a deep breath - but he does have four cards in the unbid major.
8. Tempting though it is to bid 4 ♥, North must reflect that he has forced South to bid, and that South has refused two earlier opportunities. On a bad day, South might have been forced to bid a three-card heart suit (what else could he do with a heart less and a spade/diamond more?).