

Board 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q J
♥ K 8 7 4 2
♦ A K J 4
♣ K 7

♠ A 7 6 4
♥ 3
♦ 6 5 3 2
♣ Q J 9 5



♠ 10 9 8 5
♥ Q J 10 9
♦ 9 8 7
♣ A 4

♠ K 3 2
♥ A 6 5
♦ Q 10
♣ 10 8 6 3 2

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

1. The single major raise is admissible with just three-card support (and 6-9 points)/
2. Inviting the heart game.
3. Accepting with a maximum point-count
4. The bidding revealing that the opponents have little to spare, the bad trump split (you have two certain tricks) should defeat the game.

Board 2

East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ 4 3
♥ K 9 4 3
♦ 8 6 5 4
♣ K J 7

♠ K J 9 7 2
♥ 5
♦ A 3 2
♣ 9 6 4 2



♠ 6
♥ A Q 10 7 2
♦ Q J 10
♣ A 8 5 3

♠ A Q 10 8 5
♥ J 8 6
♦ K 9 7
♣ Q 10

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

1. Penalties - because partner has bid. West has fantastic spades, and no expectation of making a contract his way (suspecting a misfit).

Board 3

South Deals
E-W Vul

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



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

1. Thin, but 11 point hands with the powerful 5431 shape should always be opened.
2. Perfectly normal overcall - although it is about to be punished this time...
3. Penalties - as partner has bid. Your trumps are good enough; four cards and two honours getting to six - the number of tricks needed to beat 2 ♥.

Board 4

West Deals
Both Vul

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



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

1. Penalties - partner having bid. The trumps are good enough - the number of cards (minimum four), added to the number of honours, getting to the number of tricks needed to beat the contract.

Board 5

North Deals
N-S Vul

♠ K Q 6 4 2

♥ Q J 8 6

♦ 8

♣ Q J 7

♠ J 9 5

♥ A K 7 5 2

♦ 7 3

♣ 9 8 5



♠ 10 7 3

♥ 9 3

♦ A Q 10 9 6 2

♣ A 2

♠ A 8

♥ 10 4

♦ K J 5 4

♣ K 10 6 4 3

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

2 ♦

Dbl¹Pass²

Pass

Pass

1. Penalties. With four cards headed by two honours. South's diamonds are good enough.
2. Correct to sit it out, rather than run to 2 ♥. His ♥ AK should be useful to partner in 2 ♦. 2 ♥ would have gone down three (doubled - by North). Could East do better in 2 ♦?

Board 6

East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ A 10 6 4 2

♥ 5 3

♦ J 8 6 3

♣ 8 3

♠ J

♥ 10 8 2

♦ A 10 7 5 4

♣ K J 9 4



♠ K Q 8 7 3

♥ K J 9 7 4

♦ Q 2

♣ 2

♠ 9 5

♥ A Q 6

♦ K 9

♣ A Q 10 7 6 5

West

North

East

South

Dbl¹

Pass

1 ♠

2 ♣

Dbl¹

Pass

Pass²

Pass

1. Penalties - partner having bid. Trumps are more than adequate (three likely winners with ♣ KJ94 poised over declarer).
2. Mistake. Should remove to 2 ♥; West would pass, and 2 ♥ would make.

Board 7
South Deals
Both Vul

		♠ 9 7 5 4		
		♥ K 7		
		♦ 8 7 2		
		♣ 10 8 7 2		
				♠ 10 3 2
		♥ A Q J 10 3 2		
		♦ 9		
		♣ 6 5 3		
		♠ A K J 8		
		♥ 8 5 4		
		♦ 10 5 4		
		♣ K Q J		
West	North	East	South	
			1 NT	
Dbl ¹	Pass ²	Pass ³	Pass	

1. For penalties, showing any hand with 16+ points.
2. Would rescue if holding a five card suit.
3. The doubler is expecting - hoping - that you as his partner will pass. Bear in mind that your hearts may well prove useful in defence...

Board 8
West Deals
None Vul

		♠ K J 9 2		
		♥ Q		
		♦ A K Q 10 4 2		
		♣ A 6		
				♠ 6 5 3
		♥ A 6 2		
		♦ 7 5		
		♣ K J 7 4 2		
		♠ Q 10 8		
		♥ K J 10 9		
		♦ J 9		
		♣ 10 9 8 3		
West	North	East	South	
1 NT	Dbl ¹	2 ♥ ²	Dbl ³	
All pass				

1. Penalties - any 16+ points
2. Mandatory to rescue into a five-card suit. Note that conventional bids such as Stayman and Transfers are off after a double; all bids are natural.
3. Penalties (partner having bid). South 's trumps are easily good enough.

Board 9
North Deals
E-W Vul

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



♠ 8 2
♥ Q J 6
♦ 9 8 4 2
♣ K J 9 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Dbl ¹	Pass ²
Pass	Pass		

1. For penalties - any hand with 16+ points
2. Pass the double, unless both very weak and very distributional

Board 10
East Deals
Both Vul

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



♠ 8 3
♥ J 9 7 6 3
♦ 8 3
♣ Q 10 4 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 NT	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Dbl ¹	All pass	

1. For penalties, but with strong lead-directing connotations. It says, "Lead your weakest suit, and choose a major if in doubt".

Board 11

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A J 4 2

♥ Q J 8 5 4

♦ 7 6

♣ 6 4

♠ 9 7 5 3

♥ 7

♦ 9 5 4 3 2

♣ K 7 5



♠ 8 6

♥ 10 9

♦ A Q 10

♣ A Q J 10 9 8

♠ K Q 10

♥ A K 6 3 2

♦ K J 8

♣ 3 2

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

1. South does not fancy bidding 5 ♥ (too balanced), but must double in spite of his poor club holding. It is clear E-W are sacrificing and hoping to escape undoubled. South must not let them.

Board 12

West Deals
N-S Vul

♠ —

♥ 7 6 3

♦ K J 10 8 5 3

♣ A Q 9 2

♠ K J 2

♥ A K 8 5

♦ Q 9

♣ 10 8 6 4



♠ A Q 10 9 8 5 4

♥ J 10 9 4

♦ —

♣ 5 3

♠ 7 6 3

♥ Q 2

♦ A 7 6 4 2

♣ K J 7

West	North	East	South
1 NT	2 ♦	4 ♠	5 ♦
Pass ¹	Pass	5 ♠ ²	All pass

1. I have seen many players double in these positions. Wrong ! You have already shown partner your hand, so should leave the decision-making to him. Doubling 5 ♦ would be a disaster here. East would accept the double and N-S's doubled game would make easily (for the loss of two hearts). As it is...
2. East, with his fine playing hand (and little defence to 5 ♦), bids on to 5 ♠.

Board 13

North Deals

Both Vul

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



West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	2 ♥	3 ♠
4 ♥	4 ♠ ¹	5 ♥ ²	Pass ³
Pass	Dbl ⁴	All pass	

1. Usually right to bid Four over four. North's singleton heart, and useful-looking six-loser hand, suggests he will make 4 ♠ (indeed he would have freely raised to 4 ♠ if West had passed).
2. Close, but East's chunky six-four shape, with all the honours in his long suits, suggests that 5 ♥ will be cheaper (if failing) than 4 ♠ (if making). And, once in a while, 5 ♥ may even make.
3. No thought to bidding 5 ♠ - having limited his hand, it is his partner's decision.
4. Bidding Five over Five is rarely right. Though North is far from certain to defeat 5 ♥, he cannot allow his opponents to steal.

Board 14

East Deals

None Vul

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

West	North	East	South
		1 ♥	Pass
2 ♥	2 ♠	4 ♥	Pass ¹
Pass	Pass		

1. The key decision. The first instinct is to bid 4 ♠ because of the undisclosed five-card spade support. The trouble is that, leaving aside the lousy 5332 shape, all the honours are in the wrong places. ♥ QJ10 is a certain defensive trick against 4 ♥, but rates to play no role for partner declaring 4 ♠. And ♦ QJ (being short), rates to be better suited to defence (as indeed it proved to be).

Board 15

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ J 10

♥ A Q 4 2

♦ A Q 4 2

♣ 9 7 3

♠ A K 8 6 4

♥ 6 5

♦ 7 3

♣ Q 8 6 4



♠ 9 5 3 2

♥ 10 3

♦ J 10 9 6 5

♣ 10 5

♠ Q 7

♥ K J 9 8 7

♦ K 8

♣ A K J 2

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

4 ♥

4 ♠¹Dbl²

All pass

1. "Green" (non-vulnerable versus vulnerable), is by far the best vulnerability for a sacrifice bid. East has no defence to the opposing 4 ♥, so will lose 620 or so by defending. Whilst he is sure it will fail, bidding 4 ♠ will show a profit, provided his partner can hold the loss to down three (-500). East would not contemplate such a sacrifice (after all he has just one point and, more importantly, no singleton) at any other vulnerability.
2. Some temptation to bid on to 5 ♥ at the vulnerability, but South hates his spade holding - two fast losers - and is sensibly not prepared to gamble on being able to make the remaining 11 tricks. Rightly so - N-S can only make 10 tricks in Hearts, losing the ace-king of spades and the queen of clubs.

Board 16

West Deals

E-W Vul

♠ Q

♥ A K J

♦ A 9 8 3 2

♣ K J 9 3

♠ A 7 6 4 3 2

♥ 9 3

♦ K 10

♣ A 8 6



♠ J 9 8 5

♥ 7 5 4

♦ J 4

♣ Q 10 5 4

♠ K 10

♥ Q 10 8 6 2

♦ Q 7 6 5

♣ 7 2

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

Dbl

3 ♠¹4 ♥²4 ♠³Dbl⁴

All pass

1. Preemptive after a double. Most weak hands with four-card support should do this.
2. More than South would have bid with a silent East, but he does have a seven Losing Trick hand, and a known fit.
3. Bidding one more because - you've guessed it - he has more spades than promised
4. Fewer hearts than promised (so no 5 ♥ bid), plus a good defensive hand (so double, not pass of 4 ♠). Even ♠ Q is pulling its weight defensively (combining with partner's ♠ K10 to form a trump trick); it is worthless to partner in Hearts.