

Board 1

North Deals
None Vul

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



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

1. Negative Double (by agreement) showing precisely four hearts* and the values to compete (a good six points upwards).
*Or five+ hearts with not enough strength to bid 2 ♥.
2. A really powerful - five Losing Trick - hand in support of hearts: surely worth a game bid.

Board 2

East Deals
N-S Vul

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



West	North	East	South
		1 ♣	1 ♥
1 ♠ ¹	4 ♥ ²	4 ♠ ³	All pass

1. Playing Negative Doubles, West's 1 ♠ response guarantees five(+) cards - with four spades he would double.
2. Jamming the bidding. North knows his side has 10 hearts, so bids for ten tricks (bidding to the "level of the fit" has proved a most effective competitive bidding strategy).
3. If West only had just four spades, East might well chicken out and pass.

Board 3

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A 4 2

♥ 4

♦ K J 9 4 2

♣ A J 8 6

♠ K

♥ J 8 3

♦ A Q 10 8 7 6

♣ Q 10 9



♠ Q 10 7 6 5

♥ Q 10 9 6

♦ 5

♣ 4 3 2

♠ J 9 8 3

♥ A K 7 5 2

♦ 3

♣ K 7 5

West

North

East

South

2 ♦¹Pass²

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

Pass⁴

Pass

Dbl³

1. We have all made far worse overcalls
2. Double would be Negative, so North passes, expecting his partner to reopen (he is bound to have short diamonds and so suspect the reality).
3. Doing his duty - even with a minimum.
4. Converting into penalties.

Board 4

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ K 4 3 2

♥ 6 4

♦ K Q 4 2

♣ A 5 3

♠ A J 9 6

♥ A Q 10 5 2

♦ J 10 9

♣ 10



♠ 10 8 7

♥ K J 9

♦ 8 7

♣ Q J 9 7 4

♠ Q 5

♥ 8 7 3

♦ A 6 5 3

♣ K 8 6 2

West

North

East

South

1 ♥

Dbl

2 ♥

Dbl¹

Pass

3 ♦²

All pass

1. Responsive Double - effectively take-out without four spades (or he would simply bid spades).
2. South having implied both minors

Board 5

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A 10 9 2

♥ A K J 4 3

♦ 6 3

♣ 5 2

♠ Q 8

♥ 8 2

♦ K Q J 10 9 5

♣ Q 8 4



♠ K J 4

♥ Q 10 9 5

♦ 8 4

♣ J 9 6 3

♠ 7 6 5 3

♥ 7 6

♦ A 7 2

♣ A K 10 7

West

North

East

South

1 ♥

Pass

1 ♠¹

2 ♦

2 ♠²

Pass

4 ♠³

All pass

1. The correct response. Gone are the days when a new suit response guaranteed Jxxx or better.
2. Playing the Support Double (North doubling 2 ♦ to show any hand with three-card spade support), this bid promises four-card support.
3. Knowing of four trumps opposite, South eyes up his ♦ A and ♣ AK and tries for the vulnerable game bonus.

Board 6

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ —

♥ 5 3

♦ 7 6 5 4 2

♣ A 9 7 5 3 2

♠ A Q J 7 5 4

♥ Q 8 6

♦ 3

♣ K Q 4



♠ K 10 3

♥ A K J 10 9 7

♦ A 10 8

♣ J

♠ 9 8 6 2

♥ 4 2

♦ K Q J 9

♣ 10 8 6

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

4 NT¹

Pass

5 ♣²

Pass

6 ♥

Dbl³Pass⁴

Pass

Pass⁵

1. Roman Key Card Blackwood
2. Zero/Three of "five" aces (incl. ♥ K)
3. The Lightner Slam Double, requesting an unusual opening lead.
4. Is it too far fetched for either East or West to remove to either 6 ♠ or 6 NT (both making)? Easier after the fact.
5. As above

Board 7

South Deals

Both Vul

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



♠ A K 3
 ♥ A Q 10 6 5
 ♦ 4
 ♣ 10 8 6 5

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

1. Satisfying the "SOS" criteria
2. Be bolder giving support for opener after a double...
3. ...But East is not inconvenienced

Board 8

West Deals

None Vul

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



♠ K 10 6 4
 ♥ J 10 8 4 2
 ♦ Q 10 6 2
 ♣ —

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♣ ¹	All pass	

1. North did not enjoy his 2 ♣ contract. He won the spade lead and led the ♥ K. West won the ace, led a second ♠ for East to trump, won the ♦ return (to dummy's ten and his jack), and led a third spade. East trumped again and still held 3 natural trump tricks. Down three. Had East succumbed to the temptation to double 2 ♣, South would surely have removed the double and the heart fit would be located. Indeed it takes a second-round spade ruff to defeat 4 ♥.

Board 9

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A Q 9 6

♥ K J 2

♦ Q 8 3 2

♣ J 9

♠ J 8 7

♥ 7 6

♦ J 4

♣ A Q 10 8 7 6



♠ 5 4

♥ A 10

♦ K 10 9 7 6 5

♣ 5 3 2

♠ K 10 3 2

♥ Q 9 8 5 4 3

♦ A

♣ K 4

West

North

East

South

1 NT

Pass

2 ♣¹Dbl²

2 ♠

Pass

4 ♠

All pass

1. Stayman

2. Lead Directing Double - "partner lead a club"

Board 10

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ K Q J

♥ 3 2

♦ Q 9 8 5 4 2

♣ 4 3

♠ 9 8 5

♥ Q J 7 6 5

♦ A J 6

♣ Q J



♠ A 7 6 3

♥ A K 10 8 4

♦ K 7

♣ A 7

♠ 10 4 2

♥ 9

♦ 10 3

♣ K 10 9 8 6 5 2

West

North

East

South

1 ♥

Pass

3 ♥

Pass

4 NT¹

Pass

5 ♦²

Pass

5 NT³

Pass

6 ♣⁴

Pass

6 ♥⁵All pass⁶

1. Blackwood - asking for Aces

2. 1 Ace

3. Blackwood - asking for Kings

4. No kings

5. settles for small slam

6. Lead a spade as partner had opportunity to use Lead Directing Double in diamonds or clubs but didn't