Hand 1 **Dealer North** **Love All**

♠ K Q
♥ K 10 9 7 6 4
♦ K 5
♣ J 6 4

♠ A 10 8 2
♥ 5 3 2
♦ A 6 4 3
♣ 7 3

♠ J 7 5
♥ 8
♦ Q J 10 9 2
♣ K 10 8 2

♠ 9 6 4 3
♥ A Q J
♦ 8 7
♣ A Q 9 5

Lead: ♦Q

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

South might be tempted to respond 3NT but he should instead prefer 1♠. Not only might North hold four spades (with 4-4 in the majors and 15+points the correct opening bid is 1♥ if balanced) but the leap to 3NT cuts out other possible contracts.

In this case North rebids his hearts (showing at least five) and now South can raise to 4♥, a much better contract than 3NT.

Hand 2 **Dealer East** **NS Game**

♠ J 10 9 2
♥ A 8 6
♦ A 6 2
♣ 9 8 7

♠ A K 5 4
♥ Q J 10 3 2
♦ K 10
♣ J 2

♠ Q 7
♥ 9 4
♦ 9 8 7 5
♣ K Q 10 6 3

♠ 8 6 3
♥ K 7 5
♦ Q J 4 3
♣ A 5 4

Lead: ♠J / ♦3

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass/2♥	All pass		

East is too strong to pass partner's opening bid but too weak to respond in a suit at the 2-level. What is left? Answer: 1NT.

West should pass or he could rebid 2♥ - either may be right (pass is recommended). In each case, careful declarer play should see the contract make.

Hand 3 **Dealer South** **EW Game**

♠ 6 5
♥ 5 4 3
♦ A K 10 6 2
♣ A J 3

♠ Q 9 4 3
♥ A K 7
♦ 5 3
♣ Q 8 6 5

♠ J 10 7
♥ 2
♦ Q 9 8 4
♣ K 10 9 4 2

♠ A K 8 2
♥ Q J 10 9 8 6
♦ J 7
♣ 7

Lead: ♥A

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

South has a (minimum) opening bid (Rule of 20) and once he has rebid his hearts North has enough to raise to game (an opening bid + an opening bid = game).

If West leads ace, king and another trump (removing dummy's ruffing ability) declarer can counter by leading the ♦J and finessing it. This loses, but dummy's diamonds are now winners and declarer makes ten tricks.

Responding To Opening Bids Of One Of A Suit

Hand 4 **Dealer West** **Game All**

♠ Q 9 3
♥ Q J 6
♦ Q J 10 8 5
♣ 8 2

♠ J 10 7
♥ 9 5 4
♦ K 6
♣ Q J 10 9 6

♠ A 4
♥ A K 3 2
♦ A 9 4 3
♣ K 7 5

♠ K 8 6 5 2
♥ 10 8 7
♦ 7 2
♣ A 4 3

Lead: ♦Q

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All pass		

East opens 1♦, the lower of his two 4-card suits. When West responds 1NT (6-9 points) East has enough to invite game. West should accept because of the decent five card club suit. North leads a diamond and West must be careful to win this with dummy's ♦A to preserve his ♦K as an entry. He now sets up his club suit by driving out the ♣A and makes game with one spade, two hearts, two diamonds and four clubs.

Hand 5 **Dealer North** **NS Game**

♠ A 10 9 8 6 3
♥ K
♦ Q J 7
♣ A 9 8

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

♠ Q 7 4
♥ Q J 10 2
♦ 5 4
♣ K Q 10 3

♠ K J 5 2
♥ 7 6 3
♦ A K 10 8
♣ 5 4

Lead: ♥Q

West	North	East	South
	1♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All pass	

South has spade support and 10-12 points so makes a limit raise of 3♠. Although North has a singleton ♥K he should still bid game.

East's lead denies the ♥K so West should play his ♥A at trick one just in case North has a singleton ♥K. Virtue is rewarded!

North will end up with ten or eleven tricks depending on whether he starts with ♠A or ♠K when he tackles the trump suit.

Hand 6 **Dealer East** **EW Game**

♠ J 6 5 4
♥ A 4 2
♦ 10 6 3
♣ K 7 4

♠ 8
♥ K Q 8 7 6
♦ Q 8 5 4
♣ 8 5 3

♠ A K 3 2
♥ J 10 9 5
♦ K J 9
♣ A Q

♠ Q 10 9 7
♥ 3
♦ A 7 2
♣ J 10 9 6 2

Lead: ♣J

West	North	East	South
		1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	All pass
4♥	All pass		

East is far too strong to open 1NT and with two 4-card majors he should open 1♥. If he were to open 1♠, partner may have a 4-card heart suit but not be able to show it because he is too weak to respond at the 2-level (promising 9+ points). The bidding may then go 1♠ - 1NT - 3NT and this contract may prove unmakeable on a club lead.