

Responder's Rebid

♠6
 ♥KJ1064
 ♦A972
 ♣K53
 ♠A1082
 ♥Q85
 ♦Q83
 ♣876
 ♠754
 ♥92
 ♦KJ54
 ♣AJ42
 ♠KQJ93
 ♥A73
 ♦106
 ♣Q109

Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all

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

Pass

North bids out his shape to show 5+hearts and 4+diamonds. South knows of the eight card heart fit and it's just a question of whether to invite to game with 3♥ or to make a red-blooded blast to the major suit game. The quality spade suit, top heart honour and ♣109 supporting ♠Q point to the latter course.

4♥ is by no means an obvious make. If declarer plays West for ♥Q it's possible to make two spades, five hearts, a diamond, a diamond ruff and a club. Ten tricks.

♠AJ109
 ♥J43
 ♦A4
 ♣7654
 ♠KQ84
 ♥105
 ♦6
 ♣AQJ1093
 ♠75
 ♥A972
 ♦J10982
 ♣K8
 ♠632
 ♥KQ86
 ♦KQ753
 ♣2

Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable

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

1♣

West shows 4+clubs and 4+spades. East knows there can never be a 4-4heart fit (else West would have rebid 1♥) and has a difficult rebid. The values point slightly to rebidding 2N but the singleton in partner's first suit and small trebleton in opener's second suit suggest caution. Rebidding 1N works well as West can bid 2♣ cheaply, a bid now showing 6-4 shape. East should pass this.

With the favourable club position (declarer being able to pick up ♠K after one finesse in the suit) nine tricks should emerge – six clubs and one in each of the side suits.

♠KQ64
 ♥Q43
 ♦1065
 ♣984
 ♠AJ875
 ♥98
 ♦AK32
 ♣52
 ♠103
 ♥AJ106
 ♦J4
 ♣AQJ76
 ♠92
 ♥K752
 ♦Q987
 ♣K103

Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	2♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	3N	All pass
2♦			

1♠

East, holding a thirteen count, will always insist on game after hearing a one level opening bid in partner's hand. He has no fit for either of partner's suits and bids 3N, safe in the knowledge of a very good holding in the unbid suit.

South leads ♥2 and declarer takes North's ♥Q with the ace of hearts. Thereafter the play can become complex as declarer's communication is none too easy. If South takes the first club trick, declarer's task is made much easier. Soft defence would also see South clearing the heart suit allowing easy access to East's extra winners in the suit.

♠Q9873
 ♥42
 ♦KJ94
 ♣J7
 ♠52
 ♥1075
 ♦A106
 ♣K10953
 ♠AK104
 ♥Q96
 ♦Q752
 ♣62
 ♠J6
 ♥AKJ83
 ♦83
 ♣AQ84

Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable

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

Pass

When North bids 2♥ he shows a hand with either 3card support (up to a nine count) or one with a doubleton heart (and possibly a ten count). These are the upper ranges of the rebid and the odds favour a cautious approach. South duly passes with his reasonable fifteen count.

West may lead ♦A and that takes away declarer need to guess in the suit. ♦K is now a sure entry to dummy to take a winning finesse in the trump suit. With hearts breaking 3-3, there are five trump, one diamond and two club winners – contract made. Outside the diamond suit declarer can also force an entry to dummy by playing a low club. If West rises with ♠K South can always make eight tricks but will have to guess the diamonds correctly for success if West ducks.

Note that making game is a long way away.

<p>♠54 ♥K109 ♦742 ♣AK863</p> <p>♠AK98 ♠Q1063 ♥AQ7542 ♥6 ♦3 ♦AQJ865 ♣74 ♣95</p> <p>♠J72 ♥J83 ♦K109 ♣QJ102</p>	<p>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td><td>All pass</td></tr></table> <p>Some Easts might open 1♦ (a slightly aggressive Rule of 19 opening) and game will be readily bid too. Here East passes initially and follows the course of showing a four card major in preference to bidding a five+ card minor when game values are not held.</p> <p>With 6-4 shape, concentration of values in those two suits and a shortage, West is worth the jump raise of spades (showing about 15-17, including the potential for ruffing diamonds).</p> <p>The defence will cash two clubs and may switch to a neutral trump. The success of the contract depends on setting up one of the red suits. As the diamonds are stronger that's the suit to play on. East can cash ♦A and take a ruffing finesse of ♦Q. Whether South covers that, or not, there are eleven tricks to be had.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All pass				
West	North	East	South																		
	Pass	Pass	Pass																		
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass																		
3♠	Pass	4♠	All pass																		
<p>♠J6 ♥AKJ83 ♦83 ♣AQ84</p> <p>♠K4 ♠10853 ♥Q107 ♥965 ♦10762 ♦AQ4 ♣K1062 ♣953</p> <p>♠AQ972 ♥42 ♦KJ95 ♣J7</p>	<p>Board 6 : Dealer East : EW vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>1♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>3N</td></tr><tr><td>Allpass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>South does not have sufficient values to bid 3♦ on the second round of bidding. After North's two-over-one response that would show a good 15+. South temporises with 2♠ and North can bid his second suit. 3♣ may, as here, pinpoint a diamond weakness, a weakness that South can cover. South confirms the diamond values by bidding the nine trick game.</p> <p>West may lead a diamond and declarer should always make at least nine tricks. With the working heart finesse of the knave, there's a very minimum of five heart, one spade, two diamond and one club tricks.</p> <p>Eleven tricks can emerge after taking finesses in spades and clubs.</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass	3N	Allpass			
West	North	East	South																		
		Pass	1♠																		
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠																		
Pass	3♣	Pass	3N																		
Allpass																					

<p>♠K82 ♥732 ♦J1065 ♣K54</p> <p>♠AQJ75 ♠43 ♥AJ1064 ♥K95 ♦32 ♦AK874 ♣6 ♣Q98</p> <p>♠1096 ♥Q8 ♦Q9 ♣AJ10732</p>	<p>Board 7 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>1 ♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2 ♦</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2 ♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>2N</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3 ♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>4 ♥</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <p>After the second round of bidding West has shown 5+spades and 4+hearts and East has shown a good10-12 balanced hand, generally without three spades or four hearts (else support the major). West now has the opportunity to rebid the heart suit to confirm holding at least 5/5 in the majors. East can pass this but his hand is good (in context). The top diamonds and three trumps to a top honour help in that assessment.</p> <p>If declarer guesses to play South for the queen of trumps, he should make eleven tricks, losing just a club and a spade (the latter when a finesse of ♠Q loses).</p>	West	North	East	South				Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2N	Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All Pass
West	North	East	South																		
			Pass																		
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass																		
2 ♥	Pass	2N	Pass																		
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All Pass																		
<p>♠53 ♥K10 ♦AKQ943 ♣1063</p> <p>♠K1096 ♠J74 ♥A975 ♥642 ♦107 ♦J82 ♣J84 ♣AQ97</p> <p>♠AQ82 ♥QJ83 ♦65 ♣K52</p>	<p>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>1 ♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>1 ♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2 ♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>2N</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3N</td><td>All pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>North rebids his diamonds to show a single-suited hand. South knows that North doesn't hold a spade suit because he would have bid 1 ♠ with 5+/4 shape (or have bid no trumps with a balanced hand with four diamonds and four spades). That means that South does not need to show his spades. He bids 2N to show a good10-12 high card points.</p> <p>North may raise to game hoping the diamond suit will provide six winners (it does). The auction benefits from being "right-sided". In other words it's played by the hand that is protected from a contract-threatening lead. If North plays the hand, a spade lead will beat it as the defence can build three spades and two aces (or three clubs, ♠K and ♥A) before declarer has nine tricks. No lead from West can beat 3N. South will go for the heart suit early, playing ♥K followed by ♥10. The defence takes the second round but declarer will always have an entry to a second winner in the suit.</p>	West	North	East	South	Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2N	Pass	3N	All pass					
West	North	East	South																		
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥																		
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2N																		
Pass	3N	All pass																			