

## Strong Two Bids In Benjaminised Acol

<p>♠AKQ84 ♥AK82 ♦AK9 ♣2</p> <p>♠10 ♥J103 ♦654 ♣KJ10763</p> <p>♠J9753 ♥Q9 ♦QJ10 ♣AQ8</p> <p>♠62 ♥7654 ♦8732 ♣954</p>	<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♥</td></tr><tr><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>2♦ is artificial and 100% forcing, indeed it is game forcing unless the auction starts 2♦ 2♥ 2NT. 2♥ is a negative response showing 0-7 points (or maybe up to nine points in queens and jacks). 2♠ is game forcing. 2NT is a waiting bid and 3♥ is a second suit. An eight card fit is found and South bids the game.</p> <p>Say West leads ♦6, won by ♦A. Declarer cashes ♥AK and leaves the remaining trump undrawn. He continues with ♠AKQ, trumps ♠4, returns to hand with ♦K and ruffs his ♠8. At some stage West may ruff with ♥J but it doesn't prevent declarer taking ten tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South		2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass			
West	North	East	South																		
	2♦	Pass	2♥																		
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT																		
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥																		
All Pass																					
<p>♠A76 ♥J954 ♦10652 ♣76</p> <p>♠KQ1043 ♥873 ♦43 ♣432</p> <p>♠J2 ♥AK2 ♦AK87 ♣AKQ5</p> <p>♠985 ♥Q106 ♦QJ9 ♣J1098</p>	<p>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♥ (TRF)</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3NT</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>2♦ and 2♥ are as described in board 1. 2NT shows 23-24 points. 3♥ is a transfer showing at least five spades. With only two spades East settles for 3NT.</p> <p>Despite the combined 29 points, declarer should fail. He wins the club lead and tries ♠J but North lets it win. Declarer continues spades and, seeing partner play ♠5 then ♠8 (playing low high to show an odd number of cards, clearly three), North wins ♠A. Declarer cannot now use dummy's spades and goes one off.</p>	West	North	East	South			2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥ (TRF)	Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass		
West	North	East	South																		
		2♦	Pass																		
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass																		
3♥ (TRF)	Pass	3♠	Pass																		
3NT	All Pass																				

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<div><div><div>♠J43</div><div>♥42</div><div>♦K8765</div><div>♣875</div></div><div><div>♠6</div><div>♥J1093</div><div>♦A943</div><div>♣KJ64</div></div><div><div>♠985</div><div>♥Q7 65</div><div>♦J10</div><div>♣10932</div></div><div><div>♠AKQ1072</div><div>♥AK8</div><div>♦Q2</div><div>♣AQ</div></div></div>	<div>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2♦</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>4♠</td></tr><tr><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>Once South bids 2♠ a game forcing auction is established. Declarer should win the heart lead, cash ♥A K and ruff ♥8. He might now try the club finesse but it fails so he makes only 11 tricks.</div>	West	North	East	South				2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass			
West	North	East	South																		
			2♦																		
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠																		
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠																		
All Pass																					
<div><div><div>♠6</div><div>♥J1053</div><div>♦A943</div><div>♣AK64</div></div><div><div>♠AKQJ72</div><div>♥AK8</div><div>♦52</div><div>♣Q2</div></div><div><div>♠1043</div><div>♥Q2</div><div>♦KQ876</div><div>♣J75</div></div><div><div>♠985</div><div>♥9764</div><div>♦J10</div><div>♣10983</div></div></div>	<div>Board 4 : Dealer West : All vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4♠</td><td>All Pass</td></tr></table> <div>2♣ then 2♠ shows a hand with lots of shape and high cards which is not quite strong enough to open with a game-forcing 2♦. 4♠ shows a few values and some support but no aces or voids and no interest in a slam. There are ten easy tricks but if West had unwisely gone beyond 4♠ in the quest for a slam he would have failed.</div>	West	North	East	South	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass								
West	North	East	South																		
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass																		
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass																		
<div><div><div>♠AKQJ72</div><div>♥AK8</div><div>♦Q2</div><div>♣Q2</div></div><div><div>♠985</div><div>♥Q976</div><div>♦KJ105</div><div>♣J10</div></div><div><div>♠6</div><div>♥J1053</div><div>♦A943</div><div>♣AK64</div></div><div><div>♠1043</div><div>♥42</div><div>♦876</div><div>♣98753</div></div></div>	<div>Board 5 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</div> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td></tr></table> <div>Again 2♣ then 2♠ shows a hand with lots of shape and high cards which is not quite strong enough to open 2♦. Declarer makes nine tricks by ruffing a heart in dummy before completing the drawing of trumps.</div>	West	North	East	South		2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠	All Pass									
West	North	East	South																		
	2♣	Pass	2♦																		
Pass	2♠	All Pass																			

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<p>♠87532 ♥3 ♦Q109 ♣KJ98</p> <p>♠KQJ104      ♠A6 ♥KQJ2      ♥A10987 ♦AK2      ♦6543 ♣A      ♣76</p> <p>♠9 ♥654 ♦J87 ♣Q105432</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>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>7♥</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>2♦ and the rebid of 2♠ sets up a game force. Opener is able to jump to 4NT (Roman Key Card Blackwood) in support of partner. 5♥ shows two aces without ♥Q. West can count 13 tricks provided he can make five heart tricks. A confident player may bid 7NT.</p>	West	North	East	South			Pass	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass	7♥	All Pass		
West	North	East	South																						
		Pass	Pass																						
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass																						
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass																						
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass																						
7♥	All Pass																								
<p>♠932 ♥87 ♦109532 ♣752</p> <p>♠KQJ104      ♠5 ♥A109      ♥J632 ♦84      ♦KJ76 ♣864      ♣Q1093</p> <p>♠A876 ♥KQ54 ♦AQ ♣AKJ</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>2♦</td></tr><tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>2NT</td></tr><tr><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>The 2NT rebid shows 23-24 points (see boards 1&amp;2 too) but partner has such a miserable collection that pass is North's only real choice.</p> <p>West leads ♠K. Declarer faces a nightmare because he cannot reach dummy to take finesses. The hand is almost unplayable and declarer is likely to go two or three off.</p>	West	North	East	South				2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT	All Pass											
West	North	East	South																						
			2♦																						
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT																						
All Pass																									
<p>♠J10 ♥Q93 ♦QJ105 ♣AQJ8</p> <p>♠AKQ854      ♠632 ♥AK8      ♥7654 ♦AK9      ♦873 ♣2      ♣943</p> <p>♠97 ♥J102 ♦642 ♣K10765</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>2♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>4♠</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>2♦ has now become an old friend and 2♥ is an unsurprising negative response showing 0-7 points (or maybe up to nine points in queens and jacks). 2♠ is game forcing.</p> <p>North's obvious lead is ♦Q. Declarer wins with the ace and draws trumps in two rounds. He then cashes ♥AK and concedes a heart. The defence may persist in diamonds but declarer wins ♦K and overtakes ♠4 with ♠6 so he can discard a loser on ♥7 which is now a winner. Eleven tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South	2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass										
West	North	East	South																						
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass																						
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass																						
4♠	All Pass																								

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<p>♠3 ♥543 ♦K10976 ♣9742</p> <p>♠A98765      ♠KQJ2 ♥2      ♥AKQJ109 ♦A543      ♦8 ♣65      ♣AK</p> <p>♠104 ♥876 ♦QJ2 ♣QJ1083</p>	<p>Board 1 (Talk) : Dealer North : Love All</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>Pass</td><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>3♠</td><td>Pass</td><td>4NT</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>5♥</td><td>Pass</td><td>7♠</td><td>All pass</td></tr></table> <p>2♦ is the near game force, or better, hand. 3♥ commits the partnership to game or higher. West has a good hand opposite a 2♦ opener and should not be afraid to bid his suit. 4NT is Roman Key Card Blackwood and 5♥ shows two aces without the queen of trumps (no surprise to East). East can count 13 tricks (indeed he should have bid 7NT).</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass	7♠	All pass
West	North	East	South																		
	Pass	2♦	Pass																		
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass																		
3♠	Pass	4NT	Pass																		
5♥	Pass	7♠	All pass																		
<p>♠AQJ ♥9765 ♦105 ♣10865</p> <p>♠K54      ♠62 ♥2      ♥AKQJ4 ♦Q9876      ♦AKJ32 ♣9732      ♣4</p> <p>♠109873 ♥1083 ♦4 ♣AKQJ</p>	<p>Board 2 (Talk) : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table><tr><th>West</th><th>North</th><th>East</th><th>South</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>2♥</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>2NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♦</td><td>Pass</td></tr><tr><td>5♦</td><td>All Pass</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>East shows an unbalanced hand of about 18-21 by opening 2♣ and rebids the higher of the two five card suits. 2NT is a waiting bid (often looking for a better fit) and 3♦ is a second suit. This excites West whose good fit and shape justifies a leap to game. North must lead a club to give the defence a chance. If South switches to a spade declarer is defeated quickly because ♠K is sitting under ♠A. If not, declarer can draw trumps. Now a spade to ♠K isn't needed. He cashes his hearts, throwing all of his spades. Now he can cross ruff his way to 12 tricks.</p>	West	North	East	South			2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass	5♦	All Pass		
West	North	East	South																		
		2♣	Pass																		
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass																		
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass																		
5♦	All Pass																				