



**HELP TRIAL BIDS - An Introduction
HAND ANALYSIS**

HAND 1 Dealer: N

	N	
	♠ KQ1098	
	♥ A	
	♦ AJ109	
	♣ 987	
W		E
♠ 32		♠ AJ7
♥ J1096		♥ Q8754
♦ K5		♦ 743
♣ K10432		♣ QJ
	S	
	♠ 654	
	♥ K32	
	♦ Q862	
	♣ A65	

Makes:					
	C	D	H	S	NT
N		4		4	2
S		4		4	2
E			1		
W			1		

Bidding is 1S – 2S. Should Opener try for Game?

1. Does Opener have invitational strength? YES. 6 LTC or 16-18 TP
2. Does Opener have a problem? YES - three small ♣'s
3. Are there any other real problems? NO.

✓ **ASK FOR HELP in CLUBS.**

1S – 2S

3C "Can you help with the Club suit, partner?"

Can Responder HELP? YES, ♣Axx is good enough.
Responder bids 4S to say YES.

1S – 2S

3C – 4S

HAND 2 Dealer: E

	N	
	♠ 74 ♥ 875 ♦ KQ2 ♣ Q9732	
W		E
♠ Q532 ♥ 943 ♦ J103 ♣ K52		♠ K86 ♥ AKQJ6 ♦ 854 ♣ AJ
	S	
	♠ AJ109 ♥ T2 ♦ A976 ♣ 1084	

Makes:					
	C	D	H	S	NT
N	1	1			
S	1	1			
E			3	1	2
W			3	1	2

Bidding is 1H – 2H. Should Opener try for Game?

1. Does Opener have invitational strength? YES. 6 LTC or 16-18 TP
2. Does Opener have a problem? YES - three small ♦'s
3. Are there any other real problems? NO

✓ **ASK FOR HELP in DIAMONDS.**

1H – 2H

3D “Can you help with the Diamond suit, partner?”

Responder cannot keep the HELP SUIT to 2 losers so cannot help.

Responder says NO by returning back to three of the Major.

1H – 2H

3D – 3H

HAND 3 Dealer: S

	N	
	♠ 986 ♥ KQJ10 ♦ QJ7 ♣ 642	
W		E
♠ Q105 ♥ 986 ♦ A32 ♣ K1053		♠ K7 ♥ 75432 ♦ K84 ♣ 987
	S	
	♠ AJ432 ♥ A ♦ 10965 ♣ AQJ	

Makes:					
	C	D	H	S	NT
N	1	2	2	2	2
S	1	2	2	2	2
E					
W					

Bidding is 1S – 2S. Should Opener invite partner to Game?

1. Does Opener have invitational strength? YES. 6 LTC or 16-18 TP
2. Is there a problem? YES the ♦'s
3. Are there any other real problems? YES - Trump suit quality.

With two problems, Opener should PASS.

1S – 2S

Pass

The quality of the Trump suit is not overly grand but some players might feel it is good enough – either decision is probably fine.

If partner *can* help with the diamonds (remember you are willing to lose two) they may not be able to help in Trumps as well. There is at least one Trump to lose, maybe two.

HAND 4 Dealer: W

	N	
	♠ QJ109 ♥ K2 ♦ 9876 ♣ J84	
W		E
♠ K ♥ AQJ1098 ♦ A32 ♣ A109		♠ 7532 ♥ 643 ♦ QJ10 ♣ K52
	S	
	♠ A864 ♥ 75 ♦ K54 ♣ Q763	

Makes:					
	C	D	H	S	NT
N					
S					
E	1	1	4	1	2
W	1	1	4	1	2

Bidding is 1H – 2H. Should Opener invite partner to Game?

1. Does Opener have an invitational hand? YES. 6LTC or 16-18 TP
2. Does Opener have a problem? NO, not really.

Go straight to Game. There is a good chance that Game will make.

1H – 2H

4H

You can fiddle around and ask for HELP if you want to but what in? If you ask in ♣'s or ♦'s and partner says NO you will still go to Game anyway.

Aces are valuable – they can help control things while you take care of some other business, in this case to set up your spades.

If the opposition leads a Club for example, you will probably lose the other two once they get the lead again, but you still have control of the Diamonds.

HAND 5 Dealer: N

	N	
	♠ 98543 ♥ AKQ ♦ 7 ♣ AJ104	
W		E
♠ Q76 ♥ J102 ♦ KJ65 ♣ Q96		♠ A2 ♥ 987 ♦ AQT4 ♣ 7532
	S	
	♠ KJ10 ♥ 6543 ♦ 9832 ♣ K8	

Makes:					
	C	D	H	S	NT
N	2	1	2	4	2
S	2	1	2	4	2
E					
W					

Bidding is 1S – 2S. Should Opener invite partner to Game?

1. Does Opener have an invitational hand? YES. 6LTC or 16-18 TP
2. Does opener have a problem? YES – Trump quality
3. Are there any other real problems? NO

✓ **ASK FOR HELP in TRUMP QUALITY**

1S – 2S

3S “Can you help with Trump quality, please partner”?

Can partner help with Trump quality? YES. 1S – 2S

3S – 4S

Rebidding the Major at the three level is no longer needed as a general invitation, so three of the Major can be used to ask for HELP in the quality of the Trumps.

In a competitive situation though, you and partner must decide what 3M means. Are you just competing or are you asking for HELP?

HAND 6 Dealer: E

	N	
	♠ 83 ♥ AKQ ♦ K876 ♣ 8654	
W		E
♠ AQ54 ♥ 542 ♦ J1093 ♣ 103		♠ K7 ♥ J10983 ♦ A2 ♣ AQJ2
	S	
	♠ J10962 ♥ 76 ♦ Q54 ♣ K97	

Makes:					
	C	D	H	S	NT
N		1		1	
S		1		1	
E	1		3		1
W	1		3		1

Bidding is 1H – 2H. Should Opener invite partner to Game?

1. Does Opener have an invitational hand? YES. 6LTC or 16-18 TP
2. Does opener have a problem? YES – Trump quality
3. Are there any other real problems? NO

✓ **ASK FOR HELP in TRUMP QUALITY**

1H – 2H

3H This says “Can you help with Trump quality, please partner?”
The 3H should be alerted (it means more than a natural bid).

Can partner help with Trump quality? NO = PASS.

Responder cannot help so PASS, leaving Opener’s 3H in.

1H – 2S

3H – PASS

HAND 7 Dealer: S

	N	
	♠ 643	
	♥ AQJ2	
	♦ 987	
	♣ J65	
W		E
♠ 87		♠ KQ9
♥ 10983		♥ 7654
♦ AQJ		♦ T65
♣ 9874		♣ AQ10
	S	
	♠ AJ1052	
	♥ K	
	♦ K432	
	♣ K32	

Makes:					
	C	D	H	S	NT
N		1		2	
S		1		2	
E	1		1		
W	1		1		

Bidding is 1S – 2S. Should Opener invite partner to Game?

1. Does Opener have an invitational hand? NO. 7LTC
2. Does opener have a problem? Not applicable

1S – 2S

PASS

Opener has no need to worry about problems because is not going any further anyway.

HAND 8 Dealer: W

N		
♠ J4		
♥ AKQ		
♦ 832		
♣ K8732		
W		E
♠ AKQ98		♠ 1062
♥ J		♥ 10987
♦ QJ65		♦ AK109
♣ QJ9		♣ 65
S		
♠ 753		
♥ 65432		
♦ 74		
♣ A104		

Makes:					
	C	D	H	S	NT
N	1				
S	1				
E		4	1	4	2
W		4	1	4	2

Bidding is 1S – 2S. Should Opener invite partner to Game?

1. Does Opener have an invitational hand? 5 LTC

✓ **5 LOSERS and it looks OK = GO TO GAME**

1S – 2S

4S

Opener has no glaring problems. Responder has something.

Trial Bids are a % proposition.

The Hand will be unlucky not to make Game.