

BFP B2 L08 Stayman

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 10 4
♥ Q 7
♦ A 8 4 3
♣ A 10 6 5

♠ K 7 3
♥ 9 8 3
♦ J 10 7
♣ Q J 9 2



♠ J 8 2
♥ K 10 5 4
♦ K 5 2
♣ K 8 4

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	2	3	2	3	2
S	2	3	2	3	2
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

♠ A 9 6 5
♥ A J 6 2
♦ Q 9 6
♣ 7 3

12
7 10
11

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
All pass			

Opener has 12 HCP and a balanced hand.

Responder has 11 HCP and four cards in both hearts and spades and so uses Stayman for a game try.

Opener has less than four cards in both majors and so gives the negative response.

Responder then re-bids NT as there is no major suit fit.

Responder cannot be certain of game, and so bids NT at the invitational 2 level.

Opener declines the invitation to game by passing.

BFP B2 L08 Stayman

Board 2
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ 10 8 7 2
♥ Q 8 7
♦ A 7 6
♣ K 9 3

♠ Q 6 4 3
♥ A 10 6 5
♦ K 10
♣ 8 5 4



♠ A J
♥ K J 4
♦ J 9 3 2
♣ Q J 7 2

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	2	2	2	2	2
W	2	1	2	2	1

♠ K 9 5
♥ 9 3 2
♦ Q 8 5 4
♣ A 10 6

9
9 13
9

West

North

East
1 NT

South
All pass

Opener has 13 HCP and a balanced hand.

Responder has four cards in both hearts and spades but only 9 HCP.

With a maximum of 23 HCP between the two hands there is no game available.

Stayman would only confuse partner and possibly lead to bidding too high.

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Board 3
 South Deals
 E-W Vul

♠ A Q 5 4
 ♥ Q 9
 ♦ 9 7 5 4
 ♣ A 10 3

♠ J 6 3
 ♥ J 10 6 4 2
 ♦ A Q 6
 ♣ 7 6



♠ 10 8
 ♥ K 8 7 5
 ♦ K 10 8
 ♣ J 9 8 4

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	2	3	-	3	2
S	2	2	-	3	2
E	-	-	1	-	-
W	-	-	1	-	-

♠ K 9 7 2
 ♥ A 3
 ♦ J 3 2
 ♣ K Q 5 2

12
8 7
13

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
All pass			

Opener has 13 HCP and a balanced hand.

Responder has 12 HCP and four cards in spades and so uses Stayman for a game try.

Opener has four cards in spades and so bids spades at the two level.

With 12 HCP, responder invites game with a bid of 3. With a good looking 13, opener bids the game.

This bidding is not wrong, and more often than not the game will be there. But this time the cards don't sit well for declarer and it should be one down.

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Board 4
West Deals
Both Vul

	♠ 9 8 4 2																																
	♥ J 8																																
	♦ J 4 3																																
	♣ A 10 6 5																																
♠ K 5 3	<div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A J																															
♥ A 7 5 3		♥ Q 10 9 2																															
♦ A 9 7		♦ Q 10 8 5																															
♣ Q 7 4		♣ K J 2																															
<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center; font-size: small;"> <tr> <td></td> <td>♣</td> <td>♦</td> <td>♥</td> <td>♠</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N	N	-	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	3	4	4	2	3	W	3	4	4	2	2	♠ Q 10 7 6		
	♣	♦	♥	♠	N																												
N	-	-	-	-	-																												
S	-	-	-	-	-																												
E	3	4	4	2	3																												
W	3	4	4	2	2																												
	♥ K 6 4		6																														
	♦ K 6 2		13 13																														
	♣ 9 8 3		8																														

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass

Opener has 13HCP and a balanced hand.

Responder has 13 HCP and four cards in hearts and so uses Stayman for a game try.

Opener has four cards in hearts and so bids hearts at the two level.

Responder then bids game with 13 HCP. This time the cards behave, and it should make.

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Board 5

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A J 9 7

♥ Q J 5 3

♦ K 8 5

♣ 10 6

♠ 8 6 4

♥ A 9 8 4

♦ J 3

♣ Q 9 7 2



♠ Q 10 2

♥ K 2

♦ Q 10 6 4

♣ J 8 4 3

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	-	3	3	3	3
S	-	3	3	3	3
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

♠ K 5 3

♥ 10 7 6

♦ A 9 7 2

♣ A K 5

11
7 8
14

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

Opener has 14 HCP and a balanced hand.

Responder has 11 HCP and four cards in both hearts and spades and so uses Stayman for a game try.

Opener has less than four cards in both majors and so gives the negative response.


Responder then re-bids NT as there is no major suit fit.

Responder cannot be certain of game, and so bids NT at the invitational 2 level.

With 14 HCP Opener accepts the invitation to game by bidding 3 NT.

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Board 6
East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ A Q 9 4 ♥ Q 9 6 2 ♦ K Q 5 3 ♣ 9	♠ J 10 8 6 ♥ A 8 5 3 ♦ J ♣ A 8 7 5	♠ K 2 ♥ K J 7 4 ♦ A 10 9 7 ♣ K 6 2																															
																																	
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-family: monospace;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">♣</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">♦</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">♥</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">N</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">N</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">S</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">E</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">3</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">5</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">2</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">W</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">-</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">3</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">5</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">2</td> <td style="padding: 2px 5px;">2</td> </tr> </table>		♣	♦	♥	♠	N	N	1	-	-	-	-	S	-	-	-	-	-	E	-	3	5	2	2	W	-	3	5	2	2	♠ 7 5 3 ♥ 10 ♦ 8 6 4 2 ♣ Q J 10 4 3	10 13 14 3	
	♣	♦	♥	♠	N																												
N	1	-	-	-	-																												
S	-	-	-	-	-																												
E	-	3	5	2	2																												
W	-	3	5	2	2																												

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All pass		

Opener has 14 HCP and a balanced hand.

Responder has 13 HCP and four cards in hearts and so uses Stayman for a game try.

Opener has four cards in hearts and so bids hearts at the two level.

Responder then bids game with 13 HCP.

The trump split is 4:1, so declarer must abandon clearing them and make some tricks by trumping clubs in dummy.

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Board 7

South Deals

Both Vul

♠ J 8 5 4 2

♥ Q J 6 2

♦ 6

♣ K 4 2

♠ 10 9 6 3

♥ 8 3

♦ A 10 8 3 2

♣ A 9



♠ A K

♥ 9 7 5

♦ K J 5 4

♣ 10 7 6 5

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	1	-	3	-	-
S	1	-	3	-	-
E	-	4	-	-	2
W	-	4	-	-	2

♠ Q 7

♥ A K 10 4

♦ Q 9 7

♣ Q J 8 3

7
8 11
14

West

North

East

South

1 NT

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

2 ♥

All pass

An unusual case where you can use Stayman even though there's no game on.

South opens 1 NT. With 7 HCP North knows there's no game.

But he has five spades and four hearts. A weak take out into spades will skip the chance that partner has four hearts.

So North inquires with Stayman.

Partner shows four hearts and North passes to keep it low.

If partner had shown 4 spades, North would have passed.

(What if partner denied four of either major? North bids 2 ♠ showing a weak hand with five spades (and four hearts) a "delayed" weak take out. Opener must recognise this sequence and pass.)

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Tuesday, March 21, 2023

BFP B2 L08 Stayman

Board 8
 West Deals
 None Vul

♠ 9 7
 ♥ 9 7 5 2
 ♦ K Q J 10 5
 ♣ A 3

♠ A 8 5 4
 ♥ K 8 3
 ♦ A 6 4 2
 ♣ K 5



♠ K Q 6 3
 ♥ A 10 6
 ♦ 9 3
 ♣ Q 10 9 6

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	-	-	-	-	-
S	-	-	-	-	-
E	2	2	1	4	2
W	2	2	1	4	2

♠ J 10 2
 ♥ Q J 4
 ♦ 8 7
 ♣ J 8 7 4 2

10
14 11
5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	All pass		

Opener has 14 HCP and a balanced hand.

Responder has 11 HCP and four cards in spades and so uses Stayman for a game try.

Opener has four cards in spades and so bids spades at the two level.

Responder then makes an invitational bid of three. With maximum points Responder raises to game in spades.