

**Board 1**

West Deals

N-S Vul



♠	Q J 10 4
♥	8 5
♦	A 8 5
♣	A 7 6 4

*West*

2 ♥

*North*

Dbl

*East*

4 ♥

*South*

?

Seems pretty natural to bid 4 ♠ here.

**Board 1**

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A K 5  
♥ 7 2  
♦ K 6 4 3 2  
♣ K 8 2

♥K
----

♠ Q J 10 4  
♥ 8 5  
♦ A 8 5  
♣ A 7 6 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 ♥	Dbl	4 ♥	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i> <i>4th</i>
1. W	♥ K	?	
Won NS=0 EW=0			

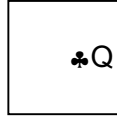
But partner only has 3 of them. Ouch!

**Board 1**

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A K 5  
♥ —  
♦ K 6 4 3 2  
♣ K 8 2



♠ Q J 10 4  
♥ —  
♦ A 8 5  
♣ A 7 6 4

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♥ <u>K</u>	2	3	5
2. W	♥ 9	7	<u>A</u>	8
3. E	♣ Q	?		

Won NS=0 EW=2

They took their 2 heart tricks and then switched to the ♣ Q.

What now?

**Board 1**

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A K 5  
♥ —  
♦ K 6 4 3 2  
♣ K 8

♣2
♣3 ♣Q
♣A

♠ Q J 10 4
♥ —
♦ A 8 5
♣ 7 6 4

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♥ <u>K</u>	2	3	5
2. W	♥ 9	7	<u>A</u>	8
3. E	♣ Q	<u>A</u>	3	2

Won NS=1 EW=2

The general idea is to leave the trump out while setting up your diamond suit. What you cannot afford is to have the opponents win a trick when you have no trump left. Assuming the spades split 4-2 (48%) instead of 3-3 (36%) you won't be able to draw all of the trump and still be able to ruff the heart return. Lose the diamond now while you can still ruff in the short hand.

**Board 1**

West Deals  
N-S Vul

♠ 8 7	♠ A K 5	♠ 9 6 3 2
♥ Q J 10 4	♥ —	♥ 6
♦ Q J	♦ K 6 4 3	♦ 10
♣ 5	♣ K 8	♣ J 10 9

♠ Q J 10 4
♥ —
♦ A 8
♣ 7 6 4

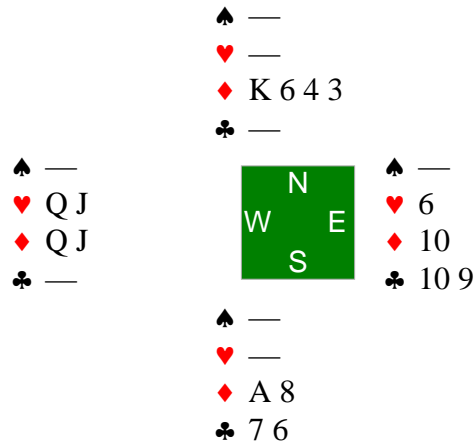
  

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♥ <u>K</u>	2	3	5
2. W	♥ 9	7	<u>A</u>	8
3. E	♣ Q	<u>A</u>	3	2
4. S	♦ 5	7	2	<u>9</u>

Won NS=1 EW=3

East has no escape. No matter what they return you can win it, draw trump and run the diamonds.

**Board 1**  
 West Deals  
 N-S Vul



<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
2 ♥	Dbl	4 ♥	4 ♠

All pass

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♥ <u>K</u>	2	3	5
2. W	♥ 9	7	<u>A</u>	8
3. E	♣ Q	<u>A</u>	3	2
4. S	♦ 5	7	2	<u>9</u>
5. E	♣ J	4	5	<u>K</u>
6. N	♠ <u>A</u>	2	4	7
7. N	♠ <u>K</u>	3	10	8
8. N	♠ 5	6	<u>J</u>	♥ 4
9. S	♠ <u>Q</u>	♥ 10	♣ 8	9

Setup your side suit before drawing trump

**Board 2**  
North Deals  
None Vul



♠	K Q J 9
♥	3 2
♦	A 9 8 4
♣	A 7 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
3 ♥	Pass	Pass	?

With an opening hand and no heart stopper you could choose to raise diamonds but doubling seems like a better choice.

**Board 2**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul



♠	K Q J 9
♥	3 2
♦	A 9 8 4
♣	A 7 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
3 ♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	?

Now what? Partner's not likely to have 4 of them, but 14 HCP seems like you should be in game.  
 ♠ KQJ9 seems like a very good trump suit. Let's try to make the 4-3 fit and bid 4 ♠.

**Board 2**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

♠ A 10 4  
 ♥ J 7 4  
 ♦ K Q J 5 3  
 ♣ 8 4

♥ A
-----

♠ K Q J 9  
 ♥ 3 2  
 ♦ A 9 8 4  
 ♣ A 7 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	
3 ♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl	
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	
Pass	Pass	Pass		
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♥ A	?		
Won NS=0 EW=0				

As expected partner only has 4. If we had bid diamonds we could easily make 5. Oh well down we go.

Wait maybe that's the wrong way to think about things. Can we make this contract?

**Board 2**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

♠ A 10 4  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ K Q J 5 3  
 ♣ 8 4

♥ J
♥ Q ♣ K

♠ K Q J 9
♥ —
♦ A 9 8 4
♣ A 7 2

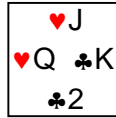
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♥ A	4	5	2
2. W	♥ K	7	9	3
3. W	♥ Q	J	♣ K	?

Won NS=0 EW=2

The first 2 tricks are obvious, but what to do now?

**Board 2**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

♠ A 10 4  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ K Q J 5 3  
 ♣ 8 4



♠ K Q J 9  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ A 9 8 4  
 ♣ A 7

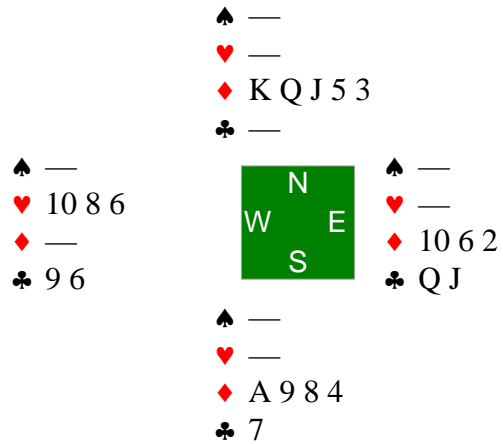
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	<u>♥ A</u>	4	5	2
2. W	<u>♥ K</u>	7	9	3
3. W	<u>♥ Q</u>	J	♣ K	♣ 2

Won NS=0 EW=3

If we ruffed right now, we'd be giving up a trick to the hand that has 4 spades later. (Assuming there is one.) But if we simply pitch a club, we can pitch the other club on the fifth diamond!

That's also known as a loser-on-loser play. Now we will be guaranteed to make the contract if we don't get a 5-1 trump break.

**Board 2**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul



<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
3 ♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠

All pass

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♥ <u>A</u>	4	5	2
2. W	♥ <u>K</u>	7	9	3
3. W	♥ <u>Q</u>	J	♣ K	♣ 2
4. W	♣ 3	8	10	<u>A</u>
5. S	♠ 9	2	<u>A</u>	5
6. N	♠ 10	6	<u>J</u>	3
7. S	♠ <u>K</u>	♦ 7	4	7
8. S	♠ <u>Q</u>	♣ 5	♣ 4	8

Try to avoid ruffing in the hand with four trump. Consider if there are losers that you can pitch instead.

**Board 3**

North Deals  
None Vul

♠ 8

♥ K 5 4

♦ A 9 4 2

♣ A J 9 8 5

♠ K

♠ A 9 3

♥ A Q 10 6

♦ J 8 7 5

♣ K 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	
Pass	Pass	Pass		
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♠ K	?		
Won NS=0 EW=0				

The auction was normal from our side, but partner chose to raise our heart bid instead of rebidding their clubs. That's understandable, but now I've got to try and make this contract. We can win the opening lead with the ♠ A, but then what?

**Board 3**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

♠	—
♥	K 5
♦	A 9 4 2
♣	A J 9 8 5

♥	4
♠	2
♠	5
♠	3

♠ 9  
 ♥ A Q 10 6  
 ♦ J 8 7 5  
 ♣ K 3

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♠ K	8	4	<u>A</u>
2. S	♠ 3	2	<u>♥ 4</u>	5

Won NS=2 EW=0

We should try to ruff in the short hand in order to get extra tricks. We can ruff the first spade easily enough

**Board 3**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

♠ —  
 ♥ K 5  
 ♦ A 9 4 2  
 ♣ A J 9 8

♣ 5
♣ 2 ♣ 6
♣ K

♠ 9
♥ A Q 10 6
♦ J 8 7 5
♣ 3

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♠ K	8	4	<u>A</u>
2. S	♠ 3	2	<u>♥ 4</u>	5
3. N	♣ 5	6	<u>K</u>	2

Won NS=3 EW=0

Then cross back to hand with the ♣ K.

**Board 3**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

♠	—
♥	K
♦	A 9 4 2
♣	A J 9 8

♥	5
♠	10 ♠ 6
♠	9

♠ —  
 ♥ A Q 10 6  
 ♦ J 8 7 5  
 ♣ 3

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♠ K	8	4	<u>A</u>
2. S	♠ 3	2	<u>♥ 4</u>	5
3. N	♣ 5	6	<u>K</u>	2
4. S	♠ 9	10	<u>♥ 5</u>	6

Won NS=4 EW=0

In order to ruff the third spade.

**Board 3**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

♠	—
♥	—
♦	A 9 4 2
♣	J 9 8

♣A
♣4 ♣10
♣3

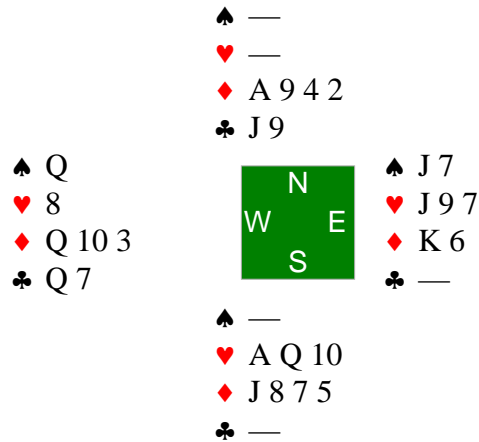
♠	—
♥	A Q 10
♦	J 8 7 5
♣	—

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♠ K	8	4	<u>A</u>
2. S	♠ 3	2	<u>♥ 4</u>	5
3. N	♣ 5	6	<u>K</u>	2
4. S	♠ 9	10	<u>♥ 5</u>	6
5. N	<u>♥ K</u>	2	6	3
6. N	<u>♣ A</u>	10	3	4

Won NS=6 EW=0

We then cash the ♥ K and the ♣ A to have won the first 6 tricks. The ♦ A looks like a likely trick and the ♥ AQ are guaranteed. The only worry is the ♥ T. We should lead a club and see if East follows. If they do we can pitch a diamond or ruff hoping for the 3-3 club break. If they don't we can always ruff and win our diamond ace later.

**Board 3**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul



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

All pass

<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♠ K	8	4	<u>A</u>
2. S	♠ 3	2	<u>♥ 4</u>	5
3. N	♣ 5	6	<u>K</u>	2
4. S	♠ 9	10	<u>♥ 5</u>	6
5. N	<u>♥ K</u>	2	6	3
6. N	<u>♣ A</u>	10	3	4
7. N	♣ 8	-	-	-

Ruffing in the short hand can still give you extra tricks and you preserve the 4 card suit to draw the trump with later.

**Board 4**

North Deals  
Both Vul



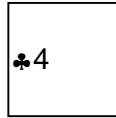
♠	A 8 6 4
♥	J 9
♦	9 8 6
♣	Q 9 6 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♦	Dbl	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	?

It's not clear that we wanted to bid over the double, but we paid our entry fee and we'd rather declare than defend.

**Board 4**  
 North Deals  
 Both Vul

♠ 10 9 7  
 ♥ A K 6 2  
 ♦ K Q 4 3  
 ♣ 10 5

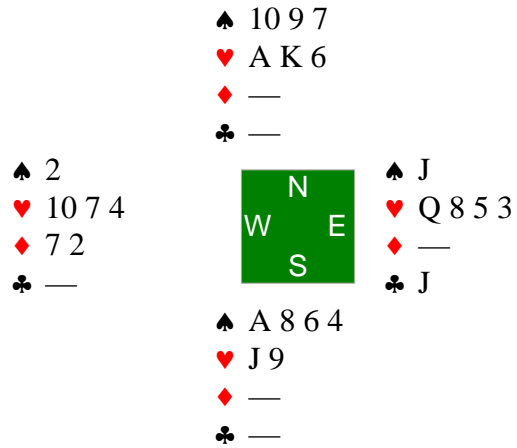


♠ A 8 6 4  
 ♥ J 9  
 ♦ 9 8 6  
 ♣ Q 9 6 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
	1 ♦	Dbl	1 ♠	
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	Pass	
Pass				
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♣ 4	?		
Won NS=0 EW=0				

Huh. I think I'd rather partner had bid NT rather than raise spades with a balanced hand and not very good trump.

**Board 4**  
 North Deals  
 Both Vul



<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	
	1 ♦	Dbl	1 ♠	
Pass	2 ♠	All pass		
<i>Trick</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>4th</i>
1. W	♣ 4	5	<u>K</u>	2
2. E	♦ 5	6	<u>A</u>	3
3. W	♦ J	Q	<u>♠ 3</u>	8
4. E	<u>♣ A</u>	6	3	10
5. E	♣ 7	9	<u>♠ Q</u>	♥ 2
6. W	♦ 10	K	<u>♠ 5</u>	9
7. E	♣ 8	Q	<u>♠ K</u>	♦ 4

Yup. The opponents cross ruffed on us and took the first 7 tricks. Beware of playing in Moysians when you have poor trump.