

1

♠ AQ3
♥ AJ3
♦ A53
♣ KJ98

♠ 865
♥ 10842
♦ J86
♣ 754

♠ J974
♥ 9
♦ Q1092
♣ Q1032

♠ K102
♥ KQ765
♦ K74
♣ A6

Dealer: North
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	5 NT
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead:

S near falls of his chair when p rebids 2NT after his 2D opener. S transfers p to Hs. S now has a precise count of between 34 and 35 points. With a flat shape too after checking Aces should be happy to stop in 6NT. Some may be tempted to go to 7NT with the length in Hs but the placement of Qs on this hand means it is not enough.

2

♠ 8
♥ 953
♦ 10874
♣ K10632

♠ 10954
♥ K
♦ A63
♣ AQJ84

♠ KQ732
♥ AJ76
♦ QJ9
♣ 7

♠ AJ6
♥ Q10842
♦ K52
♣ 95

Dealer: East
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♥
3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead:

The cue bid tells partner strong support for spade suit. Subsequent rebid of E of 3S says minimum hand which W can raise to 4S and ends thoughts of slam.

3

♠ K1084
♥ Q102
♦ Q942
♣ K4

♠ Q63
♥ AJ653
♦ J65
♣ A7

♠ 975
♥ 974
♦ K3
♣ J10653

♠ AJ2
♥ K8
♦ A1087
♣ Q982

Dealer: South
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♦
1 ♥	Dbl	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead:

Note the X by S indicated 8 plus points and strongly suggests 4S held if 5 Ss held on that situation the bid would be 1S. S's subsequent bid is asking for help with the H suit in order to move into NTs.

4

♠ 865
♥ 1084
♦ AKQJ6
♣ J5

♠ K102
♥ KQ765
♦ 74
♣ A64

♠ AQ3
♥ AJ32
♦ 53
♣ K987

♠ J974
♥ 9
♦ 10982
♣ Q1032

Dealer: West
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	2 ♦	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead:

The cue bid by E tells partner good support for Hs. On hearing the rebid on W as 3H, a minimum hand, E leaves the contract in game.

5

♠ K1093
♥ QJ
♦ KJ10
♣ KJ96

♠ A4
♥ 8653
♦ A975
♣ 1043

♠ Q762
♥ K104
♦ 8632
♣ Q5

♠ J85
♥ A972
♦ Q4
♣ A872

Dealer: North
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead:

S's 1H bid may be 5 cards but his 2D advance is intended as 4th-suit forcing. With the promise of 10HCP for using 4th suit forcing N calls 3NT with the D stopped. A more conservative N might only bid 2NT but 14 plus ps 10 is 24. 3NT makes half the time with 24 points so better to try for game especially if this were teams.

6

♠ 42
♥ A632
♦ 976
♣ 6542

♠ KQ1095
♥ 7
♦ QJ108
♣ AK3

♠ A763
♥ KJ1098
♦ AK
♣ J7

♠ J8
♥ Q54
♦ 5432
♣ Q1098

Dealer: East
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead:

East's leap to 4S could have been done opposite as little as 6 points and a 4-card spade suit. He obviously has a strong hand with 4 spades. With a strong hand himself West uses RKCB, the response indicating 2 keycards without the QS. All West needs to know is that the 8 or so points out against them are not comprised of 2 aces. He calls the slam.

7

♠ AQ3
♥ AJ3
♦ A53
♣ KJ98

♠ 865
♥ 10842
♦ J86
♣ 754

♠ J974
♥ 9
♦ Q1092
♣ Q1032

♠ K102
♥ KQ765
♦ K74
♣ A6

Dealer: South
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	6 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead:

With a flat hand and values in all suits plus knowing there can be only a maximum of 5 points out against them, N saves time by going direct to 6NT. You can go via RKCB but this can give opportunities for the ops to X to indicate lead preferences on artificial bids. You have the points ... go straight there.

8

♠ J62
♥ QJ853
♦ A754
♣ 5

♠ Q107
♥ 7
♦ KQJ108
♣ A864

♠ AK84
♥ K109
♦ 963
♣ KQ9

♠ 953
♥ A642
♦ 2
♣ J10732

Dealer: West
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	1 ♥	Dbl	3 ♥
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead:

North's intervention may seem a little light but he has good shape and is not vulnerable. East's X smacks strongly of his holding 4 spades. South "barrage bids" by jumping in hearts. This has merit because it soaks up bidding space for the side with points and because the LTT implies a profitable score with nine trumps. Holding good trumps, East's second X is for penalties. Although the contract goes 2 light for -300, it is a good sacrifice should E/W play in 4S.

9

♠ J8
♥ AKQ95
♦ J732
♣ Q8

♠ A1062
♥ 63
♦ 105
♣ AJ532

♠ KQ943
♥ J8
♦ A96
♣ 1064

♠ 75
♥ 10742
♦ KQ84
♣ K97

Dealer: North
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	1 ♠	3 ♣
3 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead:

S can cue bid to show good support for Hs by bidding 2S, taking away the 2S bid by the ops. The Bergen raise is also still possible as a jump to 3C can be made. S is saying he is happy at the 3 level in Hs. Once W bids 3S N has a difficult decision on whether to sacrifice in 4H or will 3S go light?

10

♠ Q95
♥ A93
♦ KJ
♣ A9875

♠ K742
♥ KJ2
♦ A1076
♣ 32

♠ AJ10863
♥ Q6
♦ 32
♣ J104

♠
♥ 108754
♦ Q9854
♣ KQ6

Dealer: East
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead:

If W does not take the leap to 4S based on LTT N will have the chance to at least bid 3C. This should enable S to bid his motley 5 card H suit and for them to reach 4H. W must decide whether 4S is a sacrifice or whether to X 4H. It is a difficult decision.

11

♠ 9543
♥ AK5
♦ KQ873
♣ 8

♠ J7
♥ 74
♦ J4
♣ AK65432

♠ 62
♥ Q108
♦ A1062
♣ J1097

♠ AKQ108
♥ J9632
♦ 95
♣ Q

Dealer: South
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
2 ♣	3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
?			

Opening Lead:

The thought of jump-bidding his clubs probably crossed West's mind. Even if he did, N would still cue-support the spades. Finding S with a little more strength would make for slam aspirations.

12

♠ K64
♥ 9532
♦ A97
♣ 1074

♠ QJ98
♥ AQ
♦ J10432
♣ A5

♠ 1032
♥ KJ864
♦ K6
♣ K32

♠ A75
♥ 107
♦ Q85
♣ QJ986

Dealer: West
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening Lead:

It's interesting how often you see a 4-3 fit making game ... everything is right here. However, most pairs will settle for a partial score after an exploratory auction such as this. Note: if East does not test the club position at the 2-level there is a danger of becoming overbid.

13

♠ AK10
♥ AKJ107542
♦ 64
♣

♠ 2
♥ Q93
♦ 102
♣ KQJ10864

♠ QJ643
♥ 86
♦ AQJ8
♣ A3

Dealer: North
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead:

S's 2S response promises at least 5 spades and 7+ points. He shows 2 key cards and QS in response to the RKCB bid. Although he knows there is at least an 8-card fit in S's, N has 8 H's of his own - any that S may have are a bonus. The knowledge that QS and two aces are with S makes 6H almost bomb-proof.

14

♠ A98
♥ K52
♦ AJ92
♣ K62

♠ 5
♥ QJ4
♦ Q876
♣ J10854

♠ J72
♥ A9763
♦ K43
♣ AQ

♠ KQ10643
♥ 108
♦ 105
♣ 973

Dealer: East
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 ♥	1 ♠
2 ♥	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead:

N can cue bid to ask p how good was that overcall. S confirms it was very weak.

15

♠ AQ4
♥ J75
♦ J1093
♣ A96

♠ K75
♥ Q104
♦ 8764
♣ 1053

♠ J93
♥ AK982
♦ AK2
♣ K4

Dealer: South
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead:

S knows they have between 28 and 30 points after N makes the Aussie Bergen raise. S has a flat hand which puts off slam interest.

16

♠ AJ52
♥ 6
♦ K983
♣ AQ97

♠ KQ7
♥ AJ10954
♦ Q10
♣ 52

♠ 9643
♥ 872
♦ J754
♣ KJ

♠ 108
♥ KQ3
♦ A62
♣ 108643

Dealer: West
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Dbf	2 ♥	3 ♣
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead:

Unfortunately disaster strikes as the clubs are unhelpfully positioned!

JH led - what's your plan?

17 ♠ 842
♥ Q2
♦ K107542
♣ K9

♠ KQJ7 ♠ A653
♥ A103 ♥ KJ74
♦ 86 ♦ J
♣ AJ87 ♣ Q543

♠ 109
♥ 9865
♦ AQ93
♣ 1062

Dealer: North
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead:

E seeks a 4CM in the 1NT opener's hand. The 2D response denies a 5CM but admits to having at least one 4CM. E is supposed to bid the one he DOESN'T have but, here with both, he calls the hearts which confirms 4S held but does not deny 4H being held. (Bidding 2S would deny 4Hs held) W plumps for his spades which is good news for E who bids the game.

18 ♠ J
♥ AQ74
♦ A1052
♣ 10952

♠ Q754 ♠ K109862
♥ 865 ♥ 10
♦ 9764 ♦ K3
♣ 87 ♣ AKJ3

♠ A3
♥ KJ932
♦ QJ8
♣ Q64

Dealer: East
N-S Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	2 ♥
3 ♠	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead:

N is in difficulties by W using the LTT and jumping to 3S. It should be alerted as weak. N has to decide whether 4H is possible. If he bids game he may find E may call 4S as a sacrifice, only to find it makes! Life can be very unfair!

19 ♠ 9852
♥ AJ108
♦ 52
♣ K97

♠ KJ4 ♠ Q76
♥ 975 ♥ Q6432
♦ J98 ♦ K10
♣ QJ83 ♣ 1064

♠ A103
♥ K
♦ AQ7643
♣ A52

Dealer: South
E-W Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♦
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening Lead:

S has to jump to show the strong point count. N knows S is offshape as with 15 to 18 S could have opened 1NT if balanced. Although S could have jumped to 3D, that does little to help N. With points in the other suits and p holding Hs, a jump in NT is of more help in encouraging N along to a 3NT contract.

20 ♠ 962
♥ 9652
♦ 64
♣ A832

♠ 108 ♠ AJ4
♥ AK ♥ Q10843
♦ K1083 ♦ Q52
♣ Q9754 ♣ K6

♠ KQ753
♥ J7
♦ AJ97
♣ J10

Dealer: West
Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠
2 ♠	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead:

By bidding 2S W is implying cover in Ds and asking E to bid NT if they have cover in the bid suit of Ss. With opening points, E is able to jump to to 3NT.