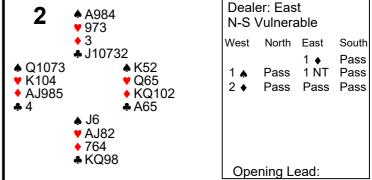
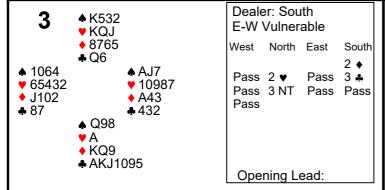


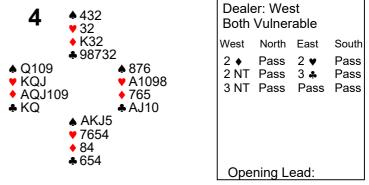
N opens 1H showing 5Hs. S bids 1S to show a major. The rebid by N in Standard American shows 12 to 14 HCP. With 10 HCP S leaves the auction there.



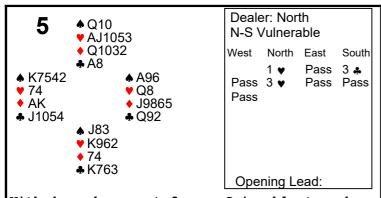
E opens the better minor. Here the longer suit with 4 cards 1D. Although W immediately knows there is a fit in D (at least 3 with p and 5 in hand) W shows a 4 card major first. When E rebids 1NT W puts E back to the safe contract of 2D. There is also nothing wrong with a jump to 3D by W to ask E if at max to bid game and the 5D can be found that way.



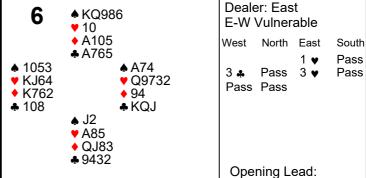
S opens 2D and rebids to show a min. 6 card club suit. N has to decide what to do. There is an 8 card fit in Clubs but would NT be better? N must think about South's HCP. With 19 to 22 N holds the QC. Therefore at best only 8 of his partner's points are in Clubs. With at least 11 HCP elsewhere, 3NT should be possible.



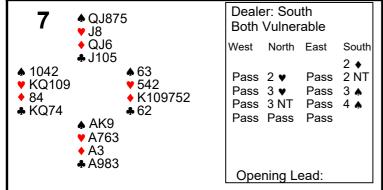
W opens 2D and rebids to show a strong flat hand. E enquires using Puppet Stayman. With no 4/5 card major W bids 3NT.



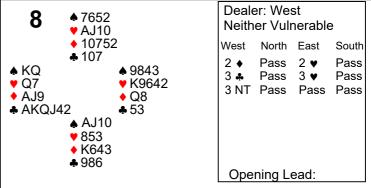
With 4 card support for p, S is able to make a Bergen raise. 3C confirms 7 to 10 HCP. N has a basic 7 loser hand and decides to leave the auction at 3H. The 3C bid must be alerted as it is a non-natural bid.



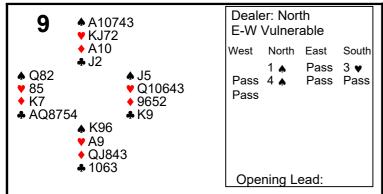
E opens a revolting H suit but finds p has 4 card support and 7 to 10 HCP with the 3C bid which must be alerted. What does N do? The premptive value of the Bergen raise is shown here. Does N leap in with 3S and hope? Or X and see if p is able to leave it in for penalties? E will sign off in 3H and the penalty X is difficult to find. NS are robbed of 3S.



Upon learning S has a strong flat hand N transfers p into spades. Transfers are on after the 2NT rebid and it does not matter that N has already bid Hs in answer to the initial 2D bid. The 3H bid is a transfer which S accepts. N should then bid 3NT to explain only 5 spades are held and give N the option of NT. With 3 good S support S bids 4S.



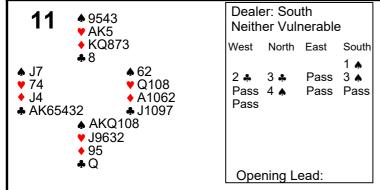
After E responds 2H showing a weak hand W explains their hand is strong 19 to 22 HCP with a long C suit. E bids 3H to show 5Hs in case a fit in a major is possible. With some relief at help on the H front W now bids 3NT.



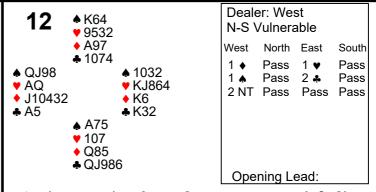
S does an Aussie Bergen raise in response to ps 1S opener. 3H, which must be alerted, shows 3 card spade support and 10 to 12 HCP. N decides with shape that is enough for game.



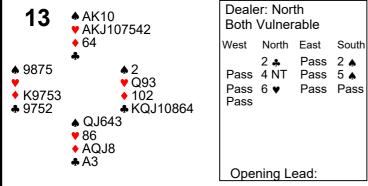
Here W has 4 card support for E and 11 HCP. A Bergen raise of 3D tells W the range and good support. With a 7 loser hand E has shape but needs p at the top end to reach game. 3H is an invitation to game. W has a 7 loser hand and should accept the game invite bidding 4S. Both the 3D and 3H bids must be alerted as artificial.



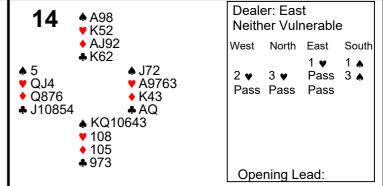
The thought of jump-bidding his clubs probably crossed West's mind, but he remembered just in time he was playing Michaels CRO. Even if he wasn't N would still cue-support the spades. Finding S with a little more strength would make for slam aspirations.



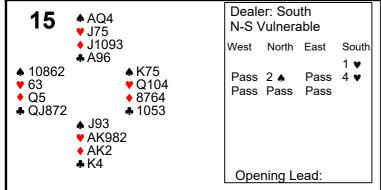
It's interesting how often you see a 4-3 fit making game ... everything is right here. However, most pairs will settle for a partial score after an exploratory auction such as this. Note: if East does not test the club position at the 2-level there is a danger of becoming overbid.



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 black aces are with S makes 6H almost bomb-proof.



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



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.