

Board 1 ♠ J 8 6
 North Deals ♥ 3
 None Vul ♦ A 9 8 6
 ♣ J 7 6 4 2

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

♠ 3
 ♥ K Q 6 4
 ♦ K J 10 7 5 4
 ♣ Q 10



6
 9 14
 11

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N	Par -300: NS 5♦ x-2
N	-	3	-	-	-	
S	-	3	-	-	-	
E	2	-	3	4	1	
W	2	-	3	4	1	

West North East South
 Pass Pass 1♥ 2♦
 2♠ 4♦ Dbl¹ Pass
 4♠ All pass
 1. Takeout
 Lead: ♥ 3

Over 1♥, a takeout double is also possible, but facing a passed hand it's better to show your long suit. North-South may work out that 5♦ is a good save against 4♠.

If East-West are in 4♥, they'll go down on a spade lead, because South gets a ruff. On a diamond lead, 4♥ should make if declarer ducks twice in trumps - they must keep a trump in dummy, to avoid being forced again.

If the eventual contract is 4♠, declarer has ten tricks, as long as they remember to win the first heart.

Board 2 ♠ J 7 4
 East Deals ♥ 10 7 4
 N-S Vul ♦ A K 8
 ♣ A Q 4 3

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

♠ 6 5 2
 ♥ J
 ♦ Q J 10 7 6 4 3
 ♣ 8 5



14
 17 5
 4

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N	Par -420: EW 4♥=; EW 4♠=
N	-	3	-	-	-	
S	-	3	-	-	-	
E	3	-	4	4	-	
W	3	-	4	4	-	

West North East South
 Pass Pass 4♥ 2♦
 4♦¹ Pass 4♥ All pass
 1. 2 suited, both majors
 Lead: ♦ Q

Did you open 2♦, 3♦ or pass? 3♦ is too much in second seat at unfavourable vulnerability.

West's 4♦ is part of Leaping Michaels, a way to show specific 2-suited hands over opening weak twos. 4♣ would show clubs and a major.

North might be tempted to double 4♦, but that's not a good idea, because it invites South to bid 5♦. You don't expect to make 5♦, and you don't want to sacrifice at this vulnerability.

After South leads ♦ Q, North should leave them on lead, so that South can lead a club through dummy. Now a third round of clubs can be ruffed with the jack, but declarer should still pick up North's trumps by leading the first honour from West.

Board 3

South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ K 10 4
♥ A 2
♦ A K Q 8 7 5
♣ A 10

♠ 3
♥ Q J 10 9 7 6 5 3
♦ J
♣ K 6 5



♠ Q J 8 7
♥ 4
♦ 9 4
♣ J 8 7 4 3 2

♠ A 9 6 5 2
♥ K 8
♦ 10 6 3 2
♣ Q 9

20
7 4
9

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N	Par +990: NS 6N=
N	-	6	-	6	6	
S	-	6	-	6	6	
E	1	-	1	-	-	
W	1	-	1	-	-	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
3 ♥	3 NT	All pass	Pass
Lead: ♣ 4			

West is vulnerable and in second seat, but with an 8-card suit it is worth getting in the way. In this case, the preemptive opening stops North-South from reaching a good slam.

3 NT is easy to play, of course.

If North plays in 6 ♦ and gets a club lead, they may guess right; if not, they may still make by eliminating hearts and exiting with a club.

If South plays in spades, they should make by playing safe in trumps.

Board 4

West Deals
Both Vul

♠ A 10 9 5 4
♥ 8 7
♦ K 10 5 3 2
♣ 6

♠ J
♥ A K 5 4 3 2
♦ A 7 4
♣ K 9 3



♠ 8 7 3
♥ J 10 9 6
♦ 8
♣ A Q J 7 5

♠ K Q 6 2
♥ Q
♦ Q J 9 6
♣ 10 8 4 2

7
15 8
10

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N	Par -1100: NS 6♠x-4; NS 7♦x-4
N	-	3	-	2	-	
S	-	3	-	2	-	
E	6	-	6	-	2	
W	6	-	6	-	2	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♥	2 ♥	4 ♣ ¹	4 ♠
4 NT	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
6 ♥	All pass		

1. fit bid, showing 4+ ♥ and a good ♣ suit

East's fit bid sets Hearts as trumps and shows good clubs. With this helpful information, West knows to bid on over 4 ♠, and they also know that slam is likely to be good.

Other partnerships may play splinters. In that case, East will bid 4 ♦ over 2 ♠, and East-West should still reach slam.

North-South may save in 6 ♠, which costs only 1100 (or less if the defenders don't get both diamond ruffs).

Board 5 ♠ K 9 6 4
 North Deals ♥ A 5
 N-S Vul ♦ A Q 8 6
 ♣ 10 9 8

♠ Q J 8 5	♠ —		
♥ K Q 8 4 2	♥ J 10 9 7 6 3	W	E
♦ 7	♦ J 10 9 2	N	S
♣ K 5 2	♣ 7 6 4	W	E

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

13
 11 2
 14

The favourable vulnerability allows East to interfere with the opponents' auction by bidding 3 ♥.

West should join in, and it's much more effective to bid 5 ♥ straight away, rather than bidding 4 ♥ then 5 ♥. Bidding 5 ♥ may cause the opponents to misjudge and get too high or too low.

Over 5 ♥, North has a difficult bid, and may either bid 5 ♠ or make a forcing pass. 5 ♠ is just making if declarer plays carefully, but South may decide to bid to the six-level.

♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ N	Par +500: EW 6 ♥ x-3
N 3 4 - 5 1	
S 3 4 - 5 1	
E - - 3 - -	
W - - 3 - -	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♦	3 ♥	3 ♠
5 ♥	Pass	Pass	6 ♦

All pass
 Lead: ♥ J

Board 6 ♠ 5 4
 East Deals ♥ 9 8 5
 E-W Vul ♦ A Q
 ♣ A 9 7 6 5 4

♠ J 7 2	♠ K Q 9 8 6		
♥ A Q J 7 6	♥ K 3	W	E
♦ 7 5 4	♦ 10 9 8	N	S
♣ Q 2	♣ 10 8 3	W	S

♠ A 10 3
 ♥ 10 4 2
 ♦ K J 6 3 2
 ♣ K J

10
 10 8
 12

East's double shows spades and secondary heart support, offering a choice of suits to compete in.

2 ♠ is one down, but that's OK as North-South can make a partscore. 2 ♥ would go more down on good defence, as North can throw a spade on the third round of diamonds, then and get one or two spade ruffs.

If North is in 3 ♣, after three rounds of hearts and a spade switch, declarer should make by cashing two top clubs then throwing a spade on a diamond.

♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ N	Par +120: NS 1N+1
N 3 2 - - 2	
S 3 2 - - 2	
E - - - 1 -	
W - - - 1 -	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		Pass	1 ♦
1 ♥	2 ♣	Db1 ¹	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Takeout (Snapdragon)

Board 7 ♠ 10 7
 South Deals ♥ K 3
 Both Vul ♦ K Q J 6 3 2
 ♣ 8 4 3

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

♠ 9
 ♥ 9 7
 ♦ 10 9 8 7 5 4
 ♣ A K 7 6

9
 15 9
 7

Facing a passed hand, North should bid 3 ♦ even though the hand is balanced and has some defence.

With surprising 6-card support for diamonds, South saves in 5 ♦. However, if the opponents bid on to 5 ♠, South really wants a club lead. Hence South bids 5 ♣ not 5 ♦. As a passed hand, this must be showing diamond support.

In this case, West probably will bid 5 ♠, and a club lead is necessary to beat it.

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N	Par -500: NS 5 ♦ x-2
N	1	3	-	-	-	
S	1	3	-	-	-	
E	-	-	4	4	2	
W	-	-	4	4	2	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			Pass
1 ♠	3 ♦	4 ♠	5 ♣
5 ♠	All pass		

Board 8 ♠ K 7
 West Deals ♥ 7 6 4 3
 None Vul ♦ 9 6 5 2
 ♣ Q 7 2

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

♠ J 4 3
 ♥ 9
 ♦ A K
 ♣ K J 9 8 6 5 4

5
 13 10
 12

Although South has a broken suit and some defence, it's probably right to interfere with the opponent's two-over-one auction (even more so if East has made a bid that shows spade support). Then North might raise and South might save, though neither of these bids is clear.

In 5 ♣x, West can get a diamond ruff for two down, as long as they lead a diamond at trick one (or ♠ A and switch to a diamond).

If East-West get to 5 ♠, it can be beaten with a heart ruff. 5 ♥ will always make as the cards lie.

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N	Par -450: EW 5 ♥ =
N	3	-	-	-	-	
S	3	-	-	-	-	
E	-	3	5	4	1	
W	-	4	5	4	1	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	3 ♣
3 ♥	4 ♣	4 ♠	5 ♣
Dbl	All pass		