Board # 1

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: None

NORTH
♠ 6
♡ 8632
◇ A9765
♣ J74

WEST
♠ KQJ32
♡ AJ97
◇ T8
♣ T9

EAST
♠ T94
♡ Q4
◇ Q4
♣ A86532

SOUTH
♠ A875
♡ KT5
◇ KJ32
♣ KQ

HCP:
5
11 8
16

N-S have 21 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	6	6	5	5
♠	4	4	9	8
♡	7	7	6	6
◇	9	9	3	3
♣	4	5	6	6

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3◇s	4♠	+2	150	
	4◇s	K♠	=	130	
	1Ns	K♠	+1	120	
	1Ns	K♠	=	90	
	1Ns	K♠	-1		50

South opens 1NT after two passes and that may be the only bid of the auction at many tables. West will lead a spade honour and South ducks twice, wins the third spade, cashes five diamonds and needs one more trick. But East should switch to hearts when in with the A♣ and this will keep South from making any more. Wests who found a call over 1NT allowed North to come in with diamonds and diamonds is much safer for N-S.

Board # 2

Dealer: East

Vulnerable: N-S

NORTH
♠ J2
♡ A7
◇ QJ5
♣ AT7643

WEST
♠ 987
♡ KQJ4
◇ 963
♣ 985

EAST
♠ K6543
♡ 95
◇ AKT
♣ KQ2

SOUTH
♠ AQT
♡ T8632
◇ 8742
♣ J

HCP:
12
6 15
7

E-W have 21 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	6	6	7	7
♠	6	5	7	7
♡	7	7	6	6
◇	8	8	5	5
♣	8	8	4	4

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3♠e	J♣	-2	100	
	3♠e	3♡	-1	50	
	1Ne	3♡	-1	50	
	2◇s	K♡	-1		100
	2♠e	J♣	=		110

East has the balanced 15 count that you should NOT open 1NT with: 5-2 in the majors risks a transfer into the wrong major; opener can end up in a 5-2 fit in hearts when there is a 5-3 fit in spades. So East opens 1♠, and West raises to 2♠. As you see, some Easts felt that West might have enough for game and invited. Any decent ten count, though, would likely get a limit raise from West. Even 2♠ is a struggle against best defense!

Board # 3

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: E-W

NORTH
♠ K9652
♡ AKT852
◇ -
♣ Q8

WEST
♠ JT73
♡ -
◇ AK9743
♣ J62

EAST
♠ Q8
♡ Q763
◇ Q85
♣ AT74

SOUTH
♠ A4
♡ J94
◇ JT62
♣ K953

HCP:
12
9 10
9

N-S have 21 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	5	5	8	8
♠	8	8	5	5
♡	11	11	2	2
◇	4	4	9	9
♣	6	6	6	6

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♡n*	8◇	+1	690	
	4♡n	6♡	+1	450	
	4♡n	5◇	=	420	
	4♡n	5◇	=	420	
	4◇w*	A♡	-1	200	

South passes and West should too: if West chooses to open, it should be 1◇, not 2◇. A weak two with a side four-card major risks losing a possible 4-4 major suit fit, a main goal of bidding. Whatever West does, most roads should lead to a 4♡ contract by North, losing a trump and the A♣ only if you prioritize ruffing away as many spades as possible in dummy before opponents can get in and lead a trump.

Board # 4

Dealer: West

Vulnerable: Both

NORTH
♠ 98642
♡ 632
◇ T9
♣ Q85

WEST
♠ KT75
♡ J8754
◇ A4
♣ 73

HCP: 2 8 11 19

EAST
♠ J
♡ Q9
◇ 8732
♣ AKJT96

SOUTH
♠ AQ3
♡ AKT
◇ KQJ65
♣ 42

HCP: 14 12 9 5

N-S have 21 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	5	4	7	7
♠	7	7	6	6
♡	4	5	8	8
◇	7	7	5	5
♣	5	4	7	7

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2◇s	7♣	-1		100
	3◇s	7♣	-2		200
	2◇s	7♣	-2		200
	4♠n*	A♣	-2		500
	2Ns	2◇	-5		500

West and North pass and East has a choice: pass, 1♣, and 3♣ are all reasonable. 3♣ is the call that will make it most difficult for South, who will likely bid 3◇ and go two down. Over 1♣, South will double and bid 2◇ over North's 1♠ response. When the takeout doubler bids a new suit this shows a very strong hand, but North can only pass or bid 2♠ and hope South doesn't get too high. Awful hand for N-S, nothing makes and few South's will be able to stop safely with the strong hand.

Board # 5

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: N-S

NORTH
♠ KJ4
♡ AQ86
◇ A63
♣ 975

WEST
♠ AT
♡ T7432
◇ T4
♣ AKJ4

EAST
♠ 762
♡ KJ95
◇ KQ852
♣ 6

SOUTH
♠ Q9853
♡ -
◇ J97
♣ QT832

E-W have 21 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	6	6	7	7
♠	7	7	5	5
♡	3	3	10	10
◇	4	4	8	8
♣	7	7	6	6

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♡w*	4♠	-1	100	
	3♡w	4♠	-1	50	
	3♠s	A♣	-2		200
	4♠s	A♣	-3		300
	4♡w	5♣	=		420

North opens 1◇ (if you must open a 3-card minor, choose the one you'd prefer to be led). East passes and South responds 1♠. West makes a takeout double and E-W will find their heart fit, but with only 21 combined it seems unlikely that they will get to game. On this occasion, ten tricks are available in hearts, with favourable positions of nearly every missing honour. North-South pairs who compete in spades will have tougher going.

Board # 6

Dealer: East

Vulnerable: E-W

NORTH
♠ KT5
♡ Q7
◇ J53
♣ QJ832

WEST
♠ J3
♡ 42
◇ AQ9876
♣ T95

EAST
♠ Q96
♡ AT8
◇ K42
♣ AK74

SOUTH
♠ A8742
♡ KJ9653
◇ T
♣ 6

HCP: 9 7 16 8

E-W have 23 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	3	3	9	9
♠	9	9	4	4
♡	9	9	4	4
◇	3	3	10	10
♣	4	4	8	8

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♠n	A♣	+1	140	
	4♡s*	T♣	-1		100
	2Ne	6♡	+1		150
	3Ne	J♡	=		600
	3Ne	3♡	=		600

East opens 1NT and the South hand is the type that lead bridge scientists to devise dozens of different schemes of bids to defend against a 1NT opener, with names like Astro, DONT, Brozel, and more (Wikipedia has details). If you don't have a special bid to show both majors, you'll have to bid 2♡ with the South hand and see what happens. West will bid 3◇ whatever you do and East will try 3NT, which makes easily for 600. But 4 of either major by N-S doubled is only 100!

Board # 7

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: Both

NORTH
♠ KQ94
♡ Q
◇ QJ2
♣ AKJ53

WEST
♠ J6
♡ AJ9765
◇ 863
♣ 84

HCP: 18
6 13
3

EAST
♠ A752
♡ 82
◇ AKT
♣ QT97

HCP: 7 8
13

SOUTH
♠ T83
♡ KT43
◇ 9754
♣ 62

N-S have 21 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	7	6	6	6
♠	7	7	6	6
♡	4	4	8	8
◇	6	6	6	6
♣	7	6	6	6

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♡w*	A♣	-2	500	
	1♣n	A◇	-1		100
	2♣n	A◇	-1		100
	1Ne	3♠	+1		120
	3◇s	J♠	-3		300

South passes and so should West: second seat vulnerable weak twos cannot be dubious suits and low end of the usual range. North opens 1♣ and East has no convenient call and must pass. South passes as well and now West comes in with the pre-emptive 2♡. North doubles for takeout and there's nowhere safe for South. Passing may be the best bet, but eight tricks are available if West does everything right. Otherwise it will be N-S going down in a tough deal.

Board # 8

Dealer: West

Vulnerable: None

NORTH
♠ AQJ7
♡ 76
◇ KT
♣ QT942

WEST
♠ K85
♡ KJ32
◇ 9653
♣ 65

HCP: 12
7 8
13

EAST
♠ 963
♡ T5
◇ AQJ874
♣ J3

HCP: 5
13 16
6

SOUTH
♠ T42
♡ AQ984
◇ 2
♣ AK87

N-S have 25 combined points.
Suitable Level: Likely Game

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	10	7	3	3
♠	11	11	2	2
♡	9	9	4	4
◇	6	6	7	7
♣	11	11	1	1

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	5♣n	T♡	+1	420	
	5♣n	5♡	+1	420	
	5♣n	T♡	=	400	
	2♡s	3◇	=	110	
	3♡s	9◇	-1		50

West passes and most will choose to open the North hand 1♣. East should get in with a pre-emptive 2◇, and South has enough for a forcing 2♡. West should raise to 3◇ with four-card support (and heart honours that appear to be well placed), and North is happy to pass with the minimum opener. East passes and South doubles to show strength (3♡ would promise six hearts). The double puts North in a tough spot, but 3NT makes with the K♠ onside.

Board # 9

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: E-W

NORTH
♠ J8732
♡ J2
◇ T652
♣ K6

WEST
♠ K9
♡ 653
◇ AQ743
♣ A87

HCP: 5
13 16
6

EAST
♠ AQ64
♡ KQ4
◇ KJ9
♣ J53

HCP: 5
13 16
6

SOUTH
♠ T5
♡ AT987
◇ 8
♣ QT942

E-W have 29 combined points.
Suitable Level: Game

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	3	3	10	10
♠	4	4	9	9
♡	7	7	5	5
◇	3	3	10	10
♣	6	6	7	6

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3Ne	8♡	+1		630
	3Ne	8♡	+1		630
	3Ne	8♡	+1		630
	3Ne	T♡	+1		630
	3Ne	T♡	+1		630

North passes as dealer and E-W bid 1NT-3NT unless South has a specific bid showing 5-5 in hearts and clubs and the courage to make it on only six points. A heart lead seems right and East makes three spades, five clubs, the A♣ and a top heart for ten tricks. Not much chance for eleven tricks.

Board # 10

Dealer: East

Vulnerable: Both

NORTH
♠ JT2
♡ 8
◇ QJT63
♣ 9652

WEST
♠ 86
♡ AQT6
◇ 974
♣ KT83

HCP: 4 9 11 16

EAST
♠ K7
♡ K7543
◇ 852
♣ AJ4

HCP: 9 15 7 9

SOUTH
♠ AQ9543
♡ J92
◇ AK
♣ Q7

Highcard points are split 20-20
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	4	4	9	5
♠	10	10	3	2
♡	3	3	9	9
◇	10	10	3	3
♣	4	4	7	7

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♠s	3♣	+3	200	
	3♠s	A♡	+2	200	
	3♠s	9◇	+1	170	
	2♠s	3♣	+1	140	
	3♠n	6♡	-1		100

East is close, but not quite at opening bid level, and after the pass South opens 1♠. West passes and North might just scrape up a 2♠ raise. This will propel South to 4♠ and with the K♠ onside it is going to make. If North passes, East will try 2♡ and South will rebid 2♠. West competes to 3♡ and North has a 3♠ call since South's 2♠ shows extras. Now South won't bid 4♠, unless East or West compete again to 4♡, which they will regret when 4♠ rolls home.

Board # 11

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: None

NORTH
♠ QT5
♡ Q86
◇ 86
♣ KQT94

WEST
♠ KJ942
♡ K9
◇ QJT7
♣ AJ

HCP: 9 15 7 9

EAST
♠ 763
♡ A52
◇ K43
♣ 7652

HCP: 9 15 7 9

SOUTH
♠ A8
♡ JT743
◇ A952
♣ 83

E-W have 22 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	6	6	7	7
♠	4	4	9	9
♡	7	7	5	5
◇	5	5	8	8
♣	7	7	5	5

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♠w	4♣	-1	50	
	3♠w	6♡	-1	50	
	1Nw	9♣	=		90
	2♠w	K♣	=		110
	3♠w	K♣	=		140

South passes and West opens 1♠ (not 1NT with 5-2 in the majors: risking a transfer to the wrong major). North passes (some might make an agressive 2♣ overcall and risk a double and a big number on bad layouts), and East raises to 2♠. South passes and West should as well: a single raise is seldom as much as 10 points in support of the suit. But even if West bids 3♠, it should be made: two trumps, a club and the A◇ should be the only losers.

Board # 12

Dealer: West

Vulnerable: N-S

NORTH
♠ T976
♡ K32
◇ J3
♣ AQ72

WEST
♠ AJ52
♡ AQ7
◇ A6
♣ K543

HCP: 10 18 5 7

EAST
♠ 83
♡ T9864
◇ KQ92
♣ T6

HCP: 10 18 5 7

SOUTH
♠ KQ4
♡ J5
◇ T8754
♣ J98

E-W have 23 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	5	5	8	8
♠	6	6	6	7
♡	4	4	9	9
◇	6	6	7	7
♣	7	7	6	6

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2♡w	J◇	-1	50	
	2♡w	6♠	=		110
	2♡w	T♠	=		110
	2◇s	2♠	-2		200
	3Ne	5◇	=		400

West's hand is balanced and in the nether region between a 15-17 1NT and a 20-21 2NT. With this hands, we open one of a suit and rebid by jumping in notrump, so West starts with 1♣. North passes, East responds 1♡, and after South passes, West completes the picture by bidding 2NT. East's 3♡ call shows five hearts but no extras and West should pass. 3NT and 4♡ are difficult to make; 3♡ is safe.

Board # 13

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: Both

NORTH
♠ A5
♡ K987
◇ QJ
♣ T9432

WEST
♠ KT986
♡ A64
◇ 963
♣ K7

HCP: 10 / 10 9 / 11

EAST
♠ J7
♡ J3
◇ AKT852
♣ 865

HCP: 5 7 / 18

SOUTH
♠ Q432
♡ QT52
◇ 74
♣ AQJ

HCP: 10 / 10 9 / 11

N-S have 21 combined points.
Suitable Level: Partscore

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	4	4	8	8
♠	5	5	8	8
♡	7	8	5	5
◇	2	2	10	10
♣	7	7	5	5

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2◇e	2♡	+2		130
	2◇e	2♡	+2		130
	3◇e	2♡	+1		130
	3◇e	4◇	+2		150
	2◇e	A♣	+3		150

North passes and East has a fine 2◇ pre-empt. South scrapes up a takeout double, and West raises to 3◇. North bids 3♡ and everyone passes, but it is not an easy contract. North will lose two diamonds, the A♡, the K♣, and eventually a spade and there might even be a club ruff.

Board # 14

Dealer: East

Vulnerable: None

NORTH
♠ JT8
♡ K32
◇ AT84
♣ Q94

WEST
♠ 653
♡ A87
◇ 962
♣ JT72

HCP: 5 7 / 18

EAST
♠ Q97
♡ QJ654
◇ Q53
♣ 53

HCP: 10 / 5 7 / 18

SOUTH
♠ AK42
♡ T9
◇ KJ7
♣ AK86

HCP: 10 / 5 7 / 18

N-S have 28 combined points.
Suitable Level: Game

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	12	12	1	1
♠	12	12	1	1
♡	9	9	4	4
◇	12	12	1	1
♣	11	11	2	2

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3Nn	6♡	+2	460	
	3Nn	5♡	+2	460	
	4♠s	A♡	+1	450	
	3Ns	7♡	=	400	
	3Nn	Q♡	=	400	

South opens 1♣, North responds 1◇, and South rebids 2NT showing 18-19 balanced. The small doubleton in hearts should not disuade you from bidding notrump here, it's important to show these hands and accept the occasional loss when partner is also short in your short suit. North raises to 3NT and West leads a heart. It's safe to duck the first, since if East gets in a second heart lead makes the K♡ a 100% stopper. The Q♠ and A♡ onside make this an easy contract in the end.

Board # 15

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: N-S

NORTH
♠ K9832
♡ J5
◇ KQ7
♣ Q98

WEST
♠ QJ6
♡ 9
◇ JT953
♣ T642

HCP: 11 / 4 9 / 16

EAST
♠ T75
♡ 87432
◇ A8
♣ AJ7

HCP: 11 / 4 9 / 16

SOUTH
♠ A4
♡ AKQT6
◇ 642
♣ K53

HCP: 11 / 4 9 / 16

N-S have 27 combined points.
Suitable Level: Game

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	10	9	3	3
♠	10	9	3	3
♡	10	9	3	3
◇	8	7	5	5
♣	9	8	4	4

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3Ns	5◇	+1	630	
	4♠n	A◇	=	620	
	3Ns	3◇	=	600	
	3Ns	J◇	=	600	
	3Ns	5◇	=	600	

South opens 1♡ (third hand of this set with 15-17 and 5-2 in the majors: don't open these 1NT!) and North responds 1♠. East passes and this is not the spot for a notrump rebid: 1NT shows 12-14 and 2NT shows 18-19: South has 16. South should rebid 2♡, treating the strong five-card suit as a six-carder. North should bid 2NT and South can raise to 3NT. It even plays a trick better from the North hand!