Board # 1

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: None

NORTH
♠ 76
♡ A652
◇ T97
♣ J962

WEST
♠ A982
♡ Q7
◇ AK52
♣ K54

HCP: 5 16 14 5

EAST
♠ KQJ
♡ KJ93
◇ Q843
♣ Q3

HCP: 16 3 4

SOUTH
♠ T543
♡ T84
◇ J6
♣ AT87

E-W have 30 combined points.
Suitable Level: Game

Available Tricks:

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

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	1Nw	2♣	+2		150
	3Nw	2♡	+1		430
	4♠w	A♡	+1		450
	3Ne	7♣	+2		460
	3Ne	7♣	+3		490

North passes as dealer and East opens 1◇. South passes and West responds 1♠: it's a strong hand but a jump requires considerably more than this and is usually a route to slam. West's job on this hand will be to ensure the pair gets to game and picks the best denomination to play in. When East rebids 1NT, showing 12-14 balanced and less than four spades, West knows what to do and raises to 3NT, which should make five, losing only the A♡ and A♣.

Board # 2

Dealer: East

Vulnerable: N-S

NORTH
♠ 9
♡ A
◇ AKQJ732
♣ QJ43

WEST
♠ AK87
♡ Q8
◇ T954
♣ AK2

HCP: 17 16 3 4

EAST
♠ QT64
♡ JT9764
◇ 6
♣ 65

HCP: 13 14 9 4

SOUTH
♠ J532
♡ K532
◇ 8
♣ T987

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

Available Tricks:

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

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2◇e	T♣	-4	200	
	4◇n	Q♠	=	130	
	4♡e	8◇	-1	50	
	4◇n	J♡	-1		100
	5◇n*	4♠	-1		200

East and South pass and West opens 1NT. North can see that 1NT will not make, but from North's point of view, there is a strong chance that E-W have a major suit fit, so doubling will just get them to find it. Better to bid 3◇ and make it more difficult for E-W to get to the right spot. (If West tries 3NT, now North can double with confidence!) E-W pairs in 4♡ need to be careful to ruff the second diamond with something other than the 4♡...South can overruff.

Board # 3

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: E-W

NORTH
♠ AJ8543
♡ KQ5
◇ Q7
♣ J5

WEST
♠ T
♡ AT62
◇ A832
♣ AQ83

HCP: 14 9 4

EAST
♠ KQ2
♡ J9
◇ T5
♣ KT9764

HCP: 13

SOUTH
♠ 976
♡ 8743
◇ KJ964
♣ 2

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

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	3	3	9	10
♠	7	7	5	5
♡	5	5	7	7
◇	6	6	6	6
♣	2	2	10	10

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3Ne	6♠	-1	100	
	4♣w	A♠	=		130
	4♣w	K♡	=		130
	3♣e	6♠	+2		150
	3♠n*	K♣	-2		300

South passes and West needs to choose the opening bid carefully: 1♣ - pass - 1♠ leaves West with no good rebid (we should avoid rebidding notrump with singletons, even in partner's suit). 1◇ allows a rebid of 2♣ if partner responds 1♠, so that is the better opener. North preempts to 2♠, and East might bid 3♣ or pass. This time 3♣ works better but it's a tough decision.

Board # 4

Dealer: West

Vulnerable: Both

NORTH
♠ 62
♡ KT4
◇ 75
♣ KJT854

WEST
♠ KQ8753
♡ 53
◇ K
♣ AQ76

HCP: 7, 14, 11, 8

EAST
♠ A9
♡ QJ97
◇ A98643
♣ 3

HCP: 14, 11, 8

SOUTH
♠ JT4
♡ A862
◇ QJT2
♣ 92

HCP: 7, 14, 11, 8

E-W have 25 combined points.
Suitable Level: Likely Game

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	3	3	9	9
♠	2	2	10	10
♡	5	4	8	8
◇	4	4	9	9
♣	6	6	7	7

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♠w	7◇	=		620
	4♠w	7◇	+1		650
	4♠w	4♣	+1		650
	4♠w	8♣	+1		650
	4♠w	J♣	+1		650

Another E-W hand and it should be easy going in the bidding: 1♠ - 2◇, 2♠ - 4♠. East knows the rebid of 2♠ promises a six card suit, and 11 points and a singleton is enough to get to game. West needs to ensure that the 9♠ is used to ruff a club before pulling trumps, and also need to unblock the K◇ so the ace can also score. It can be held to ten tricks unless North leads a club at any point.

Board # 5

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: N-S

NORTH
♠ K7
♡ AQ5
◇ QT54
♣ QT85

WEST
♠ 842
♡ KJ3
◇ 976
♣ AK64

HCP: 13, 11, 10, 6

EAST
♠ AQJT95
♡ T2
◇ K82
♣ 97

HCP: 11, 10, 6

SOUTH
♠ 63
♡ 98764
◇ AJ3
♣ J32

HCP: 13, 11, 10, 6

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

Available Tricks:

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

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3♠e	A◇	=		140
	3♠e	9♡	=		140
	2♠e	9♡	+1		140
	3♠e	3◇	+1		170
	4♠e	A◇	=		420

North has a balanced 13 and can open either minor without worrying about a rebid (which will probably be 1NT). East overcalls 1♠ and South should pass. West raises to 2♠ and that might end the auction. East might overcall 2♠ and West might still raise, but most will play in spades from East, where there are eight tricks easily available (six spades and two clubs) with chances for a ninth if the defenders break hearts.

Board # 6

Dealer: East

Vulnerable: E-W

NORTH
♠ KQ
♡ AT9865
◇ K83
♣ 62

WEST
♠ 9642
♡ Q432
◇ 62
♣ T74

HCP: 12, 2, 8, 18

EAST
♠ T75
♡ J7
◇ QJT7
♣ A983

HCP: 2, 8, 18

SOUTH
♠ AJ83
♡ K
◇ A954
♣ KQJ5

HCP: 12, 2, 8, 18

N-S have 30 combined points.
Suitable Level: Game

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	11	11	2	2
♠	11	11	2	2
♡	11	11	2	2
◇	11	10	2	2
♣	10	10	3	3

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3Nn	Q◇	+2	460	
	4♡n	Q◇	+1	450	
	4Ns	2♡	=	430	
	6Ns	2♠	-1		50
	6Ns	2♡	-1		50

East passes and South opens 1◇, setting up a rebid in clubs if partner responds in hearts, as they always do. North makes the 1♡ response and South has enough to jump to 3♣. (The other way, 1♣ - 1♡, 2◇ promises more clubs than diamonds.) North rebids 3♡ and South bids 3NT. North knows South has a strong hand, but slam is unlikely when South rebids only 3NT, so that's high enough and as it turns out, 12 tricks are unlikely without defensive miscues.

Board # 7

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: Both

NORTH
♠ QJT62
♡ 842
◇ T7
♣ 852

WEST
♠ K74
♡ A63
◇ 84
♣ AQJ97

HCP: 3 / 14 10 / 13

EAST
♠ 3
♡ QJT97
◇ A653
♣ K63

HCP: 11 / 5 17 / 7

SOUTH
♠ A985
♡ K5
◇ KQJ92
♣ T4

HCP: 6 / 16 4 / 14

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	1	1	11	11
♠	7	7	6	6
♡	1	1	11	11
◇	5	5	8	8
♣	1	1	12	12

E-W have 24 combined points.
Suitable Level: Possible Game

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3◇s	A♣	-1		100
	3♡e	K◇	+2		200
	2♡e	K◇	+3		200
	4♡e	A♠	+2		680
	3Nw	Q♠	+3		690

South opens 1◇ and West has a 2♣ overcall. North passes and it's up to East, who might try 2NT (gambling on partner beimng able to stop spades), or a raise to 3♣ (which might be the safe bid when boldness is required). Best plan is to try 2♡, knowing that 3♣ is there if 2♡ is doubled or partner escapes to 2♠ or 2NT. The 2♡ bid is raised to 4♡ by West, who assumes East has a decent hand with five hearts or more. East does, and eleven tricks are easy!

Board # 8

Dealer: West

Vulnerable: None

NORTH
♠ 96
♡ J74
◇ KQT74
♣ 942

WEST
♠ AKQ8743
♡ AK82
◇ 6
♣ T

HCP: 4 / 10 / 6

EAST
♠ 2
♡ QT96
◇ J82
♣ J8763

HCP: 6 / 4 6 / 3

SOUTH
♠ JT5
♡ 53
◇ A953
♣ AKQ5

HCP: 6 / 16 4 / 14

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	2	2	5	5
♠	2	2	11	11
♡	1	1	11	11
◇	9	9	4	4
♣	6	6	6	6

Highcard points are split 20-20
Suitable Level: Partscore

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3♠w	9♣	+2		200
	5◇s*	A♡	-2		300
	4♠w	2♣	+1		450
	4♠w	4◇	+1		450
	4♠w*	K◇	+1		690

West opens 1♠ and North and East pass. South has enough to reopen with 2♣, which would normally be five or more, but AKQ5 is worth making an exception. West has a hand worth much more than the 16 points and should cuebid 3♣. North passes again and East cannot pass 3♣, and the logical call is 3♡. Surprise! West raises to 4♡, and East is suddenly the declarer. When dummy appears, East can calm down: 4♡ is a breeze, pull trumps, run the spades, eleven tricks.

Board # 9

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: E-W

NORTH
♠ 2
♡ Q9
◇ Q752
♣ AQJT86

WEST
♠ KJT86
♡ T72
◇ JT9
♣ 32

HCP: 11 / 5 17 / 7

EAST
♠ Q5
♡ AKJ85
◇ AK43
♣ 94

HCP: 11 / 5 17 / 7

SOUTH
♠ A9743
♡ 643
◇ 86
♣ K75

HCP: 11 / 5 17 / 7

Available Tricks:

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

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

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♡e	5♣	-1	100	
	3◇e	K♣	-1	100	
	5♣n	A◇	-2		100
	3♡e	K♣	=		140
	3♡e	K♣	=		140

North opens 1♣ (pass is OK) and East has enough strength to double before bidding a suit: about an ace more than a minimum opening bid. South bids 1♠ over the double (which is takeout for the moment) and West passes. North rebids 2♣ and East's 2♡ rebid promises not a takeout double (any more) but a very strong hand with a good heart suit. South passes and West has just enough to raise to 3♡. East will be tempted to bid 4♡ but 3♡ is the last plus for E-W if N-S get their spade ruff.

Board # 10

Dealer: East

Vulnerable: Both

NORTH
♠ K9642
♡ QT75
◇ K4
♣ J8

WEST
♠ T7
♡ KJ96
◇ AQT9
♣ 432

HCP: 9 10 14 7

EAST
♠ AJ3
♡ A43
◇ J762
♣ A95

HCP: 4 11 6

SOUTH
♠ Q85
♡ 82
◇ 853
♣ KQT76

HCP: 10 14 7

E-W have 24 combined points.
Suitable Level: Possible Game

Available Tricks:

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

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3◇w	5♠	-1	100	
	3◇e	K♣	-1	100	
	2◇e	K♣	=		90
	2◇e	K♣	+1		110
	2◇e	5♠	+1		110

East opens 1◇, South passes, and West responds 1♡. North passes and East rebids 1NT. This should end it and seven tricks are likely for East, but it looks like N-S must have gotten into the auction with club or spade overcalls, forcing E-W to settle on a diamond contract. This is risky for West: East may have only three diamonds, and 1NT usually scores better, or has the potential to.

Board # 11

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: None

NORTH
♠ A743
♡ A7543
◇ AK6
♣ A

WEST
♠ Q98
♡ 9
◇ JT987
♣ JT53

HCP: 19 4 11 6

EAST
♠ KJ
♡ Q82
◇ -
♣ KQ987642

HCP: 12 14 7

SOUTH
♠ T652
♡ KJT6
◇ Q5432
♣ -

HCP: 7 12 14 7

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

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	10	10	2	2
♠	11	10	2	2
♡	12	11	1	1
◇	9	9	3	3
♣	3	3	10	10

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♡n	K♣	+1	450	
	5♡n	K♣	=	450	
	4♡n	K♣	=	420	
	3♡n	K♣	+1	170	
	5♡n	K♣	-1		50

Poor North: South and West pass and finally there is a North-South hand in this set, but after North happily opens 1♡, East overcalls 5♣!! South would like to try 5♡ but probably should pass. West passes and North has a tough problem: 5♡ or double? 5♡ works, since 5♣ goes only one down, but double might work if South is awake and figures out to convert the double to 5♡. All bets are off if West raises to 6♣!!

Board # 12

Dealer: West

Vulnerable: N-S

NORTH
♠ J74
♡ 5
◇ KQT7
♣ J8742

WEST
♠ KT6
♡ AK74
◇ 943
♣ QT3

HCP: 7 12 14 7

EAST
♠ AQ982
♡ QJ83
◇ J8
♣ A6

HCP: 19 4 11 6

SOUTH
♠ 53
♡ T962
◇ A652
♣ K95

HCP: 10 14 7

E-W have 26 combined points.
Suitable Level: Game

Available Tricks:

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

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3Nw	4♣	-1	50	
	3Nw	K◇	-1	50	
	4♠e	2♡	=		420
	4♡e	5♠	=		420
	4♡e	5◇	+1		450

Useful convention for you: after West opens 1♣ or 1◇ and East responds 1♠, West rebids 1NT, showing 12-14 balanced. East needs to find out whether West can support spades or hearts; either is possible. The modern way to do this is by bidding the OTHER minor at the 2-level, a convention called New Minor Forcing promising five cards in responder's first suit and a decent hand of 11+. West bids 2♠ to show three card support (or even 2♡ on the way to show four) and the fit is found!

Board # 13

Dealer: North

Vulnerable: Both

NORTH
♠ 765
♡ Q974
◇ 984
♣ K53

WEST
♠ T3
♡ 65
◇ AKJT6
♣ A742

HCP: 5 12 9 14

EAST
♠ A9842
♡ AJT
◇ 72
♣ 986

HCP: 12 9 14

SOUTH
♠ KQJ
♡ K832
◇ Q53
♣ QJT

HCP: 5 12 9 14

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

Available Tricks:

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

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	2◇w	3♣	=		90
	1Ns	A◇	-1		100
	2◇w	4♡	+1		110
	1Ns	A◇	-2		200
	3♡s	K◇	-3		300

North and East pass and South opens 1♣. West overcalls 1◇ and North passes. East bids 1♠ and South may fee the urge to bid 1NT to show the 12-14 count, but with partner passing and both opponents bidding this is dangerous. Pass is safer, and now West rebids 2◇ which should be the last bid. Souths playing 1NT are going to make very few tricks on this deal, perhaps as few as four for -300. Judgment in bridge is about context: that normal looking 1NT call in this auction was a big mistake!

Board # 14

Dealer: East

Vulnerable: None

NORTH
♠ AT873
♡ 7
◇ 64
♣ AT732

WEST
♠ Q
♡ Q963
◇ KT53
♣ QJ95

HCP: 10 8 9 13

EAST
♠ 42
♡ KJT542
◇ AJ82
♣ 4

HCP: 10 8 9 13

SOUTH
♠ KJ965
♡ A8
◇ Q97
♣ K86

HCP: 10 8 9 13

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

Available Tricks:

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

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	4♠n	4♣	+1	450	
	4♠s	3♡	=	420	
	4♠s	3♡	=	420	
	5♡e*	5♠	-1	100	
	5♡e*	6♠	-1	100	

East opens 2♡ as dealer and South overcalls 2♠. West raises to 4♡ and North bids 4♠. Will it work? Maybe, unless West decides to try 5♡. Now North and South have the last guess; double, or try 5♠? This time 5♠ goes one down, but doubling 5♡ only nets 100 or possibly 300 if East misguesses the Q◇. In spades N-S lose two diamonds and eventually a club. Unlucky!

Board # 15

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: N-S

NORTH
♠ 5
♡ JT7
◇ J7632
♣ J864

WEST
♠ K763
♡ Q4
◇ 985
♣ AKT3

HCP: 12 3 15 10

EAST
♠ 984
♡ A932
◇ AKQT4
♣ Q

HCP: 12 3 15 10

SOUTH
♠ AQJT2
♡ K865
◇ -
♣ 9752

HCP: 12 3 15 10

E-W have 27 combined points.
Suitable Level: Game

Available Tricks:

	N	S	E	W
NT	2	2	10	10
♠	4	4	8	8
♡	5	5	7	6
◇	3	2	9	9
♣	7	7	6	5

Players	Contract	Lead	Result	NS	EW
	3Nw	5♠	-1	50	
	3Nw	5♠	-1	50	
	3◇e	9♣	-1	50	
	3Nw	5♠	=		400
	3Nw	3◇	+3		490

South passes and West opens 1♣. North passes and East can respond 1◇: with a strong hand, no need to skip over diamonds to bid majors, you'll have time to get them in later. South comes in with a 1♠ call, and West passes to indicate a minimum opener. North passes and East now tries 2♡, another new suit by responder, which is forcing after South passes. West's only logical call is 2NT and East raises, and it's a cakewalk: once South shows out on the first diamond, West knows what to do....