Beginners’ Lesson 4 (Option A): Responder’s New Suit Bids

Board 1
North Deals: None Vul
West: North East South

West North East South

Pass

West North East South

Pass

All pass

Lead: ♠ Q

North opens longest suit, and South bids 1 ♠. North tries 1 ♠ and South finally bids 1 NT with no fit.

The lead is the top of a sequence.

After winning the K ♠

Declarer plays clubs, by playing a small club (♠ 2) towards the shorter hand first.

Board 2
East Deals: N-S Vul
West: North East South

West North East South

Pass

West North East South

Pass

All pass

Lead: ♠ Q

East has no fit with West’s spades so rebids 2 ♠.

West has a minimum hand and passes.

Lead is top of a sequence.

After winning with the ♠ A in Dummy, lead a small club towards the AQ. Play the ♠ Q, hoping to find the ♠ K in the North hand.

Board 3
South Deals: E-W Vul
West: North East South

West North East South

Pass

West North East South

Pass

All pass

Lead: ♥ K

South opens the lower of the two 4-card suits. North bids 1 ♥. South is strong enough to raise to game.

Lead is top of a sequence.

Draw trumps and play towards clubs in South’s hand (dummy), hoping the ♠ K is in East’s hand.

Board 4
West Deals: Both Vul
West: North East South

West North East South

Pass

West North East South

Pass

All pass

Lead: ♦ Q

West opens the higher ranking 5-card suit. East bids 2 ♦ and West rebids 2 ♦ showing a 2nd suit and at least 5 spades and 4 hearts. East bids to game in spades now knowing they have at least an eight card fit.

The lead is top of a sequence.

After winning the ♦ A, West plays ♦ A and discards a diamond in Dummy.

Board 5
North Deals: N-S Vul
West: North East South

West North East South

Pass

West North East South

Pass

All pass

Lead: ♦ J

Opener’s rebid shows 5+ hearts and a minimum hand of 12-15 HCP.

South now bids to game in hearts because they now know they have a fit.

Lead is top of a sequence.

Declarer plays 3 rounds of clubs first, discarding a small spade to avoid 2 spade losers. Then, Declarer draws trumps and plays diamonds.

Board 6
East Deals: E-W Vul
West: North East South

West North East South

Pass

West North East South

Pass

All pass

Lead: ♠ Q

West opens their longest suit and East bids 1 NT, showing no suit to bid at the 1-level and 6-9 HCP.

West is strong enough to bid game.

West now bids 3 NT, as East has denied holding four spades.

Lead is ♠ 3 from longest and strongest suit.

Declarer plays the diamond suit first.

Board 7
South Deals: Both Vul
West: North East South

West North East South

Pass

West North East South

Pass

All pass

Lead: ♥ Q

South opens their longest suit and North bids 1 ♥ (4+ spades and 6+ HCP).

NB: North must not bid 2 ♥ as this shows 10+HCP.

South jumps to 3 ♥ to show 18-19 HCP with 5+ hearts and 4+ diamonds, so North can now bid to game in hearts.

Lead is ♠ Q.

Declarer draws trumps then plays on diamonds.

Board 8
West Deals: None Vul
West: North East South

West North East South

Pass

West North East South

Pass

All pass

Lead: ♥ 5

West bids their second suit showing at least 5/4 in the minors. East chooses 2 ♥ knowing there is a diamond fit.

Lead is a small heart promising an honour.

Declarer draws trumps and plays on spades.

Play ♥ A from the short side first, to preserve entries to Dummy.