

Intermediate Lesson 6: Competitive Bidding - when we open

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 10 8 6 4
♥ A K Q 4
♦ K J
♣ 8 4

♠ 9 3
♥ J 10 9 3
♦ A 7 5 4 3
♣ 7 3

♠ K 5
♥ 8 7 5
♦ 8 2
♣ A K Q 9 6 5

♠ A J 7 2
♥ 6 2
♦ Q 10 9 6
♣ J 10 2

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	2 ♣	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
All pass			

After East's overcall, South can raise to 2 ♠. North invites game with South accepting as they are maximum for their 2 ♠ call.

Board 5
North Deals
N-S Vul

♠ A
♥ J 5 4
♦ A J 10 7 4
♣ Q 8 6 4

♠ 9 6 4 2
♥ Q 10 3 2
♦ Q 9 3
♣ J 9

♠ K Q 8 3
♥ A 9 7 6
♦ 6 5
♣ K 7 3

♠ J 10 7 5
♥ K 8
♦ K 8 2
♣ A 10 5 2

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Dbl	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♣
All pass			

Despite the East's take-out double, South should still bid 1 ♠ to show a suit and some values.

South's next bid of 3 ♣ shows 11-12 HCP.

With minimum HCP, North passes.

Board 2
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ 5 2
♥ J 10 9 5
♦ Q 8 4 3
♣ K J 2

♠ K Q 9 4
♥ A 4 3
♦ 5
♣ Q 9 7 6 4

♠ 3
♥ K Q 7 6
♦ A J 9 7 6
♣ A 8 3

♠ A J 10 8 7 6
♥ 8 2
♦ K 10 2
♣ 10 5

West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All pass

West passes initially, as they would like to penalise South in 2 ♠ but a double at this stage is for takeout.

With a singleton spade, East has the ideal shape for a re-opening double asking partner to bid something. West happily passes converting the double into a penalty

The defence should beat this contract by two tricks

Board 6
East Deals
E-W Vul

♠ 7 2
♥ J 10 3 2
♦ K 8 5
♣ Q 6 5 4

♠ Q J 10 8 4
♥ 4
♦ A Q 4
♣ J 10 7 3

♠ A K 9 6
♥ Q 8 5
♦ J 10 9 7 6
♣ A

♠ 5 3
♥ A K 9 7 6
♦ 3 2
♣ K 9 8 2

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♥	1 ♦	1 ♥
4 ♠	All pass	2 ♠	Pass

With East supporting Spades, West bids to game with their 10 HCP and a singleton in the opposition's suit.

Board 3
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ Q 10 8 2
♥ K 2
♦ A 8 5 4
♣ 10 7 2

♠ A K J 5
♥ 8 5
♦ Q J 10 6
♣ A J 5

♠ 9 6 4
♥ Q 9 7 6 3
♦ 9 3 2
♣ 6 3

♠ 7 3
♥ A J 10 4
♦ K 7
♣ K Q 9 8 4

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Dbl	2 ♥	Dbl
All pass			

When partner opens and the opposition overcall 1 NT, a double from you is for penalties.

In this hand, North has enough HCP to make a penalty double of 1 NT.

East must run to their long suit. With good hearts, South makes a penalty double.

Board 7
South Deals
Both Vul

♠ A 8 5
♥ 10 9 5 3
♦ J 7 6 4
♣ J 5

♠ K 9
♥ A J 7
♦ K Q 10 8
♣ A 9 6 2

♠ 7 6 4 3
♥ —
♦ 9 3 2
♣ K Q 10 8 7 4

♠ Q J 10 2
♥ K Q 8 6 4 2
♦ A 5
♣ 3

West	North	East	South
1 NT	2 ♥	3 ♣	1 ♥
All pass			3 ♥

North can raise to 2 ♥ despite West's strong no-trump overcall.

Both East and South are distributional enough to compete to the 3 level.

East may wish to compete to 4 ♣ which has a good chance of making.

Board 4
West Deals
Both Vul

♠ J 7
♥ A Q J 7 4 3
♦ Q 10 7 3
♣ 3

♠ A Q
♥ K 9 8
♦ 9 4
♣ A J 10 9 7 5

♠ K 6 3
♥ 6 5 2
♦ A 8
♣ K Q 8 6 2

♠ 10 9 8 5 4 2
♥ 10
♦ K J 6 5 2
♣ 4

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	2 ♥	3 ♥	Pass
3 NT	All pass		

East will be happy to play 3 NT as long as West has a heart hold.

East bids 3 ♥ to enquire if they have such a hold. West's 3 NT confirms the hold enabling 3 NT to make comfortably.

NB: If West did not have a hold they would have to bid something else. In this case they would repeat their Club suit.

Board 8
West Deals
None Vul

♠ K 4
♥ 8 7
♦ 9 6 3
♣ K Q J 8 6 2

♠ 6
♥ K J 10 3
♦ K Q 8 5 4
♣ A 7 4

♠ Q J 10 3
♥ A 6 5 2
♦ A J 2
♣ 9 5

♠ A 9 8 7 5 2
♥ Q 9 4
♦ 10 7
♣ 10 3

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	3 ♣	Dbl	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass

East makes a take-out double of 3 ♣ and is strong enough to raise to 4 ♥ once the fit has been established.