

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 6 5
♥ Q 4
♦ K Q J 10 4 3
♣ 10 3

♠ K 4 3
♥ 10 7 6 3
♦ A 9 8 7
♣ Q 9

♠ A 10 9 8
♥ K J 9 2
♦ 2
♣ A J 8 7

♠ Q J 2
♥ A 8 5
♦ 6 5
♣ K 6 5 4 2

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	2♦	Dbl	Pass
2♥	All pass		

Lead: ♦K

East doubles North's preemptive weak two bid. West has a minimal hand (< 10 points) and so makes the lowest heart bid. With a minimum takeout double, East passes 2H.

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 2
♥ 9 2
♦ K Q J 8 7 6 2
♣ 9 8 7

♠ Q J 10 3
♥ 8 4
♦ A 10 4
♣ K Q J 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K 9 8
♥ K Q 10 3
♦ 3
♣ A 10 3 2

♠ 7 6 5 4
♥ A J 7 6 5
♦ 9 5
♣ 6 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	3♦	Dbl	4♦
4♠	All pass		


Lead: ♦K

East doubles the preemptive 3D bid. East has perfect distribution: 4 - 4 - 1 - 4, with short diamonds and 3+ in each suit other than the bid suit (including 4 - 4 in hearts/spades).

South pushes to 4D (an additional preempt, to make West's job more difficult), but West has an easy bid: 4 spades. Even if East actually has only three spades, West's 13 points plus East's 13+ (and probably a bit more, because of the high level of the bidding) give E/W a good chance.

In this particular case, 12 tricks are available for E/W. They'll win the diamond lead, ruff a diamond, lose a heart trick, win the return, ruff a spade high, draw trumps, and win the four club tricks plus the one heart trick. North's preempt worked - otherwise, E/W might have found the 6S slam bid if they were lucky.

North Deals ♠ A 2
 None Vul ♥ A Q 9 5 4
 ♦ J 10 3
 ♣ Q 3 2

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥
Dbl	Pass	2 ♠	All pass

Lead: ♥ 2

With a minimal hand, North opens 1H and South raises to 2H with another minimal hand (but with 4 hearts headed by the jack, an ace, and a doubleton, so worth it to bid).

West has a strong hand and will not give up without a fight. Note that West must have a stronger hand (not a minimal 13 points) in order to double. N/S have already promised at least 18 points (12+ and 6+) plus a heart fit, and they could have even more.

West also has perfect structure: 4 - 1 - 4 - 4. Whichever suit East has, West can support it.

East has a subpar hand with only 4 high card points. But they must bid. They pick the 4-card spade suit over the 4-card club suit because of the slight bias toward major suit bids (higher-scoring). West knows that East may have 0 points, so wisely passes.

E/W should win three trump tricks, the ace of hearts plus a heart ruff, one diamond trick and two or three club tricks.

If West had not doubled, N/S can also make their 2H bid (barely). They should win four trump tricks, the ace of spades, a club ruff, and two diamond tricks (if they lead the jack and ten of diamonds toward the ace and nine, finessing if East doesn't play a high card).