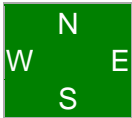



Lesson 5 - Class Hand #1

Board 1			
		♠ 9 7 3	
West Deals		♥ 8 7	
None Vul		♦ K 9 3 2	
		♣ J 7 5 3	
♠ A 6 5			♠ K 8 2
♥ K J 9 2			♥ Q 10 4
♦ A Q 4			♦ J 10 5
♣ K 8 4			♣ A 10 6 2
♠ Q J 10 4			
♥ A 6 5 3			
♦ 8 7 6			
♣ Q 9			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 N	Pass	3 N	All pass

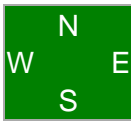
West, balanced and 17 high-card points; East, balanced and 10 high-card points (plus some nice 10's). Standard 1N - 3N auction. North leads top of nothing (9 of spades). It's a great lead - dangerous for E/W. West should play low from both hands (a "hold up play" to sever communications between N/S). Winning the 2nd spade, West sees 5 top winners. Leading a top heart to drive out the Ace adds 3 tricks. After South leads another spade, West leads the J of diamonds to finesse, losing to North's K. But North now has no more spades to lead, so West wins 9 tricks

Lesson 5 - Class Hand #2

Board 2			
		♠ A J 10	
North Deals		♥ K Q 8 2	
None Vul		♦ Q J 4	
		♣ A 10 7	
♠ Q 6 3 2			♠ 9 5 4
♥ 9 5			♥ 10 6 4 3
♦ A 10 5			♦ 9 6 3 2
♣ 9 8 6 5			♣ J 4
♠ K 8 7			
♥ A J 7			
♦ K 8 7			
♣ K Q 3 2			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 N	Pass	4 N
Pass	6 N	All pass	

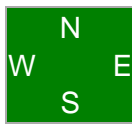
South's 4 NT bid is "quantitative" (invitational to slam). It says "I have 16+ high-card points. If you have a minimum, pass; otherwise, bid 6 NT", which North does with 17 points. East leads the 3 of hearts (4th highest, unbid major), which North wins. North sees 9 top tricks. Leading a top diamond will add 2 tricks. So, need to find one more trick. The best option is to combine chances. First, play out the top two clubs to see if the J drops (in this case, it does - problem solved). If not, play the third high clubs to see if the suit splits 3 - 3. If neither worked, the final choice would be to try the spade finesse.

Lesson 5 - Class Hand #3

Board 3	♠ Q 7 2		
West Deals	♥ J 10 6		
None Vul	♦ J 6		
	♣ A J 10 8 6		
♠ A K		♠ J 10 9 4 3	
♥ A K 9		♥ 8 7 5 3	
♦ K 10 3 2		♦ Q 9 4	
♣ 9 7 3 2		♣ 5	
	♠ 8 6 5		
	♥ Q 4 2		
	♦ A 8 7 5		
	♣ K Q 4		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 N	Pass	2 ♠	All pass

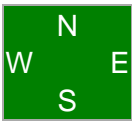
West opens 1 NT with 16 high-card points. East has a very poor hand. Because of the short club suit, spades as trumps looks better than passing 1 NT. West must pass. South leads the K of clubs (top of sequence). East sees 1 spade loser, 2 heart losers, 2 diamond losers, and 1 club loser. South leads a spade at trick 2. East plays the A and the K of spades, then leads the A, K, and 9 of hearts. When the hearts split 3 - 3, East wins the 4th heart later along with at least 1 diamond to make the contract. In 1 NT N/S will win the first 5 club tricks plus the Ace of diamonds, a heart trick, and a spade trick.

Lesson 5 - Class Hand #4

Board 4	♠ A K		
North Deals	♥ 9 8 7		
None Vul	♦ A Q 10 7		
	♣ K 9 8 5		
♠ 10 5 3 2		♠ Q J 9 4	
♥ K Q 2		♥ 10 3	
♦ 8 3 2		♦ J 9 6 5	
♣ A 10 7		♣ 6 4 3	
	♠ 8 7 6		
	♥ A J 6 5 4		
	♦ K 4		
	♣ Q J 2		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 N	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	All pass	

South has a good 5-card heart suit and 11 high-card points. North has 3 hearts, so raises to the 4H game. With only 2 hearts, North would sign off in the 3 NT game. West leads the 2 of spades (4th highest in the unbid major). South sees two heart losers, a club loser, and a potential spade loser. South takes the Ace and leads a heart to the K. West leads a diamond to the King. South plays the Ace of hearts and another heart to draw trumps. South will lose the Ace of clubs, but will throw the losing spade on the third round of diamonds, making the contract.

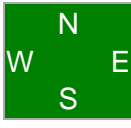
Lesson 5 - Class Hand #5

Board 5	♠ Q 10 3		
East Deals	♥ 10 9 4		
None Vul	♦ J 7		
	♣ A Q 8 4 3		
♠ K 6 5 2		♠ A 9 7	
♥ Q 6 3		♥ K J 5 2	
♦ Q 6 4 3		♦ K 10 8 2	
♣ J 2		♣ K 6	
	♠ J 8 4		
	♥ A 8 7		
	♦ A 9 5		
	♣ 10 9 7 5		

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 ♦	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	1 N	All pass

With 14 high-card points and no 5-card major, East opens the longer minor. East can't open 1 NT (15 - 17 high-card points). West bids the major, and East rebids 1 NT (12 - 14 high-card points). South leads the 10 of clubs (top of sequence, long suit). North plays the 8 of clubs (encouraging) and East wins the King. East sees only 2 top tricks in spades plus the K of clubs. Four tricks to go! There are two potential tricks in hearts and two or more in diamonds. It's a race - N/S will score 4 clubs plus the two aces and maybe a spade. If East plays a small diamond to the Queen and lead back to the King, that wins three tricks. Later, play a high heart to drive out the Ace.

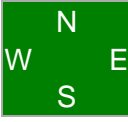
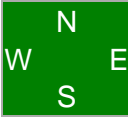
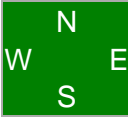
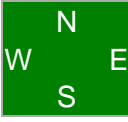
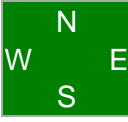
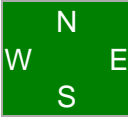
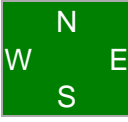
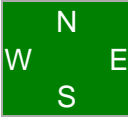
Lesson 5 - Class Hand #6

Board 6	♠ K 9 5		
North Deals	♥ A 10 6 3		
None Vul	♦ K 6		
	♣ 8 5 4 3		
♠ 8 7 3		♠ Q J 10 4	
♥ Q 9 5 2		♥ 8 7	
♦ 10 7 5		♦ 9 8 2	
♣ A J 9		♣ Q 10 7 6	
	♠ A 6 2		
	♥ K J 4		
	♦ A Q J 4 3		
	♣ K 2		

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 N
Pass	3 N	All pass	

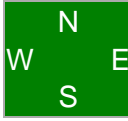
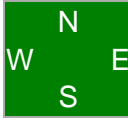
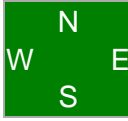
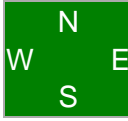
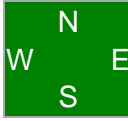
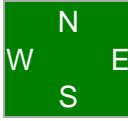
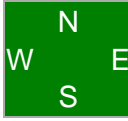
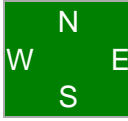
With 18 high-card points, South can't open 1 NT (15 - 17). After North's 1H response, South bids 2 NT (18 - 19 high-card points). With 10 high-card points, North bids the 3 NT game. West leads the 8 of spades (top of nothing in the unbid major), won by the King. South sees 8 top winners (plus a probable winner for the 5th diamond). East is the threat hand - if East wins a trick, they can lead through the K of clubs. So, to win an extra trick lead a small heart from North, finessing the J (which loses to the Queen with West). West leads a spade to try to enter East's hand. South takes 2 spades, 3 hearts, and 5 diamonds.

Lesson 5 - Practice #1

Board 7			
West Deals	♠ Q 8 6 5		
None Vul	♥ A 4 3		
	♦ 8 6 4 2		
	♣ A 9		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♠ A 10 4</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♠ K 3 2</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♥ K 10 8</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♥ Q 6 5</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♦ K Q 9 5 3</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♦ J 7</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♣ K 3</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♣ Q J 6 5 4</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♠ J 9 7</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♠ J 9 7 2</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♥ J 9 7 2</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♥ A 10</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♦ A 10</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♣ 10 8 7 2</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♣ 10 8 7 2</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;"></div> </div>		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 N	Pass	2 N	All pass

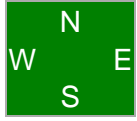
East raises to 2 NT with 9 high-card points. With 15 high-card points, West declines the invitation. North leads the 5 of spades (4th best, long suit), won by the Ace. West sees only the top 2 spade winners - so a lot of work to do. West leads a small diamond to the Jack, won by the Ace. East lets the next spade win, but wins the King of spades on the third round. East plays a small club to the King (North withholds their Ace) and plays a small heart to the Q. Because the 10 of diamonds falls, West can win 2 spades, 1 (or more) hearts, 4 diamonds, and at least 1 club.

Lesson 5 - Practice Hand #2

Board 8			
North Deals	♠ A K 7 6		
None Vul	♥ K Q 4 3		
	♦ Q 10 7		
	♣ K 2		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♠ 10 8 2</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♠ J 9 5</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♥ 9 7</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♥ A 10 8 2</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♦ K 8 6</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♦ A 9 5</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♣ A 10 8 6 3</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♣ 9 7 5</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♠ Q 4 3</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♥ J 6 5</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♥ J 6 5</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♦ J 4 3 2</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♦ J 4 3 2</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;">♣ Q J 4</div> </div>		
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: right;">♣ Q J 4</div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: left;"></div> </div>		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 N	All pass	

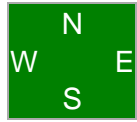
North opens 1 NT with 17 high-card points. With only 7 weak high-card points (queens and jacks), South passes. East leads the 2 of hearts (4th best, long suit), won by the K. North sees 4 top winners. North will play diamonds to set up at least 1 trick there. North will drive out the Ace of hearts to win another trick there. North will drive out the Ace of clubs to win 2 tricks there. If E/W play clubs early, they can win as many as 6 tricks, limiting N/S to 7 tricks.

Lesson 5 - Practice #3

Board 9		♠ J 7 6	
East Deals		♥ Q 6	
None Vul		♦ 10 9 4 2	
		♣ K 10 8 6	
♠ Q 3 2		♠ A K 8	
♥ J 7 5 2		♥ A 10 9	
♦ Q 8 7 6		♦ K J 5	
♣ J 9		♣ A 4 3 2	
		♠ 10 9 5 4	
		♥ K 8 4 3	
		♦ A 3	
		♣ Q 7 5	
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 ♣	Pass
1 ♦	Pass	2 N	All pass


With 19 high-card points East is too strong for 1 NT (15 - 17). West scrapes together a 1D bid with only 6 high-card points (and weak - queens and jacks). After the 2 NT bid (18 - 19 high-card points), West passes with 6 weak high-card points (queens and jacks). South leads the 10 of spades (top of sequence, long suit), won by the Ace. East sees 5 top winners. Leading the K of diamonds to drive out the Ace adds two diamond winners. Playing the 9 and 10 of hearts adds two heart tricks. So, 9 tricks are possible.

Lesson 5 - Practice #4

Board 10		♠ Q J 9	
South Deals		♥ A 2	
None Vul		♦ K 8 3 2	
		♣ Q 10 5 4	
♠ 4 3 2		♠ 10 8 7 6	
♥ 9 7 5 3		♥ 10 8 4	
♦ J 9 5		♦ Q 10 7 4	
♣ 8 7 3		♣ A 9	
		♠ A K 5	
		♥ K Q J 6	
		♦ A 6	
		♣ K J 6 2	
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2 N
Pass	6 N	All pass	

South opens 2 NT with 21 high-card points. With 12 high-card points, North tries 6 NT (at least 32 high-card points is too good to miss). After the opening lead, South loses only the club Ace.


Lesson 5 - Stayman Hand #1

Board 20	♠ 9 3		
East Deals	♥ A 8 2		
None Vul	♦ 5 4		
	♣ 10 9 8 7 4 3		
♠ K Q 5 4		♠ A 10 7 2	
♥ 10 7 3		♥ K J 5 4	
♦ K Q 3 2		♦ A 8 7	
♣ J 5		♣ A 2	
		♠ J 8 6	
	♥ Q 9 6		
	♦ J 10 9 6		
	♣ K Q 6		

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

West's 2C bid is Stayman - asking for a 4-card heart or spade suit. East confirms 4 hearts (and maybe 4 spades). With 11 high-card points, West bids the 3 NT game. East has a choice - pass 3 NT or bid 4S (because West didn't bid 4H, West must have 4 spades). The deciding factor - the weak clubs, which give an opportunity for a ruff in a 4S contract. South leads the J of diamonds (top of sequence). East sees a club loser, two or three heart losers, and a potential spade loser. Play three top spades - the suit splits 3 - 2 (68% chance), so no spade loser. Play a heart and finesse the Jack, losing to the Queen. Later force out the Ace of hearts, ruff a heart in Dummy, play the other top diamonds, and ruff a diamond in hand. Lose a club and two hearts.

Lesson 5 - Stayman Hand #2

Board 21	♠ K J 6 2		
North Deals	♥ Q 10 2		
None Vul	♦ K 2		
	♣ 10 9 5 4		
♠ 9 5 4		♠ Q 8 7	
♥ A 9 7 6		♥ 4 3	
♦ 9 7		♦ Q J 10 8 6	
♣ Q J 8 6		♣ A 7 2	
		♠ A 10 3	
	♥ K J 8 5		
	♦ A 5 4 3		
	♣ K 3		

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

North bids 2C to ask about hearts. North shows 4 spades with the 2S bid (which excludes having 4 hearts). With 9 high card points, North rebids 2 NT (invitational). With a minimum 15, South passes. West leads the Q of clubs (top of sequence, long suit), won by the K. South sees 5 top tricks. Play a top heart to drive out the Ace, and 3 more tricks are available. Depending on the play, an extra trick may score in spades.