

Invitational with Minors -- Problem



♠ Q 8 3
 ♥ 10
 ♦ A J 10 6 2
 ♣ K J 8 2

West	North	East	South
	<i>Andrew</i>		<i>Pete</i>
	1 NT ¹	Pass	?

1. Good 11 (too good to pass) to 14 HCP.

We play 4-suit transfers: 2♠ shows six or more clubs, and 2NT shows six or more diamonds.

Bidding 2♣ asks opener for a 4-card major. Over opener's response: 2NT is invitational to 3NT (whether or not holding a major suit); and 3♣ or 3♦ shows five or more cards in that suit, usually a 4-card major, and is forcing to game.

What would be your plan, in my seat? Be specific.

One and a Half Suiter -- Problem

Board 15

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 10
 ♥ A K J 8 4 2
 ♦ Q 9 8 5
 ♣ 9 8



West	North	East	South
<i>Pete</i>		<i>Andrew</i>	
			2♠
			?

What would be your call, in my seat, playing in a matchpoint pairs event?

Three Suiter - Problem

Board 22
 East Deals
 E-W Vul



♠ K Q 8 3
 ♥ A K Q 6
 ♦ —
 ♣ K Q J 5 3

West	North	East	South
	<i>Andrew</i>		<i>Pete</i>
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	?

1. Do you agree with my 1♣ opening bid?

2. What would be your plan in my seat, after partner responds 1♥?

Invitational with Minors -- Solution



♠ Q 8 3
 ♥ 10
 ♦ A J 10 6 2
 ♣ K J 8 2

West	North	East	South
	<i>Andrew</i>		<i>Pete</i>
	1 NT ¹	Pass	?

1. Good 11 (too good to pass) to 14 HCP.

This is a neat situation. Bid 2♣. If partner responds 2♥, try for 3NT with 2NT.

However, if partner shows fewer than four hearts, 3NT will be at risk. So, over opener's 2♦ or 2♠, pass! [sorry, no hand record for this board, 25]

One and a Half Suiter -- Solution

Board 15

South Deals
 N-S Vul

♠ K 8 7
 ♥ 10 9 7 3
 ♦ A K 6 2
 ♣ Q 3

♠ 10
 ♥ A K J 8 4 2
 ♦ Q 9 8 5
 ♣ 9 8



♠ 5 3 2
 ♥ Q 5
 ♦ J 10 4 3
 ♣ A K 7 4

♠ A Q J 9 6 4
 ♥ 6
 ♦ 7
 ♣ J 10 6 5 2

West	North	East	South
			2♠

4♥ All pass

Unwilling to pass as West, I was short of the values to bid 3♠. We play a jump to 4♥ as preemptive: hoping to make, but based on shape. My hand was way below minimum, but that was my choice.

North led the ♦ A. When I dropped the queen, undeterred, she continued with the king. Down one was a fine result, even if they could only make 3♠.

Three Suiter -- Solution

Board 22

East Deals
 E-W Vul

♠ J 10 9 5
 ♥ J 9 5 3 2
 ♦ K 5
 ♣ A 4

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



♠ 7 6 4
 ♥ 8 7 4
 ♦ A J 8 2
 ♣ 10 9 7

♠ K Q 8 3
 ♥ A K Q 6
 ♦ —
 ♣ K Q J 5 3

West	North	East	South
	<i>Andrew</i>		<i>Pete</i>

		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♥

All pass

6♥ by North

Made 6 — NS +980

1. The 1♣ opening bid was 100% correct. Never open 2♣ with a 3-suiter. Think about all the ways that could go wrong.

2. Many players would rebid 4♦, showing a singleton or void in diamonds, with the values to make 4♥. Since partner has no top trumps, they will probably rebid 4♥. Continue with 5♦, showing a void and sufficient values for 5♥. With a fifth heart and a working ace, partner has an easy 6♥ bid.

We play that 5♦ is exclusion keycard Blackwood; partner's 5♠ response showed one keycard outside diamonds, same result.