

Serious Swedish Jacoby (1)

**Board 13**

North Deals  
Both Vul



♠ 7 6 3  
♥ A 10 7 4 2  
♦ A K 2  
♣ A 3

We are East for this deal in a regional open pairs event. The opponents are silent. Many players would open 1 NT: with three spades, partner cannot stick us in a 5-2 spade fit with 5-3 hearts available, and we play puppet Stayman. However, with this great hand for suit play, we choose a 1♥ opening.

Partner takes charge with a Swedish Jacoby 2 NT response showing at least four hearts and invitational strength or better.

We divide hands of opening bid strength into three buckets: small (about 13 HCP), medium (~16) and large (~19). A small hand and a large hand, or two medium hands, generally puts us into the slam zone.

With all small hands, we would limit our hand with a 3♣ rebid. We rebid 3♦, which shows a medium or large hand lacking a singleton or void.

**Board 13**

North Deals  
Both Vul



♠ 7 6 3  
♥ A 10 7 4 2  
♦ A K 2  
♣ A 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	1♥	Pass
2 NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
3♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	?	

1. LR+, seldom with shortness.
2. Medium or large hand, no shortness.
3. First or second round spade control.

Suppose we bid 3 NT. Partner, if knowing all suits are controlled, will be required to ask for keycards - and bid a slam if we are missing only one. Because partner will not hold a diamond control, partner won't hurt us on some motley 13-count. The only positive move partner can make is 4♣, which denies a diamond control. Then we can make a *last train* bid of 4♦, showing slam is still possible despite partner's lack of a diamond control, but there is still a problem. At the table, lacking a diamond control, partner erred and bid 4♥ on a medium hand, when that was all we needed.

Serious Swedish Jacoby (2)

**Board 13**

North Deals  
Both Vul



♠ 7 6 3  
♥ A 10 7 4 2  
♦ A K 2  
♣ A 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	1♥	Pass
2 NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
3♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	?	

1. LR+, seldom with shortness.
2. Medium or large hand, no shortness.
3. First or second round spade control.

We play Eric Rodwell's serious 3 NT. Rodwell prefers to play Precision, where the major-suit opener seldom holds a medium hand. (They usually need a large responding hand to drive toward slam.) However, medium hands are a problem for us. Partner, who may be small, now knows we have at least medium strength.

Partner cue bids 3♠, showing any hand with a spade control. That's good news. Should we bid 3 NT, showing serious slam interest, or 4♣, a courtesy cue bid?

**Board 13**

North Deals  
Both Vul



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

♠ 7 6 3  
♥ A 10 7 4 2  
♦ A K 2  
♣ A 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	1♥	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣ <sup>3</sup>	Pass
4♦ <sup>4</sup>	.	.	.

3. Courtesy cue bid (medium hand).
4. Last train (medium, no diamond control).

Let's bid 4♣, and not put partner to the test. Over the last train 4♦, we ask for keycards and bid the decent slam.

With a small hand, partner would bid 4♥. With only a limit raise, partner would have rebid 3♥.