# **SNAPSHOTS**

# CHOICE OF OPENING BIDS Seat Position



with the Monroes

OPENING BID ADVANTAGE	The choice of opening bid forms the basis for the auction conversation. Guidelines are useful to help with the choice. Sometimes we need to color outside the lines.
1-LEVEL OPENING BIDS	<ul> <li>OPENING BIDS 12-21 HCP follow the system guidelines for priority and begin the auction conversation.         <ul> <li>New suit by responder is forcing.</li> <li>Opener needs a descriptive strength and shape rebid.</li> </ul> </li> <li>NOTRUMP OPENING BIDS have the same meaning in any seat. Balanced with the defined strength. 1NT=15-17 2NT=20-21.</li> <li>BORDERLINE HANDS of 10-11-12 HCP and shape may qualify for an opening bid under the guidelines. The choice to open borderline hands is optional.</li> </ul>

#### 1st & 2nd SEAT • BORDERLINE HANDS • 10-11-12 HCP

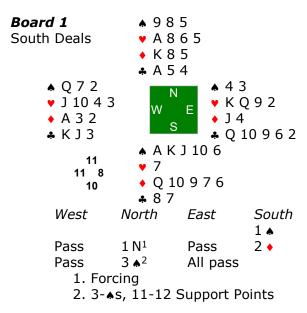
# OPEN or PASS?

- Partner has not yet bid.
- A new suit by Responder is FORCING.
- Opener's bid plans for a shape and strength descriptive REBID.
- Partner expects an opening hand with some defensive strength.

**Use the Rule of 20+2.** Add the number of HCP to the number of cards in the two longest suits. If the total is 20, consider the option to open the bidding.

- High cards are in your two long suits.
- Have 2 Quick Tricks. **AK**=2 **AQ**=1-1/2 **A**=1 **KQ**=1 **Kx**=1/2 With two 5-card suits, open the higher-ranking suit first.

#### 5-5 Suits, 10 HCP



**Contract:** 3 ♠ South, 9 Tricks

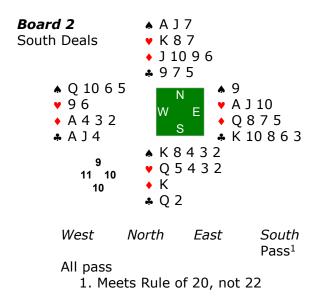
**Lead:** ♥ J, 2-card Seq., East plays ♥ 9

**Losers:** 1-4, 2-4, 1-4=4.

**Play:** South wins the ♥ A and finesses the

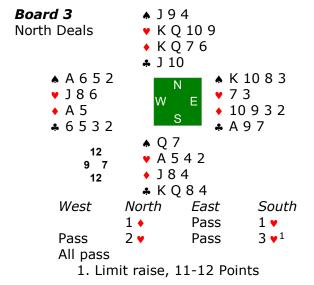
♠ Q and ♦ J.

### No Spots, Honors Poorly Placed



South passes. Meets Rule of 20, but only 1/2 quick tricks. Scattered honors. No spot cards.

# 4-4-3-2 Hand, 12 HCP, Rule of 20

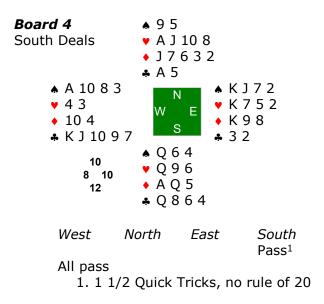


**Contract:**  $3 \checkmark$  South, 9 Tricks **Lead:**  $4 \checkmark$  2, Not away from an ace **Losers:** 2 - 4, 1 - 4, 1 - 4 = 5.

**Play:** South draws trump and promotes **\***s and **\***s. East wins the **\***A and lead **\***s, the weakest suit in dummy.

Bridge With

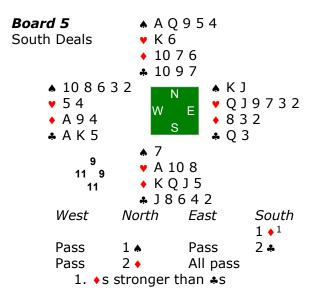
#### 4-3-3-3 With 12 HCP



South has 12 HCP but pass 4-3-3-3 hands with scattered honors. North does not add to Rule of 20 either.

Bridge With The Monroes

#### Which Minor Suit?



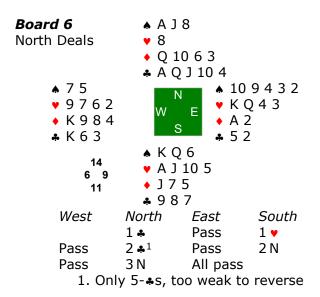
**Contract:** 2 ◆ South, 8 Tricks

**Lead:** ♥ 5, unbid suit

**Losers:**  $1 - \checkmark$ ,  $1 + \checkmark$ ,  $3 - \checkmark = 5 + .$ 

**Play:** South has only 7 ◆s in the combined hands so does not draw trump. South loses 3 ♣s and ruffs when needed.

# **Which Minor Suit?**

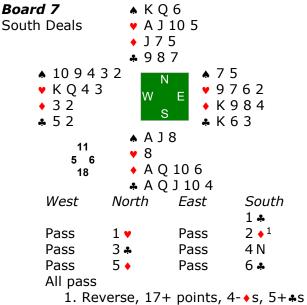


**Contract:** 3 NT South **Lead:** ◆ 4, 4th highest

**Sure Tricks:** 3-4, 1-4, 1-4 = 5.

**Play:** South plays low on opening lead. South finesse \*s to win 4 more tricks.

# Which Minor Suit?



Contract: 6 ♣ South, 12 Tricks

**Lead:** ★ 10, unbid suit **Losers:** 1-★, 1-♣ = 2.

**Play:** Dummy wins the ♠ K and finesses ♣s. Dummy is entered and ♦s are finessed.