

Board 1
 North Deals
 Both Vul

Fourth Suit Forcing

♠ A 7 5 4		♠ Q J 10 8
♥ 5 4 3		♥ Q 9 8
♦ 5		♦ A 9 6 3
♣ A K 5 4 3		♣ 10 8
♠ 9 6	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K 3 2
♥ K 7		♥ A J 10 6 2
♦ Q J 10 4 2		♦ K 8 7
♣ J 9 6 2		♣ Q 7

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦ ¹
Pass	2 ♥ ²	Pass	4 ♥
All pass			

1. 4SFG
2. First priority is to show 3 card support for partner's first bid suit.

Lead: ♦ Q; Declarer S

Play:

After the opening lead declarer can count 6 top tricks (including ♦ K) and has good chances of making four heart tricks (unless West has ♥ KQx) and a diamond ruff, making 11 tricks.

East overtakes West's ♦ Q and leads back the ♠ Q (top of a sequence, best defence) which declarer wins in dummy. Declarer plans to ruff the ♦ 8 but can afford to draw two rounds of trumps so finesses her ♥ J, losing to West. West leads back a spade which declarer wins in hand and now takes the diamond ruff and then successfully finesses the ♥ 10. Next declarer draws the last trump (♥ Q), takes her winning ♦ K and plays three rounds of clubs starting by leading ♣ Q. West wins the fourth round of clubs but declarer wins the last two tricks with her remaining trumps. 11 tricks made.

Without 4SF South would probably have bid 3 NT with her ♦ K stopper but the contract would fail on a diamond lead, once the opponents get in with a heart winner and run the diamonds.

Board 2
 East Deals
 None Vul

Fourth Suit Forcing

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

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



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

1. 4SFG
2. Second priority is to show five cards in opener's second suit, hearts.

Lead: ♣ 3; Declarer E

Play:

The defence take the first two tricks. Declarer wins the lead and counts six top tricks. If hearts split 3-2 declarer wins two more heart tricks by length and the ♠ Q finesse succeeds declarer can ruff a spade

Declarer draws two rounds of trumps, relieved to see that trumps have split 3-2, and, leaving the master ♥ Q out, plays on diamonds. South will win her ♥ Q but then declarer can clean up with two more diamond tricks and two trump tricks.

Board 3
 South Deals
 Both Vul

Fourth Suit Forcing

♠ 5	♠ K 4	♠ Q 10 9 6									
♥ Q J 8 3 2	♥ 9 6 4	♥ A 10 7 5									
♦ 9 8 7 2	♦ A 5 3	♦ 10 6									
♣ 9 6 3	♣ A Q 8 4 2	♣ K J 10									
<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>				N		W		E		S	
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ A J 8 7 3 2										
	♥ K										
	♦ K Q J 4										
	♣ 7 5										

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥ ¹	Pass	2 ♠ ²
Pass	4 ♠	All pass	

1. 4SFG

2. Third priority is to show a 6th card in opener's first suit, spades

Lead: ♥ Q; Declarer S

Play:

East overtakes West's ♥ Q and returns a heart, expecting it to lose but it's a safe play, not giving anything away. Declarer ruffs and counts 7 top tricks in addition to the ruff at trick 1, and needs two more tricks, hopefully from spades if they break 3-2, and/or from a successful finesse of the ♣ Q.

Declarer draws trumps by leading to the King, and then finessing the ♠ J. When West shows out declarer plays a third round of trumps, leaving the ♠ Q out, and plays on diamonds. East ruffs with the ♠ Q and leads back a heart (safe play) which declarer ruffs and continues with diamonds, leaving the ♣ Q finesse (for the overtrick) to the end. The finesse fails, but 10 tricks made.

Board 4
West Deals
Both Vul

Fourth Suit Forcing

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

N	
W	E
S	

♠ Q J 9 7 6
♥ 9 7
♦ Q 6
♣ A 8 6 4

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

1. 4SFG

2. Opener's fourth priority is to bid No Trumps show a diamond stopper in the fourth suit, and no 3 card spade support. 2 NT shows 12-15 HCP. With 16+ HCP West would have jumped to 3 NT, which would alert a stronger East to a possible slam.

Lead: ♦ 4: Declarer W

Play:

The diamond lead is a worry as declarer has only one stopper. Declarer can count 6 top tricks (2 spades, 3 hearts and 1 diamond). There are three more tricks available in clubs once the ♣ A is driven out. If diamonds split 4-3 then the defence will take only three diamond tricks and the ♣ A, but if they split 5-2 declarer will have to hope that South has the ♣ A and will be out of diamonds by the time he gets in.

Declarer ducks the first two rounds of diamonds and wins the third round. Declarer then plays on clubs. South wins but has no diamonds left so has to give the lead back to declarer, who can now take her club winners. 10 tricks made.

Board 5
 North Deals
 None Vul

Fourth Suit Forcing

♠ A 6 5 3 2	♠ Q	♠ 7 4									
♥ J 10 6	♥ A 7 2	♥ K 9 8 5 3									
♦ Q 10	♦ K 8 6 4 2	♦ J 9 5									
♣ J 8 3	♣ A Q 5 4	♣ K 10 9									
<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>				N		W		E		S	
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ K J 10 9 8											
♥ Q 4											
♦ A 7 3											
♣ 7 6 2											

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♦ ¹
Pass	3 NT ²	All pass	

1. Not strong enough for 4SFG. South makes a non-forcing limit bid, showing 10-12 points and delayed 3 card diamond support.
2. Sufficient points and a stopper (albeit only one) in the unbid suit, so chooses the 9 trick No Trump game rather than the 11 trick diamond game.

Lead ♥ 5; North declares.

Play:

After winning the lead with ♥ Q declarer has five top tricks and with very careful play can make four spade tricks in spades.

Declarer must play the ♥ Q and then lead the ♠ K, swallowing dummy's ♠ Q!!! If declarer leads low to the ♠ Q and the defence duck, then declarer will not be able to make any more spade tricks.

Now the contract is secure. Declarer keeps leading spades until the ace is forced out and can return to hand with the ♦ A, making four spade tricks, two heart tricks, two diamond tricks and the ♣ A.

Board 6
 East Deals
 Both Vul

Fourth Suit Forcing

♠ K J 9 5		♠ Q
♥ Q J 8 6		♥ K 9 7 5 4
♦ 9 8 5		♦ K 6
♣ 6 2		♣ K J 10 8 7
♠ A 8 6 4 3 2	<div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
♥ A		
♦ A 4 2		
♣ A Q 9		
♠ 10 7		
♥ 10 3 2		
♦ Q J 10 7 3		
♣ 5 4 3		

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

1. 4SFG
2. 2nd priority is to show a 5th card in responder's first suit. East must not make the mistake of leaping to 3 NT just because of her diamond stopper. She should bid out her shape - she can always bid No Trumps later. East's 2 ♣ bid showed 5 hearts and 4 clubs, and now she can show her 5th club .
3. If West had no ambitions above game she would bid 3 NT (rather than 5 ♣), but with 18 HCP opposite an opening hand, an 8 card club fit, four aces, a singleton ♥ A and a golden ♣ Q in partner's suit, West is going for a slam. West bids 6 ♣!!

Lead: ♦ Q; Declarer E

Play:

North wins the lead and can win all 13 tricks by cross ruffing in spades and hearts, thanks to having all eight top clubs, which will win separately. A further 5 tricks will come from top diamonds (2) , hearts (2) and spades (1)

Board 7
 South Deals
 None Vul

Fourth Suit Forcing

♠ Q 8	♠ A K 9 5 2	♠ J 10 6									
♥ 8 6	♥ K 5	♥ 10 9 7 3									
♦ A 10 7 4	♦ Q 6 3	♦ K J 8 5 2									
♣ K 9 8 5 2	♣ Q 7 4	♣ J									
<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>				N		W		E		S	
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ 7 4 3										
	♥ A Q J 4 2										
	♦ 9										
	♣ A 10 6 3										

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦ ¹	Pass	2 ♠ ²
Pass	4 ♠	All pass	

1. 4SFG
2. The No 1 priority, 3 card support for partner's first suit

Lead: ♣ J ; Declarer N

Play:

North declares

The club lead looks suspiciously like a singleton (it's not top of a sequence since declarer has the ♣ Q) so declarer wins with her ♣ A and counts top tricks, 7 in total. If spades break 3-2 then two more tricks will come from spades, A length trick will come from hearts unless they break 5-0. Declared draws two rounds of trumps, leaving the master ♠ J out. Declarer runs the hearts, happy for the defence to ruff with their master trump, and can then lose a diamond, ruff a diamond in dummy, take the remaining heart winners and her three remaining trumps in hand. 11 tricks made (5 tricks in spades, 5 in hearts including a ruff, and the ♣ A.)

Board 8
 West Deals
 None Vul

Fourth Suit Forcing

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

♠ Q 9 5 3 2	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 8 6 4
N					
W E					
S					
♥ J 10 8 4		♥ A 7 5 3 2			
♦ 7 3		♦ K 4			
♣ 7 5		♣ A Q 3			

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠ ¹	Pass
3 ♣ ²	Pass	5 ♣ ³	All pass

1. 4SFG
2. Second priority, showing a 5th card in responder's first bid suit.
3. Now East knows that there is an 8 card fit in clubs and West has only 3 cards (at most) in the majors so 3 NT looks a tall order. Unfashionable as it is, East bids 5 ♣.

Lead: ♠ A; Declarer W

Play:

The defence take the first two spade tricks and play a third round of spades, which declarer ruffs. Declarer needs all the remaining tricks. She can count four more top clubs, one top heart trick and two top diamond tricks, that's eight tricks and they will all have to come from diamonds. Provided that diamonds split no worse than 4-2 and clubs split 3-2, declarer can win with the ♦ A and ♦ K, and then ruff diamonds twice, establishing declarer's fifth diamond as a winner.

Board 9

North Deals
E-W Vul

♠ 9 5 2 ♥ K 10 8 6 ♦ Q 10 8 ♣ 7 6 5	♠ K Q 7 6 4 ♥ A 7 5 3 ♦ 4 ♣ Q 9 3	<div style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; background-color: #008000; color: white; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 10 8 3 ♥ Q 9 ♦ K J 9 7 5 ♣ A 8
	♠ A ♥ J 4 2 ♦ A 6 3 2 ♣ K J 10 4 2		

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♦ ¹
Pass	4 ♣ ²	Pass	5 ♣

All pass

1. With better diamonds (say AJ109) South could have bis 3 NT.
2. Opener's first priority to show 3 card support for partner's first bid suit (a fit). 4 ♣ shows 5 spades, 4 hearts and 3 clubs.

Lead: ♣ 5; Declarer S

Play:

West has been listening to the bidding and realises that North has a singleton or void in diamonds and will want to ruff diamonds.

East wins the club at trick 1 and leads back a second club to cut down declarer's ruffing opportunities. Declarer can count 4 top clubs, 3 top spades, the ♥ A and ♦ A, and will get a 10th trick from a diamond ruff. the only possibility for the 11th trick is by establishing a 4th spade trick by ruffing spades, provided the missing spades split 4-3.

Declarer wins the second trick with dummy's ♣ 4 and leads low to the ♠ A. Declarer plays her ♦ A and then ruffs a diamond with the ♣ Q. Declarer then ruffs a spade and draws the last trump before crossing to dummy with the ♥ A and leading the ♠ K, hoping that the missing spades split 2-1. When they do dummy's last spade is the 10th winner. The defence will make just one more heart trick.

Note that 3 NT will fail on a diamond lead.