

Practise your Help Suit Trial Bidding

NG34Bridge

Choose your next bid

Hand: 1 Dealer: North Vul: None West North East South 1♠ Pass 2♠ Pass 3♣ Pass ?	South ♠ K 8 6 4 3 ♥ 10 7 2 ♦ 8 5 ♣ K J 6
Hand: 2 Dealer: North Vul: None West North East South 1♠ Pass 2♠ Pass 3♥ Pass ?	South ♠ A 8 6 ♥ J 9 5 4 ♦ 6 4 ♣ K 7 3 2
Hand: 3 Dealer: South Vul: None West North East South Pass 2♥ Pass 1♥ ?	South ♠ A K 8 4 ♥ Q 7 6 5 3 ♦ A K J ♣ 2
Hand: 4 Dealer: South Vul: None West North East South Pass 2♠ Pass 1♠ ?	South ♠ A K J 9 7 3 ♥ K 8 5 ♦ K 7 6 ♣ 2
Hand: 5 Dealer: South Vul: None West North East South Pass 2♠ Pass 1♠ ?	South ♠ A Q 10 7 3 ♥ A K J ♦ K 10 5 4 ♣ 2
Hand: 6 Dealer: South Vul: None West North East South Pass 2♠ Pass 1♠ ?	South ♠ A Q 8 7 2 ♥ A 6 ♦ 9 7 ♣ K 9 8 4
Hand: 7 Dealer: North Vul: None West North East South 1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass 3♣ Pass ?	South ♠ J 8 4 3 ♥ K 10 7 5 ♦ 9 5 4 ♣ K 6
Hand: 8 Dealer: South Vul: None West North East South Dbl 2♥ Pass 1♥ ?	South ♠ A K 8 ♥ A K J 8 3 ♦ Q 7 5 3 ♣ 2

Answer: 4♠

Our ♣KJx represents a good holding in partner's trial bid suit. Our fifth trump is adequate justification for bidding 4♠, despite our minimum high card values.

Answer: 3♠

Despite our respectable high card values, we decline partner's invitation with three losers in the trial bid suit.

Answer: 3♥

With no suitable trial bid, the best way to invite game is simply to re-raise to 3♥. Since we've failed to make a trial bid in a side suit with two or three losers, this inferentially suggests that our trumps are weak.

Answer: 3♦

With our invitational hand, we have a choice of two trial bids. We choose the cheaper suit, since it gives partner the chance to "pass the buck" by making a return trial bid if he can help in diamonds but wants to know if you can help in hearts.

Answer: 4♠

With a good five loser hand we should just bid game in our agreed suit. Unless partner's strength is mainly in clubs, 4♠ is likely to have reasonable play. Factors that encourage us to bid game include our good intermediate cards (♠10, ♥J and ♦10) and having more aces than queens.

Answer: Pass

It's true that this is a six loser hand, but we have no "fillers" in any suit. With only 13 points and no singleton we're not good enough to make a game invitation.

Answer: 4♥

Our ♣Kx represents very good help for partner.

Answer: 3♦

Without the takeout double we might have taken a shot at game, but here we should allow for the possibility that partner has stretched for his response. We should therefore make a trial bid instead