

# Beginner Course Lesson 2: Opening 1 NT

**Board 1**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

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

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

♠ K 8 6  
 ♥ A 10 7  
 ♦ Q J 10 5  
 ♣ J 10 5

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

West North East South  
 Pass 1NT Pass Pass  
 Lead: ♦ Q

North's 1NT shows 12-14 HCP and a balanced hand. South has 10 HCP which is not enough for game so should pass (South needs 11-12 HCP to invite game).

The Q♦ lead is the top of a sequence.

Declarer plays on the club suit by leading towards K♣ then a small club back to the Ace. Now lose a club to set up the last two clubs.

**Board 5**  
 North Deals  
 N-S Vul

♠ K Q  
 ♥ K Q 8 3  
 ♦ J 8 4 2  
 ♣ Q J 2

♠ 6 5 3  
 ♥ 10 6 4  
 ♦ Q 9 7  
 ♣ K 10 6 4

♠ A 9 4  
 ♥ 7 5 2  
 ♦ 6 5 3  
 ♣ A 9 7 5

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

West North East South  
 Pass 1NT Pass 3♠  
 Lead: ♣ 5

North opens 1NT and South bids 3♠ showing a 5-card spade suit and a choice of being in game in either 3NT or 4♠. With only a doubleton spade, North bids 3NT.

Lead is from longest suit.

Declarer should play spades to set up four spade tricks.

**Board 2**  
 East Deals  
 N-S Vul

♠ K J 7 4  
 ♥ 3  
 ♦ 8 6 4 3  
 ♣ J 5 3 2

♠ 8 2  
 ♥ K Q 10 8 7 5  
 ♦ K Q  
 ♣ K 8 6

♠ A 9 6 5  
 ♥ A 4 2  
 ♦ J 7 5  
 ♣ A 9 7

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

West North East South  
 4♥ All pass 1NT Pass  
 Lead: ♠ 4

East's 1 NT promises a balanced hand with 12-14 HCP. West knows that East has at least two hearts and therefore they have a heart fit so should bid 4♥.

Lead of a small spade promises an honour.

Declarer draws trumps then plays the ♦ K which promotes the Q and J. This means a club can be discarded on the ♦ J

**Board 6**  
 East Deals  
 E-W Vul

♠ 10 7 6  
 ♥ Q 7 6 5  
 ♦ A 9 8 5  
 ♣ 10 9

♠ K J  
 ♥ K J 2  
 ♦ Q J 4 3  
 ♣ J 6 5 4

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

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

West North East South  
 2NT All pass 1NT Pass  
 Lead: ♣ 7

East opens 1 NT. West invites game with 12 HCP but East declines the invitation as they have a minimum hand.

**Board 3**  
 South Deals  
 E-W Vul

♠ 8 6 5  
 ♥ A 10 5  
 ♦ A 6 4  
 ♣ K 5 4 3

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

♠ K 7  
 ♥ Q J 7 4 2  
 ♦ J 5 3 2  
 ♣ A Q

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

West North East South  
 1NT Pass 3♥ Pass  
 Lead: ♠ 3

West opens 1NT. East bids 3♥ showing exactly a 5-card suit. This is forcing and West, with 4 hearts, knows they have a very good fit so bids 4♥.

Lead of a small spade promises an honour.

Declarer should draw trumps, then lead a small club to the ♣ AQ in East's hand. When North plays low, play the Q♣ hoping the K♣ is in North's hand..

**Board 7**  
 South Deals  
 Both Vul

♠ A 10 7  
 ♥ K 7 4 2  
 ♦ 8 7 6  
 ♣ A K 5

♠ 5 3 2  
 ♥ A 8  
 ♦ K Q 3 2  
 ♣ 9 8 4 3

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

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

West North East South  
 Pass 1NT Pass 2♥  
 Lead: ♦ K

North opens 1NT and South bids 2♥ as a weakness takeout. North must pass.

Declarer should draw trumps first before playing on the clubs and spades.

**Board 4**  
 West Deals  
 Both Vul

♠ 10 7  
 ♥ A 6 5  
 ♦ K 8 7 6 2  
 ♣ A K 5

♠ 6 3 2  
 ♥ K Q J 10 2  
 ♦ J 9  
 ♣ J 9 7

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

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

West North East South  
 Pass 1NT Pass 2♠  
 All pass  
 Lead: ♥ K

South does not like being in notrumps due to their singleton, so bids 2♠ to be in a better contract. North must pass as South's bid is a weakness takeout.

Lead is top of a sequence. After North wins the ♥ A, play a small spade towards the ♠ AQ. If East plays low, play the ♠ Q. When this holds, play the ♠ A then target the diamonds. Start with ♦ A, then ♦ K then a small diamond.

**Board 8**  
 West Deals  
 None Vul

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

♠ K 7 2  
 ♥ A 5  
 ♦ 9 7 6  
 ♣ A Q 9 5 4

♠ Q 9 8 6  
 ♥ K J 8  
 ♦ A K 5 2  
 ♣ K J

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

West North East South  
 1NT Pass 3NT Pass  
 Lead: ♥ 2

West opens 1 NT and East bids straight to game, as they know they have enough points.

Lead is a small heart from the longest and strongest suit!

Declarer wins ♥ K (keeping the ♥ A as an entry) then plays ♣ K and ♣ J. Now declarer can cross to the ♥ A and play the rest of the club suit.