

THE FOURTH SUIT

Consider your dilemma as responder with hand (a).

(a) Opener	Responder	♠ K Q 6 5 4
1♥	1♠	♥ J 9
2♣	?	♦ 9 8 7
		♣ A Q 4

You have intermediate strength and hence quite a lot of bids are available, but none of them is suitable. You don't have the sixth spade necessary for 3♠, 4-card support that is required for a raise to 3♣, or a diamond guard for 2NT. You are too strong for false preference to 2♥, but jump preference to 3♥ would guarantee 3-card support.

The answer is to bid 2♦, the fourth suit. This doesn't show diamonds, indeed if you had diamonds you would bid no-trumps. The fourth suit is artificial and forcing. It passes the message that responder is at least strong enough to make a game try (in this case 11 HCP), but has no suitable bid available. Opener is asked to describe opener's hand further.

There are two points worthy of comment here.

- Firstly 2♦ *doesn't specifically ask for a diamond stopper*. Its use is more widespread than that. Of course much of the time responder is fishing for 3NT so news of a diamond stopper would be welcome, but opener should simply bid the hand naturally. Showing an extra card in one of opener's suits, or support for responder's suit might be just what responder wants to hear.
- Secondly, 2♦ *doesn't promise 'half a stopper'*. While this interpretation works admirably for those hands where you do possess Q x or J x x, it fatally restricts the use of the bid and leaves too many hands unbidable.

The fourth suit is artificial and forcing, but opinions differ as to whether it is forcing for one round or further. We suggest the following simple rule.

- If the fourth suit is bid at the three level, it is game forcing.
- If the fourth suit is bid at the two level, partner makes the auction game forcing by bidding at the three level. If partner bids at the two level that bid can be passed, but if the fourth suit bidder bids on at the three level that is game forcing.

This rule can be summarised by saying that **after the fourth suit is bid, any bid at the three level is game forcing**.

Of course if a game forcing auction has been established before the fourth suit was bid then all continuations remain game forcing. Equally the fourth suit after a reverse is game forcing, because both sides have shown better than minimum strength.

We now return to our original auction. How should opener continue with the hands below after this start to the auction? Remember that opener has already shown 5 hearts and 4 clubs, so opener should be looking for the most prominent feature not yet shown.

Opener	Responder		
1♥	1♠		
2♣	2♦		
?			
(b) ♠ 9	♥ Q J 8 7 6 5	♦ 10 8	♣ A K J 8
(c) ♠ 9	♥ A Q 8 7 6 5	♦ J 8	♣ A K J 8
(d) ♠ 9 8 2	♥ K J 8 7 6	♦ 8	♣ A K J 8
(e) ♠ K J 2	♥ Q J 8 7 6	♦ 8	♣ A K J 8
(f) ♠ K 9	♥ Q J 8 7 6	♦ J 8	♣ A J 9 8
(g) ♠ 9	♥ Q J 8 7 6	♦ K J 8	♣ A J 9 8
(h) ♠ 9	♥ Q J 8 7 6	♦ K J 8	♣ A K J 8

(i)	♠ 9	♥ Q J 8 7 6	♦ J 8	♣ A K Q 8 2
(j)	♠ 9 2	♥ A Q 8 7 6	♦ J 8	♣ A J 9 8
(k)	♠ 9	♥ A Q J 7 6	♦ J 8	♣ Q 10 6 4 2
(l)	♠ 9 2	♥ A Q 8 7 6	♦ J 8	♣ A K J 8
(m)	♠ 7	♥ A 10 8 7 6 5	♦ A 4	♣ A 10 9 8

- With (b) opener rebids a non forcing 2♥, suggesting a sixth heart.
- With (c) opener jumps to 3♥, game forcing.
- With (d) opener might have rebid 2♠ rather than 2♣, but made a slightly dubious decision to rebid 2♣ because the clubs were strong but the spades weak. 2♣ now opener is happy to show the spade support with a non forcing 2♠.
- With (e) opener jumps to 3♠, game forcing, promising 3-card support.
- With (f) opener rebids 2♠. This bid is often made often shows a doubleton honour, because with hands like (d) opener might bid 2♠ on the first round.
- With (g) opener rebids a non forcing 2NT.
- With (h) opener rebids 3NT.
- With (i) opener rebids 3♣, game forcing because it is at the three level, and showing a fifth club.
- Opener's rebid is less clear-cut with the last four hands. If opener hasn't got an undisclosed feature to show improvisation is necessary.
- With (j) we suggest a 2♥ rebid. It suggests a fifth heart, but it has the merit of showing the minimum opening bid.
- With (k) we opener would like to show the fifth club, but 3♣ would be game forcing which is hardly a good idea when responder could have just 11 HCP. Opener only opened because of the quality of the heart suit, so we recommend 2♥ now.
- With (l) opener has enough values for game but no obvious bid, Opener should raise the fourth suit to 3♦, a game forcing bid which returns the buck if the fourth suit is a minor. It may turn out to necessary to play in a contract like 4♥ with a 5-2 fit.
- Finally, hand (m) gives opener a more pleasant problem. Opener would like to show the sixth heart and the diamond guard, but cannot do both in one bid. 2♥ is probably best.

Using the fourth suit when very strong to create a game forcing auction.

Opener	Responder
1♥	1♠
2♣	?

(n)	♠ A Q 10 9 8 7	♥ 9	♦ Q 8 7	♣ A Q 9
(o)	♠ A Q 10 9 2	♥ K Q 2	♦ 10 8	♣ A Q 9
(p)	♠ A Q 10 9 2	♥ 9	♦ A 8 7	♣ A Q 9 2

- With (n) you are too strong for a non forcing 3♣. Bid 2♦, then a forcing 3♣ on the next round.
- With (o) you are too strong for jump preference to 3♥. Start with 2♦ and bid a forcing 3♥ on the next round.
- With (p) start with 2♦ and support clubs on the next round.

If East holds hand (o) this is how the auction might develop:

West	East	West	East
♠ K 6	♠ A Q 10 9 2	1♥	1♠
♥ A J 7 4 3	♥ K Q 2	2♣	2♦
♦ 7	♦ 10 8	2♠	3♥
♣ K 10 7 3 2	♣ A Q 9	4♦	4NT
		5♦	6♥

2♦ followed by 3♥ makes the auction game forcing. Since West has shown a minimum opening bid with 2♣ he feels it would be helpful to cue-bid his diamond singleton, leading to the excellent heart slam.

The fourth suit is bid at the one level.

(q)	Opener	Responder	(r)	Opener	Responder
	1♣	1♦		1♣	1♦
	1♥	1♠		1♥	2♠

We recommend that 1♠ in (q) should be natural, showing 4 spades. It might be necessary to find a 4-4 spade fit if opener has 4-4-0-5 or 4-4-1-4 shape. Responder may be quite weak for this bid, but it should be played as forcing for one round. In (r) 2♠ is the conventional fourth suit bid.

Raising the Fourth Suit

It is rarely the case that after three suits have been bid the best contract has the fourth suit as trumps, but it is not unknown. Should we use a raise of the fourth suit as an attempt to find a fit in that suit, or should we use it artificially? As is the case so often, the search for a 4-4 major suit fit takes priority. Compare these two auctions.

(s)	Opener	Responder	(t)	Opener	Responder
	1♦	1♠		1♦	1♥
	2♣	2♥		2♣	2♠
	3♥			3♠	

- In auction (s) it is still possible for a 4-4 heart fit to exist. Maybe opener has 1-4-4-4 or 0-4-5-4 shape. In that case 3♥ shows 4 hearts and a better than minimum opening bid. If minimum, opener should bid 2NT even if holding 4 hearts.
- In auction (t) opener's 2♣ denies 4 spades, because with 4-0-5-4 shape the natural rebid would be 1♠. In that case 3♠ is passing back the buck. Opener is quite likely to have ♠A x x. While opener could have bid no-trumps, opener is very conscious that if responder has a holding like ♠Q x it is important that responder plays the contract in order to guarantee two spade stoppers. Responder should bid 3NT with ♠Q x. Opener will know that with a full spade stopper responder would have bid NT previously.

<p>♠ 8 ♥ AQ1065 ♦ 984 ♣ AQ32</p> <p>♠ 10932 ♠ QJ4 ♥ 842 ♥ K97 ♦ AJ763 ♦ Q5 ♣ K ♣ J10764</p> <p>♠ AK765 ♥ J3 ♦ K102 ♣ 985</p>	<p>Board 1 : Dealer North : Love all</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><i>West</i></td> <td><i>North</i></td> <td><i>East</i></td> <td><i>South</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>Opening 1♥ and rebidding 2♣ guarantees 5 hearts. 2NT shows 10-12 points and a diamond stopper. South has no need to use the fourth suit (2♦) because he has a perfectly good natural bid available.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT	All Pass			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>														
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<p>♠ 10932 ♥ 8432 ♦ J64 ♣ K5</p> <p>♠ AK765 ♠ 8 ♥ J ♥ AQ1065 ♦ AKQ73 ♦ 109 ♣ 98 ♣ AQ432</p> <p>♠ QJ4 ♥ K97 ♦ 852 ♣ J1076</p>	<p>Board 2 : Dealer East : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><i>West</i></td> <td><i>North</i></td> <td><i>East</i></td> <td><i>South</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>Opening 1♥ and rebidding 2♣ guarantees 5 hearts. 3♦ shows a strong two-suited hand: spades and diamonds. West cannot rebid 2♦ because that would be fourth suit forcing. East is not particularly keen on his 3NT bid but he cannot pass and he has little choice.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass
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<p> ♠ AK765 ♥ J3 ♦ 1032 ♣ K98 ♠ QJ4 ♠ 10932 ♥ K107 ♥ 84 ♦ Q54 ♦ AKJ76 ♣ Q1076 ♣ 54 ♠ 8 ♥ AQ9652 ♦ 98 ♣ AJ32 </p>	<p>Board 3 : Dealer South : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♥ and rebidding 2♣ guarantees 5 hearts. 2♦ is fourth suit forcing. It shows at least invitational values (10+) but might be a lot stronger. 2♥ shows a minimum opening and suggests a sixth heart (though sometimes South may have no choice but to continue with 2♥ with a 5-card suit).</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass			
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<p>♠ AK765 ♥ J3 ♦ 1032 ♣ KQ10</p> <p>♠ J4 ♠ Q10932 ♥ K1072 ♥ 84 ♦ Q54 ♦ AJ76 ♣ 8652 ♣ J7</p> <p>♠ 8 ♥ AQ965 ♦ K98 ♣ A943</p>	<p>Board 7 : Dealer South : All vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♥ and rebidding 2♣ guarantees 5 hearts. 2♦ is fourth suit forcing. It shows at least invitational values (10+) but might be a lot stronger. 2NT shows a minimum opening with a diamond stopper. South is not worried about his spade weakness because North has bid spades. North has enough for game.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
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<p>♠ 74 ♥ 1087 ♦ Q854 ♣ 8652</p> <p>♠ 82 ♠ AKJ65 ♥ AQ965 ♥ J3 ♦ 9 ♦ 1032 ♣ AQ943 ♣ KJ10</p> <p>♠ Q1093 ♥ K42 ♦ AKJ76 ♣ 7</p>	<p>Board 8 : Dealer West : Love all</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>5♣</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♥ and rebidding 2♣ guarantees 5 hearts. 2♦ is fourth suit forcing. It shows at least invitational values (10+) but might be a lot stronger. 3♣ shows a fifth club: at least 5-5 shape in hearts and clubs. 3♣ can be passed but East decides to try game in clubs.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass	5♣	All Pass				
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<p>♠ Q10932 ♥ 84 ♦ AKJ7 ♣ J5</p> <p>♠ AK765 ♠ 8 ♥ J3 ♥ AQ965 ♦ 1032 ♦ 986 ♣ K107 ♣ AQ43</p> <p>♠ J4 ♥ K1072 ♦ Q54 ♣ 9862</p>	<p>Board 10 : Dealer East : All vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♥ and rebidding 2♣ guarantees 5 hearts. 2♦ is fourth suit forcing. It shows at least invitational values (10+) but might be a lot stronger. East has a difficult bid. He lacks a sixth heart, a fifth club, 3-card spade support or a diamond stopper. He has no alternative but to rebid 2♥, even though it suggests a sixth heart</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass				
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<p>♠ K952 ♥ 76 ♦ AQ732 ♣ 52</p> <p>♠ A1043 ♠ QJ6 ♥ 10984 ♥ K53 ♦ 10965 ♦ K8 ♣ 7 ♣ AJ1043</p> <p>♠ 87 ♥ AQJ2 ♦ J4 ♣ KQ986</p>	<p>Board 11 : Dealer South : Love all</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♣ and rebidding 1♥ suggests 5 clubs and 4 hearts (though opener could be 4-4-1-4 with a singleton diamond). 1♠ is natural and forcing. South shows a minimum opener with 1NT. He has no worries about spades because he knows North has 4 spades.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT	All Pass			
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<p>♠ Q1043 ♥ 10984 ♦ 10965 ♣ 7</p> <p>♠ K87 ♠ 952 ♥ AQJ2 ♥ K76 ♦ J ♦ AQ732 ♣ KQ986 ♣ A2</p> <p>♠ AJ6 ♥ 53 ♦ K84 ♣ J10543</p>	<p>Board 12 : Dealer West : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♣ and rebidding 1♥ suggests 5 clubs and 4 hearts (though opener could be 4-4-1-4 with a singleton diamond). 2♠ is fourth suit forcing. It shows at least invitational values (10+) but might be a lot stronger. West has a spade stopper and better than minimum opening, hence 3NT.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass						
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																		
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<p>♠ A1087 ♥ AQJ2 ♦ - ♣ KQ986</p> <p>♠ QJ6 ♠ 43 ♥ K53 ♥ 10984 ♦ K854 ♦ J1096 ♣ AJ3 ♣ 1074</p> <p>♠ K952 ♥ 76 ♦ AQ732 ♣ 52</p>	<p>Board 13 : Dealer North : All vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♣ and rebidding 1♥ suggests 5 clubs and 4 hearts (though opener could be 4-4-1-4 with a singleton diamond). 1♠ is natural and forcing. North has a good hand with 4-card spade support so he invites game.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>		1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass			
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>																		
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Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠																		
All Pass																					

<p>♠ 97532 ♥ 97 ♦ 2 ♣ KQ987</p> <p>♠ A8 ♠ KQJ106 ♥ A32 ♥ KQJ54 ♦ KQ943 ♦ A6 ♣ 654 ♣ 2</p> <p>♠ 4 ♥ 1086 ♦ J10875 ♣ AJ103</p>	<p>Board 14 : Dealer East : Love all</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>6♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♠ and rebidding 2♥ guarantees 5 spades and 4 hearts. 3♣ is fourth suit forcing, game forcing because the fourth suit was bid at the three level. 3♥ shows a fifth heart which West is happy to support. Blackwood allows East to bid an easy slam.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>			1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass				
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<p>♠ 42 ♥ A3 ♦ K94 ♣ AKQ987</p> <p>♠ K93 ♠ J107 ♥ K9742 ♥ QJ108 ♦ J106 ♦ 532 ♣ 43 ♣ 1065</p> <p>♠ AQ865 ♥ 65 ♦ AQ87 ♣ J2</p>	<p>Board 15 : Dealer South : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>4NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>5♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>6♣</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♠ and rebidding 2♦ guarantees 5 spades and 4 diamonds. 2♥ is fourth suit forcing. South has little choice but to bid 2♠. 3♣ is game forcing (North had bid 2♥ which was initially only forcing for only one round but when he bids on the auction becomes game forcing). Hearing that North has excellent clubs, South is happy to give support, leading to the good slam.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>				1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass	6♣	All Pass	
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<p>♠ 943 ♥ K9742 ♦ 106 ♣ Q43</p> <p>♠ AQ865 ♠ K2 ♥ 65 ♥ A3 ♦ AQ87 ♦ KJ94 ♣ J2 ♣ AK987</p> <p>♠ J107 ♥ QJ108 ♦ 532 ♣ 1065</p>	<p>Board 16 : Dealer West : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>West</i></th> <th><i>North</i></th> <th><i>East</i></th> <th><i>South</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♦</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>4NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>6♦</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Opening 1♠ and rebidding 2♦ guarantees 5 spades and 4 diamonds. 2♥ is fourth suit forcing. West has little choice but to bid 2♠. 3♦ is game forcing (East had bid 2♥ which was initially only forcing for only one round but when he bids on the auction becomes game forcing). West confirms diamonds as trumps and Blackwood leads to the good slam.</p>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass	6♦	All Pass				
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