

Intermediate Lesson 6: Competitive Bidding - when we open

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 10 8 6 4
♥ A K Q 4
♦ A J
♣ 8 4

♠ K 5
♥ 8 7 5
♦ 8 2
♣ A K Q 9 6 5

♠ A J 7 2
♥ 6 2
♦ Q 10 9 6
♣ J 10 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	2 ♣	2 ♠
All pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠

After East's overcall, South can raise to 2 ♠. North invites game with South accepting as they are maximum for their 2 ♠ call.

Board 5
North Deals
N-S Vul

♠ 8 4 3 2
♥ J 6 5
♦ 8 7 5
♣ J 9 8

♠ A 10 5
♥ A Q 8 7 3
♦ A 10 2
♣ 6 3

♠ K Q J 6
♥ 4
♦ J 9 6 3
♣ A K 10 4

West	North	East	South
2 NT	Pass	1 ♥	Dbl
	Pass	4 ♥	All pass

East opens 1 ♥ and South has a perfect take out double. With excellent ♥ support and 10 points, West can make a game try with the 2 NT bid showing a good raise. With good values and five trumps East bids the game.

Board 2
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ J 8 5
♥ A 10 8 4
♦ 9 5
♣ K Q J 2

♠ 9 6 4
♥ 9 2
♦ J 10 8 3 2
♣ 10 4 3

♠ 10 2
♥ K Q J 7 6
♦ A K Q
♣ 9 6 5

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♠	Pass	1 ♥
All pass		Pass	4 ♥

After South's 1 ♥ opening and West's 1 ♠ overcall, North has an invitational raise by cue bidding 2 ♠. South bids the game.

Board 6
East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ Q J 10 8 4
♥ 4
♦ A Q 4
♣ J 10 7 3

♠ 7 2
♥ J 10 3 2
♦ K 8 5
♣ Q 6 5 4

♠ A K 9 6
♥ Q 8 5
♦ J 10 9 7 6
♣ A

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	1 ♠	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	4 ♠	All pass	3 ♠

South has excellent support for Spades, so raises to 3 ♠. North bids to game with their 10 HCP and a singleton in the opposition's suit.

Board 3
South Deals
E-W Vul

♠ Q J 8 2
♥ K 2
♦ A 8 5 4
♣ 10 7 2

♠ 9 6 4
♥ Q 9 7 6 3
♦ 9 3 2
♣ 6 3

♠ 7 3
♥ A J 10 4
♦ K 7
♣ K Q 9 8 4

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Dbl	2 ♥	Dbl
All pass			

When partner opens and the opposition overcall 1 NT, a double from you is for penalties.

In this hand, North has enough HCP to make a penalty double of 1 NT.

East must run to their long suit. With good hearts, South makes a penalty double.

Board 7
South Deals
Both Vul

♠ A 8 5
♥ 10 9 5 3
♦ J 7 6 4
♣ J 5

♠ 7 6 4 3
♥ —
♦ 9 3 2
♣ K Q 10 8 7 4

♠ Q J 10 2
♥ K Q 8 6 4 2
♦ A 5
♣ 3

West	North	East	South
1 NT	2 ♥	3 ♣	3 ♥
All pass			

North can raise to 2 ♥ despite West's strong no-trump overcall.

Both East and South are distributional enough to compete to the 3 level.

West may wish to compete to 4 ♣ which has a good chance of making.

Board 4
West Deals
Both Vul

♠ J 7
♥ A Q J 7 4 3
♦ Q 7 3
♣ 8 3

♠ A 6 3
♥ 6 5 2
♦ A 10 8
♣ K Q 6 2

♠ 10 9 8 5 4 2
♥ 10
♦ K J 6 5 2
♣ 4

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	2 ♥	3 ♥	Pass
3 NT	All pass		

East will be happy to play 3 NT as long as West has a heart hold.

East bids 3 ♥ to enquire if they have such a hold. West's 3 NT confirms the hold enabling 3 NT to make comfortably.

NB: If West did not have a hold they would have to bid something else. In this case they would repeat their Club suit.

Board 8
West Deals
None Vul

♠ K 4
♥ 8 7
♦ 9 6 3
♣ K Q J 8 6 2

♠ Q J 10 3
♥ A 6 5 2
♦ A J 2
♣ 9 5

♠ A 9 8 7 5 2
♥ Q 9 4
♦ 10 7
♣ 10 3

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	3 ♣	Dbl	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass

East makes a take-out double of 3 ♣ and is strong enough to raise to 4 ♥ once the fit has been established.

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Board 9 ♠ 6
 North Deals ♥ K J 10 3
 E-W Vul ♦ K Q 8 5 4
 ♣ A 7 4

♠ A 9 8 7 5 2 ♥ Q 9 4
 ♦ 10 7 ♣ 10 3

♠ K 4 ♥ 8 7
 ♦ 9 6 3 ♣ K Q J 8 6 2

♠ Q J 10 3 ♥ A 6 5 2
 ♦ A J 2 ♣ 9 5

West	North	East	South
	1♦	3♣	Dbl
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All pass			

South makes a take-out double of 3♣ and is strong enough to raise to 4♥ once the fit has been established.

Board 10 ♠ 9 3
 East Deals ♥ J 10 9 3
 Both Vul ♦ K 7 5 4 3
 ♣ 7 3

♠ A J 7 2 ♥ 6 2
 ♦ Q 10 9 6 ♣ J 10 2

♠ Q 10 8 6 4 ♥ A K Q 4
 ♦ A J ♣ 8 4

♠ K 5 ♥ 8 7 5
 ♦ 8 2 ♣ A K Q 9 6 5

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All pass		

After South's overcall, West can raise to 2♠. East invites game with West accepting as they are maximum for their 2♠ call.

Board 11 ♠ A K Q 7 3
 South Deals ♥ 5 3
 None Vul ♦ 7 6 4
 ♣ A 8 7

♠ 10 2 ♥ K Q J 7 6
 ♦ A K Q ♣ 9 6 5

♠ J 8 5 ♥ A 10 8 4
 ♦ 9 5 ♣ K Q J 2

♠ 9 6 4 ♥ 9 2
 ♦ J 10 8 3 2 ♣ 10 4 3

West	North	East	South
	1♠	2♠	Pass
1♥	All pass		Pass
4♥			

After West's 1♥ opening and North's 1♠ overcall, East has an invitational raise by cue bidding 2♠. West bids the game.

Board 12 ♠ A K 10 5
 West Deals ♥ 8 5
 N-S Vul ♦ Q J 10 6
 ♣ A J 5

♠ 7 3 ♥ A J 10 4
 ♦ K 7 ♣ K Q 9 8 4

♠ Q J 8 2 ♥ K 2
 ♦ A 8 5 4 ♣ 10 7 2

♠ 9 6 4 ♥ Q 9 7 6 3
 ♦ 9 3 2 ♣ 6 3

West	North	East	South
	1NT	Dbl	2♥
Dbl	All pass		

When partner opens and the opposition overcall 1NT, a double from you is for penalties.

In this hand, East has enough HCP to make a penalty double of 1NT.

South must run to their long suit. With good hearts, West makes a penalty double.

Board 13 ♠ K Q
 North Deals ♥ K 9 8
 Both Vul ♦ 9 4
 ♣ A J 10 9 7 5

♠ 10 9 8 5 4 2 ♥ 10
 ♦ K J 6 5 2 ♣ 4

♠ J 7 ♥ A Q J 7 4 3
 ♦ Q 7 3 ♣ 8 3

♠ A 6 3 ♥ 6 5 2
 ♦ A 10 8 ♣ K Q 6 2

West	North	East	South
	1♣	2♥	3♥
Pass	3NT	All pass	

South will be happy to play 3NT as long as North has a heart hold.

South bids 3♥ to enquire if they have such a hold. North's 3NT confirms the hold enabling 3NT to make comfortably.

NB: If North did not have a hold they would have to bid something else. In this case they would repeat their Club suit.

Board 14 ♠ 9 7
 East Deals ♥ K 10 9 2
 None Vul ♦ K Q 4
 ♣ Q 7 5 2

♠ K Q J 6 ♥ 4
 ♦ J 9 6 3 ♣ A K 10 4

♠ 8 4 3 2 ♥ J 6 5
 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ J 9 8

♠ A 10 5 ♥ A Q 8 7 3
 ♦ A 10 2 ♣ 6 3

West	North	East	South
	2NT	Pass	1♥
Dbl		Pass	4♥
All pass			

South opens 1♥ and West has a perfect take out double. With excellent ♥ support and 10 points, North can make a game try with the 2NT bid showing a good raise. With good values and five trumps South bids the game.

Board 15 ♠ 5 3
 South Deals ♥ A K 9 7 6
 N-S Vul ♦ 3 2
 ♣ K 9 8 2

♠ A K 9 6 ♥ Q 8 5
 ♦ J 10 9 7 6 ♣ A

♠ Q J 10 8 4 ♥ 4
 ♦ A Q 4 ♣ J 10 7 3

♠ 7 2 ♥ J 10 3 2
 ♦ K 8 5 ♣ Q 6 5 4

West	North	East	South
	1♥	1♠	Pass
1♦	Pass	4♠	2♥
3♠			All pass

West has excellent support for Spades, so raises to 3♠. East bids to game with their 10 HCP and a singleton in the opposition's suit.

Board 16 ♠ K 9
 West Deals ♥ A J 7
 E-W Vul ♦ K Q 10 8
 ♣ A 9 6 2

♠ Q J 10 2 ♥ K Q 8 6 4 2
 ♦ A 5 ♣ 3

♠ A 8 5 ♥ 10 9 5 3
 ♦ J 7 6 4 ♣ J 5

♠ 7 6 4 3 ♥ —
 ♦ 9 3 2 ♣ K Q 10 8 7 4

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♥	3♣
1♥	All pass		
3♥			

East can raise to 2♥ despite North's strong no-trump overcall.

Both South and West are distributional enough to compete to the 3 level.

North may wish to compete to 4♣ which has a good chance of making.