

♠♥♦♣ SUPER ACCEPTING ♠♥♦♣

North dealt and passed. East also past. What do you do?

S	South
♠	A 10 8 7
♥	K 10 3
♦	A 5
♣	A Q 8 7

This hand is perfect for a 1NT opening, assuming you are playing 15-17. The opponents are silent (for once) and partner responds 2♥! This, you will announce as a transfer to Spades.

You rebid 2♠ and partner has this hand:

N	North
♠	Q J 6 4 3
♥	7 4
♦	K 9 3
♣	6 3 2

North had planned to pass on his second bid before he bid 2♥. He has only 6 HCP. Nothing has changed that plan and therefore, North puts his pass card down. The contract is 2♠.

West's Lead: ♥Q. These are the two hands:

N	North
♠	Q J 6 4 3
♥	7 4
♦	K 9 3
♣	6 3 2

West's Lead: ♥Q

S	South
♠	A 10 8 7
♥	K 10 3
♦	A 5
♣	A Q 8 7

How many losers do you have? You count 1 Spade, 2 Hearts, 0 Diamonds and 3 Clubs; 6 in total. However, there are several opportunities to eliminate losers.

You can take a Spade finesse and a Club finesse. You can ruff the 3rd Heart in the Dummy and the 4th Club can also be ruffed in the Dummy. You only need the Spades to break well and one of the two finesses to succeed.

Start by playing a low Heart from Dummy. which East will win with her ♥A. You win the Heart return with your ♥K. Now lead a Diamond to dummy so you can run the ♠Q. This loses to West's ♠K. He will return a low Diamond which you win in your hand.

Pull one more round of trump, noticing the 2-2 break. Now you can ruff your last Heart in the dummy and lead a Club to your ♣Q. This works. Cash you're ♣A and concede a Club. Your only losers are the ♠K, the ♥A and ♣K; making 4♠.

Why weren't you in 4♠? How do you get there with those two hands?

The answer lies with South's bidding. South has a special kind of 1NT opening hand. It contains 17 points and four cards in the transfer suit. That is the maximum that South can have and with that unusual holding, he should "super accept" the transfer and rebid 3♠ rather than just 2♠. Now North should reassess her original idea of passing. Although he has only 6 HCP, he has 1 extra point for the 5th spade and 1 extra dummy point for the doubleton Heart. That makes 8 total points, and when added to opener's shown 17, makes 25 total points – enough to push to 4♠. Especially since he knows there is now a 9-card trump fit.

♠ This is the entire deal:

1		N North			
		♠QJ643			
		♥74			
		♦K93			
		♣632			
W West		W	N	E	S
♠K2		Pass	Pass	1NT	
♥QJ62		Pass	2♥	Pass	3♠
♦Q742		Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
♣J105		Pass			
		S South		E East	
		♠A1087		♠95	
		♥K103		♥A985	
		♦A5		♦J1086	
		♣AQ87		♣K94	
				4♠	
				Sout	
				0 0	

You can see how this hand should be played by clicking on this link: <https://tinyurl.com/yhv35lfe>, or copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the "Next" button on the bottom to advance through each trick. If you don't want to see the opponents hands, click on the white area in the South hand before you start.

Alternatively, by clicking on "Play" you can play all four hands and see if you can make the hand on your own.