

NZB Beginner Module 7 – Opener Unbalanced Hands

Board 1

North Deals
None Vul

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

E 3N; EW 3♠; EW 4♣; W 2N; EW 2♥; EW 1♦;
Par -400: E 3N=

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

With a 5-card Major suit, West opens and rebids 2 ♠ - their suit at the lowest level to show a minimum hand with 5 + ♠s.

Opening lead: ♥ 2

Declarer wins the lead in dummy to lead a ♠ to their AQJ84 to finesse the ♠ K.

Next try the finesse of the ♣ K leading to the ♣ Q in dummy to get the lead across to repeat the ♠ finesse. Makes 9 tricks.

Board 2

East Deals
N-S Vul

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

NS 5♥; NS 3♠; NS 2N; NS 1♦; EW 1♣;
Par +650: NS 4♥+1

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

With 6 HCP North responds to the opening with 1 ♠.
After this response, South knows they have enough for game and rebids 4 ♥ with their single-suited hand.

Lead: ♦ Q, top of sequence.

Declarer wins the lead with ♦ A in hand to preserve dummy's only entry ♦ K. Draw trumps, but when in dummy with ♦ K use the opportunity to lead ♠ Q to finesse ♠ K for an overtrick.

Board 3

South Deals
E-W Vul

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

EW 5♠; EW 5♦; EW 1N; EW 2♣; NS 1♥;
Par -650: EW 4♠+1

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

East rebids a jump 3 ♠ to show a 16-17 hand with a 6-card suit.
West now knows there is a ♠ fit and enough for game, so they bid 4 ♠.

Lead: ♥ Q - top of sequence

North knows from partner's ♥ Q lead that Declarer has ♥ K, so they play their ♥ A and drop the singleton ♥ K.

When Declarer gains the lead they cross to dummy with a ♣ to try the trump finesse of ♠ Q, which works - makes 11 tricks.

Board 4

West Deals
Both Vul

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

NS 3♥; NS 2♣; NS 1♦; Par +140: NS 1♥+2

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

North opens their longest suit then rebids their 2nd suit 2 ♦. This is OK on their minimum hand - as it's below the barrier (2 ♥).
South has a minimum response and doesn't strongly prefer ♦s, so they sign off in 2 ♥.

Lead: ♠ Q

Declarer crosses to dummy with ♦ K to draw trumps leading ♥ J & running it to finesse the ♥ K. Makes 9 tricks.

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Board 5

North Deals
N-S Vul

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

NS 5♠; NS 3♥; NS 4♦; NS 1N; EW 2♣;
Par +650: NS 5♠=

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

As North has a stronger hand they can rebid their 2nd suit above the barrier with 2♥. South is forced to bid again so they rebid their 5-card ♠ suit, which is raised to 4♠ by Opener - now that they know there is a suit fit in ♠s.

West leads: ♣ A

Declarer should postpone drawing trumps to establish winners &/or eliminate their ♣ losers before dummy's trumps are used up.

Board 6

East Deals
E-W Vul

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

NS 2N; EW 2♣; NS 2♥; NS 3♦; Par +120: NS 2N=

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

East opens their longest suit 1♣ and rebids their 2nd suit at the 1-level with 1♥. West has a ♠ fit and a minimum hand so they raise to 2♠ - the final contract.

Lead: ♦ 2

From the lead North knows South has ♦ K, so they can win the trick cheaply with ♦ 10. Once Declarer gets the lead, they play 2 rounds of trumps, then the side suits - makes 8 tricks.

Board 7

South Deals
Both Vul

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

EW 5♥; E 4N; W 3N; EW 3♠; EW 4♣; EW 3♦;
Par -650: EW 4♥+1

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

West opens 1♠ and rebids their 2nd suit 2♥.

East has enough for game with 12 HCP and good distribution, so they raise to 4♥.

Lead: ♦ K

Declarer can draw trumps starting with ♥ K and then lead towards ♥ J to finesse North's ♥ Q to make an overtrick.

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Board 8

West Deals
None Vul

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

NS 2N; NS 2♥; NS 3♣; EW 2♦; EW 1♠;
Par +100: EW 3♦x-1

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

With a minimum hand, North opens and rebids their ♣s at the minimum level. North cannot rebid their ♥ suit because this would push up the bidding too high. Their rebid needs to be below "the barrier"

Lead: ♦ Q

Declarer eventually wins the ♦ continuation and draws trumps. Subsequently they can win ♠ and ♥ finesses - to make a lucky 9 tricks.