

# THE BRIDGE WORLD

## NEWS RELEASE

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Knowing your partnership agreements is often the most important feature of a deal.

South dealer

Both sides vulnerable

NORTH  
♠ A Q 7 2  
♥ A 8 5 2  
♦ J 3  
♣ A J 6

WEST  
♠ 10 8 3  
♥ Q J 9 7  
♦ Q 9  
♣ 10 9 7 4

EAST  
♠ J 9 6 4  
♥ K  
♦ 10 8 6 5 2  
♣ 5 3 2

SOUTH  
♠ K 5  
♥ 10 6 4 3  
♦ A K 7 4  
♣ K Q 8

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

At both tables of a team match, South opened with a 15-to-17-HCP one notrump, and North used Stayman to locate the four-four heart fit. At one table, responder tried for slam by raising two hearts to five; opener passed, but five hearts was at significant risk and failed against an unfavorable trump split.

At the other table, North bid three spades as a slam-try agreeing hearts.

South, with a minimum count and very weak hearts, signed off at game. West led the ten of clubs, and declarer played safely, taking the first trick and ducking a round of trumps. After winning the return, South cashed dummy's ace of hearts. Had trumps split three-two, declarer would have taken 11 tricks; seeing the actual break, South discontinued trumps, ruffing a spade in the closed hand and leading side-suit winners. West made two more trump tricks, but the contract was secure.

This North was able to try for slam at a safe level even though North-South were a new partnership. They had agreed to use Bridge World Standard, a consensus system developed by The Bridge World magazine based on the preferred methods of leading American experts. Even with no preliminary discussion, each partner knew what North's three-spade bid meant.

A listing of all the system's agreements is now available in a convenient book, **The Pocket Guide to Bridge World Standard** (72 pages; \$8.95 plus shipping [\$2 to U.S.; \$3 elsewhere]), available from: The Bridge World, PO Box 299, Scarsdale NY 10583 USA or: [www.bridgeworld.com](http://www.bridgeworld.com) or (800) 366-1939