

Help Suit Game Try

HSGT

<http://watsongallery.ca/bridge/aaBidding/HSGT.pdf>

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1♥ 2♥

1♠ 2♠

After partner's simple raise of a major, the standard meaning of a new suit below three of the major is the second-suit game try. It shows a second suit and asks partner if he is a maximum and if he has values in the second suit or even a second fit.

However, a new suit below three of the major is best used as Help Suit Game Try.

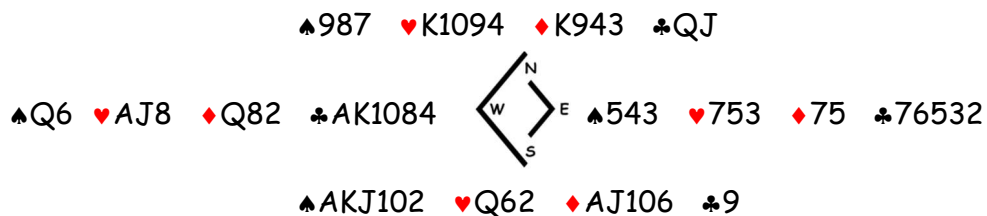
It is an invitational bid in a suit that has three losers and is asking partner if he is a maximum and has honour help in that suit. If partner has a minimum simple raise, he signs off in three of the major regardless of the help.

Help may be:

- shortness and an extra trump or two.
 - Singleton Honour and an extra trump is ideal.
- H1098
- HHxx
- HHx

Board 15 See Finesse, Take Finesse

South Dealer North South Vulnerable



S	W	N	E
1♠	P!!	2♠	P
3♥	P	4♠	All Pass

South has invitation values of 16 to 17 and has three losers in Hearts. He asks North for help and North says he has help with his 4♠ bid.

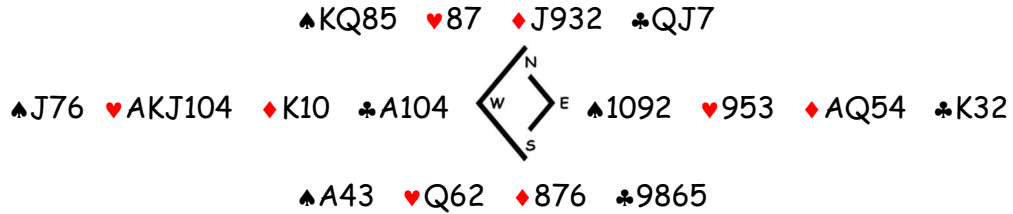
If West takes action, South will have an easy time making 4♠+1 for +650. Otherwise the contract is a difficult one.

If West is silent, South must try a partial elimination. West leads the Club Ace then the Club King which South ruffs. South then cashes the top two spades and the top two Diamonds and exits a Diamond. West must lead a Heart or give a sluff and a ruff in Clubs. Declarer ruffs a Club with the Spade Nine and pitches the Heart two. If West, instead, exits a Heart declarer will win his Queen eventually and draw the last trump. Declarer will lose a Heart, a Diamond and a Club for +620.

"See finesse, take finesse" is not always the best strategy.

Board 16 I do Not Have Spade Help but my Diamonds may help

West Dealer East West Vulnerable



W	N	E	S
1♥	P	2♥	P
2♠	P	3♦	P
4♥	All Pass		

East says I do not have help in Spades, but I have a maximum and points in Diamonds. If West has slow ♠ losers not quick spade losers (and he likes ♦'s) then he bids game.

Alternatively, the method I like, is that East is cuebidding ♦'s because he is accepting the game try in case partner was cuebidding. This needs partnership discussion.

2013.04.27.4H.TerribleLeadJxxx

Result:4♥= A Spade lead should be automatic from the auction.

Review:

Let's look at these two auctions:

W	N	E	S
1♠	P	2♠	P
3♣	P	??	

HSGT

W	N	E	S
1♠	P	2♠	P
3♣	P	3♠	P
4♦	P	??	

East thinks 3♣ is HSGT
East realizes 3♣ was a cuebid since 4♦ is one.

W	N	E	S
1♠	P	2♠	P
4♣	P	??	

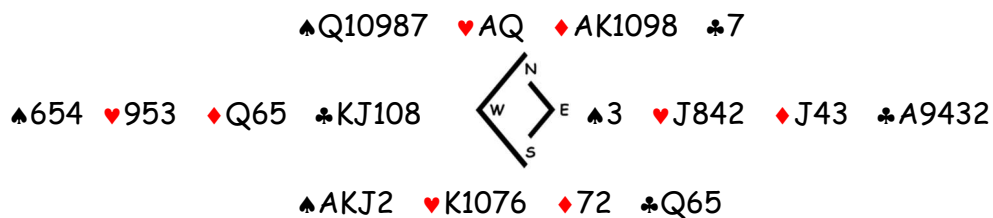
4♣ shows game values or more opposite 5 or 6 points. Is it a splinter or is it a cuebid. I prefer it being a self-splinter and 3♣ is the cuebid (or game try). Either way, it is a slam try and comes under partnership discussion.

Board 18

2015.11.11.HSST-HelpedMe2Slam

East Dealer

North South Vulnerable



N	E	S	W
	P	1♣	P
1♠	P	2♠	P
3♦	P	4♠	P
4NT	P	5♥	P
6♠	All Pass		

Opening Lead: ♣Ace then ♣3

Analysis:

From the bidding, I know partner has help in diamonds and is accepting a limit raise. Help is either strength or shortness with four trump.

123 Stop and Maximal Doubles

Normally, when one bids ahead of partner, it shows something extra not already shown. Therefore, it is invitational. However, competition is very prevalent so players like to make it harder to compete by raising to the three-level with an extra trump. The Law of Total tricks supports this behaviour. This is called 123 Stop.

1.	W	N	E	S	
	1♥	P	2♥	P	
	3♥				Is not invitational- Just shows an extra Heart

2.	W	N	E	S	
	1♥	P	2♥	2♠	
	3♥				Is not invitational- Just shows an extra Heart

3.	W	N	E	S	
	1♥	P	2♥	2♠	
	3♦				Must use HSGT (3♣ or 3♦ here) to invite

4.	W	N	E	S	
	1♠	P	2♠	3♥	
	3♠				Is not invitational- Just shows an extra Spade

5.	W	N	E	S	
	1♠	P	2♠	3♥	
	Dbl				To invite, must use a Maximal Double when there is no HSGT available.

6.	W	N	E	S	
	1♥	1♠	2♥	2♠	
	3♦				?? Is this the same as 3??

Kokish Game Tries

From HSGT.docx

1♥ 2♥
2♠ what suit (up the line) would you accept a HSGT in?
2NT ♠'s
3♣ ♣'s
3♦ ♦'s

1♥ 2♥
2NT shortness (not stiff Ace, King or Queen) in ♠'s game try
3♣ shortness (not stiff Ace, King or Queen) in ♣'s game try
3♦ shortness in ♦'s game try

1♠ 2♠
2NT what suit (up the line) would you accept a HSGT in?
3♣ ♣'s
3♦ ♦'s
3♥ ♥'s

1♠ 2♠
3♣ shortness in ♣'s game try
3♦ shortness in ♦'s game try
3♥ shortness in ♥'s game try

Examples

1♥ 2♥
2♠ 3♣ I have help in ♣'s not ♠'s(2NT)
3♦ how about ♦'s as well as ♣'s?
4♥ Yes, I have help in ♦'s and ♣'s

1♥ 2♥
2♠ 2NT I have help in ♠'s
3♣ how about ♣'s as well as ♠'s?
4♥ Yes, I have help in ♣'s too
3♦ No, I do not have help in ♣'s, just ♠'s and ♦'s