Partner opened in a suit and RHO doubled - commentary

Hand 1

North opens 1♠ and East has a textbook take-out double.
Jump to 4♠ based purely on the level of fit.
If South does anything less than this then EW will find their heart fit.
Spades make 10 tricks.
EW can make 9 tricks in hearts, and so 5♥ is an excellent sacrifice, but can they find it?

Hand 2

East opens 1♦.
South has the perfect hand for a take-out double.
In the uncontested auction West might consider 1♥ looking for the major suit fit. This is still possible after the double, but a quick raise of diamonds is now more attractive. Assuming that you play 2NT as a strong raise after the double then bid 3♦ as a weak raise, particularly at favourable vulnerability.
North will certainly compete – perhaps 3♥.
East will raise diamonds – probably 4♦ – and this may well end the auction.
NS can make only 8 tricks in hearts.
Meanwhile EW can make 11 tricks in diamonds but can they find it?

Hand 3

South opens 1c
I double on this West hand, but it is minimum.
Many would respond 1♥ on this North hand as in the uncontested auction, but following the double I much prefer 2NT showing a good raise in diamonds and making it more difficult for the opponents to find a spade fit.
South could just revert to 3♦ but it is more constructive to bid 3♣ paving the way for North to bid 3NT.
With the major suit honours lying right as expected no trumps make 9 tricks and diamonds make 11 tricks for the same score.

Hand 4

West opens 3♦ (weak) and North will double.
East will do well to pass, and South can hardly do other than 4♣, which will probably end the auction.
As it happens NS can make 10 tricks in no trumps when West cannot get back in after the opening lead, and similarly 11 tricks in clubs when the defence are again unable to cash two diamond tricks.
Meanwhile EW can make just 8 tricks in diamonds.

Hand 5
North opens 1♦, and East doubles.
South has a natural forcing change of suit with 1♥, and West passes with a sigh of relief.
North might be tempted by a raise in hearts, but 1♠ seems more likely.
South keeps the bidding open with 1NT, North with a 6-loser hand in hearts may well try 3♥, which South will raise to 4♥.
Declarer makes 10 tricks for the loss of just the three aces.

Hand 6
East opens 2♠ and South doubles.
West should raise to 3♠ on the 9-card fit, and at this vulnerability North may well find 4♣.
If he does he will be well rewarded – 3♠ by EW makes 9 tricks and 4♣ by NS makes 10 tricks for the optimum score.

Hand 7
South opens 1♠, West doubles, and North has a text-book redouble.
East must escape to 2♥ which North will double for a final contract of 2♥x.
If NS are given a free run they will reach either 3NT making 9 tricks for 600 or 4♠ making 10 tricks for 620.
If East passes 1S♠xx then West must escape to 2♦ which East will correct to 2♥. North will again double.
1♠xx + 3 scores 1870.
2♥x scores 500 for NS if EW can muster 6 tricks, but should be held to 5 tricks for 800.

Board 8
West opens 1♠, North doubles and East bids 2NT to agree spades in a good hand.
South has nothing to say.
West should rebid 3NT to show his balanced shape and 15+ points and with his weak holding in the minors East must correct to 4♠.
4♠ makes 10 tricks. No trumps can be held to 8 tricks.
NS can make 7 tricks in either minor.