

### Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 9 5 4

♥ K J T 3

♦ 9 7 4

♣ 6 2

♠ -

♥ A 5 2

♦ A K 6

♣ A K Q J 7 5 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 8 6 2

♥ Q 9 8

♦ Q J T 2

♣ T 3

♠ A K Q 7 3

♥ 7 6 4

♦ 8 5 3

♣ 9 8

West	North	East	South
	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

6♣ by North

### Baker Entries 9

North is to play 6♣. East leads the ♦Q.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=0 Total = 3

Partner's hand didn't turn out to be what you hoped for, you had in mind maybe the ♥K and ♦Q.

But this is what you got. First, be thankful East led a ♦ rather than a ♥. Second, see if you can find a way to fight yourself over to dummy and those three beautiful ♠s.

You have two possibilities for a ♣ entry, but you can only try one of them as you will see.

You can play a high ♣ and hope somebody plays the singleton ♣T. Then your ♣9 would be an entry. If this works you would probably make all 13 tricks, but the chances are very slim.

You can play a low ♣ to dummy's ♣8. Assuming a defender takes the ♣T you can win his return and enter dummy with the ♣9. This play is guaranteed to give you the entry and is the one you should choose.

When you are missing 4 cards the probability of a 3-1 split is about 50%.

But the singleton can be any one of four cards - in this case it can be the ♣T, ♣6, ♣3 or ♣2. So the chance of one of the opponents holding specifically the singleton ♣T is only one-fourth of 50%, about 12.5%.

**Board 2**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A K J 7 4

♥ 3

♦ J 9 8 2

♣ T 6 2

♠ 9

♥ Q T 4

♦ 6 5

♣ K Q J 8 7 5 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q T 6 5 2

♥ 6 5 2

♦ A Q 7

♣ 9 4

♠ 8 3

♥ A K J 9 8 7

♦ K T 4 3

♣ A

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	All Pass	

4 ♥ by North

plays a trump or a ♣ the result will be the same. The defense can get one ♦ trick if they take it right now, but you still make your contract.

**Baker Entries 10**

South is to play 4 ♥. West leads the ♠ A, then ♠ K.

Losers: ♠ = 1 ♥ = 0 ♦ = 3? ♣ = 0 Total = 4?

This is the kind of hand that can get really messy if you aren't careful. You could ruff the ♠, then try to ruff some ♦s, but the defense can prevent you by leading trumps when you give up the ♦ tricks.

All in all a much better plan is to use dummy's ♣ suit after you unblock the Ace. The only flaw with that idea is that when you ruff the ♠, unblock the ♣ A, then play two rounds of trumps ending in dummy, there will still be a trump left out. And the defender might ruff a ♣ before you can take the discards you need. Do you see a way around this?

Do NOT ruff the second ♠ in dummy, just discard a ♦. If West plays a third ♠ you will ruff in your hand, then unblock the ♣ A, then pull trumps in 3 rounds ending in dummy. And run all those ♣ tricks. If West

### Board 3

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K J 9  
♥ T 9 8 2  
♦ K 9 3  
♣ A 8 4

♠ A 8 2

♥ A K 6

♦ A Q J 7

♣ K 6 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ T 6 5 3

♥ Q 7 4

♦ T 8

♣ J 9 5 3

♠ Q 7 4

♥ J 5 3

♦ 6 5 4 2

♣ Q T 7

West

North

East

South

2NT

Pass

3NT

All Pass

3 NT by South

which holds. Play another ♣ to dummy and finesse another ♦. Now play your ♦A and smile when the ♦K drops and your fourth ♦ becomes a winner.

By unblocking the ♣K you were still pretty confident that you would get the two tricks, but the bonus was in the extra dummy entry your unblock created.

### Baker Entries 11

North is to play 3NT. East leads the ♣3, West plays the ♣A.

Winners: ♠=1 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=2 Total = 6

You have the possibility of one additional ♠ winner if East holds the ♠K. However, ♦s is your best suit and if West holds the ♦K you could gain all three winners that you need from that suit. But of course you need perhaps 2 dummy entries. Do you have them?

Well, you probably do. East's small ♣ lead probably indicates an honor, and with West playing the ♣A you can be pretty sure that East holds the ♣J. So by playing your ♣K underneath the ♣A you set up a second entry to dummy via the ♣ finesse.

Assume West now plays a ♥. Take your ♥A and play a ♣ to dummy's ♣T. Lead a ♦ and finesse the ♦J,

**Board 4**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 5 2  
 ♥ T 8 5 3  
 ♦ A J 9 5 2  
 ♣ 6

♠ Q J

♥ A Q 6

♦ 8 4

♣ Q J 9 8 5 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 6 4

♥ 9 7 4 2

♦ Q T 6

♣ K 7 4

♠ K T 9 8 3

♥ K J

♦ K 7 3

♣ A T 2

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

The ♣ suit is ready to run, so play your ♥K to dummy's ♥A and take your ♣ winners. You took 9 tricks in all, the ♦K, the ♥A Q and all 6 ♣s.

Since it gave you all 6 ♣ tricks the sacrifice was well worth it.

**Baker Entries 12**

South is to play 3NT. West leads the ♦5, East plays the ♦Q.

Winners: ♠=0 ♥=3 ♦=1 ♣=1 Total = 5

You must take the ♦K right now or you might lose the first 5 tricks.

It's a shame about that solid ♠ suit, but if you try to win even a single ♠ they will grab the ♠A and win enough ♦ tricks to set the contract.

So you are going to have to win a lot of ♣ tricks, and do so without losing the lead. You need dummy entries, and they must be in ♥s.

Win the ♦K. Play the ♥J to dummy's ♥Q. Play the ♣Q and when East follows with a low card let it ride. Still in dummy, play the ♣J, again letting it ride when East plays low. Play one more ♣ to your ♣A, picking up East's ♣K this time.