Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

	♠ A T 8	
	♥ K Q 4	
	♦ A K T	
	♣ A 9 8 2	
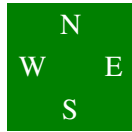
♠ Q J 6 2		♠ 9 5 3
♥ 6 5 3	N	♥ 9 8 7 2
♦ 9 7 2	W E	♦ 8 6 5 3
♣ 5 4 3	S	♣ K 6

	♠ K 7 4	
	♥ A J T	
	♦ Q J 4	
	♣ Q J T 7	

West	North	East	South
	2NT	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

6 NT by South

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♥9, taken by dummy's ♥T. The ♠4 is then played from dummy. Do you play low? or split your honors?
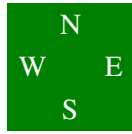
When you have made your choice

You should always make a point count check as soon as you see dummy. North's 2NT promises 20 or 21 points, South has 14 and you have 3; total = 37 or 38. Therefore East must have either 2 or 3 points. He cannot have two Jacks because you can see all four of them. Likewise he cannot have a Queen because you can see three of them and his ♥ lead (top of nothing) denied that Queen.

It follows that East MUST have a King, and it must be ♣s or ♦s since he has denied any ♥ Honor.

Since East will definitely win his King, you need to take one trick yourself, and the best way to do that is to split your Honors to establish one ♠ winner.

North has no defense to this, but if you had played low he would have played the ♠T and made the slam.

Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

```
                    ♠ K J 5
                    ♥ Q 7 4
                    ♦ T 7 2
                    ♣ A J 9 5
♠ T 9 8 2                        ♠ 7 6 3
♥ 9 6 3 2          N             ♥ K J T
♦ 5 3           W     E          ♦ K J 9 6
♣ K Q 4            S             ♣ T 7 2
                    ♠ A Q 4
                    ♥ A 8 5
                    ♦ A Q 8 4
                    ♣ 8 6 3
```

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

as likely as ♣ K Q.

Baker SecondHand 6

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

You lead the ♠T; low cards from North and East, won by South with the ♠A.

South next plays the ♣3 and you must decide whether to split your ♣ K Q.

When you have made your choice

If you split your Honors, playing the ♣Q perhaps, dummy's ♣A will take the trick and South will later play through your ♣K toward dummy's ♣ J 9 5. Played in this way he will establish 3 ♣ winners (which he needs for the contract).

If you play low, he MIGHT finesse the ♣J and again establish 3 ♣ winners. But South's correct play would be to put on dummy's ♣9, finessing West for the ♣T. This is because ♣ K T or ♣ Q T are twice as likely as ♣ K Q.

If he does play this way East will win the ♣T and your ♣ K Q will get one more trick.

Board 3

South Deals
E-W Vul

```
              ♠ Q 5
              ♥ A J 9 8 5 4 2
              ♦ -
              ♣ K J 7 3
♠ T 6 2                      ♠ J 8 7 3
♥ 7 3            N           ♥ T
♦ K 7 6 3    W     E         ♦ J T 9 8 5 2
♣ A 9 4 2       S            ♣ Q 5
              ♠ A K 9 4
              ♥ K Q 6
              ♦ A Q 4
              ♣ T 8 6
```

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

6 ♥ by North

You are West. The bidding has been as shown, (wild).

Partner led the ♦ J; ♦ Q from dummy, ♦ K from you and ruffed by North.

North then pulls two rounds of trumps, (East discards on the second one), followed by his ♠ Q, dummy's ♠ A K and dummy's ♦ A. North discards ♣s on the last two cards.

The ♣ 6 is then played from dummy and you must make a decision - ♣ A or ♣ 2?

When you have made your choice

You have a full count on North's hand. He started with 2 ♠s, 7 ♥s, and no ♦s. His other 4 cards must have been ♣s, and he has discarded 2 of them.

So he has 2 ♣s left in his hand. If one of them is the ♣ K and you play your ♣ A then you have handed him the contract.

By playing low you give him a guess to make. If he plays the ♣ K he will make the contract, but if he plays the ♣ J he will go down. He will probably play the ♣ J, figuring you wouldn't have the nerve to duck with the ♣ A. He'll know better next time he plays against you.

Board 4
South Deals
None Vul

```
                  ♠ 8 6 2
                  ♥ A K Q J T
                  ♦ 8 3
                  ♣ Q T 6
♠ K Q 4                        ♠ A T 7 3
♥ 7 4            N              ♥ 8 6 5 2
♦ J 9 7 5 4   W     E           ♦ T 6 2
♣ A J 3          S             ♣ 8 4
                  ♠ J 9 5
                  ♥ 9 3
                  ♦ A K Q
                  ♣ K 9 7 5 2
```

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

You lead the ♦5; ♦3, ♦T and won by South with ♦K. South now leads the ♣9 from his hand and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

First ask yourself "Where are the ♦A and ♦Q?"East doesn't have either one or he would have played it at the first trick. So South has both of them. So with those 3 tricks and the 5 ♥s in dummy South only needs to find one more winner. Assuming he has the ♣K, (or why play the suit), if you play low he will find that one more winner whichever high ♣ he plays.

Next ask yourself "Where is the ♠A?"Clearly East DOES have this card; otherwise South has his 9 tricks.

So the way to beat the contract is to go up with your ♣A, then play ♠K, ♠Q and a third ♠, hoping East holds ♠ A x x x.