

**Deal 1**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ K Q T 4 2  
♥ 9 8 5  
♦ T 9 7  
♣ A 4

14  
9      4  
13

♠ 6 3  
♥ A J 3  
♦ K 5 2  
♣ K Q J 6 2



♠ A J 5  
♥ K Q  
♦ Q J 8  
♣ T 9 8 5 3

♠ 9 8 7  
♥ T 7 6 4 2  
♦ A 6 4 3  
♣ 7

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

3NT by South

**Baker Signals 1**

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.  
You led the ♠K, East played the ♠7 and South  
the ♠5.

What do you play to the second trick?

When you have made your choice

You can see the ♠6, ♠5, ♠4, ♠3 and ♠2. So  
the ♠7 is East's lowest ♠, he is doing his best  
to discourage you from leading the suit again.

South held up with ♠ A J x, hoping you would  
play the suit again and give him two tricks.

If you play the ♦T East will win the ♦A and  
return a ♠, allowing you to drive out South's  
♠A while you still have the ♣A for an entry.

## Deal 2

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ K Q T 4 2  
♥ 9 8 5  
♦ T 9 7  
♣ A 4

14  
9 5  
12

♠ 6 3  
♥ A J 3  
♦ K 5 2  
♣ K Q J 6 2



♠ A 9 8  
♥ K Q  
♦ Q J 8  
♣ T 9 8 5 3

♠ J 7 5  
♥ T 7 6 4 2  
♦ A 6 4 3  
♣ 7

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

3NT by South

## Baker Signals 2

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠K, East played the ♠7 and South the ♠8.

What do you play to the second trick?

When you have made your choice

You cannot see the ♠5. The most likely reason is that East has it, and his ♠7 is an encouraging signal. The only reason he would encourage you is if he held either the ♠A or ♠J.

Together, you two continue to play ♠s to drive out South's ♠A. When you get the lead with your ♣A you will cash your ♠ winners and East will still have the ♦A for some icing on the cake.

There IS another possibility if South is a better than average Declarer. East just might hold ♠ 9 7, giving South ♠ A J 8 5. South played the ♠8 as a falsecard to tempt you into playing the suit again. This isn't too likely, but if it happens just congratulate South for the fine play.

**Deal 3**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 5 4  
♥ 6 4  
♦ J 7 3  
♣ A K Q 6 5 3

11  
10 5  
14

♠ A T 7 2  
♥ K J 8 3  
♦ Q 8 6  
♣ J 4



♠ Q J 9  
♥ A 9 7 5 2  
♦ A K  
♣ T 9 7

♠ K 8 6 3  
♥ Q T  
♦ T 9 5 4 2  
♣ 8 2

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

4 ♥ by South

**Baker Signals 3**

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣A, dummy played the ♣4 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

West will play the ♣Q on which you will play the ♣2.

West now knows you started with a doubleton, and more importantly, he also knows you want him to play a third ♣.

When he next plays the ♣K dummy will ruff, but whatever card he ruffs with you will have established a trump trick. When you later win your ♠K that will be down 1.

**Deal 4**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 7 3  
♥ J 8 4 3  
♦ K J 9 5 2  
♣ 8 2

5  
5 8  
22

♠ J 8 4  
♥ 7 6 2  
♦ 8 4  
♣ K J 9 6 5



♠ A K 5  
♥ A K Q 5  
♦ A T 6  
♣ Q T 3

♠ Q T 9 6 2  
♥ T 9  
♦ Q 7 3  
♣ A 7 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

3NT by North

**Baker Signals 4**

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♦5, East wins the ♦Q and returns the ♦7. South holds up his ♦A until the third round. He then plays the ♣Q and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

You assume (hope) that East holds the ♣A. If he does then he will need help from you to decide which trick he should win. You play the ♣8 first, and the ♣2 next to show an even number.

If East is paying attention he will know to win the THIRD ♣. This will kill dummy's ♣ suit, and with it South's chance of making 9 tricks.

# Deal 5

North Deals  
None Vul

♠ J 7 6 5 2  
♥ 3  
♦ T 6 4  
♣ A K T 5

14  
8 8  
10

♠ A  
♥ K T 8 2  
♦ A Q 7 3  
♣ J 8 6 2



♠ K 9 3  
♥ A 7 6 5 4  
♦ J 8  
♣ Q 7 4

♠ Q T 8 4  
♥ Q J 9  
♦ K 9 5 2  
♣ 9 3

West	North	East	South
	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
All Pass			

4 ♥ by South

## Baker Signals 5

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣A, dummy played the ♣2 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

If you signal with the ♣9 West will continue with the ♣K and another which you will have to ruff. You will give up your NATURAL trump trick by doing so. Worse, you will allow North's ♣J to be established as a winner that South can later discard a ♦ on.

Much better to play low. Partner will surely switch to a ♦, and South will probably finesse, though it doesn't matter whether he does or not. You will win the ♦K, return the ♣9 back to West's ♣K, and still have your trump trick for later.

# Deal 6

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ A K Q T 7  
♥ T 9  
♦ 9 7 2  
♣ K 8 4

7  
12 3  
18

♠ J 6 4 2  
♥ J 6 3  
♦ A J 6  
♣ T 7 3



♠ 8 5  
♥ A K Q 8 7 2  
♦ K 5 4  
♣ A Q

♠ 9 3  
♥ 5 4  
♦ Q T 8 3  
♣ J 9 6 5 2

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	1 ♥
All Pass			4 ♥

4 ♥ by South

played this way.

## Baker Signals 6

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ A, East plays the ♠ 9, South the ♠ 5. You assume East has signaled you to continue ♠ s, so you play the ♠ Q. On this trick East plays the ♠ 3 and South the ♠ 8. How will you continue?

When you have made your choice

You might just switch suits, but you have a better choice.

If you play your ♠ Q, East won't bother ruffing, South WILL ruff and dummy's ♠ J will be established as a winner.

The best procedure is to lead a low ♠. East will ruff and South will over-ruff but by playing this way you stop the establishment of North's ♠ J. As you can see, South would have been able to discard a loser on that ♠ J if you hadn't

# Deal 7

South Deals  
None Vul

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

6  
6 9  
19

West

Pass

North

3NT

East

All Pass

South

2NT

♠ J 8  
♥ 9 6 2  
♦ K Q T 9 4  
♣ 9 7 5

N  
W E  
S

♠ Q 7 4  
♥ A K 4  
♦ J 6  
♣ A K Q T 4

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

## Baker Signals 7

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♥Q, you played low and South won the ♥A.

South now plays the ♦J on which West plays the ♦2. What do you play now, and what is your plan.

When you have made your choice

North hoped his ♦ suit would provide enough tricks to make the game. You can see that there is no entry to the North hand EXCEPT in ♦s, so you want to win your ♦A on the trick that South plays his last ♦. How can you tell which trick that is?

Only by watching what West plays. On the ♦J West played the ♦2, a low card signaling that he held an ODD number of ♦s. ODD must be

either one or three so when he followed to the next ♦ you know he started with three. A little bit of counting tells you that South started with the doubleton Jack, so you want to win the second ♦ trick.

This defense holds South to one ♦ tricks, if you had let him win the second one he would have had 9 tricks.

# Deal 8

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ A 6 5  
♥ Q T 6 4  
♦ K 7 2  
♣ T 5 2

7  
9 5  
19

♠ K Q 9 3  
♥ 8 7 3  
♦ Q 6  
♣ 9 7 6 4



♠ J T 4  
♥ A K  
♦ J T 9 5  
♣ A K Q J

♠ 8 7 2  
♥ J 9 5 2  
♦ A 8 4 3  
♣ 8 3

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

3NT by North

## Baker Signals 8

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♥4, East plays the ♥J, won by South with ♥A.

South plays the ♠J, you follow with ♠5, dummy ♠3 and East plays the ♠2. South continues with the ♠T and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

East's ♠2 tells you he had an ODD number of ♠s, obviously 3. Since South also must have 3, you must take your ♠A on the third round, depriving dummy of the extra ♠ trick.

South may now turn to the ♦ suit, but your side can win the first ♦ and drive out South's ♥K. You will win 2 ♥s, 2 ♦s and the ♠A, down 1

**Deal 9**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 8 4  
♥ A 8 7 5 2  
♦ 7 5 2  
♣ 6 4 2

13  
4 8  
15

♠ K J 6  
♥ J T 6 3  
♦ A Q 6  
♣ Q T 5



♠ A Q T 5  
♥ K Q 9 4  
♦ K J  
♣ 8 7 3

♠ 9 7 3 2  
♥ -  
♦ T 9 8 4 3  
♣ A K J 9

West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	All Pass	1NT

3NT by North

that you might like a ♣ so he plays his ♣2 and you win 4 tricks.

**Baker Signals 9**

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♥5, dummy played the ♥T and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

You really want West to lead a ♣ if he gets into the lead. If you discard the ♣9 West will surely get the message and will lead a ♣. BUT - you will only win 3 ♣ tricks. The ♣9 would have been the fourth winner.

So instead, play a low card in one of the other suits, say the ♦3.

South is one trick short and he sees he can easily get that trick in ♥s. So he plays a second ♥ from dummy and you now discard the ♠2. West takes the ♥A and he can see that you don't want him to lead a ♠ or a ♦. He deduces

# Deal 10

East Deals  
None Vul

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

12  
2 8  
18

♠ K J 7  
♥ Q J 2  
♦ Q T 3  
♣ K T 7 5



♠ A Q T 9 4 2  
♥ K 8 5  
♦ A K  
♣ Q 8

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

West	North	East	South
		2♥	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

4♠ by South

## Baker Signals 10

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.  
You led the ♥4, East takes the ♥A and returns  
the ♥3. You ruff and then play what???

When you have made your choice

Partner played the ♥3, a low card, for you to  
ruff. That means his re-entry, if he has one, is  
in the lower-ranking suit.

Partner takes the ♣A and gives you a second  
♥ ruff.

# Deal 11

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ J 8 6 3  
♥ T 6  
♦ A K 8 4  
♣ 8 7 2

10  
8 9  
13

♠ K Q 7 5 2  
♥ Q 4  
♦ 9 6 3  
♣ K 9 6



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

♠ T 9 4  
♥ 9 5 3  
♦ Q 7 2  
♣ A Q J 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥
All Pass			2 ♥

2 ♥ by South

tricks. Wow.

## Baker Signals 11

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♦ A, dummy played the ♦ 3 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

You know partner also has the ♦ K, and normally you would give an encouraging signal when you hold the Queen. But with this hand you want partner to switch to ♣ s as soon as possible. So you play a low ♦ .

West looks at your signal, then looks at dummy, then looks at your signal. He knows you want a switch and it looks like a switch to ♣ s might work the best. South plays a low ♣ from dummy, you win the ♣ J. Next you play a low ♦ , taken by West with his ♦ K. West leads a ♣ . Dummy plays the ♣ K, you win that, cash another ♣ , then cash your ♦ Q. That first signal led to your side winning the first 6

**Deal 12**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 9 6 4  
♥ A K 7 2  
♦ A 8 6 3  
♣ 9 5

10  
11 6  
13

♠ A T 3  
♥ T 6  
♦ 9 7 2  
♣ K Q J 3 2



♠ K Q J 7 5 2  
♥ 9 5  
♦ K 5  
♣ A T 4

♠ 8  
♥ Q J 8 4 3  
♦ Q J T 4  
♣ 8 7 6

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
All Pass			

4 ♠ by South

**Baker Signals 12**

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♥ A, East puts on the ♥ Q. It's your play.

When you have made your choice

East's ♥ Q is either a singleton, (practically impossible), or a signal showing that he also holds the ♥ J. In either case you can reach the East hand on the second trick by playing a low ♥. Since you don't particularly want to start playing ♦ s from your side, you go ahead and play a small ♥, won by East with the ♥ J.

East next plays the ♦ Q and however South tries it your side will take the next two ♦ tricks and set the contract.

# Deal 13

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ K 8 7 4  
♥ 6 3  
♦ A K 9 6  
♣ 9 5 3

9  
10 6  
15

♠ J 5  
♥ A Q 9 8 7 5  
♦ 5 2  
♣ Q T 4



♠ A Q  
♥ J T 4  
♦ T 7 4 3  
♣ A K J 2

♠ T 9 6 3 2  
♥ K 2  
♦ Q J 8  
♣ 8 7 6

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

4♥ by North

West's ♠K before South can pull trumps and discard one of dummy's ♠s on his fourth ♣.

## Baker Signals 13

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. West led the ♦A, dummy played the ♦2 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

As soon as dummy appears you can see 3 tricks for your side. Partner surely has the ♦K to go with his Ace and you have a certain trump trick. However, that's all you can see.

Your best hope is that West may be able to win a ♠ trick, and it may be important for the first ♠ lead to come from your side of the table.

Your ♦Q play informs partner that you also have the ♦J, giving him the option of underleading his ♦K to get to your hand.

West next plays a small ♦ which you win with your ♦J. You return the ♠T. This establishes

# Deal 14

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ J 9 6 5 2  
♥ A Q T 6  
♦ 9 5 4 2  
♣ -

8  
7 8  
17

♠ 7  
♥ 5 3 2  
♦ 7 3  
♣ A K J 9 6 4 2

♠ T 8 4  
♥ J 7 4  
♦ K Q 8 6  
♣ Q 7 3

♠ A K Q 3  
♥ K 9 8  
♦ A J T  
♣ T 8 5



West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	All Pass	1NT

3NT by North

## Baker Signals 14

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠5, East plays the ♠T and South wins the ♠K. To the second trick South plays the ♣T and you must discard something.

When you have made your choice

You know that East has no high ♠ honor or he would have played it to the first trick. So South has the ♠ A Q left, plus all those ♣ tricks. You need to have West switch to a ♥ if possible.

East must be expecting to lead a ♠ back when he wins the ♣Q which you hope he holds. Your ♠J discard may make him rethink. If your ♠s were any good why would you be discarding a winner when all you had to do was toss a small red card?

Hopefully East will come to the conclusion that this is Suit Preference for a ♥ return and will play his ♥J. Hopefully.

# Deal 15

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ A K Q 7 3  
♥ 4  
♦ T 6 5 3  
♣ T 7 2

8  
9 5  
18

♠ 9 6 2  
♥ K T 6 3  
♦ Q 9 4  
♣ Q J 4

N  
W E  
S

♠ J 8 5  
♥ A Q J 8 7 5 2  
♦ A K  
♣ K

♠ T 4  
♥ 9  
♦ J 8 7 2  
♣ A 9 8 6 5 3

West	North	East	South
1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass	1 ♥
All Pass			4 ♥

4 ♥ by South

## Baker Signals 15

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♠A, dummy played the ♠2 and you signal with your ♠T. West next plays the ♠Q and you drop the ♠4, completing your doubleton signal. West then plays the ♠K and it turns out you don't have to ruff after all. So what are you going to play?

When you have made your choice

This should be a clear enough signal for West to play a ♣ to your ♣A next.

An alternate play, just as good, would be for you to ruff the good ♠Q and play the ♣A yourself.

If you don't get your ♣ trick at trick 4 you will never get it. South will discard his ♣K on North's extra ♦ winner.

# Deal 16

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ T  
♥ 9 6 4 3  
♦ 9 7 5  
♣ K Q T 6 3

8  
5 13  
14

♠ Q J 9 8 6 3  
♥ Q 7 2  
♦ Q 8 4  
♣ J



♠ A K 7 5 4  
♥ T 8 5  
♦ A K  
♣ 8 5 4

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♠	All Pass	1♠

4♠ by North

♥s).

West dutifully plays a ♥ and you take the next three tricks. Had he switched to a ♦ instead, South would have been able to discard one of his ♥ losers on North's ♦Q.

## Baker Signals 16

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣K, dummy's singleton was played and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

West will look at your ♣9 and perhaps think for an instant that you want him to play another ♣.

But it will be a short instant because a look at dummy makes it absolutely clear to everybody that playing another ♣ could not help your side. Dummy has so many trumps that repeated ♣ leads would do nothing.

OK. If it's not an encouraging Attitude signal, what is it? Suit preference of course. Since it is a high spot card you are asking West to switch to the higher suit (choosing between ♦s and

# Deal 17

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 5  
♥ 9 7 3  
♦ A 8 7  
♣ A K 9 8 6 4

18  
11 5  
6

♠ A T 6  
♥ A K Q 4  
♦ Q T 3  
♣ Q J 2



♠ K Q J 9 7 4 2  
♥ 8 5  
♦ 6  
♣ T 7 5

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3♠

4♠ by North

## Baker Signals 17

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣A. Seeing your ♣3 he next played the ♦A. What will you play on this trick?

When you have made your choice

Normally with this holding you would play the ♦9 to encourage West to play a second ♦ through dummy's ♦Q T.

But this time you really want him to take his ♣K. So play the discouraging ♦2 and hope he gets the message to go back to ♣s. If he does play the ♣K next it will win and he can then give you a ♣ ruff.

### Deal 18

South Deals  
None Vul

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

8  
6      6  
20

♠ 6 4 2  
♥ 9 6 4  
♦ K Q 8 3  
♣ K 7 3



♠ A K Q  
♥ A T  
♦ A J 4  
♣ Q T 8 6 2

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

3NT by North

So grab your ♣A and return partner's ♥ suit.

### Baker Signals 18

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♥5, you put on the ♥J, South won with the ♥A. The second trick was ♦A, ♦2, ♦3, ♦5. The third trick was ♦J, ♦6, ♦8, ♦7. South then put the ♣Q on the table.

When you have made your choice

Does it look to you like South is trying to create an entry to dummy so he can cash the 2 ♦ winners? That's what he wants it to look like, hoping someone holds up their ♣A.

But don't believe Declarer, believe your partner. On the first ♦ West played the ♦2. On the second ♦ he played the ♦6. He has an odd number of ♦s, obviously 3. And South must also have a third one, so he is up to some trickery with that ♣Q.

# Deal 19

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 7 5  
♥ 9 7 4 2  
♦ 8 6 2  
♣ 7 6 5 2

17  
0 7  
16

♠ K 9 8 6 4  
♥ A 6  
♦ Q J 3  
♣ A K 9



♠ A Q J 2  
♥ J T 3  
♦ A K T  
♣ J T 3

♠ T 3  
♥ K Q 8 5  
♦ 9 7 5 4  
♣ Q 8 4

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

6♠ by South

dummy of course, but then has no way to get rid of that ♣ loser when the finesse fails.

If you had not been paying attention to West's signal you might have decided to risk a ♣ lead - with a disastrous result.

## Baker Signals 19

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. The 2♥ bid was a transfer. The 5NT bid meant to choose either 6♠ or 6NT. South liked the suit. Partner led the ♠5, won by South's ♠Q. South pulls one more trump with his ♠A, then wins three high ♦s. Next comes dummy's ♥A on which he plays the ♥3 and West plays the ♥9. Then he leads dummy's ♥6 which you win with the ♥Q. On this trick South drops the ♥J and West the ♥2. It is your play.

When you have made your choice

If you believe South is now out of ♥s then you should not play your ♥K because it would give him a ruff-sluff.

But you shouldn't believe South when your partner has sent you a clear signal that he holds an EVEN number of ♥s. In this case an even number must be 4 which means that South has one more ♥. So you play your ♥K. He ruffs in

# Deal 20

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q T  
♥ 9 2  
♦ 8 5 2  
♣ A K T 6 3

12  
13 2  
13

West  
1 ♣  
Pass  
All Pass

North  
Pass  
2 ♣

East  
Pass  
Pass

South  
1 ♥  
4 ♥

♠ 6 4  
♥ A J 8  
♦ A Q J 6  
♣ 8 7 5 4

N  
W E  
S

♠ K J 3  
♥ K Q 7 6 4 3  
♦ K T  
♣ J 9

♠ 9 8 7 5 2  
♥ T 5  
♦ 9 7 4 3  
♣ Q 2

## Baker Signals 20

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♣A, East played the ♣2 and South the ♣9. What should you play to the second trick?

When you have made your choice

On first thought East's ♣2 seems to be a discouraging signal. Think again.

After the first trick you know the location of every ♣ except the ♣Q and ♣J. If East started with ♣J 2 he would have signaled with the ♣J. If East started with ♣Q J 2 he would have signaled with the ♣Q. Since he did neither he started either with singleton ♣2 or with ♣Q 2. In either case you should play a low ♣ now which he will either win with his ♣Q or he will ruff.

It turns out that he wins with the ♣Q, then

4 ♥ by South

leads a ♠ back to your ♠ A Q.