

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 8 7 3
♥ 6 5
♦ K Q 9
♣ J 7 5 2

♠ K J 9 6 5

♥ A K 8 4 3

♦ 7 5

♣ 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ T 2
♥ J 9 2
♦ T 8 4 3 2
♣ K Q 3

♠ Q 4
♥ Q T 7
♦ A J 6
♣ A T 9 8 6

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

4♥ by South

Baker 2 over 1 5
North opens 1♠, the higher ranking of the two 5-card suits.

South, with 14 points, responds 2♣, forcing the partnership to game.

North now bids his ♥ suit.

At this point South figures North for 5 ♠s and 4 ♥s. South cannot support either of North's Majors, but with a good stopper in the fourth suit bids 2NT. The game force is still on and North may not pass this bid.

North bids 3♥, indicating that this is also a 5-card suit. Now South can bid the ♥ game, knowing there is an 8-card fit.

Board 2

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ Q
♥ J 8 4
♦ J T 2
♣ K J T 5 4 3

♠ A J T 7 4

♥ K T 7

♦ A 9 5

♣ 7 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 9 8 3 2
♥ 6 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ A 8 6

♠ 6 5
♥ A Q 9 5 3
♦ K Q 6 3
♣ Q 9

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

4♥ by South

Baker 2 over 1 6

North opens 1♠ and South, with 14 points, responds 2♥. Note that South is not permitted to make this bid without a 5-card or longer ♥ suit.

North, knowing that South has 5, bids 3♥ to confirm the trump suit.

South has a minimum strength hand with no slam aspirations, so he uses Fast Arrival and bids 4♥. North is also satisfied to just play at game.

2/1 is a good bidding method, and here, 4♥ is a good contract. But you can see that it is not a laydown - there is no bidding system that will always reach T0% contracts. In this hand a 3-3 ♦ split will provide the Tth trick, or if that fails, taking 2 ♠ finesses provides a 75% chance of success.

Board 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 4 3
♥ J 6 4
♦ Q T 8
♣ J 9 7 2

♠ A K 9 6 5 2

♥ T 9 8 3

♦ 4

♣ A 8

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J T 8
♥ Q 2
♦ A J 9 5 3
♣ 5 4 3

♠ 7
♥ A K 7 5
♦ K 7 6 2
♣ K Q T 6

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

4♥ by North

Baker 2 over 1 7

North has 13 points and naturally opens 1♠.

South, with 15 points, would bid 2♥ in standard bidding, but with 2/1 this promises a 5-card suit. So instead, South responds 2♣, forcing the partnership to game. Note that holding two 4-card minors South bids them up-the-line, just as in standard bidding.

North has a nice 6-card ♠ suit, so you might think he would rebid them. But Opener's first responsibility with his second bid is to show a 4-card Major if he has one. This isn't much of a suit, but North still bids 2♥.

You can see why it is important for Opener to show a 4-card Major. Since South couldn't bid ♥s in her first response the fit would have been lost if North had not mentioned the suit. South now confirms the trump suit with a 3♥ bid, and North shows his minimum by just bidding the game.

Board 4

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 4 3
♥ 7 6 2
♦ K 6 3
♣ A T 4 3 2

♠ A K 9 2

♥ A Q 9 8 3

♦ 8 5

♣ 8 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q J T 6
♥ J T 5
♦ 9 4 2
♣ Q J 5

♠ 8 7 5
♥ K 4
♦ A Q J T 7
♣ K 9 7

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

partnership to reach a game somewhere.

Baker 2 over 1 8
North opens 1♥, his 5-card Major. South, with 14 points, naturally responds 2♦, forcing the partnership to game.

North next bids 2♠, showing the other Major suit. In standard bidding North would not be able to bid the ♠s since that would be a Reverse and North is far too weak to Reverse. But after a 2/1 Response the concept of a Reverse does not apply, and the priority of showing a 4-card Major certainly does apply.

South assumes North to be 4-5 in the Majors, so she cannot support either. She bids 2NT. If North actually has 6 ♥s (or 5 ♠s) he will rebid the suit. South's 2NT bid guarantees a stopper in the fourth suit.

North does not have either 6 ♥s or 5 ♠s so he just bids 3NT. Notice that North never once considered the possibility of passing what might be a misfit - the initial 2/1 response unconditionally forced the