

Board 1
North Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9 6 3
♥ 8 7 2
♦ J 2
♣ 7 5 4 3

♠ A Q 5
♥ 4
♦ A K T 8 6 3
♣ A K Q



♠ T 4 2
♥ K Q J 9 5 3
♦ 5
♣ 9 6 2

♠ K 8 7
♥ A T 6
♦ Q 9 7 4
♣ J T 8

West	North	East	South
	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♠
Pass	7NT	Pass	

7NT by North

Baker Roman 17
Your 2NT response shows 8+ points, with no 5-card biddable suit. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

You support the ♦s and partner bids 4NT. What is your next bid?

With ♦s as trump you have 1 Key-Card, the ♥A. You answer 5♣ and partner bids 5♥. What is your bid?

This is the Queen Ask, wanting to know if you hold the ♦Q. Since you do have it you should bid a suit in which you hold a King. So you bid 5♠. That spurred partner on - he was fishing for 7♦ but when you told him you had the ♦Q, ♥A and ♠K he was able to bid 7NT.

Board 2

West Deals

N-S Vul

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

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♥
Pass			

6♥ by South

Baker Roman 18

Partner's 2♥ is a positive response, 8+ points with a 5+ card suit. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Even though it is tempting, bidding RKCB now would be a mistake because of your doubleton ♠ loser. Instead just support the ♥s. Partner cannot pass, you both know you are forced to game. In fact, partner bids 3♠. What do you bid next?

Partner promises first round ♠ control so NOW you can bid RCKB. When you bid 4NT partner answers 6♥. This shows 1 Key-Card and a void in a suit higher than ♥s. Knowing you are missing either the ♦A or ♥K you pass.

Board 3

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ -
 ♥ J 3 2
 ♦ Q J 7 5 2
 ♣ T 8 7 5 2

♠ K T 7 2
 ♥ A K 8 6 5
 ♦ 8 3
 ♣ 6 4



♠ 9 6
 ♥ Q T 9 4
 ♦ T 9 6
 ♣ Q J 9 3

♠ A Q J 8 5 4 3
 ♥ 7
 ♦ A K 4
 ♣ A K

West	North	East	South
			2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	7NT
Pass			

7 NT by South

Baker Roman 19

Your 2♥ response shows 8+ points, with at least 5♥s. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Your hand is looking better and better. You already gave a positive response so you know you are forced to game. It is better to keep the bidding low to allow more investigating room so you bid 3♠. Partner bids 4NT. What is your response?

With ♠s agreed as trumps you have two Key-Cards, the ♠K and the ♥A. With no trump Queen you respond 5♥. Partner now says 5NT. What do you reply?

Partner is asking for Kings and you have just 1, the ♥K. Remember, the ♠K is not a King, it is a Key-Card which you have already counted. So you bid 6♦. Partner counts 13 tricks and bids 7NT.

Board 4
East Deals
None Vul

♠ 8
♥ T 9 7 4 2
♦ A 9 5
♣ 9 8 7 6

♠ Q J 7 3
♥ A 8
♦ T 8 6 4
♣ K J 5



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

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	6 ♠
All Pass			

6 ♠ by South

Baker Roman 20
Partner's 3 ♠ is a limit raise, 11-12 points and good ♠ support. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

What you DO NOT say next is 4NT. If partner answered 1 Key-Card you would not know what to do. If he has a red Ace you can make slam, but if his one Key-Card were the ♣A you couldn't. Instead you make a control-showing bid of 4 ♣, promising first round control. Partner obliges you by bidding 4 ♥. What is your next bid?

</table>

Partner's bidding is like the Sherlock Holmes tale Silver Blaze, about the dog that didn't bark. Partner's ♥ bid shows that he DOES have the ♥A, but equally important it shows that he DOES NOT have the ♦A. So you know you don't have a ♥ loser but do have a ♦ loser. You bid 6 ♠.