

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 8 7
 ♥ T 7 6 4 2
 ♦ A 6 4 3
 ♣ 7

♠ A J 5

♥ K Q

♦ Q J 8

♣ T 9 8 5 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q T 4 2

♥ 9 8 5

♦ T 9 7

♣ A 4

♠ 6 3

♥ A J 3

♦ K 5 2

♣ K Q J 6 2

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

3 NT by North

Baker Signals 1

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠ K, West played the ♠ 7 and North 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 West's lowest ♠, he is doing his best to discourage you from leading the suit again.

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

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

Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q T 4 2

♥ 9 8 5

♦ T 9 7

♣ A 4

♠ 6 3

♥ A J 3

♦ K 5 2

♣ K Q J 6 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 7 5

♥ T 7 6 4 2

♦ A 6 4 3

♣ 7

♠ A 9 8

♥ K Q

♦ Q J 8

♣ T 9 8 5 3

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

3 ♣

Pass

3NT

All Pass

3NT by South

likely, but if it happens just congratulate South for the fine play.

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 ♠97, 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

Board 3

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K 8 6 3
 ♥ Q T
 ♦ T 9 5 4 2
 ♣ 8 2

♠ Q J 9
 ♥ A 9 7 5 2
 ♦ A K
 ♣ T 9 7



♠ 5 4
 ♥ 6 4
 ♦ J 7 3
 ♣ A K Q 6 5 3

♠ A T 7 2
 ♥ K J 8 3
 ♦ Q 8 6
 ♣ J 4

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

4 ♥ by North

Baker Signals 3

You are West. 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

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

East 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.

Board 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 7 3
 ♥ J 8 4 3
 ♦ K J 9 5 2
 ♣ 8 2

♠ J 8 4

♥ 7 6 2

♦ 8 4

♣ K J 9 6 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q T 9 6 2

♥ T 9

♦ Q 7 3

♣ A 7 4

♠ A K 5

♥ A K Q 5

♦ A T 6

♣ Q T 3

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

3 NT 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.

Board 5

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ Q T 8 4

♥ Q J 9

♦ K 9 5 2

♣ 9 3

♠ K 9 3

♥ A 7 6 5 4

♦ J 8

♣ Q 7 4



♠ J 7 6 5 2

♥ 3

♦ T 6 4

♣ A K T 5

♠ A

♥ K T 8 2

♦ A Q 7 3

♣ J 8 6 2

West

North

East

South

Pass

1 ♥

Pass

1 ♦

Pass

4 ♥

All Pass

2 ♥

4 ♥ by North

Baker Signals 5

You are West. 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 East 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 South's ♣J to be established as a winner that North can later discard a ♦ on.

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

Board 6

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A K Q T 7

♥ T 9

♦ 9 7 2

♣ K 8 4

♠ J 6 4 2

♥ J 6 3

♦ A J 6

♣ T 7 3



♠ 9 3

♥ 5 4

♦ Q T 8 3

♣ J 9 6 5 2

♠ 8 5

♥ A K Q 8 7 2

♦ K 5 4

♣ A Q

West

North

East

South

1 ♠

2 ♥

Pass

1 ♥

4 ♥

All Pass

4 ♥ by South

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 played this way.