

Board 1

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	

♠ 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

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

3 NT 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.

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	1♣
All Pass			

3 NT 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 ♠ 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

Board 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 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

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

1♥

4♥

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.

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

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 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

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.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 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♥
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.