

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 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

N
W
E
S

♠ 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

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

4♥ by North

Baker Signals 6

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠A, West plays the ♠9, North the ♠5. You assume West has signaled you to continue ♠s, so you play the ♠Q. On this trick West plays the ♠3 and North 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, West won't bother ruffing, North WILL ruff and dummy's ♠J will be established as a winner.

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

Board 2

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ J 8
♥ 9 6 2
♦ K Q T 9 4
♣ 9 7 5

♠ A T 5 2

♥ 8 5 3

♦ A 7 3

♣ J 6 2



♠ K 9 6 3
♥ Q J T 7
♦ 8 5 2
♣ 8 3

♠ Q 7 4
♥ A K 4
♦ J 6
♣ A K Q T 4

West	North	East	South
		2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

3NT by West

that East started with the doubleton Jack, so you want to win the second ♦ trick.

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

Baker Signals 7

You are North. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♥Q, you played low and East won the ♥A.

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

When you have made your choice

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

Only by watching what South plays. On the ♦J South 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

Board 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A 6 5
♥ Q T 6 4
♦ K 7 2
♣ T 5 2

♠ K Q 9 3

♥ 8 7 3

♦ Q 6

♣ 9 7 6 4



♠ 8 7 2
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ A 8 4 3
♣ 8 3

♠ J T 4
♥ A K
♦ J T 9 5
♣ A K Q J

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

3 NT 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

Board 4

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ A Q T 5
♥ K Q 9 4
♦ K J
♣ 8 7 3

♠ 8 4
♥ A 8 7 5 2
♦ 7 5 2
♣ 6 4 2

N
W
E
S

♠ K J 6
♥ J T 6 3
♦ A Q 6
♣ Q T 5

♠ 9 7 3 2
♥ -
♦ T 9 8 4 3
♣ A K J 9

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

3 NT by East

♠ or a ♦ . He deduces that you might like a ♣ so he plays his ♣2 and you win 4 tricks.

Baker Signals 9

You are South. 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 North to lead a ♣ if he gets into the lead. If you discard the ♣9 North 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.

West 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. North takes the ♥A and he can see that you don't want him to lead a

Board 5

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 8
 ♥ A T 9 7 6 3
 ♦ 9 7 5
 ♣ A 6 2

♠ A Q T 9 4 2

♥ K 8 5

♦ A K

♣ Q 8

N
W
E
S

♠ 6 5 3
 ♥ 4
 ♦ J 8 6 4 2
 ♣ J 9 4 3

♠ K J 7
 ♥ Q J 2
 ♦ Q T 3
 ♣ K T 7 5

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

4 ♠ by North

Baker Signals 10

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♥4, West 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.