

Board 1

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 7 5 4 3

♥ J 9 5

♦ -

♣ J T 7 2

♠ -

♥ K 8 4

♦ A K J 7 6 5 2

♣ A 6 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ T 9 6

♥ Q T 7 2

♦ 9 4 3

♣ K Q 8

♠ Q J 8 2

♥ A 6 3

♦ Q T 8

♣ 9 4 3

West

2 ♠

Pass

Pass

North

Dbl

3 ♦

5 ♦

East

Pass

Pass

All Pass

South

2NT

4 ♦

5 ♦ by North

Baker Establishment 19

3NT would have been a lot easier, but you didn't get there. North is to play 5 ♦. East leads the ♠ T.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=1 ♦=0 ♣=2 Total = 3

The good news is that you only have one loser to get rid of. The bad news is that there doesn't seem to be a good place to put it.

Unlikely as it seems, your best candidate for establishment is dummy's ♠ 8. East is marked with 3 ♠s, and having led the ♠ T there is a good chance that he also has the ♠ 9. If so you can ruff it out.

Cover the ♠ T with dummy's ♠ J, and when West plays one of his honors ruff in your hand. Play a trump to the ♦ T, West showing out. Lead the ♠ Q. West will be forced to play his other high honor, (if he doesn't you would discard a loser), and you ruff again.

Back to dummy with the ♦ Q and ruff the ♠ 2 with a high trump just to be safe. East drops the ♠ 9 on this trick.

Pull East's last trump and enter dummy with the ♥ A and FINALLY discard a loser on the now established ♠ 8.

Here you needed ♠ T 9 x to be with East if you were to make the contract so you played for just that holding.

Board 2

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 5 3
♥ J 7 6 4
♦ K J 7 3 2
♣ T 5

♠ K 6 4

♥ A 9 3

♦ 8 6

♣ 9 8 6 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 8 2

♥ Q 8 2

♦ Q T 9 4

♣ Q J 7 2

♠ A Q J T 9 7

♥ K T 5

♦ A 5

♣ A K

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

6♠ by South

Baker Establishment 20

South is to play 6♠. West leads the ♠5.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=1 ♦=1 ♣=0 Total = 2

First pull trumps with the ♠A and ♠Q, both defenders following. Next you must establish dummy's ♣ suit to get rid of one of your losers. If the suit splits 3-3 that will be easy since you have two dummy entries, one to get there to ruff the third ♣ and the other to get there to enjoy playing the winners. But ♣s will probably split 4-2 so the two entries won't be enough. Here's how to make the defenders help you establish the suit.

After pulling trumps, play the ♣ A K, then ♦ A. Next exit with a small ♦.

to see the position.

The defender who won the ♦ trick has a problem. If he plays another ♦ you will get a ruff-sluff, and if he plays a ♥ you will play for the ♥Q and ♥J to be in different hands. So he will probably play a ♣.

You ruff in your hand, play a trump to dummy's ♠K and ruff the ♣8, establishing the ♣9 while you still have the ♥ entry.

This was a combination of Suit Establishment and End-play. The lesson on Eliminations contains a lot more of this type of hand.