

**Board 1**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A T 9

♥ A 3

♦ K J T 7 5 4

♣ J 9

♠ Q 7 4

♥ Q T 9 6 5

♦ 8 3

♣ A 8 3



♠ 8 6 3 2

♥ 8 4 2

♦ Q 2

♣ 7 6 5 4

♠ K J 5

♥ K J 7

♦ A 9 6

♣ K Q T 2

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

4♥ by South

**Baker Leben 17**

With 9 points you don't want to sign-off with 2♥.

But you aren't strong enough to force to game with a 3♥ bid either. So you start an invitational sequence by bidding 2NT.

Partner says 3♣. What do you bid?

Now you bid 3♥. Partner will realize you have better than a sign-off, but were not good enough to bid 3♥ immediately. He has a maximum, and he knows you have a 5-card suit, so he bids 4♥.

**Board 2**

East Deals

N-S Vul

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

♠ T 8 7 2

♥ J 7 6

♦ T 9 6

♣ 8 5 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q 5  
♥ T 8  
♦ K Q 7 3  
♣ A Q 7 4

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

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

5♣ by West

**Baker Leben 18**

Partner's bid asks if you have 4 ♠s, and denies a ♥ stopper. (DIRECT DENIES)

You don't have 4 ♠s, nor can you stop ♥s. You have no choice but to bid one of the 4-card Minor suits, so you go up-the-line and bid 4♣. Partner bids 5♣.

**Board 3**

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ A 8

♥ 7 6 4

♦ A J 9 7

♣ T 9 6 4

♠ Q 9 6 4 2

♥ Q T 8

♦ 2

♣ 8 7 3 2



♠ K 7 3

♥ A 9 5 2

♦ Q 5

♣ A K J 5

♠ J T 5

♥ K J 3

♦ K T 8 6 4 3

♣ Q

West	North	East	South
		1NT	2♦
Dbl	All Pass		

2♦ X by South

**Baker Leben 19**

It is possible your side can make 3NT on this deal. You have 9 points, invitational strength, and your ♦ stopper is excellent.

However you should look for an even bigger reward by doubling. South is in serious trouble, and when the opponents make a mistake you should punish them.

**Board 4**

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ K J 9 3

♥ A Q 8 7

♦ 9 5

♣ A Q 7

♠ A 5 2

♥ 9 5 3 2

♦ K Q J 6 3 2

♣ -

N
W
E
S

♠ Q T 8 4

♥ K 6

♦ A T 7

♣ K T 8 3

♠ 7 6  
 ♥ J T 4  
 ♦ 8 4  
 ♣ J 9 6 5 4 2

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

4 ♠ by West

## Baker Leben 20

Partner's 2NT bid requests that you bid 3♣, so you do. He next says 3♦.

Partner's bid is game-forcing Stayman, but with a ♦ stopper (SLOW SHOWS). Holding 4 cards in each Major you bid up-the-line, 4♥. Partner now bids 3NT. What do you say?

Partner would not have asked for a 4-card Major unless he held one himself. Since it wasn't ♥s it must be the other one. You bid 4♠.