

Board 1

West Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 9 7 5 2
♥ J T 6
♦ T 3 2
♣ 9 3

♠ A J T

♥ A K 9 8 5

♦ K 9 6

♣ Q 7

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 4
♥ Q 4 2
♦ J 8 7 5
♣ 8 6 5 2

♠ 8 6 3
♥ 7 3
♦ A Q 4
♣ A K J T 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

6NT by South

Baker 2 over 1 11

North opens 1♥ and South responds 2♣. Using standard bidding North would now jump to 3NT to show his 19 points, but in 2/1 this is not necessary since the partnership must not stop bidding until game is reached. So North just bids 2NT. South shows her minimum by bidding 3NT.

North will now disclose his extra strength. He bids 4NT. This is not Blackwood, but rather a quantitative raise in Notrump, and an invitation to slam.

South has 15 points, and they are good ones. She accepts the invitation and bids 6NT.

There are 11 top tricks. A 3-3 ♥ split would provide the 12th winner, but this is against the odds. Better to try two ♠ finesses, a 75% chance.

Board 2

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K
♥ J T 9 5 2
♦ 7 5 3
♣ A T 5 2

♠ Q 6 3

♥ Q 3

♦ A K J 9 4

♣ 9 6 4

N
W
S
E

♠ T 9 4
♥ 8 7 6 4
♦ T 8 2
♣ K Q 3

♠ A J 8 7 5 2
♥ A K
♦ Q 6
♣ J 8 7

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

4 ♠ by North

Baker 2 over 1 12

South opens 1♠ and North responds 2♦. South has a pretty good hand, 17 points, but no stopping power in the minor suits. Also, South's ♠ suit is pretty ragged. Taking these points into consideration, South should just rebid his 6-card suit.

North should now jump to 4♠. This is Fast Arrival, indicating a minimum hand with no particular interest in slam.

South is happy to rest in the game contract.

Even with a combined 30 points, T tricks are certainly not a sure thing. South must hope that East holds the trump King.

Board 3

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ Q 8 7 4 3
♥ -
♦ K 6 5 3 2
♣ Q 5 3

♠ K 5
♥ K Q 9 8 5 4 3
♦ A 4
♣ A 4

N
W E
S

♠ 9
♥ J T 7
♦ T 9 8 7
♣ K J 9 6 2

♠ A J T 6 2
♥ A 6 2
♦ Q J
♣ T 8 7

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

6♥ by North

Baker 2 over 1 13

South opens 1♠. North has a powerhouse, plenty strong enough to jump-shift. But playing 2/1 it's usually simpler when you make the 2/1 response, and save your jumping for later - if at all. So North bids just 2♥, knowing South must keep the bidding open.

South knows North has at least 5 ♥s, so his first priority is to agree on the trump suit. He bids 3♥.

North now makes the slam try. She knows South has at least three trumps, and all she wants to find out is how many Aces/Kings South holds. So she bids Blackwood and South confesses to two Aces.

Still hoping for the Grand, North bids 5NT. Oops, South doesn't have any kings so North settles for a small slam.

This is a good slam, cold if East makes any opening lead other than a ♣. With a ♣ lead, North will have to pull trumps and play to discard a loser on the ♠T.

Board 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8 7 5
♥ 8 6
♦ A T 9
♣ T 5 3 2

♠ Q J 2

♥ K T

♦ K Q 8 6 5

♣ Q 8 7

N
W
E
S

♠ T 9 6 4 3
♥ 9 4 2
♦ J 3
♣ A 9 6

♠ A
♥ A Q J 7 5 3
♦ 7 4 2
♣ K J 4

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

4♥ by North

Baker 2 over 1 14
South opens 1♥ and North responds 2♦.

South has a good-looking hand, but needs to find a trump suit before she starts showing her extra strength, so she bids just 2♥.

Knowing that South holds 6 ♥s, North can support with the honor doubleton so he agrees the trump suit with a Fast Arrival bid of 4♥.

South has some extra strength, but not enough to push on after North's weak bid. Notice that if South DID try a 4♠ Control bid North would just bid 5♥ and the pair might be one trick too high.

Board 5

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ T 7 4 3
♥ 8 6 2
♦ A Q J 7
♣ A 3

♠ J

♥ K Q J 7 5 3

♦ 4 3 2

♣ Q 5 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 9 5
♥ A 9
♦ T 9 8
♣ J T 9 6 2

♠ A Q 8 6 2
♥ T 4
♦ K 6 5
♣ K 8 7

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

2♥ by North

Baker 2 over 1 15

South opens 1♠. North has 11 points, enough to respond 2♥ in standard bidding, but not when using 2/1. So she bids 1NT.

South would love to pass 1NT but is not permitted to do so. He has no good bid, so he must bid a 3-card suit. When holding two 3-card minors, usually bid ♣s. North now shows the ♥ suit that she could not bid first round.

South was forced to reply to 1NT, but he is not forced to bid again. With his minimum hand and a tolerance for partner's suit he just passes and the partnership ends up in a reasonable contract.

This hand demonstrates one of the benefits of Forcing 1NT. In standard bidding North's first response would be 2♥, and South would have to bid again, probably 2NT. The partnership might go even higher but in any case would probably not reach a good contract.