

Board 1

East Deals

None 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 2over1 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 2

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ Q J 2
 ♥ K T
 ♦ K Q 8 6 5
 ♣ Q 8 7

♠ T 9 6 4 3

♥ 9 4 2

♦ J 3

♣ A 9 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 8 7 5

♥ 8 6

♦ A T 9

♣ T 5 3 2

♠ 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 West

Baker 2over1 14

East opens 1 ♥ and West responds 2 ♦.

East 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 East holds 6 ♥s, West can support with the honor doubleton so he agrees the trump suit with a Fast Arrival bid of 4 ♥.

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

Board 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 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



♠ 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

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

2 ♥ by South

Baker 2 over 1 15

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

North 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. South now shows the ♥ suit that she could not bid first round.

North 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 South's first response would be 2 ♥, and North would have to bid again, probably 2NT. The partnership might go even higher but in any case would probably not reach a good contract.

Board 4

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ K
 ♥ K 7 5 3
 ♦ A T 3 2
 ♣ J 9 5 4

♠ T 7 5 4 3

♥ Q 2

♦ K J 6

♣ T 3 2



♠ A Q 8 6 2

♥ A 4

♦ 9 5

♣ A K 8 7

♠ J 9

♥ J T 9 8 6

♦ Q 8 7 4

♣ Q 6

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

3 NT by East

Baker 2over1 16

East opens 1 ♠. West has 11 points, enough to respond 2 ♣, (or 2 ♦), in standard bidding, but not when using 2/1. So she bids 1NT.

East is forced to bid again, but unlike the previous hand, here he wants to keep bidding. He bids 2 ♣. West knows East doesn't have ♥s, so she shows her above-minimum hand by bidding 2NT.

East is happy to play Notrump. He assumes West must have something useful in ♦s and bids 3NT.

3NT seems to be a good contract. There are 8 top tricks and possibilities for a ninth winner in either ♠s, ♦s, or, (the best chance), ♣s.

Board 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A Q T 4
♥ K 9 8 4
♦ J 8
♣ Q 8 7

♠ 8 6 2

♥ A Q J 7 5 3

♦ 9 5

♣ A 2



♠ J 7 3

♥ 2

♦ A Q 7 6 4

♣ K 9 6 3

♠ K 9 5

♥ T 6

♦ K T 3 2

♣ J T 5 4

West

North

East

South

1 ♥

Pass

1NT

Pass

2 ♥

All Pass

2 ♥ by North

Baker 2over1 17

North opens 1 ♥. South responds 1NT, just as in standard bidding. The difference is that in this case the 1NT response is forcing on North.

North has an easy second bid, he rebids his 6-card suit. South has nothing to say over 2 ♥ except pass.

Notice that this is the same bidding and same final contract that would have been reached with standard bidding. Using 2/1 is often like that.

Board 6

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K J 2
 ♥ 8 7 4
 ♦ A Q 9 7 5
 ♣ Q 2

♠ 8 7
 ♥ A 5
 ♦ 4
 ♣ K J 9 7 6 5 4 3
 N
 W E
 S
 ♠ 6 4 3
 ♥ K Q J 3 2
 ♦ J 3 2
 ♣ T 8

♠ A Q T 9 5
 ♥ T 9 6
 ♦ K T 8 6
 ♣ A

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

4 ♠ by West

Baker 2over1 18

East opens 1 ♠. West responds 2 ♦, a 2/1 force to game.

East cannot rebid her ♠s, but has decent support for partner's ♦s. So she bids 3 ♦.

West always intended to play a ♠ contract. He now bids 4 ♠, using Fast Arrival to indicate he has no slam aspirations.

4 ♠ is cold, and if the defenders don't take their ♥ tricks immediately East will make an overtrick.