

Deal 1
South Deals
None Vul

♠ 5 4
♥ A T 3
♦ J T 5 3
♣ A 8 6 2

13
9 10
8

♠ Q J 2
♥ K 9 7 5
♦ K Q 2
♣ Q 5 3

♠ T 6
♥ Q J 6 4
♦ A 7 4
♣ K T 9 7

♠ A K 9 8 7 3
♥ 8 2
♦ 9 8 6
♣ J 4

N
W E
S

West North East South
2♠

All Pass

2 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 1
SOUTH has a perfect hand for an opening bid of 2 .

NORTH will be tempted to respond with his opening hand and good trump support, but he should

resist the temptation. To raise a Weak Two-bid to game you should have quick winners, not just points.

Deal 2
South Deals
N-S Vul

♠ 6 5

♥ Q 6 4 3

♦ K 5 4 3

♣ T 8 6

18

5 9

8

♠ Q J 2
♥ A K 7 5
♦ A 7 2
♣ A 5 3

♠ T 4
♥ J T 9
♦ Q J T
♣ K Q 9 7 2

N
W E
S

♠ A K 9 8 7 3
♥ 8 2
♦ 9 8 6
♣ J 4

West North East South
Pass 4♠ All Pass

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 5 2
SOUTH has the same hand as in Deal 1 and again opens 2 .

This is the type of hand NORTH needs to bid game. Notice that even with all those winners the

pair is nowhere close to having a slam. The will probably make just ten tricks.

Deal 3

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ T 5
♥ K 6 4
♦ K J 4 3
♣ A 9 6 2

9
11 12
8

♠ Q J 6 2

♥ 7 5

♦ A 7 2

♣ Q 7 5 3

N
W E
S

♠ 4
♥ A Q J T 9 3
♦ Q T 5
♣ K T 8

♠ A K 9 8 7 3
♥ 8 2
♦ 9 8 6
♣ J 4

West North East South
Pass 4♠ All Pass 2♠

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 5 3

Once more, SOUTH has the same hand as Deals 1 and 2.

This time NORTH has a very poor hand without any chance of making game. However, he should bid

4 anyway.

It is very likely that the opponents can make 4

if East gets the

opportunity to get into the bidding. Hopefully the 4 bid will shut him out, and 4 probably

won't go down more than a couple of tricks.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J T 9 2
♥ Q 4 3
♦ A 4
♣ K T 6 4

15
10 9
6

♠ K Q 7 6

♥ A 6 2

♦ 5 3

♣ A Q 8 3

N
W E
S

♠ A 8 5
♥ K J T 9 7
♦ T 7
♣ J 5 2

♠ 4 3
♥ 8 5
♦ K Q J 9 8 6 2
♣ 9 7

West North East South
All Pass

3♦

3♦ by South

best call - PASS.

Baker Bidpractice/Set 5 4
SOUTH has a pretty normal preemptive 3

bid.

NORTH has the equivalent of an opening 1NT bid and will be very tempted to bid 3NT.

That might turn out to be a disaster, particularly if NORTH is unable to reach the SOUTH hand.

NORTH should assume SOUTH can win six tricks if

s are trumps. Thinking this way points NORTH to her

Deal 5

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ Q 2
 ♥ 8 4
 ♦ Q T 7
 ♣ K Q J 5 3 2

16
 10 8
 6

♠ A J T 6 4 3
 ♥ A

♦ A K 6 4

♣ 9 7

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

♠ 8 7
 ♥ K Q J 9 7 3 2
 ♦ 5
 ♣ 8 6 4

West	North	East	South
			3♥
Pass	4♥		All Pass

4♥ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 5

Here NORTH has the kind of hand you need to raise a preempt to game.

NORTH assumes that SOUTH has a hand with six winners in it. He can provide four more, so

that is just enough for game. He bids 4

.

Deal 6

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 2

♥ 8 7 6 4

♦ K Q J T 8

♣ A 9 4

13
10 8
9

♠ K 4
♥ K J 5
♦ 9 4 2
♣ K Q J 7 2

♠ T 8 3
♥ A 9 3
♦ A 6 5 3
♣ T 8 5

N
W E
S

♠ A Q J 9 7 6 5
♥ Q T 2
♦ 7
♣ 6 3

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

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/
Set 5 6
SOUTH has a 7-card suit but he is too strong to open with a preemptive bid.

So he opens 1 instead.

NORTH should respond 2 and SOUTH can do nothing but rebid the suit.

NORTH thinks there should be game and bids 4

Deal 7
South Deals
Both Vul

♠ A J 8 3 2
♥ 6 2
♦ T 9
♣ T 9 8 6

21
5 5
9

♠ K Q
♥ Q J
♦ A K Q 6 5
♣ K J 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ T 9 5
♥ T 8 5
♦ J 8 4 3
♣ A 7 3

♠ 7 6 4
♥ A K 9 7 4 3
♦ 7 2
♣ Q 5

West North East South
Pass 4♥ All Pass

4♥ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7
SOUTH is too weak to open 1

but just right for 2

Wow! NORTH has 21 HCP and two good

s. Could this be time for a slam try?

Nope, no slam here. Suppose SOUTH has six

s headed by the AK. The trump suit

would certainly be solid, but then SOUTH couldn't possibly have an outside Ace as well or he would have been

too strong for a Weak-two opening. So NORTH just bids 4

Deal 8

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 9 2

♥ A 9 8 5

♦ J T 7 6

♣ 9 6

15
8 10
7

♠ A Q 5

♥ 4

♦ K Q 9 4

♣ K J 7 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ T 7 6 4

♥ T 3

♦ A 3 2

♣ A Q T 3

♠ J 8 3

♥ K Q J 7 6 2

♦ 8 5

♣ 8 5

West

North

East

South

2♥

All Pass

2♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 5 8
NORTH really hates that 2

opening by SOUTH.

But there's no sense bidding and probably making matters worse, so she grits her

teeth and passes.

If you think 3NT has a chance you are delusional.

Deal 9

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 3
 ♥ 9 3
 ♦ Q T 8 6 2
 ♣ A Q 8 7 2

9
 8 8
 15

♠ K 8 4
 ♥ A Q T 6 4 2
 ♦ 4
 ♣ 9 6 5

♠ 9 7 2
 ♥ K J 8 5
 ♦ K J 7 3
 ♣ T 4

♠ A Q J T 6 5
 ♥ 7
 ♦ A 9 5
 ♣ K J 3

N
 W E
 S

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

4 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 9
 SOUTH expects to be better off in than
 NORTH would be in 2

Whether or not you play a new suit as a one round force or not, NORTH should make the 3 bid with

a hand this good. SOUTH then bids the game.

Deal 10

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 4 2

♥ 9 2

♦ T 8 7

♣ K J 7 5

20
5 8
7

♠ A K 7 5

♥ K 6 3

♦ K Q J 5 4

♣ A

N
W E
S

♠ Q T 8 3

♥ T

♦ A 9

♣ Q T 9 6 3 2

♠ 6
♥ A Q J 8 7 5 4
♦ 6 3 2
♣ 8 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	4NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	5♦

6♥ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 10
SOUTH has a pretty normal 3

opening bid.

NORTH, however, has a big hand, and she launches into Blackwood.

When SOUTH shows one Ace NORTH can bid 6

with confidence.

Deal 11

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 7 5
♥ T 9 5 2
♦ K 8 6 4
♣ 6 3

6
6 8
20

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

West North East South
All Pass 3♣ Pass 3NT

3NT by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 11
NORTH doesn't have much of a 3 opening bid.

But SOUTH has just the type of hand you need to bid 3NT after partner's preempt. The other three

suits well stopped, and certain entry in Opener's long suit. Notice here that 3NT is a good contract,

but 5 would go down 1.

Deal 12

South Deals

None Vul

♠ T 7
♥ A 7 5
♦ T 9 4 2
♣ 9 6 5 3

23
4 8
5

♠ A Q 6 3
♥ Q 8 2
♦ A K Q
♣ K Q J

N
W
E
S

♠ K 9 8 5 2
♥ 4
♦ J 6 3
♣ A T 8 7

♠ J 4
♥ K J T 9 6 3
♦ 8 7 5
♣ 4 2

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

4♥ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 12

When SOUTH opens with a Weak 2

bid, NORTH knows she will

force to game but is thinking about slam.

But first she needs to know if SOUTH has anything extra. She bids 2NT to get more information.

SOUTH returns to

s to show bare minimum so NORTH settles for game.

Deal 13

South Deals

Both Vul

♠ A 7 5
♥ Q T 7 2
♦ J 6
♣ Q J 9 2

14
10 8
8

♠ J T 3
♥ A K 5 3
♦ A Q 7 3 2
♣ 4

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

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

3 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 5 13

NORTH has one of those hands which might or might not be helpful to SOUTH. He needs

more information about SOUTH's hand, so he bids 2NT.

SOUTH has a better than average hand, so she bids 3 to show a high card in the suit.

NORTH was hoping for a high card in

s rather than \$,0

2♠

he signs off in 3

Deal 14

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K T 9 8 5 2

♥ 9 7

♦ 9

♣ Q J 7 2

8
6 8
18

♠ 7 3
♥ K 5 3
♦ K Q T 8 7 2
♣ 9 4

N
W E
S

♠ Q J
♥ A J T 8 6
♦ 6 5 3
♣ T 8 3

♠ A 6 4
♥ Q 4 2
♦ A J 4
♣ A K 6 5

West	North	East	South
	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

3NT by South

tricks

she bids 3NT.

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 14

With four fast winners SOUTH should think about game. The best approach is usually to

use 2NT to find out more about NORTH's hand.

SOUTH found out that NORTH has good opening strength, and, most importantly, either the

A or

K. Now that she doesn't

have to worry about the opponents taking the first five

Deal 15

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 6 4 3
♥ Q J 5 3
♦ T 7
♣ K J 4

9
7 7
17

♠ 9 7 5

♥ 7 6

♦ A K Q 9 6 2

♣ 8 3

N
W E
S

♠ A J 2
♥ T 9 4 2
♦ 8 5
♣ Q 9 7 2

♠ K Q 8
♥ A K 8
♦ J 4 3
♣ A T 6 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 15

SOUTH is strong enough to be thinking about game, depending on how good NORTH's hand is.

So he bids 2NT to get more information.

NORTH has the exact hand to say 3NT - a suit headed by AKQ.

Game (and bidding) doesn't get much easier.

Deal 16

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 6
♥ K J 6
♦ A J 9 6 2
♣ 7 6 3

11
13 9
7

♠ T 9 2
♥ A 8 7 4 3
♦ 3
♣ A K 9 2

♠ 4
N
W E
S
♥ Q T 9 5
♦ K Q T 8
♣ Q T 8 4

♠ K Q J 8 7 5 3
♥ 2
♦ 7 5 4
♣ J 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3♠

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 5 16

NORTH assumes her partner can win six tricks. So she will need to contribute four more to

make game.

Three of them are obvious, and she expects to get a

ruff also.

Deal 17

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 5 4
♥ A K Q 4 2
♦ J T 7 4
♣ 8 7

14
10 6
10

♠ Q 9
♥ J 7 5
♦ A 9 6
♣ A Q J 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ J T 3
♥ T 9 6
♦ K Q 5 2
♣ T 9 3

♠ A K 8 7 6 2
♥ 8 3
♦ 8 3
♣ K 6 5

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 17
SOUTH's hand has the look of a Weak Two-bid, but it is one point too strong. So she opens 1 .

NORTH naturally bids 2 and SOUTH rebids the suit.

NORTH always knew there would be a game bid, so with an 8-card fit he bids 4

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

4 ♠ by North

Deal 18

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A T
♥ 9 4 2
♦ Q T 6 3
♣ A T 9 8

13
10 10
7

♠ Q J 8 3

♥ T 6

♦ K J 4

♣ K Q J 4

N
W E
S

♠ K 9 7 4 2

♥ K

♦ A 8 2

♣ 7 6 3 2

♠ 6 5
♥ A Q J 8 7 5 3
♦ 9 7 5
♣ 5

West North East South
3♥

All Pass

3♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 18

NORTH may have an opening hand, but it is just the wrong kind of hand to respond to

partner's preemptive bid. She doesn't have the immediate winners that SOUTH is likely

to need, but she is in good shape for defense should the opponents bid.

In other words, NORTH has the perfect hand with which to pass.

Deal 19

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 9
♥ Q T 9 5
♦ 8 5 2
♣ J T 9 6

9
7 3
21

♠ 5 4
♥ 8 6 3
♦ A K Q 9 7 4
♣ 8 5

N
W E
S

♠ T 8 7 6 3 2
♥ J 4 2
♦ T
♣ Q 7 3

♠ K Q J
♥ A K 7
♦ J 6 3
♣ A K 4 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
All Pass	3NT	Pass	6NT

6NT by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 19

The 2NT response to a Weak Two opening is a wonderful tool. You can learn a lot about

partner's hand and you are absolutely certain that it will not be passed out.

In this Deal SOUTH has a huge hand and NORTH opens 2

.

There are a lot of approaches SOUTH might try, but the simplest is to start with 2NT.

When NORTH shows

A K Q x x x SOUTH has an easy 6NT bid.

Deal 20

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 4
♥ T 9 7 6
♦ A Q T 7
♣ K J T 2

15
10 6
9

♠ K J 6
♥ A Q J 4 2
♦ 9 6 4
♣ A 5

N
W E
S

♠ T 8 3
♥ 8 5
♦ K J 3
♣ Q 9 8 6 4

♠ A Q 9 7 5 2
♥ K 3
♦ 8 5 2
♣ 7 3

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

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 20

NORTH is unsure whether to bid game or not. So she temporizes with 2NT.

SOUTH shows an above average hand plus a high card in

s.

NORTH is no longer unsure, so she bids 4 .

Deal 21

South Deals

N-S Vul

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

15	9	10	6
----	---	----	---

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

West	North	East	South
			2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠

All Pass

3 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set5 21

NORTH is unsure whether to bid game or not, so he bids 2NT to get more information about

SOUTH's hand.

SOUTH's 3 is discouraging, a hand below average in strength and no outside high card.

NORTH passes and hopes for the best.

Deal 22

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ T 9 4 2
♥ T 6 5
♦ Q 6 4 2
♣ A 2

6
6 10
18

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

West North East South
All Pass 3♣ Pass 4♥

4♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 5 22
SOUTH has no way to tell whether NORTH can provide one winner or not.

So she takes the bold approach and bids 4

If the opening lead is a or a

then SOUTH

will probably make the game. Otherwise she will likely go down one.

Deal 23

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 9
♥ 8 5
♦ K J T 8 6 4
♣ Q J T 3

8
7 11
14

♠ Q J T 7 4 2

♥ K Q 7 2

♦ 5 2

♣ 9

N
W E
S

♠ A 8 6 5
♥ T 4
♦ 9 3
♣ A K 7 5 2

♠ K 3
♥ A J 9 6 3
♦ A Q 7
♣ 8 6 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

4♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 23

Most good players have an extra restriction in their Weak Two-bid guidelines - they won't

open with a Weak Two-bid when they hold an outside 4-card Major, even if the hand qualifies

otherwise. This Deal shows why.

If NORTH opened with 2 SOUTH might well pass and a

game

would be missed.

Deal 24

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 9 7 5 4
♥ Q 9 8
♦ Q
♣ A 5 3 2

8
8
16

♠ 6 2
♥ 7 4 2
♦ A J T 8 3 2
♣ K 7

N
W E
S

♠ K J 8
♥ K 6 5 3
♦ 9 6
♣ J 9 8 6

♠ A Q 3
♥ A J T
♦ K 7 5 4
♣ Q T 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
All Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT

3NT by South

[Baker Bidpractice/](#)[Set 5](#) 24
SOUTH responds 2NT, asking for more information.

When NORTH shows a decent hand with a high SOUTH should bid 3NT.