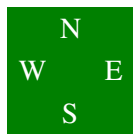


Board 1
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ 9 7 6
 ♥ T 9 8 7
 ♦ J 9 6 3
 ♣ 9 5

♠ K Q 5
 ♥ A 6 3
 ♦ A 8 2
 ♣ A J 4 3



♠ T 8 4 3
 ♥ J 5 2
 ♦ T 4
 ♣ K T 8 6

♠ A J 2
 ♥ K Q 4
 ♦ K Q 7 5
 ♣ Q 7 2

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|----------|-------|
| Pass | 6NT | All Pass | 1NT |

6NT by North

Baker SecondHand 13
 You are East. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♥T, won by dummy's ♥A. At trick 2 South calls for dummy's ♣3. Which card do you play?

When you have made your choice

You would not have been expecting South to play a small ♣ from dummy's holding. The only way it makes sense is if South holds the ♣Q.

If you play your ♣K you will win the trick, but in so doing you will set up 3 ♣ tricks for South, which is all he needs to make the slam.

Play low instead and South will win his ♣Q. But now your ♣ K T sits behind dummy's ♣ J 4 so he can get only one more trick in the suit, the ♣A.

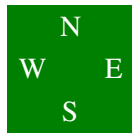
Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

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

♠ K 7 2
 ♥ K J T 9 3
 ♦ 7 2
 ♣ K J T



♠ 8 4 3
 ♥ 7 4
 ♦ Q J 9 5
 ♣ Q 9 7 5

♠ A Q 5
 ♥ A Q 8 6 5 2
 ♦ A K
 ♣ 6 2

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| | | | 1 ♥ |
| Pass | 3 ♥ | Pass | 4NT |
| Pass | 5 ♣ | Pass | 6 ♥ |
| All Pass | | | |

6 ♥ by South

Baker SecondHand 14

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

You lead the ♠ J, the ♠ K is played from dummy and holds the trick. Next come dummy's ♥ K, then another trump to South's ♥ A.

At trick 4 South plays the ♣ 2 from his hand and you must decide what to play.

When you have made your choice

South has 2 small ♣ s and faces a choice of dummy plays in the suit. He must decide whether to play you for the ♣ A or the ♣ Q. If you play your ♣ A you make the decision very easy for him.

When you correctly play your small ♣ life becomes harder for South. Sometimes he will guess correctly and play dummy's ♣ K, but other times he will play dummy's ♣ J, hoping you have the ♣ Q.

Board 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ T 8 7 6 2

♥ T 5 4

♦ K 6

♣ J 9 6

♠ 5 4

♥ J 6 2

♦ J 8 5 2

♣ A K Q 2



♠ A 9 3

♥ Q 9 8

♦ A 7 3

♣ T 8 5 4

♠ K Q J

♥ A K 7 3

♦ Q T 9 4

♣ 7 3

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|----------|-------|
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | 1NT |

3 NT by North

West's ♦ K will be an entry to the ♠ s

If you play low, West will have to take the ♦ K now, and although he can play a ♠ to establish the suit, he will not have an entry to be able to cash them.

Baker SecondHand 15

You are East. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♠ 6. You won the ♠ A and returned the ♠ 9, won by South's ♠ Q.

South next played to dummy's ♣ A and led the ♦ 2. What do you play?

When you have made your choice

Count the points. South's 15-17 plus North's 11 plus your T comes to 36-38. So West has room for an Ace or a King, but no more.

West's second ♠ play was the 2, so it looks like he started with 5 ♠ s. And the fall of South's ♠ s looks like he may have 1 ♠ left, very likely the ♠ K.

All this means that you should take your ♦ A now and return your last ♠ to establish West's suit. Now

Board 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 4
 ♥ A 2
 ♦ T 6 4 3
 ♣ Q J T 7 5

♠ K Q 8 6
 ♥ K 7 5 3
 ♦ A Q 5
 ♣ 8 4



♠ 5 2
 ♥ Q J T
 ♦ J 9 8 2
 ♣ 9 6 3 2

♠ A J T 7 3
 ♥ 9 8 6 4
 ♦ K 7
 ♣ A K

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| | | | 1 ♠ |
| Pass | 2 ♥ | Pass | 4 ♥ |
| Pass | 4 ♠ | Pass | 6 ♠ |
| All Pass | | | |

6 ♠ by South

another ♥ is played you will have to win it with your now bare ♥A. You will then have to play a ♦ or a ♣, giving South a ruff and sluff.

But if you take your ♥A now, then exit with your ♥2, South can win the ♥K but will still have to lose a ♥ to East.

Baker SecondHand 16

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

You lead the ♣Q, East plays low and South wins the ♣A.

South pulls trumps in 2 rounds. He then takes the ♦K, ♦Q, ♦A, discarding a ♥ on the last one. Next he plays dummy's last ♣ to his ♣K.

Having done all this, South now plays a low ♥ from his hand. What do you play?

When you have made your choice

If you followed what South was doing you will realize that he has eliminated both the ♦s and ♣s from both his hand and dummy. If it isn't clear that he is now out of ♣s, just remember the bidding - he must have had 5 ♠s and 4 ♥s.

Suppose you play low on this ♥ (as South hopes you will). Dummy's ♥K will take the trick, and when