

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

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 4
♥ A K Q 5 3 2
♦ J 4 2
♣ 9 6

♠ 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

♠ K Q 5

♥ T 8

♦ K Q 7 3

♣ A Q 7 4

West

North

East

South

2♥

3♥

Pass

4♣

Pass

5♣

All Pass

5♣ by North

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

West Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 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



♠ 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

West

1NT

North

2♦

East

Dbl

South

All Pass

2♦ X by North

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. North is in serious trouble, and when the opponents make a mistake you should punish them.

Board 4

South Deals

None Vul

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

♠ Q T 8 4

♥ K 6

♦ A T 7

♣ K T 8 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 7 6

♥ J T 4

♦ 8 4

♣ J 9 6 5 4 2

♠ K J 9 3

♥ A Q 8 7

♦ 9 5

♣ A Q 7

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

4♠ by South

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♠.