

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 7 6 5 2

♥ 3

♦ T 6 4

♣ A K T 5

♠ A

♥ K T 8 2

♦ A Q 7 3

♣ J 8 6 2



♠ Q T 8 4

♥ Q J 9

♦ K 9 5 2

♣ 9 3

♠ K 9 3

♥ A 7 6 5 4

♦ J 8

♣ Q 7 4

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

4♥ by South

Baker Signals 5

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♣A, dummy played the ♣2 and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

If you signal with the ♣9 West will continue with the ♣K and another which you will have to ruff. You will give up your NATURAL trump trick by doing so. Worse, you will allow North's ♣J to be established as a winner that South can later discard a ♦ on.

Much better to play low. Partner will surely switch to a ♦, and South will probably finesse, though it doesn't matter whether he does or not. You will win the ♦K, return the ♣9 back to West's ♣K, and still have your trump trick for later.

Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A K Q T 7

♥ T 9

♦ 9 7 2

♣ K 8 4

♠ J 6 4 2

♥ J 6 3

♦ A J 6

♣ T 7 3



♠ 9 3

♥ 5 4

♦ Q T 8 3

♣ J 9 6 5 2

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

4♥ by South

Baker Signals 6

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♠A, East plays the ♠9, South the ♠5. You assume East has signaled you to continue ♠s, so you play the ♠Q. On this trick East plays the ♠3 and South the ♠8. How will you continue?

When you have made your choice

You might just switch suits, but you have a better choice.

If you play your ♠Q, East won't bother ruffing, South WILL ruff and dummy's ♠J will be established as a winner.

The best procedure is to lead a low ♠. East will ruff and South will over-ruff but by playing this way you stop the establishment of North's ♠J. As you can see, South would have been able to discard a loser on that ♠J if you hadn't played this way.

Board 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 9 6 3

♥ Q J T 7

♦ 8 5 2

♣ 8 3

♠ J 8

♥ 9 6 2

♦ K Q T 9 4

♣ 9 7 5


 ♠ A T 5 2
 ♥ 8 5 3
 ♦ A 7 3
 ♣ J 6 2

West	North	East	South
			2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

want to win the second ♦ trick.

This defense holds South to one ♦ tricks, if you had let him win the second one he would have had 9 tricks.

Baker Signals 7

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♥Q, you played low and South won the ♥A.

South now plays the ♦J on which West plays the ♦2. What do you play now, and what is your plan.

When you have made your choice

North hoped his ♦ suit would provide enough tricks to make the game. You can see that there is no entry to the North hand EXCEPT in ♦s, so you want to win your ♦A on the trick that South plays his last ♦. How can you tell which trick that is?

Only by watching what West plays. On the ♦J West played the ♦2, a low card signaling that he held an ODD number of ♦s. ODD must be either one or three so when he followed to the next ♦ you know he started with three. A little bit of counting tells you that South started with the doubleton Jack, so you

Board 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A 6 5
♥ Q T 6 4
♦ K 7 2
♣ T 5 2

♠ K Q 9 3

♥ 8 7 3

♦ Q 6

♣ 9 7 6 4



♠ 8 7 2
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ A 8 4 3
♣ 8 3

♠ J T 4
♥ A K
♦ J T 9 5
♣ A K Q J

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

3 NT by North

Baker Signals 8

You are West. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♥4, East plays the ♥J, won by South with ♥A.

South plays the ♠J, you follow with ♠5, dummy ♠3 and East plays the ♠2. South continues with the ♠T and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

East's ♠2 tells you he had an ODD number of ♠s, obviously 3. Since South also must have 3, you must take your ♠A on the third round, depriving dummy of the extra ♠ trick.

South may now turn to the ♦ suit, but your side can win the first ♦ and drive out South's ♥K. You will win 2 ♥s, 2 ♦s and the ♠A, down 1