

**Board 1**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 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

West	North	East	South
	1NT	Pass	6NT

All Pass

6NT by South

## Baker SecondHand 13

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

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

When you have made your choice

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

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

Play low instead and North will win his ♣Q. But now your ♣K sits behind dummy's ♣J 4 so he can get only one more trick in the suit, the ♣A.

**Board 2**

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 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

	N	
	W	E
	S	

♠ A Q 5

♥ A Q 8 6 5 2

♦ A K

♣ 6 2

♠ J T 9 6

♥ -

♦ T 8 6 4 3

♣ A 8 4 3

West      North      East      South

3♥      Pass      1♥      Pass

5♣      Pass      4NT      Pass

6♥      All Pass

6♥ by East

**Baker SecondHand 14**

You are South. 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 East's ♥ A.

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

When you have made your choice

East 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 East. 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

N  
W E  
S

♠ 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
			1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3NT 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**

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ A J T 7 3

♥ 9 8 6 4

♦ K 7

♣ A K

♠ 9 4

♥ A 2

♦ T 6 4 3

♣ Q J T 7 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 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

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

6 ♠ by West

Suppose you play low on this ♥ (as West hopes you will). Dummy's ♥K will take the trick, and when another ♥ is played you will have to win it with your now bare ♥A. You will then have to play a ♦ or a ♣, giving West a ruff and sluff.

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

**Baker SecondHand 16**

You are North. The bidding has been as shown.

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

West 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, West now plays a low ♥ from his hand. What do you play?

When you have made your choice

If you followed what West 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.

**Board 5**

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 8 4 3  
♥ Q T 4  
♦ 8 7 3  
♣ J 8 7 4

♠ A 6

♥ A K 9 6 5

♦ J T 5

♣ Q T 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q J 9 5  
♥ -  
♦ 9 6 4 2  
♣ 9 6 5 3

♠ T 7 2

♥ J 8 7 3 2

♦ A K Q

♣ A K

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

6♥ by South

and play another ♥, finessing your ♥T. With no trump loser he will make the slam.

## Baker SecondHand 17

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

East led the ♠K, won by North's ♠A. North played a small ♣ to dummy's ♣A, then led dummy's ♥J.

What do you play? ♥Q or ♥4?

When you have made your choice

Remember that North opened 1♥, so he has 5 of them. With only 3 trumps out he has no intention of finessing. Perhaps he led the ♥J just to tempt you to cover in this situation.

If you play low he will win with one of his high ♥s and then you will have a sure ♥ winner. Along with the ♠ winner East has you will defeat the slam.

If you cover the ♥J with your ♥Q North will again win with one of his high ones. But now the position will be clear to North and he will return to dummy

**Board 6**

East Deals

E-W Vul

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

♠ K T 7 4

♥ A 3

♦ J T 9 2

♣ K J 9

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

West	North	East	South
		2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

4♥ by West

established soon. So go up with the ♠A and play a ♣ through dummy's ♣ A Q. When East tries the ♠ suit again NORTH can win and cash his ♣K for the setting trick.

If you play low on East's ♠ play North will be forced to win the trick and he cannot profitably attack the ♣ suit from his side.

## Baker SecondHand 18

You are South. The bidding has been as shown.

You decide a trump lead is called for and lead the ♥2. Your partner wins with the ♥A and plays the ♦J. East lets this go to dummy's ♦K, (but you know he has ♦Q), then plays a trump back to his ♥K, pulling the 2 outstanding trumps from South and North.

East's next play is the ♠3 from his hand. Do you play your ♠A or not?

When you have made your choice

Even if East doesn't have the ♠K he can establish a ♠ winner just by leading twice toward the ♠ Q J. That winner will take care of whatever black-suit loser he may have.

If North has a ♣ trick it is important to get it