

**Board 1**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 4

♥ J T 4

♦ Q J T 6

♣ J 7 5 4

♠ K J 7

♥ A K 7 5

♦ A 8 7 3

♣ K Q

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 8 6 5 3

♥ Q 9 3 2

♦ K 4

♣ 6 2

♠ Q T 2

♥ 8 6

♦ 9 5 2

♣ A T 9 8 3

West	North	East	South
	2NT	Pass	3NT

All Pass

3NT by South

**Baker Establishment 9**

North is to play 3NT. East leads the ♠9, taken by West with the ♠A. West next plays the ♠4.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=3 Total = 8

You only need one more winner and if ♦s split 3-3 you can easily establish a trick in that suit. But what if ♦s split 4-2? If the ♣J falls you can get an extra ♣ trick. In fact, no matter how the ♣s are arranged you can establish your extra trick there.

First make sure that you win the second trick with the ♠K, keeping dummy's ♠Q for a later entry. Then play ♣K, and ♣Q overtaking with dummy's ♣A. Then play the ♣T, losing to the ♣J but establishing the ♣9 while you still have the ♠Q as an entry.

**Board 2**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q T 4

♥ 9 6 3

♦ 9 3 2

♣ K Q J T

♠ A 8 5 2

♥ Q 7

♦ K 7 4

♣ 8 6 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K J 9

♥ J T 8 4

♦ Q J T 5

♣ 9 2

♠ 7 6 3

♥ A K 5 2

♦ A 8 6

♣ A 7 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♣	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT	All Pass	2♥

2 NT by North

## Baker Establishment 10

South is to play 2NT. West leads the ♣K.

Winners: ♠=1 ♥=3 ♦=2 ♣=1 Total = 7

You need to find another winner and the chances are not good. If either black suit splits 3-3 you can establish dummy's fourth card in that suit. But with West's opening lead of the ♣K it is unlikely that ♣s will split. So your only slim hope is that the ♠s split 3-3 and dummy's fourth ♠ will be a winner.

Win the first trick and play a ♠ to the ♠A. Then play another ♠. The defense will win and probably take some ♣ tricks. When they have finished and play a red card, you win it and play a third round of ♠s. If both defenders follow to all three ♠s then dummy's ♠8 is now a winner.

Next time they probably won't and you'll go down.

**Board 3**

North Deals

E-W Vul

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

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 8 6 5 3 2  
♥ A K J 5  
♦ 6 5  
♣ 8 3

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

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

4♥ by North

Baker Establishment 11  
North is to play 4♥. East leads the ♣K.

Losers: ♠=1 ♥=0 ♦=2 ♣=3 Total = 6

Obviously you don't really have 6 losers since some of those ♦s and ♣s can be ruffed in dummy. But if you are playing against competent defenders you will only be able to ruff two of them because every time they get the lead they will play a trump. So you must figure on ruffing 2 losers and establishing dummy's fifth ♠ for a discard of the other one.

Win the ♣A and immediately play your ♠Q. The defense will win this trick and probably play a trump. Be sure to win this in dummy and then ruff a ♠ with a high ♥. Now exit with a ♣. They will win and probably play another trump. Win this one in dummy also, breathing a sigh of relief when ♥s split 2-2. Ruff another ♠ with your second-last trump, then play ♦A and concede a ♦.

Whichever minor suit the defense plays next you ruff in dummy, then ruff the fourth ♠, establishing dummy's ♠8 while you still have a trump left in dummy. Dummy is now high.

But that was your best shot.

**Board 4**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 6 3

♥ J 2

♦ Q J T 7 6

♣ 8 4

♠ 8 7 5

♥ K 8 7 5 3

♦ A K 5

♣ T 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q T 4

♥ Q T 9 6

♦ 9 3 2

♣ 7 6 3

♠ A K 2

♥ A 4

♦ 8 4

♣ A K Q J 9 5

West	North	East	South
			2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♥	Pass	7♣
All Pass			

7♣ by South

Baker Establishment 12  
 South is to play 7♣. West leads the ♦Q.

Losers: ♠=1 ♥=0 ♦=0 ♣=0 Total = 1

It should be very clear that the only way to get rid of that ♠ loser is to discard it on dummy's ♥ suit. So after taking the first trick with dummy's ♦A you could pull trumps, then play ♥A, ♥K and ruff a ♥. IF the ♥s split 3-3 you could then enter dummy with the ♦K and discard your loser.

The problem is that the ♥s are much more likely to split 4-2, in which case you will need to ruff twice to establish a winner. That means you will need an extra entry to dummy.

That extra entry can only be the ♣T so you must delay pulling trumps until after you ruff the first ♥. Win the ♦A and immediately play ♥A, ♥K and ruff a ♥ with a high ♣. West discards on this ♥ play. Enter dummy with a trump and ruff another ♥ high. The suit is now established, so you pull trumps, enter dummy one last time with the ♦K and discard that losing ♠ on the good ♥8.

And if they had split 3-3 this Plan would still have worked.