

**Board 1**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 3

♥ J T 6 2

♦ K J 9 5 4 2

♣ 3

♠ K Q J 9 7 4 2

♥ 8 5

♦ 6

♣ T 7 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 5

♥ 9 7 3

♦ A 8 7

♣ A K 9 8 6 4

♠ A T 6

♥ A K Q 4

♦ Q T 3

♣ Q J 2

West

North

East

South

3 ♠

Pass

4 ♠

All Pass

4 ♠ by South

**Baker Signals 17**

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♣A. Seeing your ♣3 he next played the ♦A. What will you play on this trick?

When you have made your choice

Normally with this holding you would play the ♦9 to encourage East to play a second ♦ through dummy's ♦Q T.

But this time you really want him to take his ♣K. So play the discouraging ♦2 and hope he gets the message to go back to ♣s. If he does play the ♣K next it will win and he can then give you a ♣ ruff.

**Board 2**

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 6 4 2  
 ♥ 9 6 4  
 ♦ K Q 8 3  
 ♣ K 7 3

♠ J T 7 3

♥ J 7 2

♦ T 7 5

♣ A 9 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K Q

♥ A T

♦ A J 4

♣ Q T 8 6 2

♠ 9 8 5

♥ K Q 8 5 3

♦ 9 6 2

♣ J 4

West

North

East

South

3NT

All Pass

2NT

Pass

3 NT by West

**Baker Signals 18**

You are North. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♥5, you put on the ♥J, East won with the ♥A. The second trick was ♦A, ♦2, ♦3, ♦5. The third trick was ♦J, ♦6, ♦8, ♦7. East then put the ♣Q on the table.

When you have made your choice

Does it look to you like East is trying to create an entry to dummy so he can cash the 2 ♦ winners? That's what he wants it to look like, hoping someone holds up their ♣A.

But don't believe Declarer, believe your partner. On the first ♦ South played the ♦2. On the second ♦ he played the ♦6. He has an odd number of ♦s, obviously 3. And East must also have a third one, so he is up to some trickery with that ♣Q.

So grab your ♣A and return partner's ♥ suit.

**Board 3**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 7 5  
♥ 9 7 4 2  
♦ 8 6 2  
♣ 7 6 5 2

♠ K 9 8 6 4  
♥ A 6  
♦ Q J 3  
♣ A K 9



♠ A Q J 2  
♥ J T 3  
♦ A K T  
♣ J T 3

♠ T 3  
♥ K Q 8 5  
♦ 9 7 5 4  
♣ Q 8 4

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

6 ♠ by South

fails.

If you had not been paying attention to West's signal you might have decided to risk a ♣ lead - with a disastrous result.

**Baker Signals 19**

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. The 2♥ bid was a transfer. The 5NT bid meant to choose either 6♠ or 6NT. South liked the suit. Partner led the ♠5, won by South's ♠Q. South pulls one more trump with his ♠A, then wins three high ♦s. Next comes dummy's ♥A on which he plays the ♥3 and West plays the ♥9. Then he leads dummy's ♥6 which you win with the ♥Q. On this trick South drops the ♥J and West the ♥2. It is your play.

When you have made your choice

If you believe South is now out of ♥s then you should not play your ♥K because it would give him a ruff-sluff.

But you shouldn't believe South when your partner has sent you a clear signal that he holds an EVEN number of ♥s. In this case an even number must be 4 which means that South has one more ♥. So you play your ♥K. He ruffs in dummy of course, but then has no way to get rid of that ♣ loser when the finesse

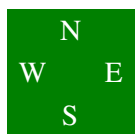
**Board 4**

North Deals

Both Vul

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

♠ A Q T  
 ♥ 9 2  
 ♦ 8 5 2  
 ♣ A K T 6 3



♠ 6 4  
 ♥ A J 8  
 ♦ A Q J 6  
 ♣ 8 7 5 4

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

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

4 ♥ by West

**Baker Signals 20**

You are North. The bidding has been as shown. You led the ♣A, South played the ♣2 and West the ♣9. What should you play to the second trick?

When you have made your choice

On first thought South's ♣2 seems to be a discouraging signal. Think again.

After the first trick you know the location of every ♣ except the ♣Q and ♣J. If South started with ♣J 2 he would have signaled with the ♣J. If South started with ♣Q J 2 he would have signaled with the ♣Q. Since he did neither he started either with singleton ♣2 or with ♣Q 2. In either case you should play a low ♣ now which he will either win with his ♣Q or he will ruff.

It turns out that he wins with the ♣Q, then leads a ♠ back to your ♠A Q.