

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 4 3
 ♥ K 7
 ♦ K Q 7 6
 ♣ T 9 8

13
 9 10
 8

♠ A 5
 ♥ A Q 9 4 2
 ♦ T 8 5 3
 ♣ K 3

N
 W E
 S

♠ K 8 7 2
 ♥ J 5 3
 ♦ 9 2
 ♣ A Q 6 4

♠ Q T 6
 ♥ T 8 6
 ♦ A J 4
 ♣ J 7 5 2

West North East South
 1♥ Pass 2♥

All Pass

2♥ by South

Baker Help 1

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

There is no doubt that you could use some help in ♦s. But you need more than that, you need points. This hand isn't good enough to invite to game so you pass.

Deal 2

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ J 7 4 2

♥ K 8

♦ 9 6 5

♣ K 7 6 2

8
7 17
8
 ♠ A 3
 ♥ J 9 2
 ♦ J 8 7 4 2
 ♣ Q 9 3

 N
 W E
 S

 ♠ K Q T 9 8
 ♥ Q 5 4 3
 ♦ A Q
 ♣ A 5

 ♠ 6 5
 ♥ A T 7 6
 ♦ K T 3
 ♣ J T 8 4

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

4 ♠ by West

Baker Help 2

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

This is not a great hand by any means. If partner had invited with a 3♠ bid you might have passed. But he invited with a 3♥ bid, asking if you can Help him take care of losers in that suit. And you have loads of Help. Not only do you have a high honor but you can ruff the third round. So you bid 4♠.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K
♥ J T 8 6
♦ J T 9 2
♣ J 8 7 5

7
6 9
18

♠ T 8 5 3

♥ K Q 5 4

♦ Q 7 6

♣ 9 4

N
W E
S

♠ 7 4 2
♥ 9 3 2
♦ 8 4 3
♣ A K Q 2

♠ A Q J 9 6
♥ A 7
♦ A K 5
♣ T 6 3

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

4 ♠ by South

Baker Help 3

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

You might make a Help Suit Game Try in ♣s, but with 19/20 points in your own hand you should just bid the game yourself. So you bid 4♠.

Deal 4

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ A 3
 ♥ A Q J 9 2
 ♦ Q 7 4 2
 ♣ K 8

7
 16 8
 9

♠ K T 9 7 6 5

♥ 4

♦ A T 9

♣ T 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 4 2
 ♥ K 8 5
 ♦ 6 5 3
 ♣ A 7 6 2

♠ Q 8
 ♥ T 7 6 3
 ♦ K J 8
 ♣ Q J 9 5

West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	All Pass

3♥ by East

Baker Help 4

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Partner is inviting you to bid game, and your 8 points are right in the "judgement" area.

But he has asked you to use judgement based on your ♦ holding, which is awful. So you sign off at 3♥.

Deal 5

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A T 9 6 5 4

♥ Q

♦ J 7 4 3 2

♣ 7

16

7 11

6

♠ K 3
♥ A J 9 7 2
♦ A K
♣ J 8 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8 7
♥ T 5 4
♦ Q T 9
♣ A K Q 4 2

♠ Q J 2
♥ K 8 6 3
♦ 8 6 5
♣ T 9 5

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

3♥ by South

Baker Help 5

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

You are almost strong enough to bid the game right now, but you are worried about ♣s. If partner can Help out in that suit you'd be willing to try for T tricks. So you make a Help Suit Game Try of 3♣. Partner replies 3♥. What do you say next?

When you ask partner to make a judgement call and he does so, you don't then override that call. You pass.

Deal 6

East Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 8 7 5 3
 ♥ 6
 ♦ K Q 5 3
 ♣ J T 6 2

10
 6 17
 7

♠ T 4
 ♥ A K T 9 2
 ♦ T 6 2
 ♣ K 4 3

N
 W E
 S

♠ A K Q 9 2
 ♥ Q 8 7 3
 ♦ A 4
 ♣ Q 7

♠ J 6
 ♥ J 5 4
 ♦ J 9 8 7
 ♣ A 9 8 5

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

4 ♠ by West

Baker Help 6

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Partner is worried about his ♥ losers and you can certainly take care of some of them. So even though you only have 6 HCP you bid 4♠.

Deal 7

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 7 3
♥ A Q 7
♦ Q T 9 8
♣ Q J 5

7
11 7
15

♠ Q 6 5
♥ T 8 6 4
♦ A J 7 3
♣ 7 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ T 2
♥ K J 9 5 3
♦ 5
♣ K T 9 4 2

♠ A K J 8 4
♥ 2
♦ K 6 4 2
♣ A 8 3

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

4 ♠ by North

Baker Help 7

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

You have an invitational strength hand, but there are TWO suits you could use some help in. In this case you pick the suit where the Help would be most welcome. If partner can Help in ♦s that will probably be all you need to make game.

So you bid 3♦ and partner puts you right to 4♠.

Deal 8

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q 5
 ♥ A Q T 7 5
 ♦ A J
 ♣ J 6 4

8
 17 10
 5

♠ T 7 3
 ♥ 9 4 2
 ♦ K Q 7 2
 ♣ K 9 2

N
 W E
 S

♠ A 6 2
 ♥ K J 6
 ♦ 9 6 5 3
 ♣ Q 8 3

♠ J 9 8 4
 ♥ 8 3
 ♦ T 8 4
 ♣ A T 7 5

Baker Help 8

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Partner has invited you to bid game and you have 10 points, an absolute maximum. But, he has also told you he is worried about ♣s and your help in that suit is rather nebulous.

Since you have to make a judgement one way or the other you should decide that a Queen is a little bit of Help and with the 10 points that should be enough. You bid 4♥.

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

4♥ by East

Deal 9

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 9 7 6 2
♥ 3
♦ Q J T 3
♣ K T 7 2

17
6 10
7

♠ Q 5 4 3

♥ K Q T 9 8

♦ A 5

♣ A Q

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A J T
♥ A 6 5
♦ 9 8 4
♣ J 8 4 3

♠ K 8
♥ J 7 4 2
♦ K 7 6 2
♣ 9 6 5

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

4♥ by South

Baker Help 9

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Except for the ♠ weakness you have a nice hand. If partner can Help you in that suit then you want to be in game.

So you bid 2♠ and partner bids 4♥. Sometimes it is easy.

Deal 10

East Deals

Both Vul

♠ T 5 3
♥ A K 5 3
♦ 8 5 3
♣ Q T 2

7
9 16
8

♠ J
♥ J T 8 7
♦ A J T 7 4
♣ 7 6 5

N
W E
S

♠ 9 7 6 2
♥ Q 9 4
♦ K Q
♣ J 9 4 3

West	North	East	South
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♠	Pass

4 ♠ by East

Baker Help 10

Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

You do have 9 points so you are inclined to bid game, but partner needs help in ♦s, and you are bankrupt there. But rather than just signing off, this hand gives you a way to temporize.

You bid 3♥, a bid not covered in the Summary, but which you hope partner will interpret as meaning: "I can't help you in ♦s, but I have some great ♥s."

Apparently partner interpreted it the way you wanted since he bid the game.