

**Board 1**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 6 2

♥ 6 5 3

♦ 9 7 2

♣ 5 4 3

♠ A T 8

♥ K Q 4

♦ A K T

♣ A 9 8 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 5 3

♥ 9 8 7 2

♦ 8 6 5 3

♣ K 6

♠ K 7 4

♥ A J T

♦ Q J 4

♣ Q J T 7

West	North	East	South
	2NT	Pass	6NT

All Pass

6NT by South

Since East will definitely win his King, you need to take one trick yourself, and the best way to do that is to split your Honors to establish one ♠ winner.

North has no defense to this, but if you had played low he would have played the ♠ T and made the slam.

**Baker SecondHand 5**

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♥ 9, taken by dummy's ♥ T. The ♠ 4 is then played from dummy. Do you play low? or split your honors?

When you have made your choice

You should always make a point count check as soon as you see dummy. North's 2NT promises 20 or 21 points, South has 14 and you have 3; total = 37 or 38. Therefore East must have either 2 or 3 points. He cannot have two Jacks because you can see all four of them. Likewise he cannot have a Queen because you can see three of them and his ♥ lead (top of nothing) denied that Queen.

It follows that East MUST have a King, and it must be ♣ s or ♦ s since he has denied any ♥ Honor.

**Board 2**

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K J 5

♥ Q 7 4

♦ T 7 2

♣ A J 9 5

♠ 7 6 3

♥ K J T

♦ K J 9 6

♣ T 7 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A Q 4

♥ A 8 5

♦ A Q 8 4

♣ 8 6 3

♠ T 9 8 2  
 ♥ 9 6 3 2  
 ♦ 5 3  
 ♣ K Q 4

West	North	East	South
		1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

3NT by West

likely as ♣ K Q.

If he does play this way North will win the ♣T and your ♣ K Q will get one more trick.

**Baker SecondHand 6**  
 You are South. The bidding has been as shown.

You lead the ♠T; low cards from West and North, won by East with the ♠A.

East next plays the ♣3 and you must decide whether to split your ♣ K Q.

When you have made your choice

If you split your Honors, playing the ♣Q perhaps, dummy's ♣A will take the trick and East will later play through your ♣K toward dummy's ♣ J 9 5.

Played in this way he will establish 3 ♣ winners (which he needs for the contract).

If you play low, he MIGHT finesse the ♣J and again establish 3 ♣ winners. But East's correct play would be to put on dummy's ♣9, finessing South for the ♣T. This is because ♣ K T or ♣ Q T are twice as

**Board 3**

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 8 7 3

♥ T

♦ J T 9 8 5 2

♣ Q 5

♠ A K 9 4

♥ K Q 6

♦ A Q 4

♣ T 8 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ T 6 2

♥ 7 3

♦ K 7 6 3

♣ A 9 4 2

♠ Q 5

♥ A J 9 8 5 4 2

♦ -

♣ K J 7 3

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

6♥ by South

him the contract.

By playing low you give him a guess to make. If he plays the ♣K he will make the contract, but if he plays the ♣J he will go down. He will probably play the ♣J, figuring you wouldn't have the nerve to duck with the ♣A. He'll know better next time he plays against you.

**Baker SecondHand 7**

You are East. The bidding has been as shown, (wild).

Partner led the ♦J; ♦Q from dummy, ♦K from you and ruffed by South.

South then pulls two rounds of trumps, (West discards on the second one), followed by his ♠Q, dummy's ♠A K and dummy's ♦A. South discards ♣s on the last two cards.

The ♣6 is then played from dummy and you must make a decision - ♣A or ♣2?

When you have made your choice

You have a full count on South's hand. He started with 2 ♠s, 7 ♥s, and no ♦s. His other 4 cards must have been ♣s, and he has discarded 2 of them.

So he has 2 ♣s left in his hand. If one of them is the ♣K and you play your ♣A then you have handed

**Board 4**

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ J 9 5

♥ 9 3

♦ A K Q

♣ K 9 7 5 2

♠ K Q 4

♥ 7 4

♦ J 9 7 5 4

♣ A J 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

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

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

3NT by East

So the way to beat the contract is to go up with your ♣A, then play ♠K, ♠Q and a third ♠, hoping South holds ♠ A x x x.

Baker SecondHand 8  
 You are North. The bidding has been as shown.

You lead the ♦5; ♦3, ♦T and won by West with ♦K. West now leads the ♣9 from his hand and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

First ask yourself "Where are the ♦A and ♦Q?" South doesn't have either one or he would have played it at the first trick. So West has both of them. So with those 3 tricks and the 5 ♥s in dummy West only needs to find one more winner. Assuming he has the ♣K, (or why play the suit), if you play low he will find that one more winner whichever high ♣ he plays.

Next ask yourself "Where is the ♠A?" Clearly South DOES have this card; otherwise West has his 9 tricks.