

Board 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 2
♥ A K J
♦ J T 6 3 2
♣ A 9 7 2

♠ A K 7 5 4
♥ T 8 5
♦ A K
♣ 8 5 4



♠ T
♥ 9 6 4 3
♦ 9 7 5
♣ K Q T 6 3

♠ Q J 9 8 6 3
♥ Q 7 2
♦ Q 8 4
♣ J

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠

All Pass

4 ♠ by South

Baker Signals 16

You are West. The bidding has been as shown.

Partner led the ♣K, dummy's singleton was played and it is your play.

When you have made your choice

East will look at your ♣9 and perhaps think for an instant that you want him to play another ♣.

But it will be a short instant because a look at dummy makes it absolutely clear to everybody that playing another ♣ could not help your side. Dummy has so many trumps that repeated ♣ leads would do nothing.

OK. If it's not an encouraging Attitude signal, what is it? Suit preference of course. Since it is a high spot card you are asking East to switch to the higher suit (choosing between ♦s and ♥s).

East dutifully plays a ♥ and you take the next three tricks. Had he switched to a ♦ instead, North would have been able to discard one of his ♥ losers on South's ♦Q.

Board 2

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A T 6
♥ A K Q 4
♦ Q T 3
♣ Q J 2

♠ 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

♠ 5

♥ 9 7 3

♦ A 8 7

♣ A K 9 8 6 4

West

North

East

South

4 ♠

All Pass

3 ♠

Pass

4 ♠ by West

Baker Signals 17

You are North. 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 South 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 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 8 5
 ♥ K Q 8 5 3
 ♦ 9 6 2
 ♣ J 4

♠ 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

♠ A K Q

♥ A T

♦ A J 4

♣ Q T 8 6 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

3 NT by North

Baker Signals 18

You are East. The bidding has been as shown. Partner led the ♥5, you put on the ♥J, South won with the ♥A. The second trick was ♦A, ♦2, ♦3, ♦5. The third trick was ♦J, ♦6, ♦8, ♦7. South then put the ♣Q on the table.

When you have made your choice

Does it look to you like South 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 ♦ West played the ♦2. On the second ♦ he played the ♦6. He has an odd number of ♦s, obviously 3. And South 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 4

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ A Q J 2
 ♥ J T 3
 ♦ A K T
 ♣ J T 3

♠ 7 5

♥ 9 7 4 2

♦ 8 6 2

♣ 7 6 5 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K 9 8 6 4

♥ A 6

♦ Q J 3

♣ A K 9

♠ 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 West

no way to get rid of that ♣ loser when the finesse fails.

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

Baker Signals 19

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

When you have made your choice

If you believe West 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 West 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 West has one more ♥. So you play your ♥K. He ruffs in dummy of course, but then has

Board 5

East Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 9 8 7 5 2
 ♥ T 5
 ♦ 9 7 4 3
 ♣ Q 2

♠ 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

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

4 ♥ by North

Baker Signals 20

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

When you have made your choice

On first thought West'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 West started with ♣J 2 he would have signaled with the ♣J. If West 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.