

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 9 8
♥ A 6 5
♦ Q T 9 6
♣ K 9 5

♠ K 6 3

♥ Q J

♦ A K 4 2

♣ A T 6 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q T 5 2
♥ 7 4 2
♦ 8 7
♣ J 8 7 2

♠ A 7 4
♥ K T 9 8 3
♦ J 5 3
♣ Q 3

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

3NT by South

Baker Establishment 6

South's 3♦ bid was a transfer to ♥s. North is to play 3NT. East leads the ♠ 2.

Winners: ♠=2 ♥=0 ♦=2 ♣=1 Total = 5

Obviously you need to establish 4 ♥ winners and by driving out the ♥A you can manage that handily. The problem is that dummy has only one sure entry, (the ♠A), and the defenders may be good enough to hold up their ♥A twice.

To assure the contract you should win the first trick in your hand with the ♠K. Then play ♥Q, ♥J overtaking with dummy's ♥K so you can continue establishing the suit while you still have that ♠ entry.

Board 2

West Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A J 6 4

♥ 7 5

♦ 6 3

♣ A K 6 4 3

♠ -

♥ T 9 6 3

♦ K Q J 9 4

♣ Q T 9 7

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q 9 8 7 5 2

♥ A 2

♦ A 2

♣ 5 2

♠ T 3

♥ K Q J 8 4

♦ T 8 7 5

♣ J 8

West	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♠	All Pass

6 ♠ by East

Baker Establishment 7

East is to play 6♠. South leads the ♥K.

Losers: ♠=0 ♥=1 ♦=1 ♣=0 Total = 2

One of the two red losers must be discarded on dummy's ♣ suit. So you pull trumps, taking two rounds, with ♠K and ♠Q. Then play two top ♣s and ruff a ♣. When South shows out on the third ♣, enter dummy with a trump and ruff another ♣. Dummy's final ♣ is now established, so enter dummy with another trump and discard one of the red losers on the fifth ♣.

Board 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 6 4 3

♥ 9 7

♦ K T 8 6 2

♣ 8 2

♠ T 9 7 2

♥ A J 6

♦ 7 5

♣ Q 6 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 8

♥ Q T 8 2

♦ Q J 9

♣ J T 9 7

♠ Q J 5

♥ K 5 4 3

♦ A 4 3

♣ A K 5

West

North

East

South

1NT

All Pass

1 NT by South

you gain the lead again you will get your ♠ winner established and only lose 2 ♠s and 4 ♦s.

If you had played 3 rounds of ♣s you would have gone down with the defenders winning 4 ♦s, 1 ♣ and 2 ♠s.

Only by establishing ♠s can you make the contract.

Baker Establishment 8

South is to play 1NT. West leads the ♦ 6, taken by East with the ♦ J. East next plays the ♦ Q on which West plays the ♦ 2. East plays the ♦ 9 which you finally win.

Winners: ♠=0 ♥=2 ♦=1 ♣=3 Total = 6

You only need one more winner and you have several possibilities. The ♥ finesse might work, or the ♣s might split 3-3. But you need to consider the defenders winners also. They have already scored 2 ♦ tricks and will get 2 more as soon as they gain the lead. (The spot cards told you that West has a 5-card ♦ suit.) Plus they have the 2 top ♠s which they can take whenever they like. So if your play sets up just one more trick for them you will go down.

No, you must establish ♠s, the suit where they have 2 winners anyway. So you play a ♠ which West wins. He takes his 2 ♦s but you are now home free. When

Board 4

West Deals

Both Vul

♠ K J 7
♥ A K 7 5
♦ A 8 7 3
♣ K Q

♠ 9 8 6 5 3

♥ Q 9 3 2

♦ K 4

♣ 6 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q T 2

♥ 8 6

♦ 9 5 2

♣ A T 9 8 3

♠ A 4

♥ J T 4

♦ Q J T 6

♣ J 7 5 4

West	North	East	South
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

3 NT by East

Baker Establishment 9

West is to play 3NT. North leads the ♠9, taken by South with the ♠A. South 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 5

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ 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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 8 5 2
♥ Q 7
♦ K 7 4
♣ 8 6 4 3

♠ Q T 4
♥ 9 6 3
♦ 9 3 2
♣ K Q J T

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

2 NT by South

Baker Establishment 10
North is to play 2NT. East 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 East'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.