

**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

N	♠ T
W	♥ 9 6 4 3
S	♦ 9 7 5

♠ 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

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.

**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).

**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

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 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
		3♠	Pass
4♠	All 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
			2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3NT 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

	N	E
W		E
	S	

♠ 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.