

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A T 9 4

♥ A 5

♦ J 9 4 3

♣ T 7 4

17
9 8
6

♠ J 6

♥ K Q T 8 3 2

♦ A 7

♣ A K 3

N
W E
S

♠ 8 7 5 2

♥ 7

♦ K Q T 5

♣ Q J 8 2

♠ K Q 3
♥ J 9 6 4
♦ 8 6 2
♣ 9 6 5

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

4 ♥ by North

Baker Bidpractice/
Set 3 1
SOUTH's 2

raise shows 6-10 points and at least three trumps.

NORTH, with 19+ points, decides that game is almost a certainty and bids 4

Deal 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K 8 3

♥ 7 4 3

♦ 8 6 4

♣ Q 7 5 2

12

5 8

15

♠ T 9 7

♥ A 9 6

♦ K Q 7 3

♣ K 8 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J 6 5 2

♥ Q J 5 2

♦ A 2

♣ T 9 3

♠ A Q 4

♥ K T 8

♦ J T 9 5

♣ A J 6

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 2
SOUTH has an ideal 1NT opening -

15 points and balanced distribution.

With 12 points, NORTH knows the partnership total is between 27 and 29, enough for game

but not enough to think about slam. Since NORTH has no 4-card Major suit she bids 3NT.

Deal 3

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 8
♥ 8 7 4 3 2
♦ A K J
♣ J T 7 4

6
9 11
14

♠ K T 7 3

♥ K 6

♦ T 7 5 4

♣ 8 5 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 9 5 2

♥ Q J T

♦ Q 9 6 3

♣ Q 9

♠ Q J 6 4

♥ A 9 5

♦ 8 2

♣ A K 6 3

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

2 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/^{Set 3}₃
With 6 points, NORTH must respond to SOUTH's 1 opening bid.

While it is often correct to respond by bidding suits "up-the-line", NORTH should

skip over the weak

suit in favor of showing the 4-card

Major suit.

SOUTH knows that NORTH may only have four s, but with four of her own she can support the

suit. Since she has a minimum opening bid she merely raises to 2 .

With his minimum response hand NORTH passes.

Deal 4

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A K 8 4 3
♥ J 5 3
♦ J 7 2
♣ J 9

10 6
 8
16

♠ 7 5
♥ T 9 8 4
♦ K 9 4
♣ K 8 5 2

♠ T 9 2
♥ 6
♦ Q T 8 6
♣ A Q T 7 3

♠ Q J 6
♥ A K Q 7 2
♦ A 5 3
♣ 6 4

N
W E
S

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

3♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 4

With 17 points SOUTH is not strong enough to insist on game after NORTH's raise,

but is strong enough to invite with a 3

bid.

NORTH, however, doesn't have anything extra, so declines to go further.

Deal 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 7
♥ A 7 5 2
♦ T 8 3
♣ T 4 3 2

17
5 9
9

♠ A 8 3 2

♥ K T 9

♦ A J 7

♣ K Q 6

N
W E
S

♠ K Q 6 5
♥ 8 6 3
♦ 9 6 4
♣ A 8 7

♠ T 9 4
♥ Q J 4
♦ K Q 5 2
♣ J 9 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT
	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 5

This is a classic Notrump bidding sequence.

NORTH opens 1NT with 17 points and balanced distribution.

SOUTH, with 9 points is not strong enough to bid game, but invites with 2NT.

NORTH has a maximum, so she accepts the invitation.

Deal 6

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 2
♥ J 8 3
♦ Q J 3 2
♣ J 7 6 5

14
5 7
14

♠ K J 8 4
♥ A K 7 2
♦ 6 5
♣ K 9 3

N
W E
S

♠ A Q T 6
♥ 5 4
♦ A 8 7 4
♣ A 8 2

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 6
With two 4-card Majors NORTH should respond "up-the-line", bidding

s first.

Then, after SOUTH bids 1 ,NORTH has enough points to jump all the way to 4 .

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

4 ♠ by North

Deal 7

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 5 2
♥ K 9 3
♦ T 8 7 3
♣ K 5 3

16
7 6
11

♠ K Q T 8 4

♥ A 7

♦ K Q 5

♣ Q T 6

N
W E
S

♠ 7

♥ J T 8 5 2

♦ J 4

♣ A 9 8 4 2

♠ A 9 6 3
♥ Q 6 4
♦ A 9 6 2
♣ J 7

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

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 7

NORTH has 17 points and might open 1NT. But with the 5-card Major suit she prefers

to open 1 .

SOUTH has excellent support but with 11 points is not quite strong enough to insist

on reaching game. Instead he makes an invitational jump to 3 ,which NORTH is strong

enough to raise to game.

Deal 8

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 9 5 3
♥ 7 5 3
♦ 8 4
♣ K Q 9 6

5
7 7
21

♠ 8 7
♥ T 6 4
♦ K Q T 9 6
♣ T 7 3

N
W E
S

♠ J T 4 2
♥ K Q 8 2
♦ 7 5 3
♣ J 4

♠ A K 6
♥ A J 9
♦ A J 2
♣ A 8 5 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

3NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 38

SOUTH has a powerful hand, but 21 points is not strong enough to start with a forcing 2 bid.

Since he has balanced distribution he opens 2NT (20-21 points).

NORTH adds her 6 points to SOUTH's minimum and concludes they should be in game. She expects her

good

suit to be useful to NORTH in Notrump so she bids 3NT.

Deal 9

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ K 8 7
♥ T 5 3
♦ A T 9 4 2
♣ Q 4

8
9 10
13

♠ T 9 5
♥ J 4
♦ Q J 8 3
♣ K J 7 2

N
W E
S

♠ A Q 4 2
♥ 9 7 6
♦ 7 5
♣ A 8 6 3

♠ J 6 3
♥ A K Q 8 2
♦ K 6
♣ T 9 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	1NT	All Pass	1♥

1 NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 9
SOUTH has a solid 1

opening, 14 points and five trumps.

NORTH must respond with 8 points, but cannot bid either minor suit since he needs at least

11 points to bid a new suit at the 2-level. So he bids 1NT (6-10 points).

SOUTH doesn't object to Notrump so she passes.

Deal 10

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 8
♥ 8 6 3
♦ K J T 6
♣ K Q 9 8 3

6
9 12
13

♠ J 9 6 2

♥ K Q 7 5

♦ 8 3

♣ T 7 4

N
W E
S

♠ A 5 4
♥ J T 9
♦ A Q 4 2
♣ J 5 2

♠ K Q T 7 3
♥ A 4 2
♦ 9 7 5
♣ A 6

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♠	All Pass	1♠

2♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 10
SOUTH has a normal 1 opening bid, 14 points and five trumps.

NORTH has good 4-card support and 7 points, so she raises to 2 ,

passed by SOUTH.

NORTH does not consider showing the

s,

first because she knows there is a fit, and second because she doesn't have

the 11 points needed to bid a new suit at the 2-level.

Deal 11

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 7 6 5
♥ J 6 4
♦ T 7
♣ A 6 4 2

15
5 2
18

♠ A 8 3
♥ A 7
♦ K J 9 6 4
♣ Q J 5

N
W E
S

♠ Q 9 2
♥ T 8 5 3
♦ 8 3 2
♣ 9 7 3

♠ K J 4
♥ K Q 9 2
♦ A Q 5
♣ K T 8

West	North	East	South
	1NT	Pass	6NT

All Pass

6NT by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 11

With balanced distribution and 16 points NORTH should open 1NT rather than 1

.

SOUTH's response is based on simple math. He adds his 18 points to the 15 minimum that NORTH has announced and

comes up with 33 points combined. This is enough for a small slam, and since he has balanced distribution

he bids 6NT.

Deal 12

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ A 8 2
♥ K J 5 4 3 2
♦ 7 4
♣ T 3

20
8 5
7

♠ Q J T 9 6
♥ A 7
♦ A Q 6
♣ A K 7

N
W E
S

♠ 7 5 3
♥ 9 8
♦ K J T 9
♣ J 6 4 2

♠ K 4
♥ Q T 6
♦ 8 5 3 2
♣ Q 9 8 5

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3 NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 12
NORTH is right at the maximum for a 1 opening bid - one more point and he would

have opened 2 .

SOUTH does not have 3-card support but with 7 points must make some response.

She cannot bid at the 2-level so she says 1NT (6-10 points).

NORTH is fine with Notrump so he bids 3NT.

Deal 13North Deals
None Vul

♠ 5
♥ T 7 6
♦ 5 3 2
♣ Q J T 8 7 5

12
3 7
18

♠ Q J T 8 3
♥ A J 4
♦ A T
♣ 9 6 2

♠ 7 2
 ♥ 9 8 3 2
 ♦ 9 8 6 4
 ♣ A K 4

♠ A K 9 6 4
♥ K Q 5

♦ K Q J 7
♣ 3

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

6 ♠ by South

would show one Ace, etc).

SOUTH has heard enough and bids 6 .

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 13

NORTH has a minimum 1 opening bid - 13 points and five trumps. She doesn't even suspect

what's about to befall!

SOUTH hears the 1 bid and all he wants to know is whether NORTH has one, two or three Aces.

So he uses the Blackwood convention, 4NT.

NORTH has two Aces so she bids 5

(5 would show zero Aces,

5

Deal 14

South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9 5
♥ T 4
♦ Q 8 5 2
♣ K J T 2

9
7 9
15

♠ A 7 4
♥ Q 5
♦ K 7 6 4
♣ 7 6 5 3

N
W E
S

♠ K Q T 8 3
♥ J 9 3
♦ J 9
♣ Q 8 4

♠ 6 2
♥ A K 8 7 6 2
♦ A T 3
♣ A 9

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

4♥ by West

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 14

SOUTH has an above-minimum strength hand with a good 6-card suit. He opens 1

.

NORTH, with 9 points, is a little too weak to bid at the 2-level so she bids a catchall 1NT.

SOUTH shows his 6-card suit and extra strength by jumping to 3

NORTH raises to 4

since two trumps is now adequate support.

Deal 15

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 6
♥ K T 9 6 5
♦ K T 9 8
♣ J 8 4

14
7 11
8

♠ K Q 7 4

♥ 8 3

♦ 7 6 2

♣ A K Q 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 9 5 2
♥ J 2
♦ A Q 4
♣ T 9 5 3

♠ J T 8 3
♥ A Q 7 4
♦ J 5 3
♣ 7 6

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

2 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 15

NORTH has 14 points and opens her 4-card suit.

SOUTH must respond, and with two 4-card Majors bids them "up-the-line", saying 1

.

NORTH now shows his 4-card suit, and SOUTH again must bid. Since SOUTH is pretty weak he just

raises to 2 which NORTH happily passes.

Deal 16

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J 6 5
♥ 8 6 5 4 2
♦ 5 4
♣ A 4 3

15
5 3
17

♠ A 9 4
♥ A 7
♦ K 8 3
♣ K J 9 6 2

N
W E
S

♠ K Q 7
♥ K Q J 3
♦ A T 6
♣ Q T 8

West	North	East	South
Pass	4NT	Pass	1NT
All Pass			6NT

6NT by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 16
SOUTH has a maximum 17 point 1NT bid.

NORTH, with 16 points, can't tell if there are enough points for slam. If SOUTH has

17 points then a slam should be makeable, but if SOUTH has only 15 points then he

should settle for game.

The 4NT raise solves the problem. It tells SOUTH to bid 6NT with 17 points, pass

with 15 points, and use best judgment with 16. Here SOUTH bids the slam.

Deal 17South Deals
None Vul

♠ J T 5

♥ K T 7 6

♦ Q J 3

♣ T 4 3

12
7 10
11

♠ A Q 8 6 2

♥ J 5 3

♦ 7 4

♣ K Q 2

♠ K 9 7 3
♥ 8 4 2
♦ A K 5
♣ J 7 6

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
All Pass			3 ♠

3 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/
Set3 17
SOUTH has just 11 points, not enough to open the bidding.

But when NORTH opens 1 SOUTH should show her "almost opening strength"

by jumping to 3 .

NORTH has just 13 points, and knowing SOUTH has less than 13 he passes.

Deal 18

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 5
♥ J T 9
♦ J T 9 7 4
♣ A J 7 3

9
7
10
14

♠ 7 3
♥ Q 8 6 4 2
♦ A 8 6
♣ K 9 5

N
W
E
S

♠ A K Q J 9 6 4
♥ -
♦ 3 2
♣ T 8 4 2

♠ T 8 2
♥ A K 7 5 3
♦ K Q 5
♣ Q 6

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♥	All Pass	1♥

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 18
After SOUTH opens with 1

♠ A K Q J 9 6 4 , NORTH has a small "dilemma".

With 11 points she really is only strong enough
to make a jump raise to 3

.

But, with five trumps the hand deserves more.
So she just bids 4

4♥ by North

instead.

Usually, no matter what your strength, when you have five cards in the Major suit that your partner opens

with you should just jump right to game.

Deal 19

South Deals

E-W Vul

♠ 2
♥ K 9 6 5 4
♦ J 7 5
♣ A 9 8 4

7
8 6
19

♠ K T 8 3
♥ J 7 2
♦ 9 8 6
♣ Q J 3

N
W E
S

♠ A 9 6 4
♥ Q T 8 3
♦ T 4 2
♣ 7 5

♠ Q J 7 5
♥ A
♦ A K Q 3
♣ K T 6 2

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

4 ♠ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 19

SOUTH has 19 points, but no 5-card Major suit. With two 4-card minor suits she should start

with 1

.

NORTH has a poor hand, but with 7 points he must respond. His first priority is to show a Major suit

so he responds 1 .

SOUTH now knows that will be trumps, so she revalues her hand to 21 points, enough for game.

She bids 4 .

Deal 20

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 5 2
♥ A T 6 3
♦ K 8 3 2
♣ 8 7

9
7 8
16

♠ T 9 6 3

♥ 7 5 4

♦ Q 7

♣ A K 6 4

N
W E
S

♠ A
♥ J 9 8
♦ T 9 5 4
♣ Q J T 5 2

♠ K Q J 7 4
♥ K Q 2
♦ A J 6
♣ 9 3

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

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 20

NOTE: There is a better way to bid this hand using special conventions.

SOUTH has 17 points, but with a 5-card Major opens 1 rather than 1NT.

NORTH isn't quite strong enough for a jump raise, so she bids 2 .

SOUTH has enough extra to make a try for game, so she invites with 3 .

NORTH has enough extra to accept the invitation, bids 4 .

Deal 21

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 6 2
♥ T 8 3
♦ 8 6 5 4 2
♣ A 7

20
4 4
12

♠ K J 3
♥ K Q 5
♦ A Q J
♣ K J 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 7 5 4
♥ 9 7 4 2
♦ 7
♣ 9 8 6 3

♠ Q T 8
♥ A J 6
♦ K T 9 3
♣ Q T 5

West North East South
All Pass 2NT Pass 4NT

4NT by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 21
NORTH has a perfect 2NT opening hand, 20 points and 3-3-3-4 distribution.

SOUTH, with 12 points of his own, knows the partnership is borderline strong enough for slam.

Since he is happy with Notrump, he invites NORTH to bid slam by responding 4NT.

With one more point NORTH might bid the slam, but here she just passes.

Deal 22
South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 8 7
♥ T 8 5
♦ Q J T 9 6
♣ 9 4

9
7 9
15

♠ J T 4
♥ A J 6
♦ K 5 3
♣ T 8 7 2

♠ K Q 3 2
♥ 9 7 4 3
♦ 4 2
♣ A 6 5

♠ 9 6 5
♥ K Q 2
♦ A 8 7
♣ K Q J 3

N
W E
S

West	North	East	South
Pass	2NT	All Pass	1NT

2NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 22
SOUTH opens 1NT with 15 points and a balanced hand.

NORTH, with 9 points, cannot bid game herself, but she can invite SOUTH to bid game if he

has the maximum 17 point opener. So she responds 2NT.

SOUTH doesn't have maximum, he has minimum, so he passes.

Deal 23

South Deals

Both Vul

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

9	8	5	18
---	---	---	----

♠ J 9 7 5

♥ 6 4 2

♦ A K J

♣ 7 4 2

N		
W		E
	S	

♠ A 6 4

♥ J T 7 3

♦ 9 8 5

♣ 9 8 3

♠ Q T 8 2

♥ A K

♦ 7 6 4

♣ A K Q 5

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

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 23

SOUTH is 1 point too strong to open 1NT, so opens 1 .

NORTH responds in his 4-card Major suit, 1 .

SOUTH now shows her 4-card support plus her extra strength by jumping to 3 and NORTH bids the game.

Deal 24

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 7
♥ 9 6 5 4 3
♦ A 4 2
♣ Q 4 3

7
6 6
21

♠ 5 4 3
♥ A 7 2
♦ K T 6 5
♣ 9 8 5

N
W E
S

♠ A T 8 6 2
♥ J T
♦ 8 7
♣ J T 7 6

♠ K Q J
♥ K Q 8
♦ Q J 9 3
♣ A K 2

West	North	East	South
			2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set3 24
SOUTH has a classic 2NT opening bid, 21 points and balanced distribution.

NORTH knows that her 7 points will be plenty for game, but not enough to consider

slam so she just bids 3NT.