

Deal 2

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q J 3
♥ J 9 5
♦ K 4 3
♣ Q T 6

14
12 8
6

♠ A 8 7
♥ K Q 8 7 3
♦ J
♣ A 9 5 4



♠ 9 5 2
♥ 2
♦ A Q T 9 8 7 5
♣ 8 7

♠ T 6 4
♥ A T 6 4
♦ 6 2
♣ K J 3 2

West	North	East	South
			3 ♦
All Pass			

3 ♦ by South

Baker Preempt 1

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3 ♦]

You estimate you can win 6 ♦ tricks so you open 3 ♦. Everybody passes.

Deal 3

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 7
♥ A 6 4 3 2
♦ Q 2
♣ A 9 7 6 5

6
10 11
13

♠ K Q J T 8 6 4
♥ 9 7
♦ 6 5
♣ T 4



♠ 9 2
♥ K J 8 5
♦ K J 9
♣ K Q 8 3

♠ A 5 3
♥ Q T
♦ A T 8 7 4 3
♣ J 2

West

North
3 ♠

East
All Pass

South

3 ♠ by North

Baker Preempt 2

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID pass]

You have 13 points and if partner had opened with a 1 ♠ bid you'd be feeling "jumpy". But what a preemptive bidder needs from dummy are immediate winners, not points. So you pass.

Here's a pretty good tip: When partner opens with a 3-bid and you are trying to decide whether to take him to game, visualize him holding this very hand: K Q J T x x x of trumps and nothing in any other suit. Then base your decision on that.

Deal 4

South Deals
None Vul

♠ T 4
♥ K 9 5
♦ A Q J T 4
♣ J 9 4

12
11 10
7

♠ J 9 8 7 3

♥ A 4 2

♦ 8 2

♣ A K 7



♠ A

♥ Q J T 8 7 6 3

♦ 9 7 5

♣ 6 2

♠ K Q 6 5 2

♥ -

♦ K 6 3

♣ Q T 8 5 3

West

North

East

South

Pass

4♥

All Pass

3♥

4♥ by North

Baker Preempt 3

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3♥]

You expect your hand to produce 5 ♥ tricks and the ♠A. So you open 3♥. Partner responds 4♥. What do you bid? [BID pass]

When you preempted 3♥ you described your hand perfectly. You have nothing more to say except pass.

Deal 5

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 5 4
♥ A 9
♦ A J T 7
♣ Q J T 3

5
12 11
12

West

All Pass

♠ 8 3
♥ K Q T 8 7 4 2
♦ 8 6 2
♣ 5



♠ A K 7 6
♥ J 5 3
♦ 9 4
♣ A 8 7 4

North

3♥

East

Pass

South

4♥

4♥ by South

Baker Preempt 4

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 4♥]

No matter how much we try to reduce bridge to rules and guidelines we will never get rid of the judgement factor. With this hand you definitely have 3 fast tricks for partner. In theory he can take 6 of his own, so 3♥ should be the right contract. BUT, maybe he could ruff a ♦ in your dummy?

Fortune favors the bold so you bid 4♥ . . . and live happily ever after.

Deal 6

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 3
♥ A K J 4
♦ Q J T 4
♣ K T 5 3

7
14 13
6

♠ T 4
♥ Q 8 6
♦ A 9 6 3
♣ J 6 4 2



♠ K Q J 9 8 7 5 2
♥ 9
♦ 5 2
♣ 8 7

♠ A 6
♥ T 7 5 3 2
♦ K 8 7
♣ A Q 9

West North East South

4 ♠

All Pass

4 ♠ by South

just one ♦ loser. If they decide to finesse your partner for the ♥Q they can make slam.

This is what preempting is all about.

Baker Preempt 5

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 4 ♠]

With 7 estimated winners and an 8-card suit you preempt 4 ♠. And you are not going to make it. In fact you are only going to make 8 tricks so you will go down 2.

You may be wishing that you had opened just 3 ♠, rather than following the guidelines and opening at the 4-level. The problem with that thinking is that the lower your preempt, the less difficult it is for the opponent's to enter the bidding. If you had opened 3 ♠ West might have been able to make a Takeout Double and they could have found their ♥ fit. Just visualize their combined hands; they have 9 ♥s between them, they have no ♠ losers, no ♣ losers and

Deal 7

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 4 2

♥ T 7 2

♦ Q J 5 3

♣ K J 3 2

6

7 7

20

♠ K Q J 9 8 7 3

♥ 6

♦ 9 8 4 2

♣ 7



♠ T 6

♥ A K Q 8 5

♦ A K

♣ A 8 6 4

♠ A 5

♥ J 9 4 3

♦ T 7 6

♣ Q T 9 5

West

Pass

6 ♠ by South

North

3 ♠

Pass

East

Pass

South

6 ♠

Baker Preempt 6

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 6 ♠]

If is hard to imagine any hand partner could have where the slam wouldn't be there. Maybe you should use Blackwood, just to be sure? If partner shows 1 Ace you would then bid 6 ♠. And if he shows no Aces you would then . . . bid 6 ♠ anyway. So you leave out the middle step and bid 6 ♠.

Did you think about bidding 6NT instead? Ugh, they would have led a ♣.

Deal 8

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A J T 4
♥ J
♦ K Q 7 3
♣ A 7 4 2

8
15 12
5

♠ Q 8 7 6
♥ 5
♦ A J T 4
♣ J 8 5 3



♠ 9 5
♥ K Q T 8 7 6 3
♦ 8 2
♣ T 9

♠ K 3 2
♥ A 9 4 2
♦ 9 6 5
♣ K Q 6

West	North	East	South
			3♥
Dbl	Pass	3♠	All Pass

3♠ by East

Baker Preempt 7

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3♥]

You make a simple 3♥ opening bid and then the fireworks start. West doubles, your partner passes and East bids 3♠. What do you bid now? [BID pass]

Do not preempt the same hand twice. The idea of a preemptive bid is that you bid it's maximum at your first turn. If there is to any further competing on this hand partner will have to do it.

Deal 9

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 7
♥ A J T 7 4
♦ -
♣ K Q T 9 4 2

6
10 13
11

West

All Pass

4 ♦ by South

♠ 4
♥ 6 5 2
♦ K Q J T 8 7 3
♣ 8 5



♠ 8 6 3 2
♥ K 8
♦ A 9 6 4
♣ A 7 3

North

3 ♦

East

3 ♠

South

4 ♦

Baker Preempt 8

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 4 ♦]

You do not have the 4 fast winners you need to raise partner to the 4-level. But you do have 4 of his trumps and 2 and a half winners. And your side doesn't have much defense against a 3 ♠ contract. You should raise partner to 4 ♦ because you think they can make 3 ♠. With these hands it appears they might have gone to 4 ♠ in which case you would have had to decide whether to continue to 5 ♦. More judgement would be called for, based on Vulnerability, whether you think they can make the game, etc. The Law of Total Tricks can be a help in these competitive situations; it would lead you to 5 ♦.

Deal 10

South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 7 6 2
♥ A Q 9 3 2
♦ K 5
♣ A 8

8
14 12
6

♠ A 8
♥ 8 7 4
♦ J 9 4 2
♣ K 6 3 2



♠ 9 5
♥ 6
♦ A Q T 8 7 6 3
♣ T 9 5

♠ K Q T 4 3
♥ K J T 5
♦ -
♣ Q J 7 4

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

4 ♥ by East

Baker Preempt 9

You dealt this hand. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3 ♦]

You open 3 ♦. West doubles, partner raises to 4 ♦, and East bids 4 ♥. What do you say? [BID pass]

You just pass. Partner's raise was probably just advancing your preempt and they got to 4 ♥ anyway. Sometimes preempts don't do the full job.

It is partner's decision, not yours, whether to continue to 5 ♦ as a sacrifice.

Deal 11

North Deals
None Vul

♠ J 7 2
♥ 6 2
♦ A K Q J
♣ 9 7 5 2

7
11 12
10

♠ 8 5 3
♥ A Q J 9 8 4 3
♦ T 7 6
♣ -



♠ 9 6 4
♥ -
♦ 8 5 4 2
♣ A K Q J 8 3

♠ A K Q T
♥ K T 7 5
♦ 9 3
♣ T 6 4

West

North
3 ♥

East
All Pass

South

3 ♥ by North

Baker Preempt 10

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID pass]

The guidelines in the summary would have you bid 4♥. After all you very clearly have four quick winners.

But you also have seven quick losers in the other suits, and a trump void to boot.

Somewhere in some of these lessons there should be a guideline that says:

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Deal 12

East Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 4 2
♥ 9 7 2
♦ A 9 3
♣ A 8 4 3

14
8 11
7

♠ Q 5
♥ A J 8 3
♦ Q 7 6 5
♣ K Q 2



♠ A K T 8 7 6 3
♥ 6
♦ 8 4
♣ T 9 5

♠ J
♥ K Q T 5 4
♦ K J T 2
♣ J 7 6

West

North

East
1 ♥

South
3 ♠

All Pass

3 ♠ by South

Baker Preempt 11

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 3 ♠]

The fact that East opened doesn't change your hand at all. You had planned on Opening 3 ♠, now you make a Weak Jump Overcall of 3 ♠. If partner has some "stuff" you might get to a makeable contract, and if he doesn't you may keep the opponents out of a ♥ game.

This time everybody passes.

West Deals
None Vul

♠ J T 8 6
♥ A 5
♦ J
♣ K Q J T 8 2

6
12 5
17

♠ Q
♥ K J T 9 6 4 2
♦ T 8
♣ 7 6 4



♠ A K 7 2
♥ Q 7
♦ A 5 4 2
♣ A 9 5

♠ 9 5 4 3
♥ 8 3
♦ K Q 9 7 6 3
♣ 3

Baker Preempt 12

The bidding has been as shown. Decide what you would bid, then click on BID above. [BID 4♥]

You have four quick winners. If partner had opened 3♥ you would have bid 4♥ in the blink of an eye. His Weak Jump Overcall describes the exact same hand. So blink and bid 4♥.

West
1♣
All Pass

North
3♥

East
Pass

South
4♥

4♥ by South