

Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ T
♥ A T 8 3
♦ 7 6 5 4 3
♣ A 9 6

22
8 4
6

♠ A K Q 9 8 3

♥ 2

♦ A K

♣ K Q J 8

	N		♠ 6 5
W		♥ J 9 7 6	
	E		♦ Q J T 9
	S		♣ T 4 2

♠ J 7 4 2
♥ K Q 5 4
♦ 8 2
♣ 7 5 3

West	North	East	South
	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

5 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set7 1
SOUTH's 3 supporting bid is enough to convince NORTH to make a slam try.

NORTH bids Blackwood 4NT. If SOUTH shows one Ace NORTH plans to bid 6 but

when SOUTH bids 5 NORTH settles for 5

Deal 2

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ K Q 9 7 5
 ♥ 3
 ♦ 8 7 5 2
 ♣ 9 8 5

23
 5 4
 8

♠ A 6 4
 ♥ K J 9
 ♦ A K Q J 9
 ♣ K Q

N
 W E
 S

♠ T 8 2
 ♥ 7 5 4 2
 ♦ 6 4
 ♣ A 6 3 2

♠ J 3
 ♥ A Q T 8 6
 ♦ T 3
 ♣ J T 7 4

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

6♥ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 2
 SOUTH makes a positive 3

response to NORTH's 2 opener.

This promises at least 8 points and a 5-card suit with two or more honors.

NORTH only needs to know one thing - how many Aces in the SOUTH hand.

A Blackwood 4NT tells her the answer is one, so she bids 6

.

Deal 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 6 5 4
♥ A 9 8 5
♦ T 7 5
♣ T 8

16
4 2
18

♠ A 9 7
♥ Q J 4 2
♦ K Q 8 6
♣ A 5

N
W E
S

♠ J 8 3 2
♥ T 7 3
♦ J 9 3 2
♣ 6 4

♠ K Q
♥ K 6
♦ A 4
♣ K Q J 9 7 3 2

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

6NT by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7 3

When NORTH opens 1NT, point-count alone tells SOUTH that 6NT can surely be made.

NORTH is bound to hold at least two Aces. But SOUTH doesn't want to miss a Grand slam.

SOUTH bids 4 (Gerber), and NORTH admits to just two Aces.

So SOUTH settles for the small slam.

Deal 4

North Deals
Both Vul

♠ T 7
♥ Q T 2
♦ J 6 5 2
♣ J 6 4 3

12
4 2
22

♠ J 9 5 2
♥ A J 7 4 3
♦ A Q
♣ 9 8

N
W E
S

♠ 8
♥ 9 8 6
♦ T 9 8 4
♣ Q T 7 5 2

♠ A K Q 6 4 3
♥ K 5
♦ K 7 3
♣ A K

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
All Pass	5♥	Pass	7NT

7 NT by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7 4

SOUTH has a powerhouse and knows she will reach a slam somewhere. When NORTH

supports the ♠ it seems she has found her spot.

Blackwood tells her that NORTH has two Aces.

She can see there are 12 tricks available and decides to take a chance that

NORTH will have a thirteenth trick somewhere among his opening hand points.

She bids 7NT.

Deal 5
South Deals
N-S Vul

♠ Q 9 8 6
♥ 7 2
♦ 5 4
♣ A 9 4 3 2

8
6 4
22

♠ J 7 3
♥ A J T 9 8
♦ 8 3 2
♣ Q 8

N
W E
S

♠ A K 2
♥ K Q 6 5
♦ K Q J
♣ K J 6

Baker Bidpractice/Set 5
SOUTH is tempted to go right to 6

when she hears NORTH's positive response. BUT, she should use Blackwood first.

It's good thing she did because NORTH admits to only one Ace - they are missing two Aces.

West	North	East	South
Pass	2♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

5♥ by South

Deal 6

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ J 8 5 2

♥ J 9 4 2

♦ 6

♣ J T 6 2

18

3 6

13

♠ K Q 4

♥ A 8

♦ K Q J T 7 3

♣ K 5



♠ T 9 7

♥ Q 6 5 3

♦ 8 5 2

♣ A 4 3

♠ A 6 3

♥ K T 7

♦ A 9 4

♣ Q 9 8 7

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

6NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 6

NORTH not only has 20 points, he also has a lot of winners.

So when SOUTH jumps to 2NT, showing 13-15 points, NORTH uses Gerber.

SOUTH shows two Aces so NORTH decides 6NT will be just right.

Deal 7

South Deals

Both Vul

♠ T 7 2
♥ T 9 7 2
♦ K T 9 5 3
♣ 7

19
3 5
13

♠ A J 9 6 3

♥ A 4

♦ A Q J 6

♣ K 5

N
W E
S

♠ 4
♥ K Q 8 5
♦ 4 2
♣ T 9 8 6 3 2

♠ K Q 8 5
♥ J 6 3
♦ 8 7
♣ A Q J 4

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

6 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7

When SOUTH gives immediate support,
NORTH's thoughts naturally

turn to slam. This is a good hand to use Blackwood on, so NORTH bids 4NT.

SOUTH's 5

answer shows one Ace, which NORTH cleverly deduces

must be the A.

NORTH bids 6 since SOUTH has not bid strongly enough to think about 7.

Deal 8

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 5 2
♥ 6
♦ A 6 5 4
♣ T 9 8 6 5 4

23
4 5
8

♠ K Q J
♥ A K T
♦ K Q 2
♣ K Q 7 3

N
W E
S

♠ T 9 8 7 3
♥ 5 3 2
♦ T 7
♣ A J 2

♠ A 6 4
♥ Q J 9 8 7 4
♦ J 9 8 3
♣ -

West	North	East	South
	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

6♥ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 8
NORTH expects to bid 2NT at his second turn,
but SOUTH gives a positive 2

response and his thinking changes! First he supports

s, setting the

trump suit.

SOUTH then bids 3, showing first round control. NORTH tries 4NT (Blackwood) and

SOUTH replies 6. This shows a void and one Ace, obviously the A.

NORTH bids 6

, knowing they must lose the

A.

Deal 9

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 7 6	♦ A K T 7 5 3
♥ 9 4	♦ K 7
♦ J T 4	♣ J 9 6
♣ A Q 8 7 4	

14	Ace count
7	7
8	8
11	11

♠ K 5	♦ A 8 4 2
♥ A K T 7 5 3	♥ Q J 8 6
♦ K 7	♦ A 9 8 6 3
♣ J 9 6	♣ -

N
W E
S

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5NT
	7♥	All Pass	

7♥ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 9
SOUTH's jump to 4 is a Splinter bid, at least 4-card

support,

at least opening hand, and a Singleton or Void.

NORTH bids 4NT, Blackwood.

SOUTH's 5NT reply shows two Aces and a Void somewhere, obviously s.

NORTH counts thirteen tricks and bids 7

Deal 10

South Deals

None Vul

♠ T 7 6 2
♥ 8 4 2
♦ Q J 5 3
♣ A 4

8
7 7
18

♠ -
♥ A 9 7 5
♦ K 9 8 6 4
♣ J 9 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ A Q J 9 8 4
♥ 6
♦ T 7 2
♣ 8 7 5

♠ K 5 3
♥ K Q J T 3
♦ A
♣ K Q T 6

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♥	Pass	1♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	4NT

6♥ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7 10
SOUTH figures that if NORTH holds two Aces
he will bid the slam.

NORTH only has one Ace, but she has
something else just as good - a void in a suit
which

is higher-ranking than

s.

SOUTH manages to figure out that NORTH
has a void and bids the slam anyway.

Deal 11

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q
♥ T 6
♦ T 9 4 3 2
♣ A Q T 9 8

17
8 7
8

♠ A 9 8 6 4

♥ A K Q

♦ 7

♣ K J 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ J T 2
♥ 9 5 4 3 2
♦ K Q J
♣ 5 2

♠ K 7 5 3
♥ J 8 7
♦ A 8 6 5
♣ 7 4

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

4 ♠ by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set7 11
NORTH may have a good hand but SOUTH merely gave a simple raise.

Even if SOUTH has a maximum there won't be a slam.

Deal 12

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A T 9 6
♥ A 7
♦ T 9 7 3
♣ T 3 2

10
8 6
16

♠ -
♥ K Q J 8 6 3
♦ K J 2
♣ A Q 6 5

♠ Q 7 5 3

♥ T 9 4 2

♦ A 8

♣ K J 4

N
W E
S

♠ K J 8 4 2

♥ 5

♦ Q 6 5 4

♣ 9 8 7

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♥	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♣
All Pass			6♥

6♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7 12

SOUTH has a tough decision after the two Control-showing bids.

If he uses Blackwood and NORTH shows two Aces he will be no better off, because he won't know if one

of the Aces is the useless A. Based on knowing that NORTH holds the

A,

he bids 6

, hoping that he can at least make that and that 7 isn't a laydown!

Deal 13

North Deals
None Vul

♠ T 4 3
♥ Q 8 5 2
♦ 6 5
♣ Q J 9 5

21
5 4
10

♠ K 6 2
♥ A T 9
♦ A K 3
♣ A K 8 4

N
W E
S

♠ Q J 9 8 5
♥ J 7 6 4
♦ T
♣ T 3 2

♠ A 7
♥ K 3
♦ Q J 9 8 7 4 2
♣ 7 6

West	North	East	South
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
All Pass	5NT	Pass	7NT

7 NT by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set7 13
SOUTH isn't sure just how much he can make,
but surely 6

isn't

too much to hope for.

He starts with a Gerber 4 and NORTH shows three Aces.

Hmmm, 5 asks for Kings and NORTH shows three.

Hmm, SOUTH can now count all thirteen tricks, so he forgets about the

slam and bids 7NT.

Deal 14

South Deals
None Vul

♠ T 9 7
♥ A T 8 5 4
♦ J 7 6
♣ 4 2

11
5 **4**
20

♠ J 8	♦ 8 5	♣ A K Q T 9 6
♥ J 7 2		
		♠ 6 5 4 3 2
		♥ 9 3
		♦ A T 9 4 2
		♣ 3
	N	
	W	E
	S	
♠ A K Q		
♥ K Q 6		
♦ K Q 3		
♣ J 8 7 5		

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

4NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set7 14

NORTH has 13 points and can contribute six tricks so she figures that twelve tricks will be a slam (dunk).

However, just to make sure the opponents don't take the first two tricks she checks with Gerber.

Uh Oh, missing two Aces she signs off at 4NT. She could also happily play 5 but it

would be tricky to get there. Very tricky.

Deal 15

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 3 2
♥ 5 4
♦ Q T 7 2
♣ J 9 8 4

15
3 7
15

♠ K 7 5
♥ Q 9 6
♦ A 9 8 3
♣ A Q 7

N
W E
S

♠ J T 9 4
♥ A J T 8 2
♦ J 5 4
♣ 2

♠ A Q 6
♥ K 7 3
♦ K 6
♣ K T 6 5 3

West North East South
All Pass 1NT Pass 4NT

4NT by South

Q

were changed to the

A she would bid 6NT and collect her twelve easy tricks.

Baker Bidpractice/Set7 15

Yes, this has nothing to do with Gerber or Blackwood, but everything to do with smart bidding.

SOUTH has a 16 points and NORTH has 15, 16 or 17. SOUTH wants to be in 6NT if NORTH has 17,

but merely a Notrump game if she has 15 or 16.

The way to find out is to bid 4NT - not Blackwood but merely an invitation to bid 6NT.

In this case, NORTH has but 15 points and declines the invitation. If her

Deal 16

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 2
♥ T 9 8 3 2
♦ Q 9 7 5
♣ 9 7 3

18
2 4
16

♠ K Q J 4

♥ K 6

♦ K 4

♣ K Q J T 5

N
W E
S

♠ T 9 5 3
♥ A 5 4
♦ T 8 6 2
♣ 6 4

♠ A 8 7 6
♥ Q J 7
♦ A J 3
♣ A 8 2

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

6NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7 16

When SOUTH opens 1NT NORTH hopes his hand includes all four Aces so she can bid 7NT.

So she uses Gerber to find out.

But, when she discovers they are missing an Ace she settles for 6NT.

Baker Bidpractice/Set7 17

Deal 17

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A K
 ♥ A Q T 9 6
 ♦ A Q J 3
 ♣ A K
 ♠ J 8 5
 ♥ 8 7 4
 ♦ T 8 6
 ♣ J T 5 3

N
 W E
 S

♠ Q T 6 4 3
 ♥ 2
 ♦ 9 5 4 2
 ♣ Q 9 8

27
 2 4
 7
 ♠ 9 7 2
 ♥ K J 5 3
 ♦ K 7
 ♣ 7 6 4 2

West	North	East	South
	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♥
Pass	7NT	Pass	

7 NT by North

Deal 18

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ T 9 5 4 3	♦ -	♣ 9 4
♥ Q J 8 7 6 5		

20	3	14

♠ K 7	♦ A Q J T 4	♣ A Q J 7
♥ K 9		
	♦ 9 8 6 3 2	
	♣ T 5 3	
♠ Q J 8	♦ 3 2	
W E	♦ A 6 2	
S	♥ A T 4	
	♦ K 7 5	
	♣ K 8 6 2	

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♠
Pass	7NT	All Pass	

7 NT by North

Baker Bidpractice/Set 18
NORTH is just shy of a 2 opening bid, and when SOUTH shows 13-15 points NORTH

wants to be in a slam.

NORTH cannot use Blackwood because 4NT would be a natural invitation, but with SOUTH's latest bid

being 2NT he can use Gerber.

Two Major Aces and two Minor Kings fill the holes in NORTH's hand so he bids 7NT.

Deal 19

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 9 7
♥ Q J T 8 3
♦ A 8
♣ 7 5 3

14
7
12

♠ 6
♥ K 4
♦ K J 9 7 4
♣ A Q J 9 2
N
W E
S
♠ Q J 8 4 3 2
♥ A 9 6 5 2
♦ 2
♣ 6
♠ A K 5
♥ 7
♦ Q T 6 5 3
♣ K T 8 4

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

5♦ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set7 19

NORTH thinks slam may be possible, so she uses Blackwood.

And that's what Blackwood is really good for - keeping you out of slams when you are

missing two Aces!

Deal 20

North Deals

Both Vul

♠ T 5	♦ A Q J 7 3
♥ 7 3	♦ A J 8 6
♦ 9 8 4 2	♦ 5 3
♣ K J T 9 2	♣ 8 7

12	♠ K 4
4 8	♥ K Q T 9 5
16	♦ A 7 6
	♣ A 5 4

N	♠ 9 8 6 2
W	♥ 4 2
E	♦ K Q J T
S	♣ Q 6 3

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♥
All Pass			.

6 ♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7 20

SOUTH knows NORTH has at least five and they might provide discards for two or three

of her minor suit losers.

She tries Blackwood and, sure enough, NORTH comes through with two Aces.

Even with all the Aces SOUTH knows there are not enough points for Grand,

so she bids 6

Deal 21

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ Q J 9 8
♥ 6
♦ K T 8 7 3 2
♣ 7 3

15
6 3
16

♠ A 6 2
♥ K Q J 7
♦ 6
♣ K Q J T 9

♠ K 5 3
♥ A T 9 5 2
♦ A 9 4
♣ A 4

N
W E
S

♠ T 7 4
♥ 8 4 3
♦ Q J 5
♣ 8 6 5 2

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	5NT	Pass	7♥
All Pass			

7♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set7 21

When SOUTH answers Blackwood with one Ace NORTH decides to bid 5NT to ask for Kings.

With two Kings, SOUTH would bid 6

But she knows that if she does so, NORTH might stop right there.

Knowing the 5NT bid guarantees all four Aces, SOUTH figures her suit will

supply five tricks so she bids 7

Deal 22

South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9 3
♥ K 3
♦ 8 7 4 3
♣ 9 5 4 2

11
4 5
20

♠ 8 7
♥ Q 9 7 4
♦ K Q 5
♣ A T 8 3

N
W E
S

♠ T 6 4 2
♥ T 8
♦ A J T 9 2
♣ 7 6

♠ A K Q 5
♥ A J 6 5 2
♦ 6
♣ K Q J

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♥	Pass	1♥
Pass	5♦	Pass	4NT
All Pass			5♥

5♥ by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7 22
SOUTH thinks there might be slam if NORTH holds both minor Aces, so he tries Blackwood.

When NORTH shows just one Ace SOUTH is afraid he will have a trump loser as well, so

he stops at 5

.

It turns out that SOUTH might make twelve tricks, depending on the

K situation.

Deal 23

North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 8
♥ 9 6 3
♦ T 9 5 4 3
♣ T 8 5

18
2 4
16

♠ A J 6
♥ K 5
♦ A Q 6 2
♣ A 9 7 4

N
W E
S

♠ T 9 7 5 3
♥ T
♦ J 8 7
♣ Q J 6 2

♠ K 4 2
♥ A Q J 8 7 4 2
♦ K
♣ K 3

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♥	Pass	7NT
All Pass			

7NT by South

Baker Bidpractice/Set 23

SOUTH might be tempted to blast into Blackwood with his first bid, pushing toward some slam

in

s. He chooses to temporize with a 1

response and is rewarded when NORTH jumps to 2NT (18-19 points).

The Notrump bid prevents SOUTH from using Blackwood, but Gerber 4 will work just fine.

When he discovers that NORTH holds three Aces and one King he can count thirteen tricks.

Deal 24

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J T 7 2
♥ J 6 5 3 2
♦ 7 6 4
♣ 3

24
2 4
10

♠ A K
♥ K Q 4
♦ K Q J 3
♣ K Q J 5

N
W E
S

♠ Q 6 3
♥ A T 7
♦ 9 5 2
♣ A T 8 6

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7 24
SOUTH responds 2NT, showing 8+ points with no 5-card suit.

NORTH only needs to know how many Aces are in the SOUTH hand. He must use Gerber since

4NT in this situation would not be Blackwood.

When SOUTH shows two Aces NORTH bids 6NT.

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

6NT by North