

Board 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q
♥ T 6
♦ T 9 4 3 2
♣ A Q T 9 8

♠ A 9 8 6 4

♥ A K Q

♦ 7

♣ K J 6 3



♠ 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
	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

4 ♠ by North

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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.

Board 2

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A T 9 6

♥ A 7

♦ T 9 7 3

♣ T 3 2

♠ Q 7 5 3

♥ T 9 4 2

♦ A 8

♣ K J 4



♠ K J 8 4 2

♥ 5

♦ Q 6 5 4

♣ 9 8 7

♠ -

♥ K Q J 8 6 3

♦ K J 2

♣ A Q 6 5

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

All Pass

6♥ by South

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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 ABased 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!

Board 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ T 4 3
♥ Q 8 5 2
♦ 6 5
♣ Q J 9 5

♠ K 6 2
♥ A T 9
♦ A K 3
♣ A K 8 4



♠ 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
	2NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5NT	Pass	7NT
All Pass			

7NT by South

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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.

Board 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ T 9 7
♥ A T 8 5 4
♦ J 7 6
♣ 4 2

♠ J 8
♥ J 7 2
♦ 8 5
♣ A K Q T 9 6

N
W
E
S

♠ 6 5 4 3 2
♥ 9 3
♦ A T 9 4 2
♣ 3

♠ A K Q
♥ K Q 6
♦ K Q 3
♣ J 8 7 5

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

4 NT by North

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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.

Board 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 3 2

♥ 5 4

♦ Q T 7 2

♣ J 9 8 4

♠ K 7 5

♥ Q 9 6

♦ A 9 8 3

♣ A Q 7



♠ 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
	1NT	Pass	4NT

All Pass

4NT by South

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

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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

Q

were changed to the