

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 3
♥ K Q 6
♦ 6 3 2
♣ J 10 8 6 3

♠ K Q J 9 6

♥ 4

♦ K Q J 7

♣ A K Q

	N		
W		E	
	S		

♠ 7 5 2
♥ J 10 9 5 2
♦ A 8 4
♣ 9 4

♠ A 8 4
♥ A 8 7 3
♦ 10 9 5
♣ 7 5 2

West	North	East	South
	2 ♣	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♠ by North			

2 NT shows a balanced hand with 8+ points, and when SOUTH then supports ♠s

NORTH makes a slam try.

NORTH bids RKC Blackwood 4 NT. SOUTH shows two Keycards (two Aces) and NORTH bids 6♦.

Deal 2
South Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 6 3 2
♥ 9 6
♦ A 8 2
♣ J 10 8 5

¹¹
5 4
20

♠ K J
♥ Q J 8 5
♦ Q 10 9 7
♣ Q 4 2

♠ 9 8 5 4
♥ A 3
♦ 6 5 4
♣ 9 7 6 3

N
W E
S

♠ A Q 7
♥ K 10 7 4 2
♦ K J 3
♣ A K

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	5 ♥

5 ♥ by South

NORTH has a decent Limit Raise, and SOUTH tries RKC Blackwood.

NORTH replies to the 4 NT bid with 5

♦

, zero or three Keycards.

So which is it, zero or three?

Pretty simple - since SOUTH holds three Keycards himself NORTH can hardly have three also since there

are only five total. She must have zero and SOUTH signs off at 5

♥

.

Deal 3North Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 5
♥ A 9 7 6
♦ 10 9 3 2
♣ J 9 4

¹⁷
5 2
16

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

♠K.

♠ K 10 7 4
♥ K Q J 8 4
♦ A 6
♣ A 3



NORTH jumps to 4♠, confident that SOUTH could make 10 tricks

even if he just has 6 points.

SOUTH knows he can make more and bids RKCB 4 NT.

NORTH's 5

♦

response shows zero or three Keycards.

So which is it? Zero or three?

NORTH bid much too strongly to have no Aces. SOUTH

bids a confident 6♠, knowing NORTH has either three Aces or two Aces plus the

Deal 4South Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 3 2
♥ J 6
♦ Q 10 3 2
♣ A 8 7 6

10
7 10
13

West North East South

Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♥ by South

♠ A 7 5
♥ Q 10 8 3
♦ A 8 5 4
♣ 9 2



♠ K Q J 10 9 4
♥ 2
♦ K J 9 7
♣ 5 4

♠ 6
♥ A K 9 7 5 4
♦ 6
♣ K Q J 10 3

With eleven cards in the "round" suits SOUTH has a lot of playing strength. So when NORTH bids

a Limit Raise in



s SOUTH wants to know about Aces.

RKCB Blackwood tells him that NORTH has two Aces plus the trump Queen, so SOUTH can see that 6



is practically a certainty.

Deal 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 6 5
♥ 9 7 2
♦ A K 5
♣ 10 7 5 2

♠ A K 9 8 4 2
♥ K Q 10 6
♦ 8 4
♣ A

♠ —
♥ 8 4 3
♦ Q J 9 7
♣ Q J 9 8 6 3

♠ Q J 7 3
♥ A J 5
♦ 10 6 3 2
♣ K 4

West North East South
Pass 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠
Pass 4 ♣ Pass 4 ♥
Pass 4 ♣ Pass Pass
Pass
4 ♠ by North

NORTH has interest in slam after she hears SOUTH's Limit Raise.

BUT, she should not use Blackwood holding two quick losers in the

♦

suit.

Instead she makes a Control showing bid of 4♣. (Not Gerber since it didn't follow a NT bid.)

SOUTH cooperates by making a Control bid of 4

♥

.

NORTH stops at 4♠ because neither partner controls

♦

s.

Deal 6
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ Q 10 9
 ♥ A 10 9 5 4
 ♦ 5 4
 ♣ 8 7 3

13
 6 4
17

♠ A J 7
 ♥ J 6
 ♦ Q J 10 8 7
 ♣ A 6 4

♠ K 8 5 4 3 2
 ♥ 3
 ♦ 2
 ♣ J 10 9 5 2

♠ 6
 ♥ K Q 8 7 2
 ♦ A K 9 6 3
 ♣ K Q

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	6 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♦ by North

SOUTH decides it is unlikely that NORTH is Aceless, so all he wants to know is the number of Aces NORTH does have.

He invokes RKC Blackwood.

Since no trump suit has been agreed, NORTH bids as if

♦

s, the

last-bid suit prior to 4 NT is agreed. NORTH has two Key-cards plus the trump Queen, so she bids 5 ♠.

SOUTH bids 6

♦

If NORTH had just one Key-card, SOUTH would bid 5

♦

over the 5 ♠ reply.

Deal 7

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q 7
♥ J 6
♦ A 6 4
♣ Q J 10 8 7

♠ 5 4 3
♥ A 10 9 4 3
♦ 9 5 2
♣ 5 2



♠ A J 10 9 8 2
♥ 5
♦ J 10 8 7 3
♣ 4

♠ 6
♥ K Q 8 7 2
♦ K Q
♣ A K 9 6 3

13
4 **6**
17

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♥
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

5 **♣** by North

This is the companion to Deal 6. The cards are the same except that the

♦

s and ♣s have been swapped.

Again, SOUTH has no problem as long as NORTH holds at least one Key-card.

When NORTH responds 5♣, (showing one Key-card), SOUTH can pass.

That's what happens here.

Deal 8

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 4 3
♥ A 9 6 5 2
♦ 5 2
♣ 7 4 2

16
4 3
17

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K Q J 8 7 5 2
♥ 4
♦ K 6
♣ A K 5

♠ —
♥ K 8 7
♦ 10 9 8 7 4 3
♣ 10 8 6 3

♠ A 9 6
♥ Q J 10 3
♦ A Q J
♣ Q J 9

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♠ by South			

NORTH needs to know how many Aces SOUTH holds.

One way to find out would be to bid 3♠, (which is forcing), then launch Blackwood.

Another way is to bid 4♣ (Gerber) right now.

The first way is probably better but we needed a Gerber example.

Deal 9

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A J 10 5
♥ A K
♦ K 5
♣ A K Q J 4

♠ 9

♥ J 8 6 4 3 2

♦ Q 8 6 4 3

♣ 3

25
3 5
7

W	N	E	S
♠ 6 2	♥ 10 9	♦ A J 10 9 7 2	♣ 10 8 5

♠ K Q 8 7 4 3

♥ Q 7 5

♦ —

♣ 9 7 6 2

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
--	-----	------	-----

Pass

4 NT	Pass	6 ♦
------	------	-----

Pass

7 ♠	Pass	Pass
-----	------	------

Pass

7 ♠ by South

SOUTH's positive response shows 8+ points and five or more cards headed by at least two honors.

NORTH figures a small slam would be safe, but just to be sure she uses Blackwood.

SOUTH's 6

♦

reply shows one Key-card which must be the trump King,

and a

♦

void!

NORTH readjusts her thinking and decides to bid the Grand.

Deal 10

South Deals	♠ A 6
None Vul	♥ A Q 8 7 5 2
	♦ K Q 3
	♣ 8 7
♠ J 10 9 8 5	♠ 7 4 2
♥ J 6 4	♥ —
♦ 7 2	♦ J 10 9 8 5 4
♣ 10 4 2	♣ A J 5 3

15	♠ K Q 3
2 6	♥ K 10 9 3
17	♦ A 6
	♣ K Q 9 6

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
6 ♥ by North			



NORTH jumps in

♥

s, showing a good suit and slam interest.

SOUTH has great

♥

support so bids RKCB 4 NT.

NORTH responds 5♠, showing two Key Cards and the

♥

Q.

That is enough for SOUTH to bid the slam.

Deal 11North Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9 8
 ♥ J 9 5 4 3
 ♦ 9 3
 ♣ 9 7 2

23
2 3
12

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A Q 6 4
 ♥ A K Q
 ♦ A 5
 ♣ K J 6 3

♠ —
 ♥ 10 7 6 2
 ♦ Q J 10 7 4 2
 ♣ 10 8 5

♠ K 10 7 5 3 2

♥ 8
 ♦ K 8 6
 ♣ A Q 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	6 ♣	Pass	7 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

7 NT by South

When NORTH agrees to ♠s, SOUTH will not stop short of a slam.

The RKCB 4 NT bid tells SOUTH that they have all five Key Cards since NORTH could hardly have a 2♣ opening hand with no Aces.

SOUTH's 5

♥

bid is the Queen Ask, and NORTH's reply confirms that she holds

the ♠Q, and also has the ♣K.

SOUTH figures the ♠ suit will run, and this should be enough for Grand Slam. He chooses 7 NT.

Deal 12
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ J 10 9 4
 ♥ A 9 7 6
 ♦ 9 4
 ♣ 9 7 2

17
 5 3
 15

♠ A K 7 5 3
 ♥ 8
 ♦ K Q 7 2
 ♣ K Q 4

♠ 2
 ♥ K 10 5 4 2
 ♦ 10 8 6 3
 ♣ 10 8 3

♠ Q 8 6
 ♥ Q J 3
 ♦ A J 5
 ♣ A J 6 5

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♠ by North			

NORTH knows there are enough points for slam, but she is worried about the trump suit.

SOUTH's support doesn't guarantee more than three ♠s, and if they are not headed

by the Queen she could lose a trump trick.

Her RKCB bid relieves her mind when NORTH claims two Key Cards PLUS the ♠Q.

She bids 6♦ (and hopes for a 3-2 trump split!).

Deal 13
North Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 7 4
♥ J 9 7
♦ K J 4 3
♣ Q 10 3

14
7 3
16

♠ K 9 3
♥ A 10 6
♦ A 9 8 6 2
♣ K 9

N
W E
S

♠ 10
♥ Q 5 4 3
♦ 10 7 5
♣ J 7 6 4 2

♠ A Q J 6 5 2
♥ K 8 2
♦ Q
♣ A 8 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♠ by South

When SOUTH makes a slam try with a jump to 3♠, the best approach for NORTH is to agree on

the trump suit immediately but indicate a minimum hand by bidding 4♠.

SOUTH's next move is logical; RKCB 4 NT.

NORTH shows zero or three Key Cards, and since it could not possibly be zero, SOUTH knows they are

the ♠K and both red Aces. Even possessing all the Key Cards SOUTH knows there aren't

enough points for a Grand slam.

Deal 14

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 6

♥ 10 5

♦ 10 9 8 6 2

♣ K 5 4

2	3
6	4
7	

♠ A K
♥ Q J 3
♦ A K Q 5
♣ A 9 6 2

W	N
S	E

♠ 10 8 7 4 3 2
♥ 6
♦ J 4
♣ Q J 10 3

♠ 9 5
♥ A K 9 8 7 4 2
♦ 7 3
♣ 8 7

West North East South

Pass 4 NT Pass 3 ♥

Pass 7 NT Pass 5 ♥

Pass

7 NT by North

It is usually not recommended to use any form of Blackwood when you have a suit with two quick

losers, but NORTH knows SOUTH would not preempt with a 10-high

♥

suit.

SOUTH's reply to RKCB is 5

♥

, showing two Key Cards.

NORTH knows they are the

♥

A

♥

K

so she can count thirteen tricks.

She bids a confident 7 NT (and hopes SOUTH didn't open 3

♥

with a 6-card suit.

Deal 15

North Deals	♠ Q 10 8 7 5
None Vul	♥ K 6
	♦ A K 3
	♣ A K J

♠ A	♠ K 2
♥ J 9 8 2	♥ 10 7 5 4
♦ 6 4 2	♦ J 10 9 8 5
♣ 10 9 7 6 2	♣ 8 4

W
E
S

♠ J 9 6 4 3
♥ A Q 3
♦ Q 7
♣ Q 5 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
5 ♠ by North			

NORTH has 21 points, and when she hears SOUTH make a limit raise she tries for slam with RKCB.

SOUTH answers with just one Key Card so NORTH stops at 5♠, knowing they are missing

two Key Cards.

Of course she didn't expect the two missing Key Cards to be the Ace and King of trumps!

Deal 16
South Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 7 2
♥ J 10 8 4 2
♦ 9 2
♣ Q 10 2

14
3 5
18

♠ K Q 5
♥ A Q 9 6
♦ 7 6 4
♣ K 9 6

♠ 9 8 4 3
♥ 3
♦ A J 10 8
♣ 8 7 4 3

♠ A J 6
♥ K 7 5
♦ K Q 5 3
♣ A J 5

West North East South
Pass 1 ♥ Pass 2 NT
Pass 4 NT Pass Pass
Pass
4 NT by South

What is this doing here in the RKCB Practice Pages?

To emphasize that there are many 4 NT bids which are NOT asking for Aces.

In this case, SOUTH showed a balanced hand with 18 or 19 points, and NORTH invited him

to bid 6 NT if he felt his hand was a "maximum". He didn't, so he passed.

Deal 17

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 5	♦ K 8
♥ A K 9 7 6 2	♦ K 8
♦ 7 6 4	

♠ 4

♥ 10 8 4

♦ A 6 2

♣ Q J 10 9 8 5

W	N	E
S		

♠ Q J 10 8 6 3

♥ —

♦ 10 9 4

♣ A K 3 2

13

7 10

♠ A 9 7 2

♥ Q J 5 3

♦ Q J 7 5 3

♣ —

West North East South

1 ♥ Pass 4 ♣

Pass 4 NT Pass 6 ♣

Pass 6 ♥ Pass Pass

Pass

6 ♥ by North

When SOUTH makes a Splinter bid,
showing

♥

support and ♣ shortness,

NORTH naturally thinks about slam.

She uses RKCB 4 NT, and SOUTH, with
one Key Card and a ♣ Void, bids 6♣.

Just what NORTH needed for the 6

♥

bid.

Deal 18South Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 7
♥ J 8 2
♦ 10 3 2
♣ A 9 8 7 4

¹⁷
5 2
16

♠ A K 6 3
♥ K Q 10 4
♦ K Q 8 5
♣ 2



♠ J 5 4
♥ 7 6 3
♦ J 9 7
♣ 10 6 5 3

♠ Q 9 8 2
♥ A 9 5
♦ A 6 4
♣ K Q J

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	6 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♣ by South			

NORTH thinks they should be in slam, and uses Stayman to check for a 4-4 Major fit.

When SOUTH announces four ♠s NORTH uses RKCB 4 NT.

SOUTH's 5♦ bid shows two Key Cards plus the ♠Q.

This fills the holes in NORTH's hand nicely, so she bids 6♦.

Deal 19
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ 10 7 5
 ♥ J 8 7
 ♦ 10 9 2
 ♣ A 10 8 4

17
 5 2
 16

♠ A K 6 3
 ♥ K Q 10 4
 ♦ K Q 8 5
 ♣ 2

♠ Q 4
 ♥ 6 3 2
 ♦ 7 6 3
 ♣ 9 7 6 5 3

♠ J 9 8 2
 ♥ A 9 5
 ♦ A J 4
 ♣ K Q J

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
5 ♠ by South			

This is the companion hand to Deal 18.

Again, NORTH uses RKCB after the 4-4 ♠ fit is discovered.

This time SOUTH shows two Key Cards without the ♠Q.

Now NORTH realizes that in addition to one outside Ace, there is a very possible loser

in trumps. So she stops at 5♠.

Deal 20

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 4

♥ J 9 5

♦ A K 7 6

♣ A 5 4

♠ 6

♥ 10 7 3 2

♦ 10 8

♣ K Q J 10 9 6



♠ Q J 10 9 8 5

♥ —

♦ Q J 9 4 2

♣ 3 2

19

6 6

9

♠ 7 3 2

♥ A K Q 8 6 4

♦ 5 3

♣ 8 7

West

North

East

South

Pass

2 NT

Pass

Pass

3 NT by North

2 ♥

3 NT

The chances of a slam on this hand are very small, and if NORTH decides to use RKCB it will

just confuse matters when SOUTH shows two Key Cards.

NORTH has a better way to find out about the hand. She bids 2 NT asking SOUTH to further describe

his hand. SOUTH should then bid 3 NT, showing a solid suit headed by AKQ.

SOUTH cannot have as much as an extra Jack, so NORTH just passes 3 NT.

Deal 21

North Deals

None Vul

♦ A

♠ 10 9 7 4

♥ 10 4 3

♦ A 3

♣ Q 9 7 2

22
6 5
7

	N		♠ —
W		E	♥ J 8 6
S			♦ 10 9 7 6 2

♠ K 5 3	
♥ A 9 5 2	
♦ 8 5 4	
♣ 6 5 4	

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

Pass

6 ♠ by North

NORTH realizes SOUTH has fewer than 8 points, but the 3♠ support bid is enough

for her to try a RKCB 4 NT bid.

SOUTH shows two Key Cards and NORTH figures they will be the ♠K and one of the

red Aces. So she bids 6♠. If instead the Key Cards are the two red Aces NORTH

might possibly make all thirteen tricks with a finesse.

Deal 22

South Deals	♠ A 7 2
None Vul	♥ Q 7 4
	♦ 9 8 5
	♣ 9 8 4 3
♠ 9 8 3	♠ 10 6 4
♥ J 3	♥ 10 9 8
♦ K 10 7 4 2	♦ A Q J 3
♣ J 10 5	♣ 7 6 2

♠ K Q J 5
 ♥ A K 6 5 2
 ♦ 6
 ♣ A K Q

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

NORTH's 3

♥

bid is "encouraging" so SOUTH bids 4 NT.

When NORTH shows one Key Card, (an Ace), SOUTH is afraid he may have a trump loser as well the

other Ace. To find out about the

♥

Q he

bids 5

♦

, the Queen Ask.

NORTH has the

♥

Q but no King so she jumps

to 6

♥

.

Deal 23

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 3
♥ 10 3
♦ A K 10 7 2
♣ J 10 9 7 6

5
8 5
22

♠ K Q J 5
♥ A K 6 5 2
♦ 6
♣ A K Q

West North East South

Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass

Pass
6 ♥ by South

♠ A 7 2
♥ J 9 8 7 4
♦ 8 5
♣ 8 4 3

N
W E
S

♠ 10 9 8 6 4
♥ Q
♦ Q J 9 4 3
♣ 5 2

♠ K Q J 5
♥ A K 6 5 2
♦ 6
♣ A K Q

This is the companion to Deal 22.

Again, worried about a possible trump loser in addition to the missing Ace,
SOUTH

bids 5

♦

, the Queen Ask.

NORTH definitely does NOT have the

♥

Q. But with five trumps she

does know that SOUTH probably does not have a trump loser so she jumps

to 6

♥

anyway.

Deal 24
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ J 10 7 2 ♠ A K 9 6 3
 ♥ 10 8 ♥ A J 7 5
 ♦ J 10 5 4 ♦ K Q 2
 ♣ Q 10 3 ♣ 6



17
 4 7
 12

♣ A K 8 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

6 ♥ by South

NORTH cannot use RKCB at her second bid because trumps have not been agreed. So she bids

3

♥

to set trumps, knowing SOUTH cannot pass after her jump-shift.

SOUTH tries to stop at game but NORTH is too strong so she now uses RKCB and gets

to 6

♥

when SOUTH shows two Key Cards and the trump Queen.