Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

	♠ 6		
	♡ K 4		
	◊ K J 9 7 4		
	♣ A Q J 9 2		

♠ Q 9 7 4		♠ J 10 8 3 2
♡ Q 6 3 2	**N**	♡ A J 10 9 8 5
◊ A 8	**W E**	◊ 2
♣ 7 6 3	**S**	♣ 5

	♠ A K 5
14	♡ 7
8 6	◊ Q 10 6 5 3
12	♣ K 10 8 4

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

5 ◊ by North

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 2
West Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 8 6 2
♡ 7 4
♦ Q J 4 2
♣ K J 3

♠ A Q J 7 3
♡ A J 8 6
♦ 5 3
♣ 8 7

N
W E
S

♠ K 4
♡ K Q 10 9 5
♦ A 7 6
♣ A 5 4

♠ 10 5
♡ 3 2
♦ K 10 9 8
♣ Q 10 9 6 2

7
12   16
5

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

6 ♡ by East

EAST knows WEST has at least five â™ s, and they might provide discards for two or three

of her minor suit losers.

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

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

so she bids 6

â™¥

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Deal 3
North Deals
None Vul

♠ A 6 2
♡ K Q J 7
♦ 6
♣ K Q J 10 9

♠ Q J 10 9 7
♡ 6 4 3
♦ 8 3
♣ 7 5 2

```
        N
     W     E
        S
```

♠ 8 4
♡ 8
♦ K Q J 10 7 5 2
♣ 8 6 3

♠ K 5 3
♡ A 10 9 5 2
♦ A 9 4
♣ A 4

16
3   6
15

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

7♡ by South

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

With two Kings, NORTH would bid 6

♥

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

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

supply five tricks so she bids 7

♥

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Deal 4

West Deals

None Vul

```
                 ♠ J 6 2
                 ♡ K 10 8 3
                 ◇ J 7 3 2
                 ♣ 9 2
♠ A K Q 5                    ♠ 8 7
♡ A J 6 5 2        N         ♡ Q 9 7 4
◇ 6            W       E     ◇ K Q 5
♣ K Q J            S         ♣ A 10 8 3
         5
     20    11    ♠ 10 9 4 3
         4       ♡ —
                 ◇ A 10 9 8 4
                 ♣ 7 6 5 4
```

West	North	East	South
1 ♡	Pass	3 ♡	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ◇	Pass
5 ♡	Pass	Pass	Pass

5 ♡ by West

WEST thinks there might be slam if EAST holds both minor Aces, so he tries Blackwood.

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

he stops at 5

♥

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

♥

K situation.

Deal 5
North Deals
None Vul

♠ A J 6
♡ K 5
♦ A Q 6 2
♣ A 9 7 4

♠ Q 10 9 8 5　　　　　♠ 7 3
♡ 9 6 3　　　　　　　♡ 10
♦ 7 3　　　　　　　　♦ J 10 9 8 5 4
♣ 10 6 2　　　　　　♣ Q J 8 5

♠ K 4 2
♡ A Q J 8 7 4 2
♦ K
♣ K 3

18
2　4
16

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

7 NT by North

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 2 NT (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 6
West Deals
None Vul

```
                    ♠ J 10 5
                    ♡ 9 6 3 2
                    ♦ A 10 7 6
                    ♣ 4 3
♠ A K                          ♠ Q 6 3
♡ K Q 4          N             ♡ A 10 7
♦ K Q J 3      W   E           ♦ 9 5 2
♣ K Q J 5        S             ♣ A 10 8 6
                    ♠ 9 8 7 4 2
                    ♡ J 8 5
                    ♦ 8 4
                    ♣ 9 7 2
```

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

6 NT by East

EAST responds 2 NT, showing 8+ points with no 5-card suit.

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

4 NT in this situation would not be Blackwood.

When EAST shows two Aces WEST bids 6 NT.