Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

	♠ Q J 10 8 3	
	♡ A J 4	
	♢ A 10	
	♣ 9 6 2	

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

	♠ A K 9 6 4	
	♡ K Q 5	
	♢ K Q J 7	
	♣ 3	

```
    12
  5   5
    18
```

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

6 ♠ by North

NORTH has a minimum 1♡ opening bid - 13 points and five trumps. She doesn't even suspect

what's about to befall!

SOUTH hears the 1♡ bid and all he wants to know is whether NORTH has one, two or three Aces.

So he uses the Blackwood convention, 4 NT.

NORTH has two Aces so she bids 5

♥

(5♣ would show zero Aces,

5

♦

would show one Ace, etc).

SOUTH has heard enough and bids 6♡ .

Deal 2
South Deals
None Vul

	♠ A 7 4	
	♥ Q 5	
	♦ K 7 6 4	
	♣ 7 6 5 3	

♠ Q 8 5	N	♠ K J 10 9 3
♥ 9 4	W E	♥ J 10 3
♦ J 9 8 5 2	S	♦ Q
♣ K Q 2		♣ J 10 8 4

	♠ 6 2	
	♥ A K 8 7 6 2	
	♦ A 10 3	
	♣ A 9	

9
8   8
15

West	North	East	South
			1 ♡
Pass	1 NT PASS 3H	Pass	3 ♡
Pass	4 ♡	Pass	Pass
Pass			

4 ♡ by South

SOUTH has an above-minimum strength hand with a good 6-card suit. He opens 1 ♡

.

NORTH, with 9 points, is a little too weak to bid at the 2-level so she bids a catchall 1 NT.

SOUTH shows his 6-card suit and extra strength by jumping to 3 ♡

, which

NORTH raises to 4

♡

since two trumps is now adequate support.

Deal 3
North Deals
None Vul

	♠ K Q 7 4
	♥ 8 3
	◊ 7 6 2
	♣ A K Q 2

♠ 9		♠ A 6 5 2
♥ K J 5 2	N	♥ 10 9 6
◊ Q 10 9 8 4	W E	◊ A K
♣ J 10 3	S	♣ 9 8 5 4

	♠ J 10 8 3
	♥ A Q 7 4
	◊ J 5 3
	♣ 7 6

14
7 **11**
8

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

2♠ by North

NORTH has 14 points and opens her 4-card ♣ suit.

SOUTH must respond, and with two 4-card Majors bids them "up-the-line", saying 1

♥

.

NORTH now shows his 4-card ♠ suit, and SOUTH again must bid. Since SOUTH is pretty weak he just

raises to 2♠, which NORTH happily passes.

Deal 4
South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 9 4
♡ A 7
◇ K 8 3
♣ K J 9 6 2

♠ J 8 6 3 2
♡ 9 2
◇ 9 5 4
♣ A 7 4

N
W E
S

♠ 10 5
♡ 10 8 6 5 4
◇ Q J 7 2
♣ 5 3

♠ K Q 7
♡ K Q J 3
◇ A 10 6
♣ Q 10 8

15
5 3
17

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

6 NT by South

SOUTH has a maximum 17 point 1 NT bid.

NORTH, with 16 points, can't tell if there are enough points for slam. If SOUTH has

17 points then a slam should be makeable, but if SOUTH has only 15 points then he

should settle for game.

The 4 NT raise solves the problem. It tells SOUTH to bid 6 NT with 17 points, pass

with 15 points, and use best judgment with 16. Here SOUTH bids the slam.