

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 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J
♥ 10 3 2
♦ J 8 5 4
♣ 10 8 7 6 2

16
2 5
17

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A Q 8 6 3 2
♥ 5
♦ K Q 7
♣ K Q 5

♠ 9 5
♥ A 9 7 6
♦ 10 9 3 2
♣ J 9 4

♠ K 10 7 4
♥ K Q J 8 4
♦ A 6
♣ A 3

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

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

even if he just has 6 points.

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

SOUTH's 5

♦

response shows zero or three Keycards.

So which is it? Zero or three?

SOUTH bid much too strongly to have no Aces. NORTH

bids a confident 6♠, knowing SOUTH has either three Aces or two Aces plus the ♠K.

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

16
7 6
11

♠ Q J 7 3
♥ A J 5
♦ 10 6 3 2
♣ K 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	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

	♠ 6			
North Deals	♥ K Q 8 7 2			
None Vul	♦ A K 9 6 3			
	♣ K Q			
♠ K 8 5 4 3 2		♠ Q 10 9		
♥ 3		♥ A 10 9 5 4		
♦ 2		♦ 5 4		
♣ J 10 9 5 2		♣ 8 7 3		
	♠ A J 7			
	♥ J 6			
17	♦ Q J 10 8 7			
4 6	♣ A 6 4			
West	North	East	South	
	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦	
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♠	
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	Pass	
Pass				
6 ♦ by South				

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

He invokes RKC Blackwood.

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



s, the

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

NORTH bids 6



If SOUTH had just one Key-card, NORTH 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

West North East South

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 9South Deals
None Vul**♠ 9 7 6 2****♠ 6 2**
♥ 10 9
♦ A J 10 9 7 2
♣ 10 8 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

West	North	East	South
			2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	7 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
7 ♠ by North			

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

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

NORTH's 6

◆

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

and a

◆

void!

SOUTH readjusts her thinking and decides to bid the Grand.

Deal 10

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

¹⁷ ⁶ ² ¹⁵	^{♠ A 6} ^{♥ A Q 8 7 5 2} ^{♦ K Q 3} ^{♣ 8 7}
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West	North	East	South
	1 NT	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♥ by South			

SOUTH jumps in

♥

s, showing a good suit and slam interest.

NORTH has great

♥

support so bids RKCB 4 NT.

SOUTH responds 5♠, showing two Key Cards and the

♥

Q.

That is enough for NORTH to bid the slam.

Deal 11

South Deals

None Vul

♠ —

♥ 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


 ♠ J 9 8
 ♥ J 9 5 4 3
 ♦ 9 3
 ♣ 9 7 2

♠ A Q 6 4

♥ A K Q

♦ A 5

♣ K J 6 3

¹²
 3 2
²³

West North East South

Pass 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠

Pass 4 NT Pass 5 ♦

Pass 5 ♥ Pass 6 ♣

Pass 7 NT Pass Pass

Pass

7 NT by North

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

The RKCB 4 NT bid tells NORTH that they have all five Key Cards since SOUTH could hardly

have a 2♣ opening hand with no Aces.

NORTH's 5

♥

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

the ♠Q, and also has the ♣K.

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

Deal 12 ♠ Q 8 6
 North Deals ♥ Q J 3
 None Vul ♦ A J 5
 ♣ A J 6 5

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

N
W E
S

♠ A K 7 5 3
 ♥ 8
 ♦ K Q 7 2
 ♣ K Q 4

<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

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

NORTH'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 SOUTH claims two Key Cards PLUS the ♠Q.

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

Deal 13South Deals
None Vul

♠ 10
♥ Q 5 4 3
♦ 10 7 5
♣ J 7 6 4 2

16
3 7
14

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A Q J 6 5 2
♥ K 8 2
♦ Q
♣ A 8 5

♠ 8 7 4
♥ J 9 7
♦ K J 4 3
♣ Q 10 3

♠ K 9 3
♥ A 10 6
♦ A 9 8 6 2
♣ K 9

<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 North			

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

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

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

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

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

enough points for a Grand slam.

Deal 14

North Deals	♠ 9 5
None Vul	♥ A K 9 8 7 4 2
	♦ 7 3
	♣ 8 7

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



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

West	North	East	South
	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	7 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
7 NT by South			

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

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

♥

suit.

NORTH's reply to RKCB is 5

♥

, showing two Key Cards.

SOUTH knows they are the

♥

A

♥

K

so she can count thirteen tricks.

She bids a confident 7 NT (and hopes NORTH 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

West	North	East	South
	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

♠ AJ 6
♥ K 7 5
♦ K Q 5 3
♣ AJ 5

West North East South
Pass 1 ♥ Pass 2 NT
Pass 4 NT 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	♦ A 6 2	♣ Q J 10 9 8 5
♥ 10 8 4		
♦ A 6 2		
♣ Q J 10 9 8 5		

13	7 10	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



♠ Q J 10 8 6 3	♦ —
♦ 10 9 4	♣ A K 3 2

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

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 4
♥ 6 3 2
♦ 7 6 3
♣ 9 7 6 5 3

16
2
5
17

♠ J 9 8 2

♥ A 9 5

♦ A J 4

♣ K Q J

♠ Q 4
♥ 6 3 2
♦ 7 6 3
♣ 9 7 6 5 3

♠ 10 7 5
♥ J 8 7
♦ 10 9 2
♣ A 10 8 4

♠ A K 6 3
♥ K Q 10 4
♦ K Q 8 5
♣ 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

5 ♠ by North

♠ Q 4
♥ 6 3 2
♦ 7 6 3
♣ 9 7 6 5 3

♠ A K 6 3
♥ K Q 10 4
♦ K Q 8 5
♣ 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

5 ♠ by North

This is the companion hand to Deal 18.

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

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

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

in trumps. So she stops at 5 ♠.

Deal 20

	\spadesuit 7 3 2		
North Deals	\heartsuit A K Q 8 6 4		
None Vul	\diamond 5 3		
	\clubsuit 8 7		
\spadesuit Q J 10 9 8 5	\spadesuit 6		
\heartsuit —	\heartsuit 10 7 3 2		
\diamond Q J 9 4 2	\diamond 10 8		
\clubsuit 3 2	\clubsuit K Q J 10 9 6		
	\spadesuit A K 4		
9	\heartsuit J 9 5		
6 6	\diamond A K 7 6		
19	\clubsuit A 5 4		
West	North	East	South
	2 \heartsuit	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
3 NT by South			

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

just confuse matters when NORTH shows two Key Cards.

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

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

NORTH cannot have as much as an extra Jack, so SOUTH 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
 North Deals
 None Vul

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

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

22
 5 8 ♠ A 7 2
 5 ♥ J 9 8 7 4
 ♣ 8 5
 ♣ 8 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

West North East South

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

6 ♥ by North

This is the companion to Deal 22.

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

bids 5

♦

, the Queen Ask.

SOUTH definitely does NOT have the

♥

Q. But with five trumps she

does know that NORTH 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.