

Deal 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 3
♥ K Q 6
♦ 6 3 2
♣ J 10 8 6 3

21
6 5
8

West

♠ K Q J 9 6
♥ 4
♦ K Q J 7
♣ A K Q



♠ A 8 4
♥ A 8 7 3
♦ 10 9 5
♣ 7 5 2

*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

East Deals
None Vul

♠ K J
♥ Q J 8 5
♦ Q 10 9 7
♣ Q 4 2

4
11 20
5

West

3 ♥

5 ♦

Pass

5 ♥ by East

♠ 9 8 5 4
♥ A 3
♦ 6 5 4
♣ 9 7 6 3



♠ 10 6 3 2
♥ 9 6
♦ A 8 2
♣ J 10 8 5

North

Pass

Pass

Pass

East

1 ♥

4 NT

5 ♥

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

WEST has a decent Limit Raise, and EAST tries RKC Blackwood.

WEST replies to the 4 NT bid with 5

♦

, zero or three Keycards.

So which is it, zero or three?

Pretty simple - since EAST holds three Keycards himself WEST can hardly have three also since there

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

♥

.

Deal 3

North 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



♠ A Q 8 6 3 2
♥ 5
♦ K Q 7
♣ K Q 5

♠ J
♥ 10 3 2
♦ J 8 5 4
♣ 10 8 7 6 2

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 4

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 8 3 2

♥ J 6

♦ Q 10 3 2

♣ A 8 7 6

♠ 6

♥ A K 9 7 5 4

♦ 6

♣ K Q J 10 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 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

7
13 10
10

*West**North**East**South*

1 ♥

Pass

3 ♥

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♠

Pass

6 ♥

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♥ by West

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

a Limit Raise in

♥

s WEST wants to know about Aces.

RKCBlackwood tells him that EAST has two Aces plus the trump Queen, so WEST 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

16
7 6
11

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

♠ A K 9 8 4 2
♥ K Q 10 6
♦ 8 4
♣ A

W N E
S

♠ Q J 7 3
♥ A J 5
♦ 10 6 3 2
♣ K 4

♠ —
♥ 8 4 3
♦ Q J 9 7
♣ Q J 9 8 6 3

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

West Deals
None Vul

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♠	Pass
6 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass
6 ♦ by East			

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

He invokes RKC Blackwood.

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

♦

s, the

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

WEST bids 6

♦

.


If EAST had just one Key-card, WEST would bid 5

♦

over the 5♣ reply.

Deal 7 ♠ 6
 North Deals ♥ K Q 8 7 2
 None Vul ♦ K Q
 ♣ A K 9 6 3

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



♠ K Q 7
 ♥ J 6
 ♦ A 6 4
 ♣ Q J 10 8 7

17
 6 4
 13

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

5 ♣ by South

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

♦

s and ♣s have been swapped.

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

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

That's what happens here.

Deal 8

West Deals
None Vul

♠ A 9 6
♥ Q J 10 3
♦ A Q J
♣ Q J 9

4
17 16
3

<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 West			

♠ 10 4 3
♥ A 9 6 5 2
♦ 5 2
♣ 7 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ —
♥ K 8 7
♦ 10 9 8 7 4 3
♣ 10 8 6 3

♠ K Q J 8 7 5 2
♥ 4
♦ K 6
♣ A K 5

EAST needs to know how many Aces WEST 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

South Deals

None Vul

♠ K Q 8 7 4 3

♥ Q 7 5

♦ —

♣ 9 7 6 2

♠ 6 2

♥ 10 9

♦ A J 10 9 7 2

♣ 10 8 5



♠ 9

♥ J 8 6 4 3 2

♦ Q 8 6 4 3

♣ 3

♠ A J 10 5

♥ A K

♦ K 5

♣ A K Q J 4

7
5 3
25

*West**North**East**South*

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

6 ♦

Pass

4 NT

Pass

Pass

Pass

7 ♠

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

West Deals
None Vul

♠ K Q 3
♥ K 10 9 3
♦ A 6
♣ K Q 9 6

2
17 15
6

West
1 NT
4 NT
6 ♥
6 ♥ by East

♠ J 10 9 8 5
♥ J 6 4
♦ 7 2
♣ 10 4 2



♠ 7 4 2
♥ —
♦ J 10 9 8 5 4
♣ A J 5 3

North
Pass
Pass
Pass

East
3 ♥
5 ♠
Pass

South
Pass
Pass
Pass

♠ A 6
♥ A Q 8 7 5 2
♦ K Q 3
♣ 8 7

EAST jumps in



s, showing a good suit and slam interest.

WEST has great



support so bids RKCB 4 NT.

EAST responds 5♠, showing two Key
Cards and the



Q.

That is enough for WEST to bid the slam.

Deal 11

North Deals
None Vul

♠ J 9 8
♥ J 9 5 4 3
♦ 9 3
♣ 9 7 2

23
2 3
12

West

North

East

South

2 ♣
3 ♠
5 ♦
6 ♣
Pass

2 ♣
3 ♠
5 ♦
6 ♣
Pass

Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass
Pass

2 ♠
4 NT
5 ♥
7 NT

7 NT by South

♠ A Q 6 4
♥ A K Q
♦ A 5
♣ K J 6 3



♠ K 10 7 5 3 2
♥ 8
♦ K 8 6
♣ A Q 4

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

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

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 7 5 3
 ♥ 8
 ♦ K Q 7 2
 ♣ K Q 4

3
 17 15
 5

West

North

East

South

3 ♠

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♠

Pass

6 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♠ by West

♠ 2

♥ K 10 5 4 2

♦ 10 8 6 3

♣ 10 8 3



♠ J 10 9 4

♥ A 9 7 6

♦ 9 4

♣ 9 7 2

♠ Q 8 6

♥ Q J 3

♦ A J 5

♣ A J 6 5

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

EAST'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 WEST claims two Key Cards PLUS the ♠Q.

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

Deal 13

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A Q J 6 5 2

♥ K 8 2

♦ Q

♣ A 8 5

♠ 10

♥ Q 5 4 3

♦ 10 7 5

♣ J 7 6 4 2



♠ 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

16
3 7
14

West	North	East	South
			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

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 5

♥ A K 9 8 7 4 2

♦ 7 3

♣ 8 7

6

7 23

4

West

3 ♥

5 ♥

Pass

7 NT by East

♠ Q J 6

♥ 10 5

♦ 10 9 8 6 2

♣ K 5 4

♠ 10 8 7 4 3 2

♥ 6

♦ J 4

♣ Q J 10 3

North

Pass

Pass

Pass

East

4 NT

7 NT

South

Pass

Pass



♠ A K

♥ Q J 3

♦ A K Q 5

♣ A 9 6 2

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

losers, but EAST knows WEST would not preempt with a 10-high

♥

suit.

WEST's reply to RKCB is 5

♥

, showing two Key Cards.

EAST knows they are the

♥

A

♥

K

so she can count thirteen tricks.

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

♥

with a 6-card suit.

Deal 15

South Deals
None Vul

♠ K 2
♥ 10 7 5 4
♦ J 10 9 8 5
♣ 8 4

11
4 5
20

West

♠ J 9 6 4 3
♥ A Q 3
♦ Q 7
♣ Q 5 3



♠ Q 10 8 7 5
♥ K 6
♦ A K 3
♣ A K J

North

♠ A
♥ J 9 8 2
♦ 6 4 2
♣ 10 9 7 6 2

East

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

5 ♠ by South

3 ♠

5 ♣

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

1 ♠

4 NT

5 ♠

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

NORTH answers with just one Key Card so SOUTH 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

West Deals
None Vul

♠ A J 6
♥ K 7 5
♦ K Q 5 3
♣ A J 5

3
18 14
5

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

♠ 10 7 2
♥ J 10 8 4 2
♦ 9 2
♣ Q 10 2



♠ 9 8 4 3
♥ 3
♦ A J 10 8
♣ 8 7 4 3

♠ K Q 5
♥ A Q 9 6
♦ 7 6 4
♣ K 9 6

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, WEST showed a balanced hand with 18 or 19 points, and EAST 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

♠ 4		♠ Q J 10 8 6 3
♥ 10 8 4		♥ —
♦ A 6 2		♦ 10 9 4
♣ Q J 10 9 8 5		♣ A K 3 2
	♠ 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 18

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A K 6 3
 ♥ K Q 10 4
 ♦ K Q 8 5
 ♣ 2

2
 17 16
 5

West

♠ J 5 4

♥ 7 6 3

♦ J 9 7

♣ 10 6 5 3



♠ 10 7

♥ J 8 2

♦ 10 3 2

♣ A 9 8 7 4

North

♠ Q 9 8 2

♥ A 9 5

♦ A 6 4

♣ K Q J

*East**South*

1 NT

Pass

2 ♣

Pass

2 ♠

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♠

Pass

6 ♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♠ by East

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

When EAST announces four ♠s WEST uses RKCB 4 NT.

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

This fills the holes in WEST'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

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

5 ♠ by South

♠ A K 6 3

♥ K Q 10 4

♦ K Q 8 5

♣ 2



♠ J 9 8 2

♥ A 9 5

♦ A J 4

♣ K Q J

North

2 ♣

4 NT

5 ♠

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

2 ♠

5 ♥

Pass

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
 East Deals
 None Vul

♠ A K 4
 ♥ J 9 5
 ♦ A K 7 6
 ♣ A 5 4

6
 19 9
 6

West

2 NT
 Pass

3 NT by West

♠ Q J 10 9 8 5
 ♥ —
 ♦ Q J 9 4 2
 ♣ 3 2



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

North

Pass
 Pass

East

2 ♥
 3 NT

South

Pass
 Pass

♠ 7 3 2
 ♥ A K Q 8 6 4
 ♦ 5 3
 ♣ 8 7

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

just confuse matters when EAST shows two Key Cards.

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

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

EAST cannot have as much as an extra Jack, so WEST just passes 3 NT.

Deal 21

North Deals
None Vul

♠ A Q J 8 6 2
♥ K Q 7
♦ K Q J
♣ A

♠ 10 9 7 4
♥ 10 4 3
♦ A 3
♣ Q 9 7 2



♠ —
♥ J 8 6
♦ 10 9 7 6 2
♣ K J 10 8 3

22
6 5
7

♠ 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
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

East Deals

None Vul

♠ A 7 2

♥ Q 7 4

♦ 9 8 5

♣ 9 8 4 3

7
6 22
5

West

2 ♦

3 ♥

5 ♣

6 ♥

6 ♥ by East

♠ 10 6 4

♥ 10 9 8

♦ A Q J 3

♣ 7 6 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 8 3

♥ J 3

♦ K 10 7 4 2

♣ J 10 5

North

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

East

2 ♣

2 ♥

4 NT

5 ♦

Pass

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

WEST's 3

♥

bid is "encouraging" so EAST bids 4 NT.

When WEST shows one Key Card, (an Ace), EAST 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.

WEST 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

♠ A 7 2
♥ J 9 8 7 4
♦ 8 5
♣ 8 4 3



♠ K Q J 5
♥ A K 6 5 2
♦ 6
♣ A K Q

♠ 10 9 8 6 4
♥ Q
♦ Q J 9 4 3
♣ 5 2

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

♥

anyway.

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

Deal 24

West Deals
None Vul

♠ 8 5
♥ K Q 9 6 4
♦ 7 3
♣ A K 8 5

4
12 17
7

West

1 ♥

3 ♣

4 ♥

5 ♠

Pass

6 ♥ by West

♠ J 10 7 2

♥ 10 8

♦ J 10 5 4

♣ Q 10 3



♠ Q 4

♥ 3 2

♦ A 9 8 6

♣ J 9 7 4 2

North

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

East

2 ♠

3 ♥

4 NT

6 ♥

South

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

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

3

♥

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

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

to 6

♥

when WEST shows two Key Cards and the trump Queen.