

**Deal 1**  
North Deals  
None Vul

♠ Q 9 7 4  
♥ Q 6 3 2  
♦ A 8  
♣ 7 6 3

<sup>14</sup>  
8 6  
<sub>12</sub>

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

N  
W E  
S

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

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

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

North Deals

None Vul

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

**12**  
**5 7**  
**16**

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A Q J 7 3  
♥ A J 8 6  
♦ 5 3  
♣ 8 7

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

♠ K 4  
♥ K Q 10 9 5  
♦ A 7 6  
♣ A 5 4

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

6 ♥ by South

SOUTH knows NORTH has at least five a™'s, and they might provide discards for two or three

of her minor suit losers.

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

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

so she bids 6

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**Deal 3**

South Deals  
None Vul

♠ 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

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

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♣
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	5 NT	Pass	7 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
7 ♥ by North			

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

With two Kings, SOUTH would bid 6

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

Knowing the 5 NT bid guarantees all four Aces, SOUTH figures her â™£ suit will

supply five tricks so she bids 7

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**Deal 4**South Deals  
None Vul

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

<sup>11</sup>  
 5 4  
<sup>20</sup>

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



♠ 10 9 4 3  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ A 10 9 8 4  
 ♣ 7 6 5 4

♠ A K Q 5  
 ♥ A J 6 5 2  
 ♦ 6  
 ♣ K Q J

<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 South			

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

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

he stops at 5

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

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K situation.

**Deal 5**

North Deals	♠ A J 6
None Vul	♥ 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

<b>18</b>	♠ K 4 2
2 4	♥ A Q J 8 7 4 2
16	♦ K
	♣ K 3

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

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s. He chooses to temporize with a 1

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response and is rewarded when NORTH jumps to 2 NT (18-19 points).

The Notrump bid prevents SOUTH from using Blackwood, but Gerber 4â™£ will work just fine.

When he discovers that NORTH holds three Aces and one King he can count thirteen tricks.

**Deal 6**

North Deals  
None Vul

**♠ 9 8 7 4 2**  
**♥ J 8 5**  
**♦ 8 4**  
**♣ 9 7 2**

**24**  
**1 5**  
**10**



**♠ Q 6 3**  
**♥ A 10 7**  
**♦ 9 5 2**  
**♣ A 10 8 6**

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

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

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

4 NT in this situation would not be Blackwood.

When SOUTH shows two Aces NORTH bids 6 NT.