

Deal 1

South Deals

None Vul

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

13
 6 4
 17

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♦ by North

♠ A J 7

♥ J 6

♦ Q J 10 8 7

♣ A 6 4



♠ 6

♥ K Q 8 7 2

♦ A K 9 6 3

♣ K Q

North

2 ♦

5 ♠

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 ♥

4 NT

6 ♦

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

He invokes RKC Blackwood.

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

 $\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}|$

s, the

last-bid suit prior to 4 NT is agreed. NORTH has two Key-cards plus the trump Queen, so she bids $5\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$.

SOUTH bids 6

 $\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}|$

If NORTH had just one Key-card, SOUTH would bid 5

 $\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}|$

over the $5\hat{a}^{\text{TM}}$ reply.

Deal 2

North Deals ♠ 6
 None Vul ♥ K Q 8 7 2
 ♦ 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

17
 6 4
 13

♠ K Q 7
 ♥ J 6
 ♦ A 6 4
 ♣ Q J 10 8 7

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

♠TM

s and ♠TMs have been swapped.

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

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

That's what happens here.

Deal 3

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A 9 6
 ♥ Q J 10 3
 ♦ A Q J
 ♣ Q J 9

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



♠ 10 4 3
 ♥ A 9 6 5 2
 ♦ 5 2
 ♣ 7 4 2

♠ K Q J 8 7 5 2
 ♥ 4
 ♦ K 6
 ♣ A K 5

17
 3 4
 16

<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 North			

SOUTH needs to know how many Aces NORTH 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 4

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 9
♥ J 8 6 4 3 2
♦ Q 8 6 4 3
♣ 3

25
3 5
7

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

7 ♠ by South

♠ A J 10 5

♥ A K

♦ K 5

♣ A K Q J 4



♠ K Q 8 7 4 3

♥ Q 7 5

♦ —

♣ 9 7 6 2

North

2 ♣

4 NT

7 ♠

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

2 ♠

6 ♦

Pass

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

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

SOUTH's 6

â™™!

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

and a

â™™!

void!

NORTH readjusts her thinking and decides to bid the Grand.

Deal 5

South Deals

None Vul

♠ J 10 9 8 5

♥ J 6 4

♦ 7 2

♣ 10 4 2

15

2 6

17

West

Pass

Pass

Pass

6 ♥ by North

♠ A 6

♥ A Q 8 7 5 2

♦ K Q 3

♣ 8 7



♠ K Q 3

♥ K 10 9 3

♦ A 6

♣ K Q 9 6

North

3 ♥

5 ♠

Pass

East

Pass

Pass

Pass

South

1 NT

4 NT

6 ♥

NORTH jumps in

5♣

s, showing a good suit and slam interest.

SOUTH has great

5♣

support so bids RKCB 4 NT.

NORTH responds 5♠, showing two Key Cards and the

5♠

Q.

That is enough for SOUTH to bid the slam.