

Deal 1

South Deals

None Vul

♠ A 7
♥ K 3
♦ Q J 9 8 7 4 2
♣ 7 6

♠ 10 9 8 4 3**♥ Q 8 6****♦ 6****♣ J 10 9 2****♠ K 6 2****♥ A 10 9****♦ A K 3****♣ A K 8 4****West****North****East****South****10
3 6
21**

Pass

4 ♣

Pass

2 NT

Pass

5 ♣

Pass

5 NT

Pass

7 NT

Pass

Pass

Pass

7 NT by South

NORTH isn't sure just how much he can make, but surely 6

â™!

isn't

too much to hope for.

He starts with a Gerber 4â™£ and SOUTH shows three Aces.

Hmmm, 5â™£ asks for Kings and SOUTH shows three.

Hmm, NORTH can now count all thirteen tricks, so he forgets about the

â™!

slam and bids 7 NT.

Deal 2
South Deals
None Vul

♠ 10 9 4
♥ 10 8 4 3
♦ A J 9 7
♣ 4 3

¹¹
5 4
20

♠ J 8
♥ J 7 2
♦ 8 5
♣ A K Q 10 9 6

N
W E
S
♣ 2

♠ A K Q
♥ K Q 6
♦ K Q 3
♣ J 8 7 5

West North East South
Pass 4 ♣ Pass 4 ♥
Pass 4 NT Pass Pass
Pass
4 NT by South

NORTH has 13 points and can contribute six tricks so she figures that twelve tricks will be a slam (dunk).

However, just to make sure the opponents don't take the first two tricks she checks with Gerber.

Uh Oh, missing two Aces she signs off at 4 NT. She could also happily play 5^{â™£}, but it

would be tricky to get there. Very tricky.

Deal 3
South Deals
None Vul

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|--------------|-------|
| | ♠ A Q 6 | | |
| | ♥ K 7 3 | | |
| | ♦ K 6 | | |
| | ♣ K 10 6 5 3 | | |
| ♠ 4 2 | | ♠ J 10 9 8 3 | |
| ♥ A 5 4 2 | W N E | ♥ J 10 8 | |
| ♦ Q 10 7 4 2 | S | ♦ J 5 | |
| ♣ 9 4 | | ♣ J 8 2 | |
| 15 6 4 15 | ♠ K 7 5 ♥ Q 9 6 ♦ A 9 8 3 ♣ A Q 7 | | |
| West | North | East | South |
| Pass | 4 NT | Pass | 1 NT |
| Pass | | | Pass |
| 4 NT by South | | | |

Yes, this has nothing to do with Gerber or Blackwood, but everything to do with smart bidding.

NORTH has a 16 points and SOUTH has 15, 16 or 17. NORTH wants to be in 6 NT if SOUTH has 17,

but merely a Notrump game if she has 15 or 16.

The way to find out is to bid 4 NT - not Blackwood but merely an invitation to bid 6 NT.

In this case, SOUTH has but 15 points and declines the invitation. If her

â™¥

Q

were changed to the

â™¥

A she would bid 6 NT and collect her twelve easy tricks.

Deal 4South Deals
None Vul**♠ K Q J 4****♥ K 6****♦ K 4****♣ K Q J 10 5****♠ 10 9 5 3****♥ A 8 5 4****♦ 9 6****♣ 9 6 3****♠ 2****♥ 10 9 3 2****♦ Q 10 8 7 5 2****♣ 7 4****♠ A 8 7 6****♥ Q J 7****♦ A J 3****♣ A 8 2****18
4 2
16**

West North East South

1 NT

Pass 4 ♣ Pass 4 NT

Pass 6 NT Pass Pass

Pass

6 NT by South

When SOUTH opens 1 NT NORTH hopes his hand includes all four Aces so she can bid 7 NT.

So she uses Gerber to find out.

But, when she discovers they are missing an Ace she settles for 6 NT.

Deal 5

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| South Deals | ♠ 9 7 2 |
| None Vul | ♥ K J 5 3 |
| | ♦ K 7 |
| | ♣ 7 6 4 2 |
| ♠ 6 4 3 | ♠ Q J 10 8 5 |
| ♥ 2 | ♥ 8 7 4 |
| ♦ 10 9 8 5 4 | ♦ 6 2 |
| ♣ Q J 9 5 | ♣ 10 8 3 |



♠ A K
♥ A Q 10 9 6
♦ A Q J 3
♣ A K

| <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> | <i>South</i> |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | | | 2 ♣ |
| Pass | 2 ♦ | Pass | 2 ♥ |
| Pass | 3 ♥ | Pass | 4 NT |
| Pass | 5 ♣ | Pass | 5 NT |
| Pass | 6 ♥ | Pass | 7 NT |
| ALL | Pass | | |
| 7 NT by South | | | |

Baker Bidpractice/Set 7 17

Deal 6

Deal 6

North Deals

None Vul

♠ K 7

♥ K 9

♦ A Q J 10 4

♣ A Q J 7

♠ 10 9 8 4 3

♥ Q 8 6

♦ 8 2

♣ 10 9 3

20**2 4****14**

♠ A 6 2

♥ A 10 4

♦ K 7 5

♣ K 8 6 2

West

North

East

South

1 ♦

Pass

2 NT

Pass

4 ♣

Pass

4 ♣

Pass

5 ♣

Pass

5 ♣

Pass

7 NT

Pass

Pass

Pass
7 NT by South

NORTH is just shy of a 2 \hat{a} opening bid, and when SOUTH shows 13-15 points NORTH

wants to be in a slam.

NORTH cannot use Blackwood because 4 NT would be a natural invitation, but with SOUTH's latest bid

being 2 NT he can use Gerber.

Two Major Aces and two Minor Kings fill the holes in NORTH's hand so he bids 7 NT.