

Deal 1

North Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 2
 ♥ 9 6 2
 ♦ 9 3 2
 ♣ A Q 9 8 2

♠ A 9 8 6 4

♥ A K Q

♦ 7

♣ K J 6 3



♠ J 10
 ♥ 10 5 4 3
 ♦ K Q J 10 4
 ♣ 10 5

♠ K 7 5 3
 ♥ J 8 7
 ♦ A 8 6 5
 ♣ 7 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♠ by North			

NORTH may have a good hand but SOUTH merely gave a simple raise.

Even if SOUTH has a maximum there won't be a slam.

Deal 2East Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 7 5 3
 ♥ 10 9 4 2
 ♦ A 8
 ♣ K J 4

10 7
 16 7

West
 3 ♥
 4 ♦
 Pass
 6 ♥ by East

♠ K 9 8 2
 ♥ A
 ♦ 10 9 6 5 3
 ♣ 7 3 2

♠ —
 ♥ K Q J 8 6 3
 ♦ K J 2
 ♣ A Q 6 5

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

North East South

Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Pass 6 ♥ Pass

EAST has a tough decision after the two Control-showing bids.

If he uses Blackwood and WEST shows two Aces he will be no better off, because he won't know if one

of the Aces is the useless â™ A. Based on knowing that WEST holds the

â™!

A,

he bids 6

â™Y

, hoping that he can at least make that and that 7 isn't a laydown!

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

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

♠ Q J 5
♥ J 7 5 4 2
♦ 10 5
♣ Q 5 3

♠ K 6 2
♥ A 10 9
♦ A K 3
♣ A K 8 4

West North East South

**10
3 6
21**

Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 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 4West Deals
None Vul

♠ A K Q
♥ K Q 6
♦ K Q 3
♣ J 8 7 5

5
20 11
4

♠ 10 9 4
♥ 10 8 4 3
♦ A J 9 7
♣ 4 3



♠ J 8
♥ J 7 2
♦ 8 5
♣ A K Q 10 9 6

♠ 7 6 5 3 2
♥ A 9 5
♦ 10 6 4 2
♣ 2

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

EAST 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 5â™£, but it

would be tricky to get there. Very tricky.

Deal 5

North Deals

None Vul

♠ J 10 9 8 3

♥ J 10 8

♦ J 5

♣ J 8 2

♠ K 7 5
♥ Q 9 6
♦ A 9 8 3
♣ A Q 7



♠ 4 2
♥ A 5 4 2
♦ Q 10 7 4 2
♣ 9 4

15
4 6
15

♠ A Q 6
♥ K 7 3
♦ K 6
♣ K 10 6 5 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1 NT	Pass	4 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4 NT by North

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

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