

**Board 1**

South Deals

None Vul

♠ Q J 8 4 3 2

♥ A 9 6 5 2

♦ 2

♣ 6

♠ A K 5

♥ 7

♦ Q T 6 5 3

♣ K T 8 4



♠ T 9 7

♥ Q J T 8 3

♦ A 8

♣ 7 5 3

♠ 6

♥ K 4

♦ K J 9 7 4

♣ A Q J 9 2

West

North

East

South

Pass

3 ♦

Pass

4 ♣

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

4NT

Pass

5 ♦

All Pass

5 ♦ by North

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SOUTH 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!

**Board 2**

North Deals

N-S Vul

♠ T 5  
 ♥ 7 3  
 ♦ 9 8 4 2  
 ♣ K J T 9 2

♠ A Q J 7 3

♥ A J 8 6

♦ 5 3

♣ 8 7



♠ 9 8 6 2

♥ 4 2

♦ K Q J T

♣ Q 6 3

♠ K 4

♥ K Q T 9 5

♦ A 7 6

♣ A 5 4

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♥
All Pass			

6 ♥ by South

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SOUTH knows NORTH has at least five 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

**Board 3**

North Deals

None Vul

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

♠ A 6 2

♥ K Q J 7

♦ 6

♣ K Q J T 9



♠ Q J 9 8

♥ 6

♦ K T 8 7 3 2

♣ 7 3

♠ K 5 3

♥ A T 9 5 2

♦ A 9 4

♣ A 4

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	5NT
Pass	7 ♥	All Pass	

7 ♥ by North

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When NORTH answers Blackwood with one Ace

SOUTH decides to bid 5NT to ask for Kings.

With two Kings, NORTH would bid 6

.

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

Knowing the 5NT bid guarantees all four Aces,  
NORTH figures her suit will

supply five tricks so she bids 7

.

**Board 4**

South Deals

None Vul

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

♠ 8 7

♥ Q 9 7 4

♦ K Q 5

♣ A T 8 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ T 6 4 2

♥ T 8

♦ A J T 9 2

♣ 7 6

♠ A K Q 5

♥ A J 6 5 2

♦ 6

♣ K Q J

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	5 ♥
All Pass			

5 ♥ by South

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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

.

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

K situation.

**Board 5**

South Deals

N-S Vul

♠ T 9 7 5 3

♥ T

♦ J 8 7

♣ Q J 6 2

♠ K 4 2

♥ A Q J 8 7 4 2

♦ K

♣ K 3



♠ Q 8

♥ 9 6 3

♦ T 9 5 4 3

♣ T 8 5

♠ A J 6

♥ K 5

♦ A Q 6 2

♣ A 9 7 4

West	North	East	South
			1 ♦
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	7NT	All Pass	

7 NT by North

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NORTH might be tempted to blast into Blackwood with his first bid, pushing toward some slam

in

s. He chooses to temporize with a 1

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

The Notrump bid prevents NORTH from using Blackwood, but Gerber 4 ♣ will work just fine.

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

**Board 6**

North Deals

E-W Vul

♠ J T 7 2  
♥ J 6 5 3 2  
♦ 7 6 4  
♣ 3

♠ A K

♥ K Q 4

♦ K Q J 3

♣ K Q J 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 9 8 5 4

♥ 9 8

♦ A T 8

♣ 9 7 4 2

♠ Q 6 3

♥ A T 7

♦ 9 5 2

♣ A T 8 6

West	North	East	South
	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

6NT by North

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SOUTH responds 2NT, 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

4NT in this situation would not be Blackwood.

When SOUTH shows two Aces NORTH bids 6NT.