

Deal 1

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 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

♠ Q 9 7 4

♥ Q 6 3 2

♦ A 8

♣ 7 6 3



12
6 8
14

♠ 6

♥ K 4

♦ K J 9 7 4

♣ A Q J 9 2

*West**North**East**South*

Pass

3 ♦

Pass

1 ♦

Pass

4 ♠

Pass

4 ♣

Pass

5 ♦

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♦ by South

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!

Deal 2

North Deals
None Vul

♠ A Q J 7 3
♥ A J 8 6
♦ 5 3
♣ 8 7

♠ 10 5
♥ 3 2
♦ K 10 9 8
♣ Q 10 9 6 2



♠ 9 8 6 2
♥ 7 4
♦ Q J 4 2
♣ K J 3

12
5 7
16

♠ K 4
♥ K Q 10 9 5
♦ A 7 6
♣ A 5 4

West	North	East	South
	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
â™ 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

â™

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Deal 3

North Deals
None Vul

♠ Q J 10 9 7
♥ 6 4 3
♦ 8 3
♣ 7 5 2

16
3 6
15

*West**North**East**South*

1 ♣
3 ♥
5 ♦
7 ♥
Pass
7 ♥ by South

♠ A 6 2
♥ K Q J 7
♦ 6
♣ K Q J 10 9

N
W E
S

♠ K 5 3
♥ A 10 9 5 2
♦ A 9 4
♣ A 4

♠ 8 4
♥ 8
♦ K Q J 10 7 5 2
♣ 8 6 3

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

With two Kings, NORTH would bid 6

â™¥

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

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

supply five tricks so she bids 7

â™¥

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Deal 4

South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 6 2
♥ K 10 8 3
♦ J 7 3 2
♣ 9 2

11
5 4
20

West

Pass
Pass
Pass

5 ♥ by South

♠ 8 7
♥ Q 9 7 4
♦ K Q 5
♣ A 10 8 3



♠ A K Q 5
♥ A J 6 5 2
♦ 6
♣ K Q J

North

3 ♥
5 ♦
Pass

East

Pass
Pass
Pass

South

1 ♥
4 NT
5 ♥

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

♠™

K situation.

Deal 5

South Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 3
♥ 10
♦ J 10 9 8 5 4
♣ Q J 8 5

♠ K 4 2
♥ A Q J 8 7 4 2
♦ K
♣ K 3

N
W E
S

♠ Q 10 9 8 5
♥ 9 6 3
♦ 7 3
♣ 10 6 2

16
4 2
18

♠ A J 6
♥ K 5
♦ A Q 6 2
♣ A 9 7 4

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

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

in

â™¥

s. He chooses to temporize with a 1

â™¥

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

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

When he discovers that SOUTH 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

♠ A K

♥ K Q 4

♦ K Q J 3

♣ K Q J 5



♠ Q 6 3

♥ A 10 7

♦ 9 5 2

♣ A 10 8 6

♠ J 10 5

♥ 9 6 3 2

♦ A 10 7 6

♣ 4 3

West	North	East	South
	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.