

Deal 1

South Deals
None Vul

♠ A 8	♦ 8 7 4	♣ Q J 3
♥ K Q 9 7 2		
♦ 8 7 4		
♣ Q J 3		
♠ 3 2	♠ 9 6 4	
♥ 5	♥ 10 4	
♦ J 6 5 3 2	♦ K Q 10 9	
♣ A 9 8 7 2	♣ K 10 6 4	

♠ K Q J 10 7 5
 ♥ A J 8 6 3
 ♦ A
 ♣ 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
6 ♥ by North			

Since there has not been a clear agreement on the trump suit you can assume it is ♥s, the last bid suit.

So you have two Key-Cards (♠A and ♥K, along with the ♥Q). You therefore bid 5 ♠ and partner bids 6 ♥.

Deal 2

North Deals	♠ K Q J 5
None Vul	♥ A Q J 3
	♦ Q 6
	♣ K Q J

♠ 8 4	♠ 6
♥ 8 7 6	♥ 10 4 2
♦ A J 9 4	♦ K 10 7 3 2
♣ 9 8 4 2	♣ 10 6 5 3

W	N	E	S
♠ A 10 9 7 3 2			
♥ K 9 5			
♦ 8 5			
♣ A 7			

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
5 ♠ by South			

Partner's jump to 4 ♠ indicates he is prepared to play at game even if you have as few as 6 points. So he must have 20 points or so. With your 14 that puts you in slam range. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

Despite your conviction that this hand is going to slam you should NOT ask for Key-Cards holding a worthless doubleton. Instead, you make a slam try by bidding your cheapest control, 5 ♣. Partner says 5 ♥. What is your next bid?

You can only say 5 ♠. Partner would have control-bid ♦s if he held the Ace since controls are bid up-the-line. His failure to show it means he doesn't have it. Since you might be off the first two ♦ tricks you stop at 5 ♠.

Yes, partner should probably have opened 2 NT. Sometimes partners don't make the bids you think they oughta.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♦ 5

♣ K Q 3

♠ A 5

♥ Q 10 9 3

♦ 10 4 2

♣ J 7 6 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 4 3
♥ J 4 2
♦ Q J 9 8 7
♣ 10 9 5

♠ J 10 8 7

♥ A 7

♦ A K 6 3

♣ A 8 2

13
7 4
16

West	North	East	South
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1♦

Pass 1♠ Pass 3♠

Pass 4 NT Pass 5♦

Pass 6 ♠ Pass Pass

Pass

6 ♠ by North

You have 3 Key-Cards so you bid 5♦.

Partner bids 6 ♠.

Deal 4

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 5
♥ 10 9 8 3
♦ A 10 8 2
♣ 10 5 2

14
4 2
20

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 6 3
♥ 7 4 2
♦ Q 9 7 6 4
♣ 9 7 4

♠ AJ 9 7 2
♥ K Q 5
♦ K 5
♣ A K 6

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
6 ♠ by South			

Your partnership plays Jacoby 2 NT convention, so partner's 2 NT shows a game-forcing raise in ♠s. Your 3 NT bid indicates a 5-card suit and "extra values". Partner's 4 ♥ is a control-bid showing the ♥ A. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

What you need to know now about partner's hand is Key-Cards so you bid 4 NT. He answers 5 ♠. What is your bid?

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Partner's response says 2 Key-Cards and the ♠ Q. So you are missing either the trump King or the ♦ A. So you shouldn't bid 7, but you will almost surely make 6. You bid 6 ♠.

Deal 5

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9 8 5 3**♥ KJ 8****♦ 9 2****♣ 8 5 4****♠ K J 7****♥ 6****♦ A Q 10 8 7 5****♣ A 10 6****♠ 6 4 2****♥ A Q 9 5 3 2****♦ 4****♣ 9 3 2****♠ A Q****♥ 10 7 4****♦ K J 6 3****♣ K Q J 7****West****North****East****South**

1 NT

Pass

3 ♦

Pass

4 ♦

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♥

Pass

6 ♦

ALL

Pass

6 ♦ by North

Partner's 3 ♦ bid shows a very good hand with probable slam interest. It is very tempting to say 3 NT now but you don't have ♥s stopped and don't know if partner does. So with good ♦ support you bid 4 ♦. Partner bids 4 NT. What is your response?

You have 2 Key-Cards, the ♠A and ♦K. But you don't have the ♦Q so you answer 5 ♥. Partner bids 6 ♦.

Deal 6
 South Deals
 None Vul

♠ Q 9 7 4
 ♥ 10 7
 ♦ 9 8 6 2
 ♣ J 9 6

11
 3 7
 19

♠ A 6 5 2
 ♥ Q J 5 2
 ♦ K J 3
 ♣ 8 2

♠ J 3
 ♥ 3
 ♦ A Q 10 7 5 4
 ♣ 10 5 4 3

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	6 ♥
Pass			
6 ♥ by South			

Your partner's 3 ♥ is a limit-raise, 11-12 points with ♥ support. Decide what you would say next, then on BID above.

What you want to know is whether partner holds the ♠ A. If you bid 4 NT and he shows two Key-Cards all will be well, you will know they are the two missing Aces. But if he shows just 1 Key-Card you will be in the soup since you can't tell if that Key-Card is the useful ♠ A or the practically useless ♦ A. So you don't use RKCB, you use control-showing and bid 4 ♣. Partner says 4 ♥. What do you bid next?

Partner would have control-bid ♦s if he had the Ace. You may not think that helps but it does since now you can bid RKCB. You bid 4 NT and he answers 5 ♣. What is your next bid?

It was a lot of work but you have figured out that partner holds 11-12 points including one Key-Card which must be the ♠ A. It looks like the slam is a good idea so you say 6 ♥.