Deal 1
South Deals
None Vul

	♠ K 7 5 3	
	♡ J 8 7	
	◊ A 8 6 5	
	♣ 7 4	
♠ J 10		♠ Q 2
♡ 10 5 4 3	N	♡ 9 6 2
◊ K Q J 10 4	W E	◊ 9 3 2
♣ 10 5	S	♣ A Q 9 8 2
	♠ A 9 8 6 4	
	♡ A K Q	
	◊ 7	
	♣ K J 6 3	

8
7 8
17

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

4♠ by South

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

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

Deal 2
South Deals
None Vul

```
              ♠ Q 7 5 3
              ♡ 10 9 4 2
              ◇ A 8
              ♣ K J 4
♠ A J 10 6 4        ♠ K 9 8 2
♡ 7 5          N    ♡ A
◇ Q 7 4     W   E   ◇ 10 9 6 5 3
♣ 10 9 8       S    ♣ 7 3 2
              ♠ —
   10         ♡ K Q J 8 6 3
  7   7       ◇ K J 2
   16         ♣ A Q 6 5
```

West	North	East	South
			1 ♡
Pass	3 ♡	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ◇	Pass	6 ♡
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♡ by South

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

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

of the Aces is the useless ♡ A. Based on knowing that NORTH holds the

♡

A,

he bids 6

♡

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

Deal 3
South Deals
None Vul

```
            ♠ A 7
            ♡ K 3
            ◊ Q J 9 8 7 4 2
            ♣ 7 6
♠ 10 9 8 4 3          ♠ Q J 5
♡ Q 8 6               ♡ J 7 5 4 2
◊ 6                   ◊ 10 5
♣ J 10 9 2            ♣ Q 5 3
            ♠ K 6 2
            ♡ A 10 9
            ◊ A K 3
            ♣ A K 8 4
```

	10	
3		6
	21	

West	North	East	South
			2 NT
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

♥…

isn't

too much to hope for.

He starts with a Gerber 4♣ and SOUTH shows three Aces.

Hmmm, 5♣ asks for Kings and SOUTH shows three.

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

♥…

slam and bids 7 NT.

Deal 4
South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 8
♡ J 7 2
◇ 8 5
♣ A K Q 10 9 6

♠ 10 9 4
♡ 10 8 4 3
◇ A J 9 7
♣ 4 3

N
W E
S

♠ 7 6 5 3 2
♡ A 9 5
◇ 10 6 4 2
♣ 2

11
5   4
20

♠ A K Q
♡ K Q 6
◇ K Q 3
♣ J 8 7 5

West	North	East	South
			2 NT
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 5âᵀᴹ£, but it

would be tricky to get there. Very tricky.

Deal 5
South Deals
None Vul

♠ A Q 6
♡ K 7 3
◇ K 6
♣ K 10 6 5 3

♠ 4 2
♡ A 5 4 2
◇ Q 10 7 4 2
♣ 9 4

```
      N
  W       E
      S
```

♠ 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

15
6   4
15

West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	4 NT	Pass	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.