

Board 1
South Deals
Both Vul

Slam			
	♠ K 3		
	♥ A K 4		
	♦ 8 7 3		
	♣ A K 7 6 2		
♠ J 10 8 5	W N E S	♠ 9 4 2	
♥ J 9 2		♥ 10 7 5 3	
♦ Q J 10 9		♦ 6 5	
♣ 9 3		♣ Q 10 8 4	
	♠ A Q 7 6		
	♥ Q 8 6		
	♦ A K 4 2		
	♣ J 5		
West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 NT ¹
Pass	4 NT ²	Pass	6 NT ³
All pass			

1. 15-16 balanced
2. Quantitative, not Blackwood. Does the partnership have 33 points ?
3. Accepting the invitation with 16 (not 15)

Board 2
West Deals
None Vul

	♠ 8		
	♥ J 10 9 3 2		
	♦ J 8 5 2		
	♣ K J 4		
♠ K Q 9 7 6 3	W N E S	♠ A J 10 5	
♥ —		♥ 8 6 4	
♦ K Q 4		♦ A 7 6	
♣ A 10 9 2		♣ Q 7 3	
	♠ 4 2		
	♥ A K Q 7 5		
	♦ 10 9 3		
	♣ 8 6 5		
West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♣ ¹	Pass	4 ♦ ²	Pass
6 ♠ ³	All pass		

1. Natural Slam try
2. Ace-showing Cue bid. (You shouldn't bid blackwood with a void. You will not know whether partners ace is in your void (bad) or opposite your length (good))
3. Partner holding the ace of diamonds is perfect news

Board 3

North Deals
None Vul

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

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♣ ¹	Pass	4 ♥ ²
Pass	4 ♠ ³	All pass	

1. Natural Slam Try - a "trial Bid"
2. Ace-showing cue bid, "I am cooperating in the slam venture, and have the ace of hearts" (Again Blackwood with a void not good)
3. Partner holding the ace opposite the void is bad news. North rejects any thoughts of slam.

Board 4

East Deals
None Vul

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

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣ ¹	Pass
4 ♥ ²	Pass	4 ♠ ³	All pass

1. Showing the Ace of Clubs, and a hand interested in slam
2. Showing the ace of hearts, and inferentially denying the ace of diamonds (no 5 ♦ bid - the cheapest are bid first)
3. East Rejects slam, because of the diamond weakness

Board 5

South Deals
Both Vul

♠ 8 7 3
♥ A J 10 3
♦ 8 3 2
♣ A Q 2

♠ K Q 10 4
♥ 7 5
♦ K J 6 4
♣ 10 6 5

N
W E
S

♠ J 9 6 5 2
♥ 9
♦ Q 10 7 5
♣ 9 8 3

♠ A
♥ K Q 8 6 4 2
♦ A 9
♣ K J 7 4

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♣ ¹
Pass	6 ♥ ²	All pass	

1. Trial Bid - can you help me in clubs ?
2. You Bet !

Board 6

East Deals
Both Vul

♠ J 8 5 4
♥ K Q 9 7
♦ A Q 9
♣ 9 8

♠ Q 10 7 3 2
♥ A J
♦ 6
♣ K J 7 6 4

N
W E
S

♠ A K 9 6
♥ 3
♦ J 7 5 3 2
♣ A Q 2

♠ —
♥ 10 8 6 5 4 2
♦ K 10 8 4
♣ 10 5 3

West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	Pass
1 ♠ ¹	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♣ ²	Pass	4 NT ³	Pass
5 ♦ ⁴	Pass	6 ♠	All pass

1. High 5's (bid spades not clubs)
2. Trial Bid - can you help me in clubs ?
3. Yes - so much so that I am taking control. How many Aces do you possess ?
4. One

Board 7

North Deals
Both Vul

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

West	North	East	South
	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♦ ¹	Pass	4 ♥ ²
All pass			

1. North has a six-loser hand - a game invite. His 3 ♦ Trial Bid shows a long, weak suit, and asks for help in the suit
2. With K ♦ and good trumps, South accepts the Trial Bid, in spite of holding minimum points

Board 8

East Deals
N-S Vul

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

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣ ¹	Pass
3 ♠ ²	All pass		

1. Game-Invite, asking for help in clubs
2. West has two losing tricks in clubs, so looks at the rest of his hand. His trumps are poor, and his point count barely above minimum. It is clear to reject the game invite

Board 9

South Deals
None Vul

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

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

1. Splinter Bid, showing a hand worth (at least) 4 ♠ with a singleton (void) in clubs
2. RKCB or Blackwood
3. Two of the "5 Aces" (including K♠); no Q♠ or for Blackwood 5 ♦ showing 1 ace which is not so descriptive

Board 10

West Deals
None Vul

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	4 ♦ ¹	Pass
4 ♥ ²	All pass		

1. Splinter Bid - singleton diamond and at least game values in support of hearts
2. Signing Off - a Singleton facing a singleton is thumbs down

Board 11

North Deals
N-S Vul

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

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

1. Splinter Bid - showing a singleton Heart and a game-going hand in support of spades
2. Four small cards facing a Singleton is a wonderful holding. North bids RKCB (or Blackwood)
3. Two of the "five aces" (including ♠ K); no ♠ Q (or 5 ♦ showing 1 Ace)

Board 12

East Deals
Both Vul

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

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
4 ♥ ¹	Pass	4 ♠ ²	All pass

1. Splinter Bid - game going hand with four or more trumps and a singleton (void) heart
2. Yuk ! East would love to hear a Splinter Bid in clubs, but not in Diamonds or Hearts. He signs off in 4 ♠.

Board 13

North Deals
None Vul

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

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

1. Despite being just a single jump, this is a Splinter Bid (showing a singleton Diamond and a raise to at least 4 ♥), as it is at the four level.
2. Axxx is a super holding facing a Splinter, South uses RKCB
3. Two of the "five aces" (including ♥ K); no ♥ Q. (5 ♥ if Blackwood showing 2 Aces)
4. South knows the partnership are missing one Ace and ♥ Q. Because he knows only three trumps are missing, he is not worried about ♥ Q

Board 14

South Deals
N-S Vul

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

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	4 ♦ ¹	Dbl ²	4 NT ³
Pass	5 ♥ ⁴	Pass	6 ♠
7 ♦ ⁵	Dbl ⁶	All pass	

1. Splinter Bid, showing a singleton (void) diamond, and a hand worth (at least) 4 ♠.
2. Suggesting a diamond sacrifice
3. South's hand has been upgraded by the Splinter - no Diamond losers. He bids RKCB to find out about ♠ K, ♥ A and ♣ A
4. Two of the 5 Aces (including ♠ K); no ♠ Q
5. West knows he won't make 7 ♦; but expecting 6 ♠ to make, he is certain his partnership will lose fewer points playing 7 ♦ than defending 6 ♠
6. What else can North do? Pass would show a willingness to hear South bid 7 ♠. It would imply a void Diamond (rather than a singleton)

Board 15

North Deals
E-W Vul

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

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

1. Trial Bid. Can you help me in diamonds ?
2. Ace Showing Cue bid, showing the ace of hearts and implying at least something in the Trial Bid Suit (or he would sign off in 4 ♠).
3. Roman Key Card Blackwood. Hearing his partner has A♥, and inferentially something in diamonds, is perfect news !
4. Two of the "five" aces (including ♠ K); no ♠ Q.

Board 16

East Deals
None Vul

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

West	North	East	South
		1 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣ ¹	Pass
4 ♥ ²	Pass	4 ♠ ³	All pass

1. Trial Bid for slam - can you help me in clubs?
2. Ace-showing Cue Bid - at least some slam interest, plus ♥ A (and not ♦ A).
3. Disappointing - partner has the wrong Ace

Board 17

South Deals
N-S Vul

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

♠ 8
♥ A K 10 8 6 3 2
♦ K 10 9 3
♣ A

West	North	East	South
			1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♦ ¹
Pass	5 ♦ ²	Pass	6 ♥
All pass			

1. Trial Bid for Slam - diamond help please ?
2. Ace-showing Cue-Bid

Board 18

West Deals
E-W Vul

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

♠ 9 8 7 6
♥ Q 2
♦ A 6 2
♣ 6 4 3 2

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
3 ♠ ¹	Pass	4 ♣ ²	Pass
4 ♥ ³	All pass		

1. Trial Bid for Slam. Help in Spades please
2. Showing at least some help in Spades (or he would sign off in 4 ♥), plus ♣ A
3. Nothing more to say. He was only just (if at all) worth a Slam try, and has no diamond control to cue-bid