

New series of 10 topics – Thursdays at 9:30am and 4:15pm

- Jun 25: Preemptive bids
- Jul 2: Bergen raises
- Jul 9: Bids after Opponents 1NT opening bid
- Jul 16: Unusual 2NT and Michaels
- Jul 23: Doubles – take out, negative and support
- Jul 30: Inverted minors
- Aug 6: Jacoby 2NT
- Aug 13: Blackwood, Roman Key Card and Gerber**
- Aug 20: Drury
- Aug 27: New minor forcing and 4th suit forcing

Standard Blackwood and Roman Key Card (RKC)

Standard Blackwood (4NT) asks only for Aces – but for slam bidding the King of trumps is a very “key” card

RKC (4NT) asks for Aces and the King of Trumps

There are 2 responses to RKC: 1430 and 3014 – many players use 1430 for the majors and 3014 for the minors

Standard Blackwood responses

5♣ 0 or 4 aces (usually 0)

5♦ 1 ace

5♥ 2 aces

5♠ 3 aces

RKC 1430 responses

5♣ 1 or 4 key cards

5♦ 0 or 3 keycards

5♥ 2 keycards **WITHOUT** the trump queen

5♠ 2 keycards **WITH** the trump queen

RKC 3014 responses

5♣

0 or 3 keycards

5♦

1 or 4 keycards

5♥

2 keycards **WITHOUT** the trump queen

5♠

2 keycards **WITH** the trump queen

5NT asks for Kings

In Standard Blackwood – 5NT ask for number of all kings

In RKC, 5NT asks for all Kings excluding the king of trumps

6♣ 0 kings

6♦ 1 king

6♥ 2 kings

6♠ 3 kings

Response to RKC with a Void?

5NT 2 key cards + a void

6 of the suit containing the void so long as it is below the agreed trump suit; you bid this with 1 key card and a void.

If the trump suit is ♥s and you have a void in ♠, bid 6♥

The agreed trump suit is ♥s, what is your response to RKC 1430 with the following?

					Answers
1.	♠AJT	♥KJT9	♦KQT	♣QJT	5♥
2.	♠KQJ	♥KQJT	♦KJT	♣KJT	5♣
3.	♠KQJ	♥AKQ	♦JT9	♣JT98	5♠
4.	♠AT9	♥KQJ2	♦KJT	♣KJT	5♠
5.	♠-	♥KJT9	♦AQJ	♣KQT	5NT

The agreed trump suit is ♣s, what is your response to RKC 3014 with the following?

				Answers	
1.	♠AJT	♥AJT	♦QJT	♣KQJT	5♣
2.	♠KT9	♥KT9	♦KJT	♣KQT9	5♦
3.	♠KT9	♥KQT	♦KQT	♣T987	5♣
4.	♠AQT	♥KT9	♦QJT	♣KJT9	5♥
5.	♠QJT	♥AJT	♦AJT	♣KJT9	5♣

Gerber

The Gerber convention is a **4♣ response to a NT bid.**

Like Blackwood & RKC, it's a slam investigation bid that asks partner how many aces he holds.

The difference from Blackwood and RKC is that **Gerber is only used for NT.** This is because 1NT – 4NT (showing 16HCP) is natural inviting partner to bid 6NT if he has 17HCP or 16HCP with a good 5-card suit.

When does Gerber apply?

- An immediate 4♣ response by partner to any NT bid by the opener is Gerber
- A jump rebid by the opener of 4♣ in response to a natural NT bid by partner is Gerber
- Gerber require a lot of partnership discussion. It can be misidentified as a splinter bid showing a ♣ singleton or void, or as ♣ support if partner previously bid ♣s
- Gerber should not be used with a void.

Responses to 4♣

4♦ 0-4 aces

4♥ 1 ace

4♠ 2 aces

4NT 3 aces

After hearing partner's response, the Gerber bidder can bid 5♣ to ask for kings

5♦ 0 or 4 kings

5♥ 1 king

5♠ 2 kings

5NT 3 kings

Opener bids 1NT (15-17), partner bids 4♣,
what does opener rebid now?

Answers

1. ♠AJT	♥KQT	♦KJT	♣KT98	4♥
2. ♠AT9	♥KQT	♦AT9	♣KJT9	4♠
3. ♠KJT	♥KJT	♦KJT	♣KJT9	4♦
4. ♠AT2	♥AT32	♦AT2	♣KQ2	4NT
5. ♠JT98	♥AK2	♦KQ2	♣KJ2	4♥

Next week, Thursday Aug 20

Drury