

ASSIGNMENT ANSWERS

-----  
 LAST REVISED ON OCTOBER 23, 2018

1. a) Partner's *artificial Jacoby* 2NT tells you that your partner has at least 13 dummy points with at least four spades.  
 b) **Rebid a slow arrival 3♠**. You have 19 declarer points (18 HCP + 1 ♠ LSP) not counting the worthless ♥J. Your partnership has 32-?? (18+13 to 18+??) combined points with a nine card spade fit. Since you have three Aces, there is an excellent chance your partnership can make a small slam. Without a singleton or a void, rebid a *slow arrival 3♠* to describe a hand with 19-21 declarer points and a definite interest in a slam.  
*You should not use Blackwood with a worthless doubleton. But if partner bids a heart control, you can safely use Blackwood to see if it is the Ace.*
2. **Rebid a control-showing 4♣**. You have 25 declarer points (23 HCP + 2 ♠ LSP) and partner's 3♠ rebid promised 4-7 dummy points. The partnership has 29-32 (25+4 to 25+7) total points, which is a little short for a slam. But you have first and second round controls in three suits. If partner has the Ace or King of hearts, a small slam is possible. Show your club control. If partner does not show a heart control, sign-off with 4♠.
3. a) You have an unbalanced hand with 22 good declarer points (21 HCP + 1 ♥ LSP) not counting the worthless singleton ♦J. You also have a five card heart suit with two of the top three honors.  
 b) Your partner's 3♣ bid is a positive response to your strong 2♣ and shows an interest in a slam. Partner should have at least 8 declarer points and at least five clubs.  
 c) **Rebid a Blackwood 4NT (or 3♥)**. Because you now know that there is a nine card club fit, you can revalue your hand to 24 (21 HCP + 3 ♦ SSP) dummy points which gives your partnership 32-?? (24+8 to 24+??) combined points which is enough for a small slam if your partner has an Ace. Bid the Blackwood 4NT to ask for Aces. Because you have two Aces, you can pass if partner bids 5♣ to show no Aces which rules out a slam. If partner bids 5♦ to show one Ace you can afford to bid the 6♣ small slam.
4. **Rebid 4NT**. Your partner's jump to an *artificial 4♣* after a natural 1NT opening bid initiates the *Gerber* convention. You must reply with an *artificial 4NT* to tell your partner that you have three Aces.
5. a) Your partner's jump rebid of 3♥ indicates at least 17 declarer points and at least six hearts. It also means that your partner must be short in two suits or very short in one suit. The replies to your Blackwood 4NT and 5NT tell you that partner has the three missing Aces and the missing King.  
 b) **Rebid 7♥**. The partnership has all four Aces and all four Kings along with at least an eight-card heart fit. Take the chance on the 7♥ slam.  
*Depending on the shape of her hand, your partner might decide to go for the gold by raising the bid to 7NT.*

6. a) Your partner's opening bid describes a balanced hand with 15-17 high card points and stoppers in at least three suits. You have 18 high card points which means the partnership has 33-35 (18+15 to 18+17) high card points which all but guarantees a small slam. Your jump response to an *artificial Gerber 4♣* asks partner for a count of Aces.

b) The *artificial 4NT* reply to your Gerber 4♣ promises three Aces and the *artificial 5♦* reply promises only one King.

*Asking for Kings is a long shot because partner would need at least 18 high card points to have three Aces and two Kings. But it is possible if your partnership opens 1NT with 15-18 high card points (or partner lied).*

c) **Rebid 6NT**. Since the partnership is missing two Kings, you should settle for the small slam.

*There is a 50% chance of making a finesse so you might risk a grand slam bid if only one King is missing. The chance of making at least one of the finesses against the two missing Kings is 75% which is good odds for the small slam. But the chance of making both finesses against two Kings is only 25% which makes a grand slam a risky gamble.*

7. a) Your partner's 1♠ opening bid promised 13-21 declarer points with a five card spade suit. The 3♣ rebid, a simple raise of your suit, narrowed partner's strength to 13-16 dummy points with at least four clubs.

b) **Rebid a Blackwood 4NT**. You have 17 good declarer points (14 HCP + 3 ♣ LSP) plus the singleton ♥K so the partnership has 30-33 (17+13 to 17+16) total points plus the singleton ♥K with an 11 card trump fit. Although you have a worthless spade doubleton, partner's five card suit is spades so it is worth the risk to confirm a small slam.

*You have two Aces so it is safe to initiate Blackwood when there is a club fit. If partner replies 5♣ for no Aces, you can pass. If partner replies 5♦ for one Ace, you can safely try for the 6♣ small slam.*

8. a) Your partner's 2NT opening bid described a balanced hand with 20-21 high card points and stoppers in all four suits.

b) **Respond an artificial Gerber 4♣**. You have a balanced hand with 15 HCP and know the partnership has 35-36 (15+20 to 15+21) total HCP which is more than enough for a small slam and it might be enough for a grand slam. Respond 4♣ to ask for Aces. Given the total HCP, partner should reply 4♠ to show two Aces. Then rebid 5♣ to get a count of Kings. Place the contract at 6NT or 7NT depending on the answer.

9. a) Your partner's 1NT opening bid describes a balanced hand with 15-17 HCP and stoppers in at least three suits. Because you have the top three honors in hearts, partner should have a stopper in each of the other three suits.

b) **Rebid an artificial Blackwood 4NT**. You have 16 declarer points (14 HCP + 2 ♥ LSP) and know the partnership has 31-33 (16+15 to 16+17) total points with stoppers in all four suits and at least an eight-card heart fit. Since there is a chance for at least a small slam, bid the Blackwood 4NT to ask for an Ace count.