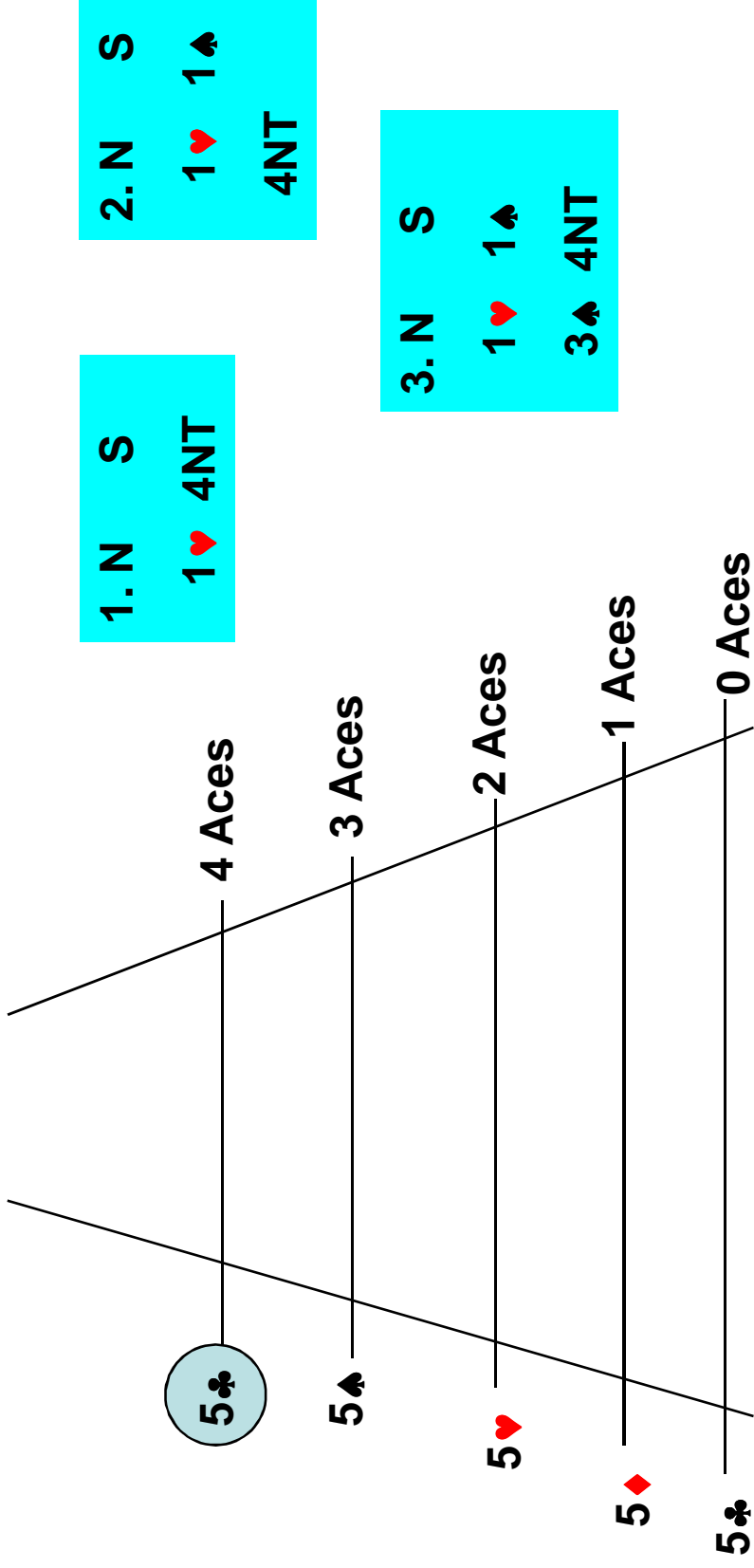


Blackwood & Roman Key Card Blackwood

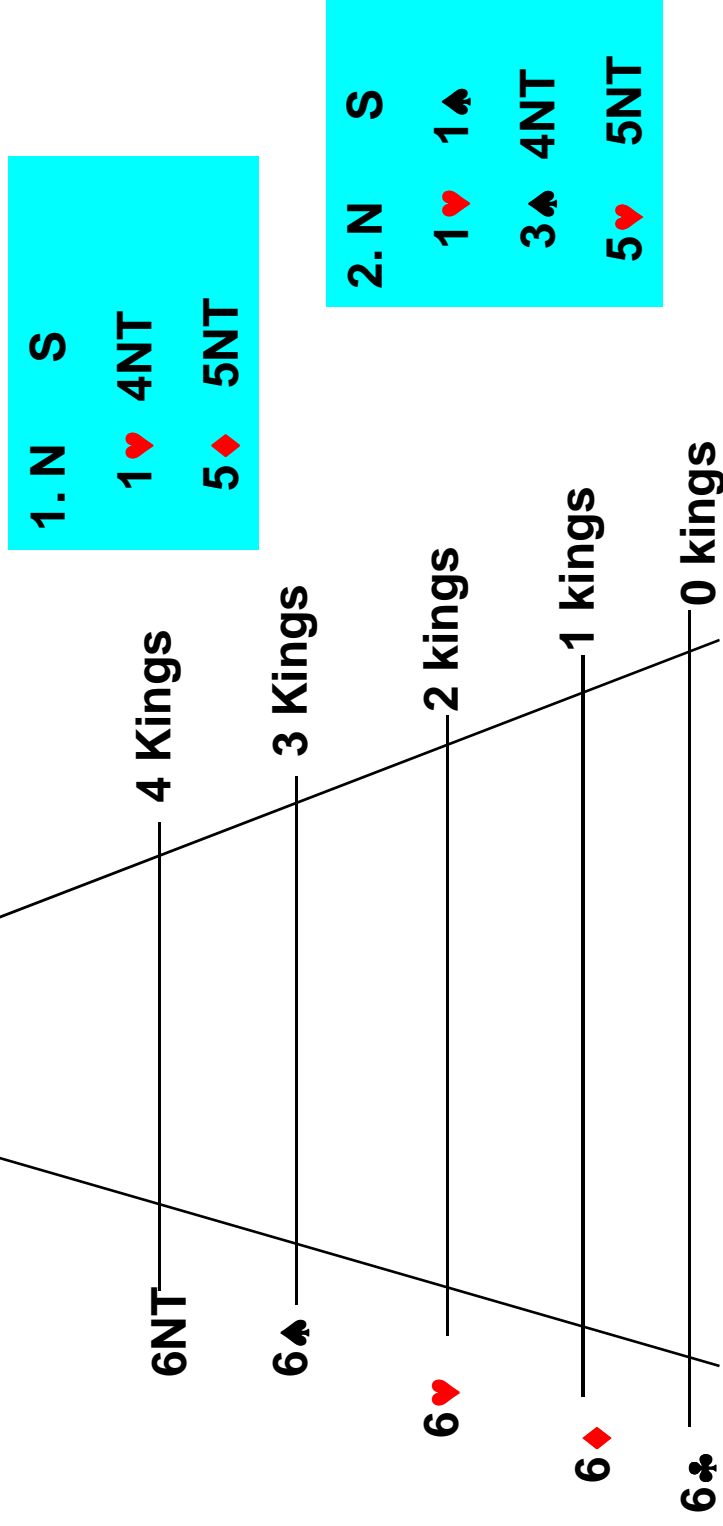
The Blackwood Convention :-

A bid of 4NT Says **HOW MANY Aces** do you have partner ?



The Blackwood Convention continued :-

A follow up bid of 5NT then say HOW MANY Kings do you also have partner (I have located all the aces)?



The RKC Blackwood Convention :-

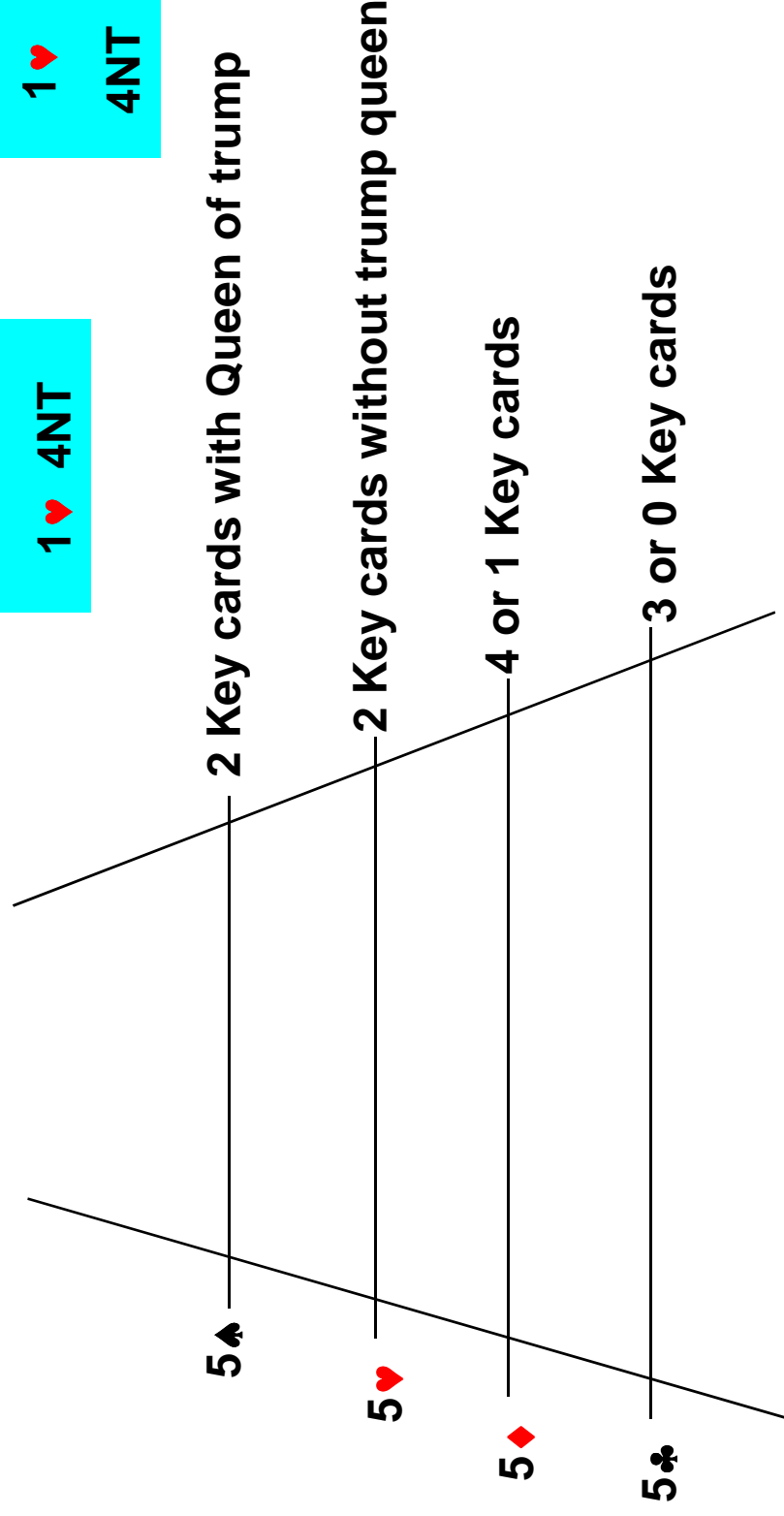
(Roman Key Card)

A bid of 4NT Says **HOW MANY** Key Cards do you have partner ?

Relevant cards are 4 aces, king of trump and queen of trump

| 1. N | S |
|------|----|
| 1♥ | 1♠ |
| 4NT | |

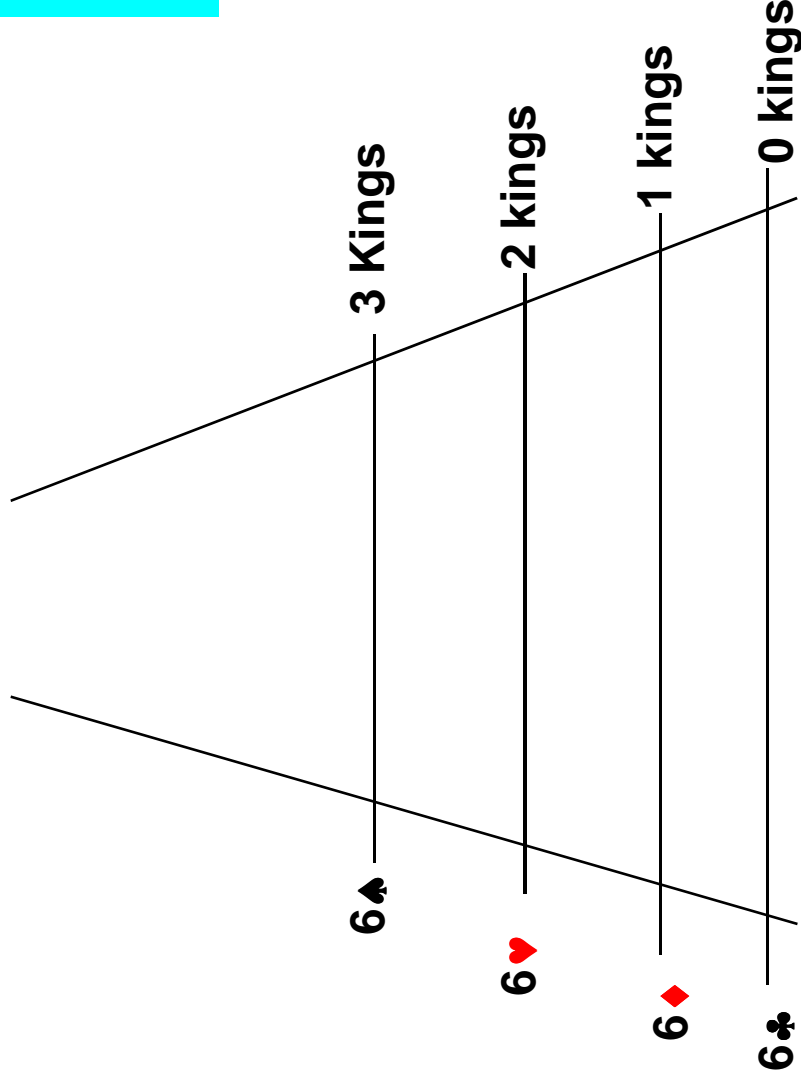
| 1. N | S |
|------|-----|
| 1♥ | 4NT |



The R K C Blackwood Convention continued :-

A follow up bid of 5NT then say **HOW MANY Kings** other than King of trumps do you also have partner (I have located all the Key Cards)?

| 1. N | S |
|------|-----|
| 1♥ | 4NT |
| 5♦ | 5NT |



| 2. N | S |
|------|-----|
| 1♥ | 1♠ |
| 3♠ | 4NT |
| 5♥ | 5NT |

After a 5♦ or 5♣ reply you might still want to know if partner has the Trump Queen So you make a relay bid – next suit up
Partner can reply as follows :-

1. Return to original suit as low as possible no Queen
2. Go to 6 of agreed suit with Queen
3. Bid new suit at 6 level shows King of that suit plus queen

Example 1

4NT asks about 5 Key cards ie 4 Aces, King of trump (and queen of trump) ?

5♣ = 3 or 0 5♦ = 1 or 4 5♥ = 2 without Queen, 5♠ = 2 with Queen

After a 5♦ or 5♣ reply you might still want to know if partner

Has the Trump Queen So you make a relay bid – next suit up

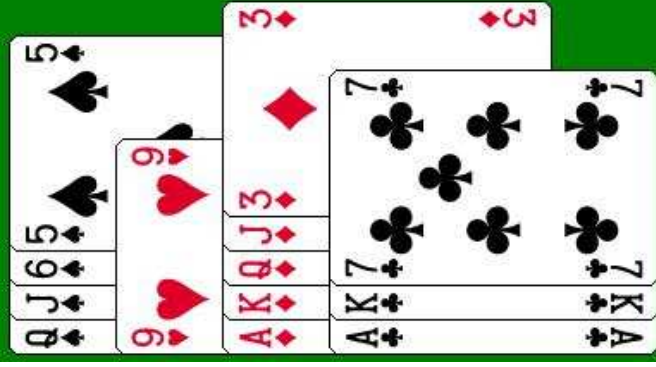
1. Return to original suit as low as possible no Queen

2. Go to 6 of agreed suit with Queen

3. Bid new suit at 6 level shows King of that suit plus queen

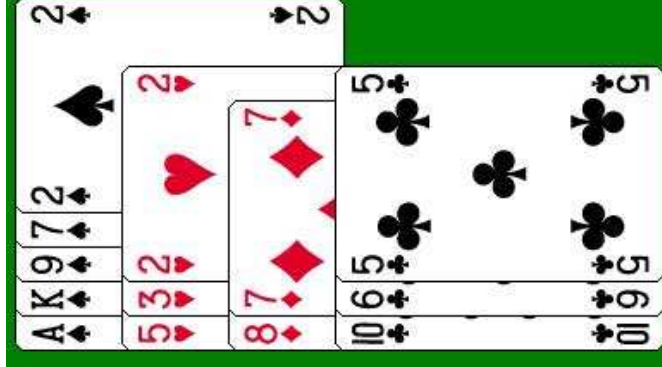
Partner can reply as follows :-

Dealer West



1♠

5♥ **



West

5♥ = 2 without Queen

East



Example 2

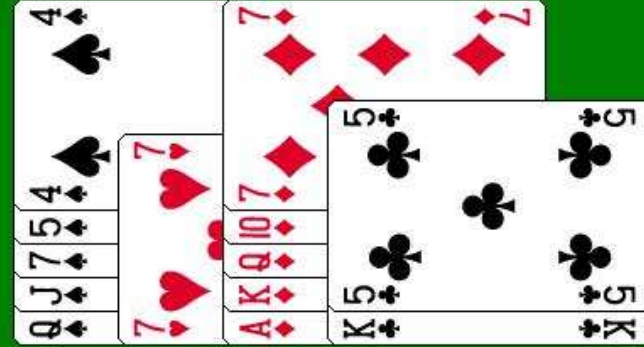
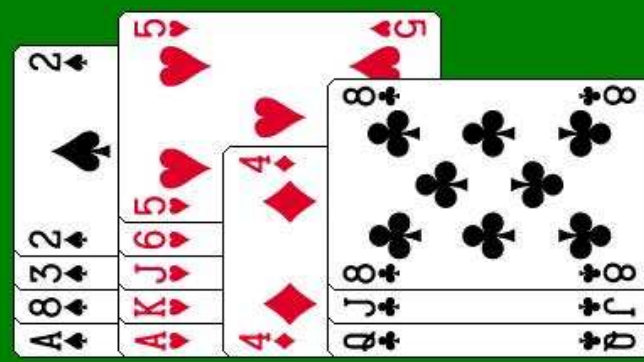
4NT asks about 5 Key cards ie 4 Aces, King of trump (and queen of trump) ?

5♣ = 3 or 0 5♦ = 1 or 4 5♥ = 2 without Queen, 5♠ = 2 with Queen

After a 5♦ or 5♣ reply you might still want to know if partner

Has the Trump Queen So you make a relay bid – next suit up

- Partner can reply as follows :-**
1. Return to original suit as low as possible no Queen
 2. Go to 6 of agreed suit with Queen
 3. Bid new suit at 6 level shows King of that suit plus queen

| | |
|---|--|
|  <p style="text-align: center;">1♠ 4NT 5♠</p> |  <p style="text-align: center;">1♥ 3♠ 5♥**</p> |
|---|--|

Dealer East

5♥ = 2 without Queen

West

East



Example 4

4NT asks about 5 Key cards ie 4 Aces, King of trump (and queen of trump) ?

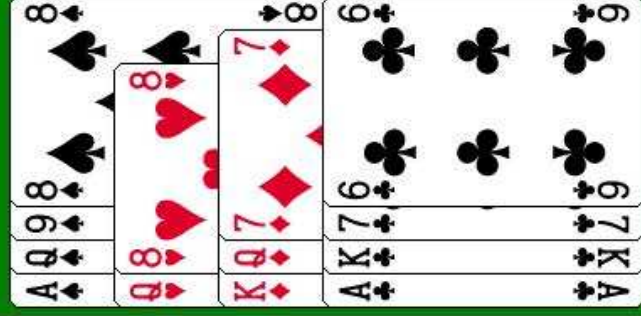
5♣ = 3 or 0 5♦ = 1 or 4 5♥ = 2 without Queen, 5♠ = 2 with Queen

After a 5♦ or 5♣ reply you might still want to know if partner

Has the Trump Queen So you make a relay bid – next suit up

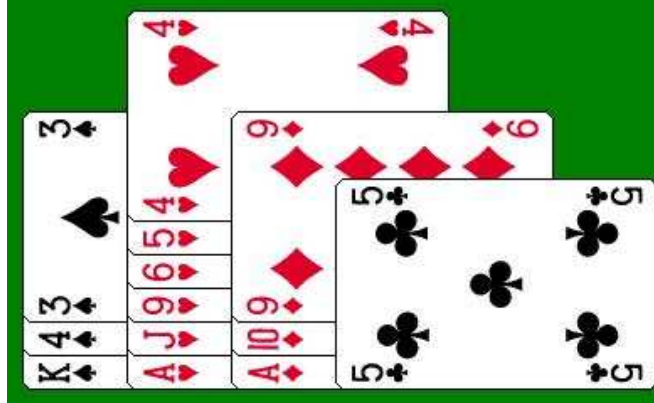
- Partner can reply as follows :-**
1. Return to original suit as low as possible no Queen
 2. Go to 6 of agreed suit with Queen
 3. Bid new suit at 6 level shows King of that suit plus queen

Dealer West



2NT
3♥
5♠**

3♦*
4NT
6♥



West

transfer* 2 with**

East

Some more points :-

If you ask for Kings immediately after asking for Aces then revert to Normal Blackwood responses and **TOTALLY IGNORE** King of trumps which has already been shown earlier.

So 6♣ shows no Kings 6♦ shows 1 Kings
6♥ shows 2 Kings 6♠ shows 3 Kings

Problems that may occur in RKC Blackwood

1. Some players play specific Kings and some play number of Kings.
2. Some players play 1430 instead of 3041 so make sure you know which version you are playing.
3. Sometimes players are not sure which is the agreed trump suit.
4. Some try to use the convention with NT bidding – this is of course impossible as there is no 5th key card !!
5. NB If in doubt as to the trump suit, treat last bid suit as the agreed suit