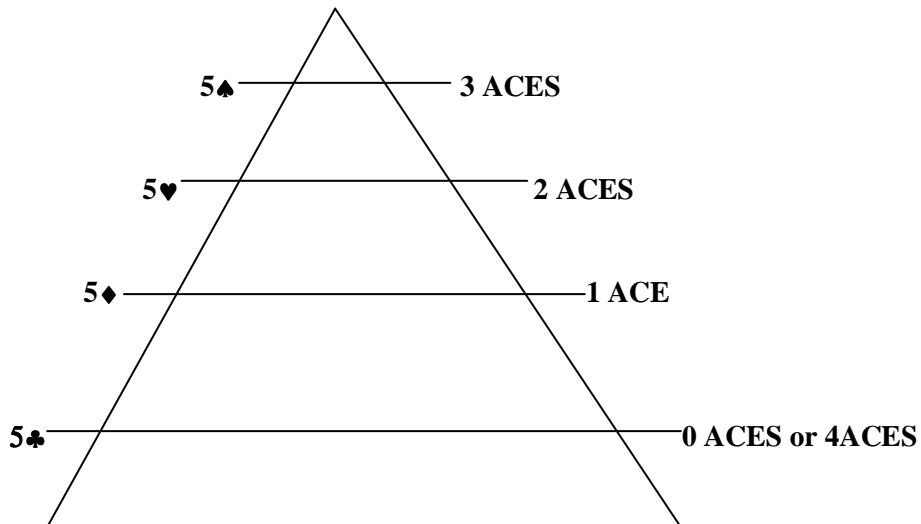


BRIDGE WITH HAROLD SCHOGGER

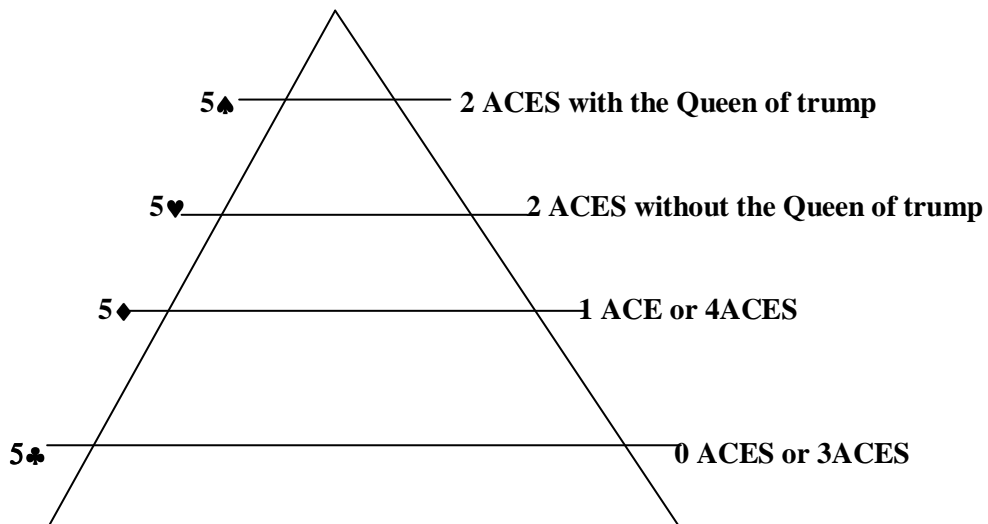
Miscellaneous 14

ROMAN KEY CARD BLACKWOOD with 5 ACES (ie normal 4 aces plus King of trumps)

NORMAL BLACKWOOD LADDER



THE ROMAN KEY CARD LADDER :-



The way to remember these responses is 3041 (almost like a tennis score!!)
Also the 5♣ bid and the 5♦ is same as normal Blackwood for its first part

Once you obtain a reply of 5♣ or 5♦ showing the number of Aces but no indication of the queen of trump you can then ask about the queen of trump. The next bid up becomes a RELAY bid and asks “PARTNER DO YOU ALSO HAVE THE QUEEN OF TRUMPS ?”

Most partnerships use the following method of showing the queen :-

1. One step up no queen
2. Two steps up you have the queen
3. Any further bid can show extra information depending on partnership style

ALTERNATIVELY you might like to use this method :-

- 1 . ANY RETURN to AGREED TRUMP SUIT = No Interest therefore No Queen
2. 5NT shows the queen and no further King
4. any other bid shows King of that suit and the Queen of trumps

Whatever method you choose there is always misunderstandings so make sure you and your partner are on the same WAVELENGTH and you discuss the convention Fully before using it.

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 1430 instead of 3041 so make sure you know which version you are playing.
2. Some players play specific Kings and some play number of Kings.
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 !!

NB If in doubt as to the trump suit, treat last bid suit as the agreed suit