

The Gerber convention

The 4 clubs Gerber

is a response to a no-trumps bid. Like Blackwood, it is a slam investigation bid that asks partner how many aces he holds.

• The difference from Blackwood is that Gerber is only used for no-trumps. This is because 1NT-4NT is natural, inviting partner to bid 6NT.



Problem E40172

With 16 HCP and a strong ♣ 6 carder, responder is interested in slam but need to make sure the camp is not missing two aces



The Gerber convention

Responses to a 4 clubs Gerber:

4 ♦ shows 0 or 4 aces. 4♥ shows 1 ace 4♠ shows 2 aces 4NT shows 3 aces.



Exercise 40173 Opener shows 0 or 4 aces (here clearly 4).... Good news

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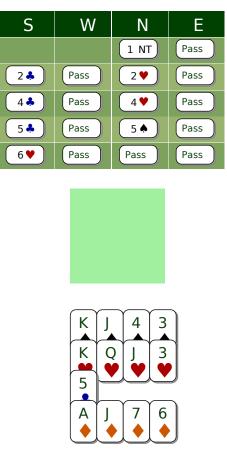


The Gerber convention

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

Responses to a 5 clubs Gerber (for the Kings)

5 ♦ shows 0 or 4 kings. 5♥ shows 1 king 5♦ shows 2 kings 5NT shows 3 kings.



Exercise 40086 Gerber can also be used as a jump rebid after a Stayman sequence. Here, responder is interested in 6♥..

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