

KEY-CARD BLACKWOOD

Improve Your Slam Bidding

- When contemplating taking 12 or 13 tricks in a suit contract, location of king of trumps is important.
- Think of king of trumps as a “key card”...along with the aces.
- Key-card Blackwood...4NT... asks for number of key cards held.
- Response of 5C shows 1 or 4 key cards
- Response of 5D shows 0 or 3 key cards
- Response of 5H shows 2 key cards without queen of trump
- Response of 5S shows 2 key cards with queen of trump
- The above is called 1430 key-card. Recommended.
- You can also play 0314 key-card. Partnership agreement.
- If no trump suit has been agreed on, play that the last suit bid is the trump suit.

Your partner opens 1S, you bid 2C, pard bids 3C
(Why 1430 might be better than 0314)

♠ A
♥ 5
♦ KQJ82
♣ KQJ1083

You open 1S and your partner bids 2H

♠ A9732
♥ Q986
♦ A
♣ KQ3

Your pard opens 1D, you bid 1H, pard bids 4H
(might make 5, might make 7...key card helps)

♠ 3
♥ J10932
♦ AJ5
♣ AQJ2