

Roman Key Card Blackwood (RKCB)

A very popular variant of Blackwood, is to treat the king of trumps as if it were an ace, so there are now **five key cards** you can ask about, instead of just four. In addition you can often find out if partner has the queen of trumps.

In response to a bid of 4NT, partner shows how many key cards he has as follows:

- 5♣ shows zero or three key cards
- 5♦ shows one or four key cards
- 5♥ shows two or (rarely) five key cards, without the queen of trumps
- 5♠ shows two or (rarely) five key cards, with the queen of trumps

If no suit has been explicitly agreed, *the last bid suit* is assumed to be the trump suit.

If in response to 5♣ or 5♦, you instead you bid the next suit (excluding the trump suit), that is an inquiry about the queen of trump. The next suit up, says no queen, skipping a suit shows the queen.

If partner determines that all five key cards are present he can bid 5NT to ask about the other three kings:

- 6♣ shows zero kings
- 6♦ shows one king
- 6♥ shows two kings
- 6♠ shows three kings