

# 1430 Roman Keycard Blackwood

The 1430 Roman Keycard Blackwood is a variation of the *Roman Keycard Blackwood* with only one slight difference. The slight variations of significance given to the individual responses among the *Blackwood*, *Roman Blackwood*, *Roman Keycard Blackwood*, and the *Roman Keycard Blackwood 1430* conventions signify only that a partnership must memorize, practice and apply the individual interpretations of the various bids. All of these variations are geared towards reaching a slam, knowing in advance the location of certain Key Cards.

**Note:** It is of the utmost importance for the partnership to have agreed first in the bidding process upon the trump suit before initiating Roman Key Card Blackwood 1430. If the trump suit has not been established or implied in the auction, then Roman Key Card Blackwood 1430 should not be initiated.

All variations begin with the bid of 4 No Trump. In the 1430 convention, there are five Key Cards, all four Aces and the King of Trump, the suit having been already established. The Trump is a Trump Suit, as opposed to a No Trump contract. In a No Trump contract, the partnership is interested only in the amount of Aces and Kings.

The responses to the 1430 convention are as follows, remembering that there are five Key Cards, not four as in the regular Blackwood convention. These five Key Cards are the four Aces and the King of Trump.

Using the 1430 convention, the responses to 4 No Trump are as follows, and remember that the magic word is **or**:

5 ♣: Shows 1 or 4 Key Cards (14)

5 ♦: Shows 0 or 3 Key Cards (30)

5 ♥: Shows 2 or 5 Key Cards without the Queen of Trump

5 ♠: Shows 2 or 5 Key Cards with the Queen of Trump

Note: The significance of the two bids, 5 Clubs and 5 Diamonds, have been reversed, and that is why it is called the 1430 convention.

Note: Some bridge players also prefer to believe also that the term 1430 refers to the final score of a small slam, vulnerable, bid and made, in a Major suit, which happens to be 1430 points.

Note: In those rare cases when the answering partner holds indeed all 4 Aces and also the King of trump, then the correct response is either 5 Hearts without the Queen of trump or 5 Spades with the Queen of trump.

Perhaps a coincidence or rather a simple thought-association and/or a phonetics bending, RKCB is abbreviated 0314, and 1430 RKCB should be abbreviated 14-03, but it was changed to 14-30 by the general bridge community.

### **Standard Roman Keycard Blackwood - 0314**

This is the different variation of the Roman Key Card Blackwood convention, and the difference can be illustrated plainly when comparing the first two responses of 5 Clubs and 5 Diamonds used in Roman Key Card Blackwood, which follow.

- 5 ♣: Shows 0 or 3 Key Cards
- 5 ♦: Shows 1 or 4 Key Cards
- 5 ♥: Shows 2 or 5 Key Cards without the Queen of Trump
- 5 ♠: Shows 2 or 5 Key Cards with the Queen of Trump