



# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 13 Number 5 – May, 2011

12 pages



## May Events



**Monday Morning Duplicate games at the First Christian Church located at Jefferson and Lee streets near downtown Bloomington starting at 11:45AM:**

May 2 – open pairs

May 9 – open pairs

May 16 – open pairs

May 23 – open pairs

May 30 – open pairs

Contact Betty Capodice at 309-827-3318 for information or to arrange for a partner.

**Mike's Bridge Club schedule:**

Monday, May 2, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, May 3, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, May 4, 1:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, May 5, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, May 7, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, May 9, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, May 10, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, May 11, 1:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, May 12, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, May 14, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, May 16, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, May 17, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, May 18, 1:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, May 19, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, May 21, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, May 23, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, May 24, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, May 25, 1:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, May 26, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, May 28, NO GAME – Illini Regional in Champaign

Monday, May 30, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – TBA

Tuesday, May 31, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Contact Mike Tomlianovich at 309-825-5823 for information or to arrange for a partner.

All game results are posted online: [clubresults.acbl.org](http://clubresults.acbl.org)

Post game online discussions of deals are available at: [mikesbridge.blogspot.com](http://mikesbridge.blogspot.com)

All games sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League.

**The Bloomington-Normal "Top 25" Masterpoint holders**  
 As of 4/1/2011 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

- 1    **3,312.28 Betty Capodice**
- 2    **2,582.09 Steve Babin**
- \*\*\* **2,557.18 Laura Addison**
- 3    **1,802.90 Mike Tomlianovich**
- 4    **1,573.66 Zack Freehill**
- 5    **1,558.82 Steve Hawthorne**
- 6    **1,442.76 Hank Hoffman**
- \*\*\* **1,398.35 Sharad Chitgopekar**
- \*\*\* **1,320.43 Ed Lombard**
- 7    **1,288.09 Dewey Gronau**
- 8    **1,241.92 Eunice Patton**
- \*\*\* **1,091.94 Marian Edmunds**
- 9    **1,083.28 Stan Gutzman**
- 10   **1,063.86 Jeanne Strand**
- 11   **1,035.63 Ivey Weaver**
- 12    **886.97 Jean Barnett**
- 13    **787.76 Don Strand**
- \*\*\* **780.34 Jack Kessler**
- 14    **772.71 Charlie Morton**
- 15    **772.69 Glen Beaman**
- 16    **749.36 Henrietta Crain**
- \*\*\* **741.06 Pearl Harris**
- 17    **707.44 Randall Motchan**
- 18    **685.08 Ann Schuyler**
- 19    **610.73 Martin Compton**
- 20    **570.46 Ann Farnsworth**
- 21    **567.22 Ruth Wettaw**
- 22    **562.67 Peg Deutsch**
- \*\*\* **481.88 Bev Upp**
- \*\*\* **474.92 Nona Wooley**
- 23    **474.80 Dennis Moll**
- 24    **460.42 Bob Smith**
- 25    **428.02 Dave Freehill**

\*\*\* deceased

**Other players:**

- \*\*\* **12,741.55 Dick Benson-LeRoy**
- 10,575.99 Chris Benson-LeRoy**
- 4,045.08 Alan Wienman-Morton**
- 3,898.81 Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap**
- 3,518.40 Larry Matheny-Colorado**
- 2,902.65 Ron Sholes-Springfield**
- 2,756.05 Leonard Kaufman-Peoria**
- 2,401.10 Georgia Heth-Morton**
- 2,348.73 Gail Moon-Tennessee**
- 2,283.43 Liz Zalar-Springfield**
- 2,282.60 Kish Devaraj-Georgia**
- 2,159.56 Chuck Zalar-Springfield**
- 2,107.46 Leah Newell- Springfield**
- 2,002.93 Ray Russ-Henry**
- 1,990.30 Paul Lindauer-Varna**
- 1,953.27 Joanne Glazebrook-Peoria**
- 1,830.60 Carole Sholes-Springfield**
- 1,821.28 Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign**
- \*\*\* **1,776.22 John Burdon**
- 1,753.81 Margaret Hansell-Champaign**
- 1,484.84 Tim Cull-Springfield**
- 1,453.56 Bobbie Straker-Pekin**
- 1,375.33 Marilyn Stickel-Lacon**
- 1,182.18 Jim Moon-Tennessee**
- 996.32 Donna Kaufman-Peoria**
- 898.57 Floyd Sherry-Eureka**
- 756.31 Bev Fast-Peoria**
- 683.75 Marilyn Toubeaux-Peoria**
- 700.21 Phil Kenney-Eureka**
- 670.36 Camilla Rabjohns**
- 620.84 Eunice Viktor-Morton**
- 588.22 Bill Carley-Peoria**
- 586.77 Carole Miller-Champaign**
- 524.39 Bill Bulfer-East Peoria**

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#1

The lebensohl convention is very valuable with several applications. In this hand it was used to show values without jumping past 3NT.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-05  
Dir E  
Vul E/W

♠ 763  
♥ AQJ  
♦ KQ75  
♣ AK3

♣Q  
♥876532  
♦ A32  
♣762



♠AJ10942  
♥10  
♦ J1096  
♣Q9

♠ K85  
♥ K94  
♦ 84  
♣ J10854

West	North	East	South
		2♠	Pass
Pass	DBL	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

\*lebensohl

**BIDDING:** In response to North's takeout double, South's 3♣ bid showed values, around 7-10 high card points. With fewer, he would have bid 2NT relaying North to clubs and then passing. With extras, North invited game by asking his partner to bid 3NT if he had a spade stopper and South complied.

**PLAY:** West led the queen of spades and East won with the ace. East continued with the jack of spades and declarer won the king. South saw he needed some luck; it was important to keep East out of the lead so the diamond ace must be in the West hand. He also needed club tricks so rather than take a finesse and lose to East, declarer played the ace and king of clubs. He was rewarded with the queen fell. It was now clear the ace of diamonds was held by West since East would have opened 1♠ if he also held that card. So he led a third club to his hand followed by a diamond to the king. He returned to his hand with the king of hearts, took the rest of his clubs, and led his last diamond. This gave him eleven tricks: 1 spade, 3 hearts, 2 diamonds, and 5 clubs.

If East had held the protected queen of clubs, declarer would have been defeated.

#2

The scoring in a pairs event rewards overtricks. In fact, the goal is not necessarily to make or defeat a contract but to maximize your plus scores and minimize your minus scores. Here, a careful declarer kept an eye on the opponents' cards for the overtrick.

**Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)**

#11-06	♠ KQ3				
Dir E	♥ 8				
Vul E/W	♦ A9532				
	♣ KQ63				
		West	North	East	South
♠9				Pass	1 ♠
♥J6	♠J1082	Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥
♦QJ74	♥107532	Pass	2♣	Pass	3♥
♣J108542	♦K6	Pass	4♣	Pass	Pass
	♠A7	Pass			
	♠ A7654				
	♥ AKQ94				
	♦ 108				
	♣ 9				

\*Game forcing

**BIDDING:** South showed a major two-suiter and North bid game.

**PLAY:** West led the jack of clubs and declarer stopped to analyze the hand. He saw he would be able to discard his diamond loser on a club honor so if the major suits behaved, he could bring home twelve tricks. He covered with the king of clubs and East won the ace and returned the suit. Declarer won discarding his diamond loser followed by ace and a heart ruffed in dummy. Next, he played dummy's top trumps and was disappointed when West discarded a club on the second one. Declarer next played ace and a small diamond ruffed. He then played the king of hearts and when West discarded, declarer had a clear picture of the East hand. The four-card ending:

	N/A	
N/A		S-J10
		H-107
S-A7	H-Q9	

It was easy for declarer to now play ace and a low spade to end play East. The heart return gave declarer eleven tricks and a good score.

#3

It's important to keep the auction in mind when declaring or defending. I did just that on this hand but unfortunately it led me astray.

**Scoring: IMPs (Team)**

#11-07 ♠ 632  
Dir W ♥ 1032  
Vul N/S ♦ Q75  
♣ 9754

♠ QJ ♠ 10987  
♥ AQJ986 ♥ 75  
♦ 64 ♦ K109832  
♣ 1086 ♣ 3

♠ AK54  
♥ K4  
♦ AJ  
♣ AKQJ2

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	Pass	DBL
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

**BIDDING:** Sitting South, I held a huge hand and with eight likely tricks and bid 3NT.

**PLAY:** West disappointed me by leading the queen of spades instead of a heart. Examining my position, I did have eight tricks and the ninth one could come from a 3-3 spade break or an extra diamond trick. I ducked the first trick and won the second. I cashed a third round but they were 4-2. I had only one entry to dummy with the fourth round of clubs so I had to decide whether to finesse East for the king of diamonds or play West for that card. Since I was missing only thirteen high card points and West had bid twice, I thought it certain the king was there. So I confidently played ace and the jack of diamonds and was shocked when East won the trick. He placed a heart on the table and I was quickly down three tricks for -300. At the other table a heart was led and declarer had nine tricks and we lost 14 IMPs and the match.

I knew E/W were playing a strong club system and therefore opened some hands light but....sigh.

#4

As a defender it is sometimes wrong to take your tricks too soon. That was a lesson for East in this hand.

Scoring: IMPs (Team)

#11-08 ♣ 32  
Dir W ♥ AQ6  
Vul N/S ♦ J876  
♣ 9754

♣ 87 ♣ K104  
♥ 985 ♥ K742  
♦ Q1032 □ ♦ 954  
♣ KJ82 ♣ A63  
♠ AQJ965  
♥ J103  
♦ AK  
♣ Q10

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

**BIDDING:** Perhaps South should have been content with a game try, but this was a team game and he did not want to miss a vulnerable game.

**PLAY:** West led a low club won by East's ace and he continued the suit. Noting the spots, West did not want to establish dummy's nine of clubs so he shifted to the nine of hearts. Declarer played low in dummy and East erred by winning the king. East should have realized declarer needed two entries to dummy to capture the king of spades. By ducking this heart trick, declarer can only reach dummy once to finesse in spades and will be defeated one trick.



**Remember: All Bloomington-Normal duplicate events adhere to the ACBL's zero tolerance for unacceptable behavior. Do NOT let this person's conduct rub off on you!!**

**Bloomington-Normal 70% club – year 2011 only**  
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<b>2011/03/23</b>	<b>72.22%</b>	<b>Marilyn &amp; Gene Byers(99ers)</b>
<b>2011/03/15</b>	<b>72.00%</b>	<b>Hank Hoffman &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2011/03/02</b>	<b>84.26%</b>	<b>Joyce Werner &amp; Dorothy Berg(99ers)</b>
<b>2011/03/01</b>	<b>72.00%</b>	<b>Steve Wulfers &amp; Randall Motchan</b>
<b>2011/02/10</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>Steve Hawthorne &amp; Zach Freehill</b>
<b>2011/02/08</b>	<b>71.00%</b>	<b>Margaret Hansell &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2011/01/21</b>	<b>70.31%</b>	<b>Dennis Moll &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2011/01/24</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>Sallie Boge &amp; Hank Hoffman</b>



## BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell

### #17 - A TRUMP DEMOTION

If you've been following prior articles, then by now you are familiar with trump promotions. They are not so difficult once you get the hang of them, but it takes real talent to organize a trump *demotion!* Observe this tragic E-W performance:

	♠ T64 ♥ T832 ♦ 3 ♣ AQJ87	
♠ ♥ AK ♦ Q97652 ♣ T9432	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ QJ3 ♥ QJ976 ♦ AJT ♣ 65
	♠ AK98752 ♥ 54 ♦ K84 ♣ K	

*E-W Vulnerable*

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Looking just at N-S, playing in 4♠, you can see 3 top losers in the red suits. Of course, when tackling the trump suit, Declarer plays the ♠A first. Most (89%) of the time trumps will be 2-1 and there will be 10 easy tricks. But this deal is in the unlucky 11%, and so Declarer is destined to go down one.

But, no! Here come E-W, galloping to Declarer's rescue! West's opening lead is the ♥K, followed by the ♥A. This sequence of plays cleverly shows a doubleton in the E-W methods (with a longer suit, this pair would lead the Ace first). Then a Diamond switch is won by East's Ace, and a Heart comes back. Declarer ruffs resignedly with the Nine and, when that unexpectedly holds, the jig is up! Declarer now has no trouble working out the trump position, and crosses to Dummy (twice if necessary) to finesse East out of his ♠QJ3. Making 10 tricks!

It was not too smart of West to advertise a doubleton Heart when he had no trumps with which to ruff the third round. And East, knowing the trump situation, might have done better not to play that third round of Hearts (although a suspicious Declarer would surely have smelled a rat if East had *not* done so). So, there you have it, the dreaded trump demotion!



#18 - SMARTER THAN A SECOND-GRADER?

We learn to count in first- and second-grade, but somehow this basic skill deserts many bridge players in the heat of battle.

	♠ A832 ♥ Q85 ♦ QJ7653 ♣	
♠ 6 ♥ K63 ♦ K842 ♣ AQ543	North West East Declarer	♠ 754 ♥ AJ94 ♦ T9 ♣ 8762
	♠ KQJT9 ♥ T72 ♦ A ♣ KJT9	

None Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1♣	1♦	1♥	1♠
2♥	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West leads a low Heart and East (correctly) inserts the Jack. Two more Hearts are cashed, followed by a trump shift. "Rats!" mutters Declarer, who had been planning to cross-ruff the entire hand, scoring all nine trumps separately. Those ruffs, plus the ♦A, would be enough to fulfill the contract. But, after the trump return, the cross-ruff leaves Declarer a trick short, so it's time for Plan B.

Our Declarer's (faulty) Plan B was to set up Dummy's Diamonds. He won the trump return in hand, cashed the ♦A, then Club ruff, Diamond ruff, Club ruff, Diamond ruff. This line of play required good breaks (such as Spades 2-2 and Diamonds 3-3, or failing that the doubleton ♦K). But Declarer's luck was out and, as the cards lie, it was impossible to enjoy those long Diamonds.

Our second-graders need no luck, instead they'll do some counting:

- N-S have 23 HCP, so the other guys have 17
- In the Heart suit East showed up with 5 of those 17 missing HCP
- West opened the bidding and surely has the remaining 12 HCP

Once Declarer realizes that West has the missing high cards (obviously including the ♠A and ♠Q), it's routine to win the trump return in hand, and take ruffing finesses against West's high Clubs. Declarer leads the ♠K which is covered by the Ace and ruffed. Back to hand with a trump. Then the ♠J is led, and run around if West declines to cover. When the dust has cleared, Declarer will have scored 5 trumps in his hand, plus two Club ruffs in Dummy, plus two Club tricks, and the ♦A. 10 easy tricks for the second-graders!

#19 - STUFF THAT *DOESN'T* HAPPEN

Last time, our astute Declarer remembered that his opponent had opened the bidding, sensibly deduced that said opponent must have the missing high cards, and then played the hand accordingly. This week's deal is a bit more difficult, as Declarer must be alert to something which did *not* happen!

	♠ 9542 ♥ QT32 ♦ K43 ♣ A4	
♠ 86 ♥ K986 ♦ J952 ♣ JT8	North  West East  Declarer	♠ AK7 ♥ J4 ♦ T76 ♣ Q6532
	♠ QJT3 ♥ A75 ♦ AQ8 ♣ K97	

*E-W Vulnerable*

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

**N-S stumble into 4♠ after a Stayman auction and West leads the ♣J. It looks like a simple enough hand, and so it is. Declarer loses two trumps and must avoid also losing two Heart tricks. How would you play the hand?**

**You win the first trick with the ♣K and lead the ♠Q. East wins that, then cashes his second high Spade, and exits a Spade.**

**You can cash some minor suit winners if you like but you already have all the information that you need to make the contract a virtual certainty.**

**What was it which “did not happen”? That’s right, East did not open the bidding! He has already shown up with the ♠AK ... and West’s lead of the ♣J denied the Queen. That gives East 9 HCP, so surely he cannot also hold the ♥K, that would be 12 HCP, and enough to open. So, you cash the ♥A and lead low towards the board. West is an expert and nonchalantly plays low, perhaps while stifling a yawn. But you are having none of that malarkey! You confidently call for the Queen and it’s 10 tricks for the good guys!**

#20 - THE POWER OF DEDUCTION

This deal follows continues the theme of counting the opponents' HCP.

	♠ ♥ 985 ♦ KJ842 ♣ 98432	
♠ 532 ♥ A764 ♦ AT3 ♣ JT6	North  West East  Declarer	♠ Q764 ♥ QJT ♦ Q75 ♣ A75
	♠ AKJT98 ♥ K32 ♦ 96 ♣ KQ	

Both Vulnerable  
**South West North East**  
 1♠ Pass Pass Pass

This is not the most swashbuckling auction ever to appear in Bridge Bites but the deal does provide a test for Declarer's powers of deduction. Cover up the E-W hands if you would like to test your own powers.

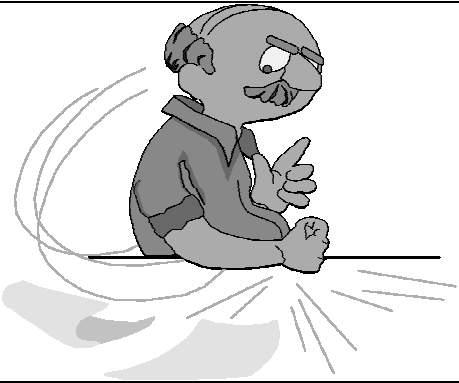
West leads the ♣J won by East's Ace and it takes half a nano-second for East to find the ♥Q shift. You could duck Hearts twice, hoping that West has the doubleton ♥A, but that would give East 5 Hearts and he would be unlikely to

sell out to 1♠ in that case. So, you hopefully play the ♥K, taken by West's Ace. Two more Hearts are won by East's ♥JT, then a Club which you win. The ♠A and ♠K are cashed, followed by the ♠J to East's Queen (West following).

Back comes East's last trump, and decision time has arrived! You've already lost 5 tricks, and must avoid the loss of two Diamonds if you are to make your contract. A Diamond to the Jack? Or a Diamond to the King? Do you have your guessing shoes on?

Guess? What guess? Let's reflect upon East's bidding. Oh, that's right, he didn't bid - which is the whole point of this hand. So far East has shown up with ♣A, ♥QJ, and ♠Q. That's 9 High Card Points (HCP). Can East also have the ♦A? Absolutely not! He passed originally, that ♦A would give him 13 HCP and too much for said Pass. So, you lead a Diamond towards the board, West smoothly plays low, and you rise majestically with the ♦K. Making 7 tricks thanks to a little deduction.

Post Script: Upon winning the ♥A, West would have done better to shift fiendishly to a low Diamond, putting Declarer to the test in that suit before all the clues had been collected!



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## Upcoming tournaments:



**Illini Regional  
May 24 - 30, Hilton Garden Inn,  
Champaign, IL**