



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 13 Number 6 – June, 2011

12 pages



June Events



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

June 6 – club championship open pairs

June 13 – open pairs

June 20 – NAP qualifier open pairs

June 27 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

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

Thursday, June 2, 11:45AM – open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, June 4, 11:45AM – World Wide Bridge Contest open pairs – Westminster

Monday, June 6, 6:15PM – Club championship 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, June 7, 6:15PM – Club championship open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, June 8, 1:15PM – Club championship 99ers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, June 9, 11:45AM – Club championship open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, June 11, 11:45AM – Club championship open pairs – Westminster

Monday, June 13, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, June 14, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

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

Thursday, June 16, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, June 18, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, June 20, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, June 21, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, June 22, 1:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, June 23, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, June 25, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Westminster

Monday, June 27, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, June 28, 6:15PM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, June 29, 1:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, June 30, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs– Knights of Columbus

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

All game results are posted online: clubresults.acbl.org

Post game online discussions of deals are available at: mikesbridge.blogspot.com

All games sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League.

The Bloomington-Normal "Top 25" Masterpoint holders
 As of 5/1/2011 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

- 1 **3,317.34 Betty Capodice**
- 2 **2,592.53 Steve Babin**
- *** **2,557.18 Laura Addison**
- 3 **1,820.29 Mike Tomlianovich**
- 4 **1,581.84 Zack Freehill**
- 5 **1,562.54 Steve Hawthorne**
- 6 **1,450.39 Hank Hoffman**
- *** **1,398.35 Sharad Chitgopekar**
- *** **1,320.43 Ed Lombard**
- 7 **1,292.88 Dewey Gronau**
- 8 **1,244.57 Eunice Patton**
- *** **1,091.94 Marian Edmunds**
- 9 **1,088.70 Stan Gutzman**
- 10 **1,064.85 Jeanne Strand**
- 11 **1,037.00 Ivey Weaver**
- 12 **889.08 Jean Barnett**
- 13 **788.39 Don Strand**
- *** **780.34 Jack Kessler**
- 14 **778.06 Charlie Morton**
- 15 **772.69 Glen Beaman**
- 16 **751.33 Henrietta Crain**
- *** **741.06 Pearl Harris**
- 17 **708.28 Randall Motchan**
- 18 **689.53 Ann Schuyler**
- 19 **610.73 Martin Compton**
- 20 **570.46 Ann Farnsworth**
- *** **567.22 Ruth Wettaw**
- 21 **567.22 Peg Deutsch**
- *** **481.88 Bev Upp**
- 22 **478.97 Dennis Moll**
- *** **474.92 Nona Wooley**
- 23 **460.92 Bob Smith**
- 24 **428.72 Dave Freehill**
- 25 **398.74 Steve Wulfers**
- *** **deceased**

Other players:

- *** **12,741.55 Dick Benson-LeRoy**
- 10,576.89 Chris Benson-LeRoy**
- 3,899.75 Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap**
- 3,540.70 Larry Matheny-Colorado**
- 2,925.33 Ron Sholes-Springfield**
- 2,757.59 Leonard Kaufman-Peoria**
- 2,401.10 Georgia Heth-Morton**
- 2,354.44 Gail Moon-Tennessee**
- 2,288.93 Liz Zalar-Springfield**
- 2,282.60 Kish Devaraj-Georgia**
- 2,163.26 Chuck Zalar-Springfield**
- 2,111.74 Leah Newell- Springfield**
- 2,005.52 Paul Lindauer-Varna**
- 2,004.05 Ray Russ-Henry**
- 1,960.88 Joanne Glazebrook-Peoria**
- 1,862.15 Carole Sholes-Springfield**
- 1,823.44 Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign**
- *** **1,776.22 John Burdon**
- 1,756.83 Margaret Hansell-Champaign**
- 1,501.53 Tim Cull-Springfield**
- 1,457.65 Bobbie Straker-Pekin**
- 1,375.73 Marilyn Stickel-Laon**
- 1,187.89 Jim Moon-Tennessee**
- 998.06 Donna Kaufman-Peoria**
- 900.75 Floyd Sherry-Eureka**
- 756.53 Bev Fast-Peoria**
- 702.36 Phil Kenney-Eureka**
- 685.79 Marilyn Toubeaux-Peoria**
- 671.61 Camilla Rabjohns**
- 620.84 Eunice Viktor-Morton**
- 592.17 Bill Carley-Peoria**
- 586.77 Carole Miller-Champaign**
- 527.58 Bill Bulfer-East Peoria**
- 416.45 Chris Biggs-South Carolina**

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#1

It is remarkable how many contracts succeed simply because a defender will not count to thirteen. Here is a case in point.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#11-09 ♠ AK84
 Dir E ♥ 1087
 Vul N/S ♦ 42
 ♣ A982

♠109	♠J5
♥J42	♥AKQ65
♦QJ1073	♦K965
♣Q74	♣63
	♣ Q7632
	♥ 93
	♦ A8
	♣ KJ105

West	North	East	South
		1 ♥	1 ♠
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

BIDDING: South made a simple one-level overcall and North jumped to game. As he tabled his hand, North remarked that in a team event he did not want to miss a vulnerable game. South made a mental note to make sure all of his future overcalls were sound.

PLAY: West led a low heart to his partner's queen. On the ace of hearts continuation, West followed with the jack suggesting a card in diamonds, the higher side suit. East switched to a low diamond and declarer won the ace. Declarer had lost two hearts and had a diamond to lose so he had to guess the location of the queen of clubs. Rather than guess, he tried to let the opponents find it for him. After winning the ace of diamonds, declarer drew trumps and then played his other diamond. East won with the nine and afraid to give a ruff-sluff, switched to a club. Declarer now made his game without a club guess.

There was no need for East to panic. He knew declarer had five spades and two hearts so if he held only two diamonds, he must have four clubs and a ruff-sluff would be of no value. East should simply exit with a red card and make South guess the club queen. This was no more difficult than counting to thirteen.

#2

There are complex squeezes and simple ones. Here is one where declarer knew how to establish a “threat” card and remove a card from the defender’s hand.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-10
Dir E
Vul E/W

♠ A1063
♥ A832
♦ KQ
♣ J83

♠K75
♥J764
♦ A4
♣10972



♠J842
♥Q10
♦976
♣K654

♠ Q9
♥ K95
♦ J108532
♣ AQ

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

BIDDING: South rebid 1NT rather than his weak diamond suit. This allowed him to protect his black suit honors from the opening lead. North had an easy raise to game.

PLAY: West led a low club with East playing the king. After winning the ace, declarer knocked out the ace of diamonds and won the club return. Declarer now had eleven tricks and saw a good play for one more. He led a spade to the ace setting up his queen as a threat card. Next he cashed the jack of clubs, led a heart to his king, and started running the diamonds. Here was the layout with one diamond yet to play:

♠10 ♥A8

♠ K
♥ J7

♠Q ♥9 ♦2

When the deuce of diamonds was led West was toast. He finally discarded the king of spades hoping his partner held the queen but declarer had his twelfth trick. Note that the squeeze will not operate if declarer fails to first cash the ace of spades to remove an “idle” card from West. Also note that this squeeze will work against either defender who holds the king of spades along with heart length. This type of squeeze is called the Vienna Coup.

#3

Here is another example of the squeeze play. In this hand I was able to execute a double squeeze when an opponent returned his partner's suit rather than stopping to think.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-11	♠ K2				
Dir E	♥ AK43		West	North	East
Vul E/W	♦ K963				Pass
	♣ A87				Pass
♠875		♠AJ643	Pass	1♦	Pass
♥10865	□	♥QJ72	Pass	2♥	2NT
♦ Q2		♦ 104	Pass	3NT	Pass
♣Q1093		♣54	Pass		
	♠ Q109				
	♥ 9				
	♦ AJ875				
	♣ KJ62				

*Inverted raise

BIDDING: North decided his hand was too strong to open 1NT so he started with 1♦. Sitting South, I raised diamonds showing 10-12 points. North showed a heart stopper and we soon reached our game in notrump.

PLAY: West led the ten of clubs that rode around to my jack. I played the king and ace of diamonds and was pleased to see the suit behave. Next, I led a spade to the king and East's ace. I won the club return and played the rest of my winners. Here was the end position before I cashed the last diamond winner:

	♥AK43	
♥ 1086		♠J
♦ Q		♥QJ7
♠10	♥9	♦5
		♣6

When I played the last diamond West had to keep his club so he discarded a heart. Then East had to discard a heart to keep the jack of spades. I won the last trick with the four of hearts. East can break up the squeeze by returning a heart when he is in with the ace of spades.

#4

I hate to take finesses so I'm always on the lookout for an alternate play. In a recent team game, this hand presented several options.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#11-12 ♠ K102
Dir E ♥ KJ3
Vul E/W ♦ Q63
 ♣ Q754

♠ J7 ♠ AQ983
♥ 1086 ♥ Q942
♦ J10972 ♦ 8
♣ KJ3 ♣ 1062

 ♠ 654
 ♥ A75
 ♦ AK54
 ♣ A98

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

BIDDING: Sitting South I opened 1NT and my partner raised to game.

PLAY: West led the jack of diamonds and I could count only six certain tricks. I doubted the diamonds would yield a fourth trick so I needed some luck in the club suit. I won the first diamond in my hand and played a low club toward dummy. West rose with the king and played a second diamond. I won this in dummy and watched East signal with the nine of spades. I continued playing clubs and was relieved when the suit divided 3-3. I now had eight tricks and my ninth would have to come from one of the major suits. I could try the 50% heart finesse but I saw a different solution that guaranteed the contract. East was down to hearts and spades so I led a spade to dummy's ten and waited for East to lead into dummy giving me the extra trick. Notice it makes no difference if West plays the jack on this trick. That ten of spades was my insurance.

The contract was defeated at the other table when declarer first tried the heart finesse and then led a spade toward the king.

Bloomington-Normal Sectional July 8-10, 2011

Location:

UAW Local 2488 Hall, 10226 East 1400 North Road, Bloomington, Illinois

Schedule of events

Friday

1:00 PM Stratified open pairs
7:00 PM Stratified open pairs

Saturday

11:00 AM & 4:00 PM Stratified open pairs
2 session event
(single session entries accepted)
11:00 and 4:00 49ers only pairs at no charge

Sunday

10:30 AM Stratified open Swiss teams double session, play through

Complimentary coffee and snacks for all sessions.

Stratification

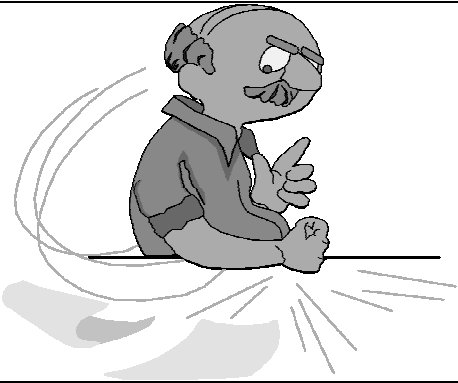
A: open; B<1,500; C<Non Life Master under 500.

NOTE: All stratifications will be determined by the team or partnership *average* POINTS.

Entry fees:

Friday and Saturday, \$8.00 per session
Sunday, \$84.00 per team, including meal

We appreciate participants not use any fragrance as some are sensitive to it. Thank you.



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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Bloomington office located at:

Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Drive, Bloomington

2011/05/16	73.89%	Joyce Werner & Dorothy Berg(99ers)
2011/05/12	73.81%	Lane O'Connor & Jerry Oswald
2011/03/23	72.22%	Marilyn & Gene Byers(99ers)
2011/03/15	72.00%	Hank Hoffman & Steve Babin
2011/03/02	84.26%	Joyce Werner & Dorothy Berg(99ers)
2011/03/01	72.00%	Steve Wulfers & Randall Motchan
2011/02/10	70.00%	Steve Hawthorne & Zach Freehill
2011/02/08	71.00%	Margaret Hansell & Steve Babin
2011/01/24	70.00%	Sallie Boge & Hank Hoffman
2011/01/21	70.31%	Dennis Moll & Steve Babin



BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell

#21 - VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

Forgive the grandiloquent title, we are not talking here about Lewis and Clark, nor the HMS Beagle, nor even Christopher Columbus. We merely refer to Declarer's intelligent (but hardly epic) play of the ♠K in the following deal:

	♠ K9 ♥ 854 ♦ QT ♣ QJT842	
♠ Q84 ♥ JT7 ♦ 9652 ♣ 975	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ 73 ♥ AKQ2 ♦ A874 ♣ A63
	♠ AJT652 ♥ 963 ♦ KJ3 ♣ K	

E-W Vulnerable

South West North East

1NT

2♠ Pass Pass Pass

Just in case it happens to be a really useful clue, we should point out that East's 1NT showed 15-17 HCP.

The defense cashes three Hearts, then East shifts to the ♦A followed by a low Diamond. How do you play the trump suit?

All things being equal, you would play a Spade over to the King, and then finesse the Jack on the way back. This might seem even more appealing when you remember that East

opened 1NT and therefore has most of the missing HCP. But remember also that East has already shown up with ♥AKQ and ♦A. That's 13 HCP. So you can see that if East has the ♣A that gives him 17 HCP and no room for the ♠Q ... and if East does not have the ♣A then he *must* have the ♠Q for his 1NT opening.

What's needed here is a so-called "discovery play" before tackling trumps. After winning the Diamond return, you play the ♠K in order to smoke out the Ace. When East shows up with that card, he's up to his maximum quota of 17 HCP, and now it's a certainty that *West* has the ♠Q. That being the case, you ruff East's Club return and take an immediate finesse of the ♠9! The ♠K is now cashed, then back to hand with a Club ruff (fortunately there is no overruff from West). The remaining trump is extracted and it's 8 tricks for those who did some counting and discovering!



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#22 - COUNTING THE HAND

This time we start a series of hands where the key to success is counting the opponents' distribution, in each case turning a guess into a sure thing.

	♠ AJ94 ♥ QJ94 ♦ Q ♣ Q542	
♠ Q8 ♥ T72 ♦ AKT653 ♣ T9	North West East Declarer	♠ K3 ♥ K3 ♦ J9874 ♣ A876
	♠ T7652 ♥ A865 ♦ 2 ♣ KJ3	

E-W Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
	2♦	Dbl	4♦
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West's 2♦ was a Weak Two, showing less than opening values and a 6-card suit. East further crowded N-S by jumping to 4♦ and South tried 4♠. The good news for E-W was that they had bounced N-S into a poor contract, the bad news was that South makes her contract if she does a little counting.

West leads the ♦A and shifts to the ♣T. East wins the Ace and returns the suit, vainly hoping that West can ruff. But

Declarer's King wins the trick, then comes the ♠A, and a second Spade won by East. Declarer wins the Club continuation in Dummy, and leads the ♥Q which East declines to cover. What next?

Three tricks have been lost and Declarer must bring in the Heart suit for no losers if she is to make her contract. She can either play a low Heart to the Ace, hoping that East has started with doubleton King ... or she can lead the Jack, hoping to squash West's doubleton Ten and set up the Nine. There's no need to guess this one. West has six Diamonds for his 2♦ bid, and has shown up with two Spades and two Clubs. That leaves three Hearts! So, Declarer plays a *low* Heart from Dummy and, sure enough, the King pops out of East's hand.

Of course, if East had known that Declarer would be so unsporting as to count out the distribution, then he would have covered the Queen with the King and given Declarer a guess for the ♥T.



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#23 - AN AFTERNOON NAP

	♠ Q432 ♥ J ♦ AKQT2 ♣ J53	
♠ ♥ 7432 ♦ 753 ♣ AKQ742	North West East Declarer	♠ AKJT965 ♥ 65 ♦ J64 ♣ 9
	♠ 87 ♥ AKQT98 ♦ 98 ♣ T86	

E-W Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
		1♦	3♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

East's 3♠ bid was preemptive, showing a long suit (usually 7 cards) and a weak hand, its purpose being to make life difficult for the opponents. And so it does, pushing N-S into an ugly 4♥ contract which has 5 top losers.

West cashes his three Clubs and then, for want of better, shifts to a Diamond. Dummy wins that, and draws trumps. It was fortunate for Declarer that West started with no

Spades, otherwise he would have been down two in a hurry. But now, if Declarer can bring home the Diamond suit, both of those Spade losers will disappear and this rotten contract will actually make! Do you play Diamonds from the top (hoping that they are 3-3 or that East has Jx)? Or do you finesse the Ten (playing West to have Jxxx)?

It may be tempting to think "East has seven Spades and West has none, therefore West is more likely to have Diamond length" But that's only part of the picture and Declarer will count the whole hand. East started with seven Spades, two Hearts, and one Club, that much we know. This leaves three Diamonds, no more, no less! So Declarer confidently plays the Diamonds from the top and the Spade losers are thrown off. It pays to count in this game!

It also pays to stay awake. Yes, you noticed, the defense was fast asleep! East must ruff the third Club, just in case West has no Spades. Now the Spades are cashed and it is down two. And let's also mention that West should have helped his dozing partner by leading a *low* Club at Trick 3. *That* will wake him up!



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#24 - A HOLD-UP PLAY

♠ A83 ♥ 432 ♦ QT9 ♣ KQ85		
♠ KQ6 ♥ AQ86 ♦ 4 ♣ J9763	North West East Declarer	♠ JT952 ♥ JT95 ♦ 876 ♣ T
♠ 74 ♥ K7 ♦ AKJ532 ♣ A42		

N-S Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1♦	Dbl	Rdbl	1♠
3♦	Pass	3NT	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

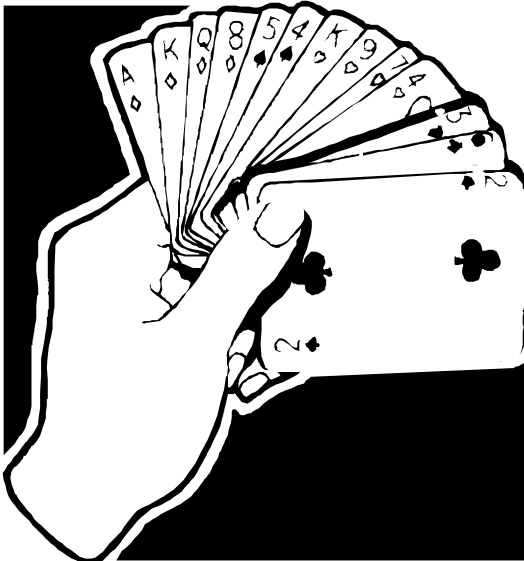
After N-S reached 3NT, East, figuring that his side had a profitable sacrifice, offered his partner a choice between 4♥ or 4♠. This pushed N-S to the perilous contract of 5♦, which, as you will see, Declarer is about to bungle.

Against 5♦ West leads the ♠K, won by Dummy's Ace and trumps are drawn. Declarer can count 10 top tricks, but where is the 11th? Not the ♥K as West needs the ♥A to justify his Takeout Double. That means that a 4th Club trick is required. Are Clubs 3-3? Let's count the hand. East bid both majors and is no doubt at least 4-4 in those suits. He also showed up with 3 Diamonds. That leaves two Clubs at most. But would East bid so much with 4=4=3=2 distribution and virtually no HCP? No, it seems more likely that East is 5=4=3=1 and, if so, Declarer must hope that East's Club is the Jack or Ten or Nine. She cashes the ♣A and, seeing East's Ten, prepares to take an impressively deep finesse of the Eight on the second round!

Well counted for 11 tricks except for one tiny detail. That's right, West can also count and he inserts the Nine on the second round of Clubs. Now Declarer is locked in Dummy with no safe way back to his hand (if he plays a Spade, East will be sure to win and fire a Heart through). Down one.

Declarer's play was flawless right up to the point where he called for Dummy's ♠A at Trick 1. Instead, he must hold up the Ace and win the second round. That way, later in the play, he can get safely back to hand with a Spade ruff and take that second Club finesse. Yet another contract bites the dust because of hasty play at Trick 1.

Upcoming tournaments:



**Twin City Summer Sectional
July 8-10, 2011, UAW 2488
Bloomington, IL**