



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 13 Number 9 – September, 2011

10 pages



September Events



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

September 5 – open pairs

September 12 – quarterly club championship open pairs

September 19 – open pairs

September 26 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Thursday, September 1, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, September 3, 11:45AM – quarterly club championship open pairs – Westminster

Monday, September 5, NO GAME – Enjoy your Labor Day

Tuesday, September 6, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, September 7, NO GAME – Illinois Senior Olympics in Springfield

Thursday, September 8, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, September 10, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, September 12, 6:15PM – quarterly club championship 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, September 13, 6:15PM – quarterly club championship open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, September 14, 1:15PM –

quarterly club championship 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, September 15, 11:45AM – quarterly club championship open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, September 17, NO GAME – tournament in Peoria

Monday, September 19, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, September 20, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, September 21, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, September 22, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, September 24, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, September 26, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, September 27, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, September 28, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, September 29, 11:45AM – 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 8/1/2011 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

- 1 3,343.65 Betty Capodice
- 2 2,668.05 Steve Babin
- *** 2,557.18 Laura Addison
- 3 1,848.86 Mike Tomlianovich
- 4 1,653.31 Zack Freehill
- 5 1,593.31 Steve Hawthorne
- 6 1,480.71 Hank Hoffman
- *** 1,398.35 Sharad Chitgopekar
- *** 1,320.43 Ed Lombard
- 7 1,320.43 Dewey Gronau
- 8 1,284.02 Eunice Patton
- *** 1,091.94 Marian Edmunds
- 9 1,107.35 Stan Gutzman
- 10 1,069.88 Jeanne Strand
- 11 1,042.79 Ivey Weaver
- 12 905.82 Jean Barnett
- 13 801.42 Charlie Morton
- 14 789.67 Don Strand
- *** 780.34 Jack Kessler
- 15 774.89 Glen Beaman
- 16 752.96 Henrietta Crain
- *** 741.06 Pearl Harris
- 17 732.32 Randall Motchan
- 18 712.47 Ann Schuyler
- *** 610.73 Martin Compton
- 19 575.39 Peg Deutsch
- 20 570.46 Ann Farnsworth
- *** 567.22 Ruth Wettaw
- 21 492.88 Dennis Moll
- *** 481.88 Bev Upp
- *** 474.92 Nona Wooley
- 22 461.62 Bob Smith
- 23 460.12 Dave Freehill
- 24 419.89 Steve Wulfers
- *** deceased
- 25 393.65 Bev Meginnes

Other players:

- ***12,741.55 Dick Benson-LeRoy
- 10,633.37 Chris Benson-LeRoy
- 4,062.52 Alan Wienman-Morton
- 3,914.06 Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
- 3,597.67 Larry Matheny-Colorado
- 3,368.98 Carl Brueckner-Champaign
- 3,002.04 Ron Sholes-Springfield
- 2,776.92 Leonard Kaufman-Peoria
- 2,408.87 Georgia Heth-Morton
- 2,370.37 Gail Moon-Tennessee
- 2,339.35 Liz Zalar-Springfield
- 2,294.90 Kish Devaraj-Georgia
- 2,191.01 Chuck Zalar-Springfield
- 2,139.67 Leah Newell- Springfield
- 2,082.57 Paul Lindauer-Varna
- 2,021.41 Ray Russ-Henry
- 1,985.54 Joanne Glazebrook-Peoria
- 1,927.47 Carole Sholes-Springfield
- 1,850.68 Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
- *** 1,776.22 John Burdon
- 1,836.21 Margaret Hansell-Champaign
- 1,512.94 Tim Cull-Springfield
- 1,475.91 Bobbie Straker-Pekin
- 1,381.66 Marilyn Stickel-Laon
- 1,203.82 Jim Moon-Tennessee
- 1,020.62 John Maloney-Champaign
- 1,011.28 Donna Kaufman-Peoria
- 913.51 Floyd Sherry-Eureka
- 761.10 Bev Fast-Peoria
- 719.02 Phil Kenney-Eureka
- 689.46 Marilyn Toubeaux-Peoria
- 694.27 Camilla Rabjohns
- 621.75 Eunice Viktor-Morton
- 597.58 Bill Carley-Peoria
- 587.32 Carole Miller-Champaign
- 538.49 Bill Bulfer-East Peoria

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#1

A small card can often carry its weight and be the difference in success or failure. In this hand, a defender didn't realize he needed to keep his partner from being squeezed.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-21 ♠ K9543
 Dir N ♥ 75
 Vul N/S ♦ A1065
 ♣ KJ

♠ J10 ♠ 876
 ♥ 1084 ♥ QJ632
 ♦ J32 ♦ K98
 ♣ 109632 ♣ 84

♠ AQ2
 ♥ AK9
 ♦ Q74
 ♣ AQ75

West	North	East	South
	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	4NT
Pass	5 ♥	DBL	5NT
Pass	6 ♣	Pass	6 ♦
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

BIDDING: Holding such a great hand, South was surprised when his partner opened the bidding. The 2 ♣ response was game forcing and after establishing spades as the agreed suit, South bid 4NT. This pair uses Roman Keycard Blackwood where the trump king is treated as an ace. North's response showed two keycards without the spade queen. Brushing aside the double, in response to 5NT North showed the king of clubs but then denied holding the king of diamonds. South then settled for 6NT.

PLAY: West led a low heart and declarer counted twelve tricks if the spades behaved. He won the ace of hearts and then unblocked the king-jack of clubs. Next, he cashed the ace-queen of spades and was delighted to see the suit break 3-2. He then cashed the ace-queen of clubs pitching two diamonds from dummy. East discarded one diamond and one heart. Now he cashed the ace of diamonds followed by a spade to dummy. On the fourth spade West erred by discarding a heart. Now when the last spade was played, East was squeezed. Here was the ending:

♠ 3 ♥ 7 ♦ 10
 ♥ QJ
 ♦ K
 ♥ K9 ♦ Q

When the last spade was played, East was toast and declarer had the overtrick. West must keep three hearts so East can safely discard a heart. Also note it is important to cash the ace of diamonds (Vienna Coup) to remove an idle card from East's hand.

#2

Transfer bids have been used for many years. While their first application was for the major suits but now many pairs also use them for the minors. Take a look.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-22	♠ KQ7				
Dlr N	♥ AKJ8				
Vul N/S	♦ 876				
	♣ K43	West	North	East	South
♠83			1NT	Pass	2♠*
♥10943	♠ J965	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦
♦AQ1095	♥ Q72	Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass
♣A10	♦ KJ32	Pass			
	♣76				
	♠ A1042				
	♥ 65				
	♦ 4				
	♣ QJ9852				

*Transfer to clubs

BIDDING: South held an invitational strength hand and set out to discover if his partner liked the suit. North's response of 2NT was a "super accept" showing a maximum opener and a fit with the club suit. Next, South's bid of 3♦ showed shortness in that suit. Knowing game in notrump was out, North jumped to game in clubs.

PLAY: West led the ace of diamonds and declarer had no trouble making his game losing only to the minor suit aces. The results around the room for this hand were mixed; some played in 1NT, some in a club partial, and several in an unsuccessful 3NT.

#3

Most bridge players prefer to declare but defense can also be fun. Here is a hand where E/W were delighted to defend.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-23	♠ Q643				
Dlr S	♥ 63	West	North	East	South
Vul N/S	♦ KQ765				1♠
	♣ K6	DBL	4♠	DBL	Pass
♠	♠ J852	Pass	Pass		
♥KQ1097	♥ AJ82				
♦9842	♦ A				
♣AJ75	♣10984				

♠ AK1097
 ♥ 54
 ♦ J103
 ♣ Q32

BIDDING: This N/S pair uses a Big Club system so they open other hands very light. They should have paid more attention to the vulnerability on this one.

PLAY: West led the king of hearts and the defense was fast and deadly. East overtook the king with his ace and cashed the ace of diamonds. Next, he led a heart back to his partner. West continued with the deuce of diamonds for his partner to ruff. The deuce asked for the return of the lower side-suit so East next led a club. West won the ace and gave East a second diamond ruff. This meant down three and +800 for E/W.

Noting the vulnerability, North suggested his partner should have his eyes tested for possible color blindness. South's reply was unintelligible.

#4

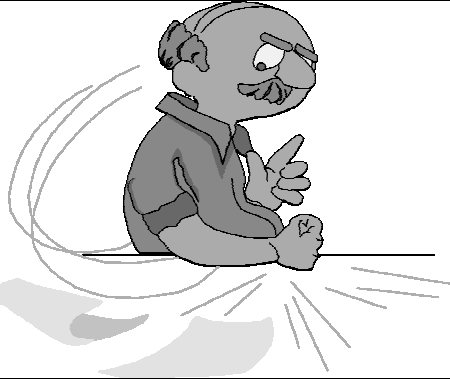
Everyone loves to bid slams. You have to be very careful when attempting a grand slam because if it fails, you may find your opponents stopped in six or perhaps in game. This pair was able to confidently bid a grand because of their cue-bidding agreements.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-24	♠ A9752				
Dir E	♥ AK85				
Vul N/S	♦ Q				
	♣ 983	West	North	East	South
♠Q1084				Pass	1♦
♥743	♠K63	Pass	1♣	Pass	2♥
♦762	♥106	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
♣Q72	♦J84	Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
	♠J	Pass	5♦	Pass	7♥
	♥QJ92	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♦AK10953				
	♣AK				

BIDDING: South's rebid of 2♥ was a reverse showing 17+ points. North's raise showed extra values and South next cue bid clubs. North's diamond cue bid showed one of the top three honors so South bid 4NT, Roman Keycard Blackwood. The diamond response showed three of the five keycards (4 aces + heart king) and South bid the grand slam.

PLAY: West led a heart and thirteen tricks were easily found. This hand was won in the auction.



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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2011/08/24	72.78%	Sallie Boge & Stevie Joslin(NLMers)
2011/08/18	74.07%	Ray Russ & Steve Babin
2011/08/03	72.78%	JoAnn Schroeder & Sallie Boge(NLMers)
2011/08/01	70.14%	Dorothy Berg & Balu Nair(99ers)
2011/07/28	70.84%	Hank Hoffman & Mike Tomlianovich
2011/07/25	72.06%	Lynn Steffen & Lori Moore(99ers)
2011/07/14	71.43%	Steve Hawthorne & Zach Freehill
2011/06/13	70.14%	Mary Tweedie & Lori Moore(99ers)
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

#33 - THIRD HAND TRICKERY

“Third hand high” is common advice, and on this hand East plays “Third hand *extra* high” in order to fool Declarer.

	♠ KJ6 ♥ 3 ♦ AKJ95 ♣ 8743	
♠ 9854 ♥ Q652 ♦ 8764 ♣ A	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ T73 ♥ AKJT9 ♦ QT2 ♣ Q2
	♠ AQ2 ♥ 874 ♦ 3 ♣ KJT965	

E-W Vulnerable

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
			1♥
2♣	2♥	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	All Pass

On defense, in third hand, it's standard procedure to win the trick with the lowest card possible, that's the best way to let Partner know what is going on. So, when West leads a low Heart against 5♣, East would normally win that trick with the King. But this week's East decided to win the opening trick with the ♥A, supposedly denying possession of the King. He then returned the ♥T. What was East up to?

To answer that question put yourself in Declarer's shoes. From East's play to the first two Heart tricks Declarer deduces that East does not have the King (he would have played it at Trick 1), nor does he have the Jack (he would have returned it at Trick 2). So, it appears that East started with ♥AQT9x. Based on this logic Declarer will calculate that East has a maximum of 8 HCP outside the Club suit. Now, when Dummy leads a low Club from the board and East plays low, how should Declarer guess? East needs the ♣A for his opening bid and must have started with ♣A2 or ♣AQ2, so let's not blame Declarer if he guesses wrong and goes up with the ♣K, playing East for ♣A2.

If East plays more routinely, winning the ♥K on the first round and continuing with the Ace, then he no longer needs the ♣A to make up his opening bid. That being the case, Declarer will be more inclined to make the normal Club play of running the Eight on the first round, hoping for Q2 or AQ2 in the East hand (two chances) rather than A2 (only one chance). Nice deception, Mr. East!

#34 - A DUMMY REVERSAL

♠ AQJ

	♥ 875 ♦ 7532 ♣ QJ8	
♠ 87 ♥ AJT9 ♦ AK86 ♣ T92	North West East Declarer	♠ 642 ♥ K6 ♦ QJT94 ♣ 643
	♠ KT953 ♥ Q432 ♦ ♣ AK75	

None Vulnerable

South West North East

1♠ Dbl Rdbl 2♦

Pass Pass 2♠ 3♦

3♠ Pass 4♠ All Pass

N-S stumble into 4♠ and West leads ♦A. Declarer can count 5 Spade tricks and 4 Clubs. That's 9, where's the 10th? A ruff in the "short hand" is a common ploy for an extra trick, but that won't work here, Dummy has no short side-suits. Any ideas?

Does ruffing the opening Diamond lead generate a 10th trick? No, that is a ruff in the long hand, that still leaves us with only five trump tricks. But suppose that Declarer ruffs *three* Diamonds. Now he gets six trump tricks via Dummy's three high trumps plus three ruffs by Declarer (the long hand). In effect, Dummy becomes the master hand, the hand which will be used to draw the enemy trumps after Declarer has got his ruffs.

Therefore, the sequence of plays is: ruff the Diamond lead, cross to the ♠Q, ruff another Diamond, cross to the ♠J, ruff a third Diamond, cross to the ♣Q, draw the remaining enemy trump. This line works whenever trumps are 3-2.

The thing to remember here is that Declarer needs *three* ruffs for the Dummy Reversal to produce an extra trick. It's that third ruff which reduces Declarer's trumps to a shorter length than Dummy's. Actually, it would even be possible for Declarer to get a fourth ruff, but there are insufficient entries to take advantage of this. So, 10 tricks it is.

#35 - THE CROCODILE COUP

Bridge has a number of exotic "coups" and for the next few weeks we'll look at some of them, starting with the aptly named Crocodile Coup.

	♠ KQT9 ♥ 8732 ♦ K6 ♣ 843	
♠ J63 ♥ J5 ♦ 932 ♣ KT976	North West East Declarer	♠ A87542 ♥ T64 ♦ QT7 ♣ J
	♠ ♥ AKQ9 ♦ AJ854 ♣ AQ52	

We'll spare you the auction and just say that American many-time world champion Bob Hamman found himself in a poor 6♦ contract after East had overcalled Spades. You are sitting West, try playing this out looking at just the N-W hands.

You lead the Spade Three, Dummy plays the King, East the Ace and Declarer ruffs. Then a Diamond to Dummy's King, a Diamond to Declarer's Jack, and the ♦A. Partner follows with the Seven, Ten and Queen. With trumps drawn, Declarer now plays ♥A, ♥K, ♥Q, East playing the Four, Six, Ten.

Of course, while all this going on, you are busy counting the distribution, because that's what successful defenders do. Declarer ruffed the first Spade so East is known to have started with 6 Spades. Hearts? East played the Four and then the Six, and "low-high" shows an odd number, in this case three. Diamonds? East started with three of those also. That leaves just one Club with East, he started life with 6=3=3=1 distribution.

Next, Declarer leads a low Club from his hand and you must avoid the temptation to win this cheaply with the Nine! If you do, East will be forced to overtake with the Jack, and will have to lead a Spade (that's all he has left), allowing Declarer's Club losers to go away on Dummy's Spades. Instead, you alertly squander the ♣K, swallowing Partner's Jack, and you return the ♠T. Now Declarer never

reaches Dummy's Spades, and eventually loses another Club. Nice defense! When this deal was played in the 2006 World Championships, West was caught napping and missed that Crocodile Coup.

#36 - MORTON'S FORK

We continue our look at some of bridge's exotic coups, and this week it is the Morton's Fork, a play which offers an opponent a choice of evils. Here, the Fork allows Declarer to bring home the 6♥ contract.

	♠ Q7 ♥ 73 ♦ AK642 ♣ K743	
♠ A865 ♥ 654 ♦ Q98 ♣ QT5	North West East Declarer	♠ JT432 ♥ J8 ♦ JT73 ♣ 86
	♠ K9 ♥ AKQT92 ♦ 5 ♣ AJ92	

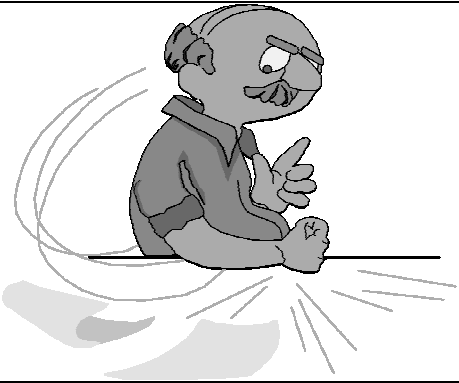
West leads a trump. As Declarer, what is your plan? Of course, if the Club finesse works then 12 tricks will be easy. Alternatively, it would be just grand if Dummy's long Diamond could be set up with a couple of ruffs, then the Club finesse would not be necessary. Alas, there are not enough Dummy entries for that. Or maybe there are! Yes, here is your chance to skewer the defense on a Morton's Fork, offering two losing options.

After drawing trumps, you cross to the ♦A and ruff a Diamond. Now you lead the ♠K and West will be impaled on one of these prongs:

First Prong: If West wins the ♠K with his Ace he manages to score his Spade, but not without cost. Now Dummy has an extra entry (in Spades) and you have the timing to ruff out the Diamonds. You no longer need the Club finesse, you have your 12 tricks via a Spade, 6 Hearts, 3 Diamonds and 2 Clubs.

Second Prong: If West ducks the ♠K then you cross to the ♣K, cash Dummy's ♦K (pitching your remaining Spade), give up a Club, and romp home with 12 tricks. In this variation the defense never scores a Spade trick.

This hand required perfect timing! It was necessary to cash just one high Diamond and then ruff a Diamond before playing on Spades. If you had neglected to do that then you had no chance of getting the long Diamond established. And it would have been fatal to cash *both* Diamonds before playing on Spades, that would have rendered the fork's second prong inoperable. A very pretty deal!



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Upcoming tournaments:



**Peoria Sectional
September 16-18, 2011
AMVETS, Peoria, IL**

**Springfield Sectional
October 7-9, 2011
Bridge Club of Springfield
Springfield, IL**