



# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 13 Number 12 – December, 2011

10 pages



## December Events



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

December 5 – quarterly club championship open pairs

December 12 – open pairs

December 19 – open pairs

December 26 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

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

Saturday, December 3, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, December 5, 6:15PM – quarterly club championship 99ers only pairs – Heartland

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

Wednesday, December 7, 1:15PM – quarterly club championship 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, December 8, 11:45AM – quarterly club championship open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, December 10, 11:45AM – quarterly club championship open pairs – Westminster

Monday, December 12, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, December 13, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, December 14, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, December 15, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, December 17, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

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

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

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

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

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

Monday, December 26, 99ers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, December 27, 6:15PM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

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

Thursday, December 29, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, December 31, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

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 11/1/2011 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

- 1    **3,365.96 Betty Capodice**
- 2    **2,696.83 Steve Babin**
- \*\*\* **2,557.18 Laura Addison**
- 3    **1,857.30 Mike Tomlianovich**
- 4    **1,707.64 Zack Freehill**
- 5    **1,638.51 Steve Hawthorne**
- 6    **1,513.74 Hank Hoffman**
- \*\*\* **1,398.35 Sharad Chitgopekar**
- 7    **1,351.59 Dewey Gronau**
- \*\*\* **1,320.43 Ed Lombard**
- 8    **1,294.97 Eunice Patton**
- 9    **1,120.10 Stan Gutzman**
- \*\*\* **1,091.94 Marian Edmunds**
- 10   **1,076.09 Jeanne Strand**
- 11   **1,047.63 Ivey Weaver**
- 12    **913.86 Jean Barnett**
- 13    **833.40 Charlie Morton**
- 14    **791.90 Don Strand**
- 15    **783.15 Glen Beaman**
- \*\*\* **780.34 Jack Kessler**
- 16    **754.85 Henrietta Crain**
- 17    **753.04 Ann Schuyler**
- 18    **746.55 Randall Motchan**
- \*\*\* **741.06 Pearl Harris**
- \*\*\* **610.73 Martin Compton**
- 19    **590.75 Peg Deutsch**
- 20    **570.46 Ann Farnsworth**
- \*\*\* **567.22 Ruth Wettaw**
- 21    **519.49 Dennis Moll**
- \*\*\* **481.88 Bev Upp**
- \*\*\* **474.92 Nona Wooley**
- 22    **467.71 Dave Freehill**
- 23    **461.74 Bob Smith**
- 24    **429.97 Steve Wulfers**
- 25    **395.35 Bev Meginnes**
- \*\*\* **deceased**

**Other players:**

- \*\*\* **12,741.55 Dick Benson**
- 10,661.33 Chris Benson-LeRoy**
- 4,073.45 Alan Wienman-Morton**
- 3,923.94 Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap**
- 3,666.12 Larry Matheny-Colorado**
- 3,290.84 Carl Brueckner-Champaign**
- 3,093.74 Ron Sholes-Springfield**
- 2,790.60 Leonard Kaufman-Peoria**
- 2,419.84 Georgia Heth-Morton**
- 2,384.45 Gail Moon-Tennessee**
- 2,362.82 Liz Zalar-Springfield**
- 2,329.95 Kish Devaraj-Georgia**
- 2,207.47 Chuck Zalar-Springfield**
- 2,163.97 Leah Newell- Springfield**
- 2,161.18 Paul Lindauer-Varna**
- 2,100.07 Ray Russ-Henry**
- 2,006.87 Joanne Glazebrook-Peoria**
- 2,009.76 Carole Sholes-Springfield**
- 1,862.88 Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign**
- 1,847.42 Margaret Hansell-Champaign**
- \*\*\* **1,776.22 John Burdon**
- 1,522.53 Tim Cull-Springfield**
- 1,485.28 Bobbie Straker-Pekin**
- 1,400.20 Marilyn Stickel-Lacon**
- 1,217.90 Jim Moon-Tennessee**
- 1,046.91 John Maloney-Champaign**
- 1,020.22 Donna Kaufman-Peoria**
- 916.41 Floyd Sherry-Eureka**
- 773.75 Bev Fast-Peoria**
- 725.80 Phil Kenney-Eureka**
- 735.14 Camilla Rabjohns**
- 691.14 Marilyn Toubeaux-Peoria**
- 621.75 Eunice Viktor-Morton**
- 611.37 Bill Carley-Peoria**
- 587.56 Carole Miller-Champaign**
- 558.41 Bill Bulfer-East Peoria**

# IMPROVE YOUR PLAY

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#1

Is it possible to have too many points? While that may seem a silly question, here is a hand where a player had half of the deck's high card points and only used the Pass card.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

|         |        |       |      |       |      |       |
|---------|--------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|
| #11-33  | ♠ 52   |       |      |       |      |       |
| Dir N   | ♥ 9752 |       |      |       |      |       |
| Vul E/W | ♦ Q642 |       |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ J75  |       |      |       |      |       |
| ♠Q106   |        | ♠8743 | West | North | East | South |
| ♥KQ3    |        | ♥864  |      | Pass  | Pass | 1NT   |
| ♦A5     |        | ♦1087 | Pass | Pass  | Pass |       |
| ♣AKQ32  |        | ♣985  |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♠ AKJ9 |       |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♥ AJ10 |       |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♦ KJ93 |       |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ 104  |       |      |       |      |       |

**BIDDING:** After seeing the 1NT bid on his right, West had no trouble grabbing the Pass card. You seldom hold the right hands to make a penalty double of a strong 1NT bid so double has a different meaning with this partnership.

**PLAY:** West led the top five clubs and declarer had some discarding problems. He finally released 1 spade, 1 heart, and 1 diamond. West then exited with the king of hearts and declarer was down one. Several West players couldn't resist bidding and ended in various contracts going down. Unfortunately for me, my West was one of only two who saw the wisdom in passing so I was rewarded with 1/2 of a matchpoint.

#2

There are two really large disasters to avoid in a team game: 1) Going for a large number, and 2) losing a double game swing. One of these teams wants to forget this hand ever happened.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

|         |           |      |       |      |       |
|---------|-----------|------|-------|------|-------|
| #11-34  | ♠ AJ8743  |      |       |      |       |
| Dir E   | ♥ 95      |      |       |      |       |
| Vul E-W | ♦ 9873    |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ 10      | West | North | East | South |
| ♠ 92    |           |      |       | 3♥   | 3♠    |
| ♥ 1082  | □         | Pass | 4♠    | Pass | Pass  |
| ♦ AJ105 |           | Pass |       |      |       |
| ♣ KQJ7  |           |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♠ AKQJ764 |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♥ 6       |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♦ 96542   |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ KQ1065  |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♥ 3       |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♦ KQ42    |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ A83     |      |       |      |       |

**BIDDING:** Noting the adverse vulnerability, East opened a timid three-level preempt. South overcalled and North raised to game. It takes the ace of clubs and a club ruff to beat a heart slam and West was also to blame. He had a good raise of a vulnerable versus non-vulnerable preempt but passed instead. In team play, it pays to be bold.

**PLAY:** West led the deuce of hearts to East's jack. East thought about switching to this singleton diamond but remembered he had no trump so he continued with a second heart. Declarer stopped to analyze his hand and saw he was safe as long as he didn't lose three diamonds. He ruffed the second heart and then played ace and a club ruffed in dummy. He next drew two rounds of trumps followed by a club ruff in dummy. Now with hearts and clubs eliminated, he simply had to pass the nine of diamonds. West won the ten but had to return a diamond or concede a ruff/sluff.

Ironically, it would appear East does have to shift to his singleton diamond at trick two to break up the end-play. West can win, exit with a club, and wait on his other two diamond tricks. However, declarer can still eliminate the round suits and end-play West with the second round of diamonds. At the other table, E/W played 5♥ making six when the club ruff was not found. So +420 and +650 add to 1100 points and a 15 IMP swing. Ouch!

#3

Dreams can be pleasant or they can be nightmares. After an excellent dinner of lobster and perhaps too much wine, I finished reading one of Victor Mollo's excellent books about his menagerie friends. I dozed off thinking how marvelous but unbelievable his stories were. But as I slept this hand appeared...

**Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)**

|         |         |      |       |      |       |
|---------|---------|------|-------|------|-------|
| #11-35  | ♠ A86   |      |       |      |       |
| Dir W   | ♥ 983   |      |       |      |       |
| Vul E-W | ♦ 43    |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ KQ984 | West | North | East | South |
| ♠ KJ94  |         | Pass | Pass  | Pass | 2♣    |
| ♥ J752  | □       | Pass | 3♣    | Pass | 3♦    |
| ♦ 98    |         | Pass | 3♠    | Pass | 4♥    |
| ♣ 1052  |         | Pass | 5♦    | Pass | 6♦    |
|         | ♠ 10532 | Pass | Pass  | Pass |       |
|         | ♥ 106   |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♦ K76   |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ J763  |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♠ Q7    |      |       |      |       |

♥ AKQ4  
 ♦ AQJ1052  
 ♣ A

**BIDDING:** South was the local expert who considered it his duty to help the new players. North wasn't sure what to bid over 3♦ but finally decided to show his ace of spades. Later North took a preference to diamonds and the expert confidently bid the slam.

**PLAY:** The novice in the West chair had no idea what to lead. He sat there for the longest time with perspiration falling from his forehead. Finally, the expert leaned over and with a smirk said "Just try the fourth one from your left thumb". The expert smiled at his audience and a relieved West obliged by selecting that card. It was the king of spades and try as he might, the expert could no longer make the contract. The king of spades was the only lead to beat the contract.

I woke suddenly and wondered if perhaps Mr. Mollo had the same type of dreams. Or could it have been the lobster, or the wine, or...

#4

The aces and kings usually hog the spotlight but in this hand a lowly four won the day.

**Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)**

|         |         |      |       |      |       |
|---------|---------|------|-------|------|-------|
| #11-36  | ♠ KQ42  |      |       |      |       |
| Dir E   | ♥ 10832 |      |       |      |       |
| Vul E-W | ♦ K9    |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ 732   | West | North | East | South |
| ♠ J85   |         |      |       | Pass | 1 ♥   |
| ♥ Q95   | □       | Pass | 3♦    | Pass | 4 ♥   |
| ♦ AQ742 |         | Pass | Pass  | Pass |       |
| ♣ J5    |         |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♠ 10976 |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♥ 6     |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♦ J1063 |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ KQ98  |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♠ A3    |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♥ AKJ74 |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♦ 85    |      |       |      |       |
|         | ♣ A1064 |      |       |      |       |

**BIDDING:** North's 3♦ bid was a constructive heart raise showing 7-9 points and 4 hearts. South continued on to game.

**PLAY:** With no attractive lead, West finally chose the jack of clubs and East encouraged with the nine. Declarer saw five possible losers: 1 heart, 2 diamonds, and 2 clubs. One loser could be discarded on the third spade so declarer hoped for a favorable heart break. However, on the second round of hearts, East showed out but erred by discarding a low spade. Declarer next played four rounds of spades discarding two diamonds. The four of spades was his tenth trick.

There is a good defensive rule of keeping the same length as the hand on your right. This hand shows why that is so important.



**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>2011/11/16</b> | <b>77.78%</b> | <b>Cindy Moore &amp; Lori Moore(NLMers)</b>      |
| <b>2011/11/14</b> | <b>72.22%</b> | <b>Patty &amp; Rodger Paul(99ers)</b>            |
| <b>2011/10/09</b> | <b>70.56%</b> | <b>JoAnn Schroeder &amp; Sallie Boge(NLMers)</b> |
| <b>2011/10/24</b> | <b>71.88%</b> | <b>Gaye Hoselton &amp; Calvin Wu(99ers)</b>      |
| <b>2011/09/08</b> | <b>70.00%</b> | <b>Betty Capodice &amp; Steve Babin</b>          |
| <b>2011/09/03</b> | <b>74.21%</b> | <b>Eunice Patton &amp; Steve Babin</b>           |
| <b>2011/08/24</b> | <b>72.78%</b> | <b>Sallie Boge &amp; Stevie Joslin(NLMers)</b>   |
| <b>2011/08/18</b> | <b>74.07%</b> | <b>Ray Russ &amp; Steve Babin</b>                |
| <b>2011/08/03</b> | <b>72.78%</b> | <b>JoAnn Schroeder &amp; Sallie Boge(NLMers)</b> |
| <b>2011/08/01</b> | <b>70.14%</b> | <b>Dorothy Berg &amp; Balu Nair(99ers)</b>       |
| <b>2011/07/28</b> | <b>70.84%</b> | <b>Hank Hoffman &amp; Mike Tomlianovich</b>      |
| <b>2011/07/25</b> | <b>72.06%</b> | <b>Lynn Steffen &amp; Lori Moore(99ers)</b>      |
| <b>2011/07/14</b> | <b>71.43%</b> | <b>Steve Hawthorne &amp; Zach Freehill</b>       |
| <b>2011/06/13</b> | <b>70.14%</b> | <b>Mary Tweedie &amp; Lori Moore(99ers)</b>      |
| <b>2011/05/16</b> | <b>73.89%</b> | <b>Joyce Werner &amp; Dorothy Berg(99ers)</b>    |
| <b>2011/05/12</b> | <b>73.81%</b> | <b>Lane O'Connor &amp; Jerry Oswald</b>          |
| <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>            |

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

### #45 - FIND THE LADY

|                                   |                                           |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                   | ♠ KJT3<br>♥ AQJ<br>♦ AJ95<br>♣ J4         |                                   |
| ♠ 9862<br>♥ 98653<br>♦ 7<br>♣ KT2 | North<br><br>West<br>East<br><br>Declarer | ♠ 7<br>♥ 42<br>♦ Q86<br>♣ AQ98765 |
|                                   | ♠ AQ54<br>♥ KT7<br>♦ KT432<br>♣ 3         |                                   |

With both sides vulnerable, East opened 3♣ (a weak bid, usually made with a 7-card suit), and South wound up declaring 6♠.

East's Ace won the opening Club lead and the next Club was ruffed by Declarer. Trumps were drawn in four rounds, East following once and then pitching three Clubs. Now all that remained was for Declarer to avoid losing a trick to the ♦Q. Was it a guess, or was it a certainty?

When the hand was actually played, our Declarer was familiar with the idea that, with a 9-card fit, it was customary to cash the Ace and King (playing for the Queen to drop in two rounds) rather than finessing. But (unfortunately) he remembered that East's bidding had shown a long Club suit, and this persuaded him that West was therefore more likely to hold longer Diamonds. Accordingly, he cashed the ♦K, planning to finesse on the next round if West followed with a low Diamond. Poor Declarer got a nasty shock when, instead, West showed out and it was *East* who turned out to have the Diamond length. Down two (East still has a Club winner and the trumps are all gone) in a cold slam!

Declarer should have gone fishing for extra clues before taking the crucial Diamond guess. If (after drawing trumps) he cashes three Hearts first, East will show out on the third round. Now Declarer has a perfect count on the hand. East started with one Spade, two Hearts and (based on the bidding and the play) seven Clubs. That means East has three Diamonds, and leading a Diamond to Dummy's Ace, and finessing on the second round, is guaranteed to succeed.

#46 - "NICE TRY, PARTNER"

|                                   |                                           |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                   | ♠ J7532<br>♥ 3<br>♦ 9765<br>♣ J62         |                                   |
| ♠ Q<br>♥ T84<br>♦ QJ42<br>♣ KQ753 | North<br><br>West<br>East<br><br>Declarer | ♠ T9<br>♥ KQ76<br>♦ AKT<br>♣ AT94 |
|                                   | ♠ AK864<br>♥ AJ952<br>♦ 83<br>♣ 8         |                                   |

*E-W Vulnerable*

| East | South    | West | North |
|------|----------|------|-------|
| 1NT  | 2♠       | 3♠   | 4♠    |
| Dbl  | All Pass |      |       |

Opposite a 15-17 1NT, West had the HCP for game and cuebid 3♠, hoping that East had something in Spades and could bid 3NT. Does North's 4♠ seem a bit nutty? Or completely so? It was neither, North expected that 4♠ doubled would be a good sacrifice against an E-W game.

Yes, North fully expected that 4♠ would go down and South went out of his way not to disappoint her. The play went like this: ♠K and ♦K and ♦A were cashed; Club ruffed by Declarer;

trumps drawn in two rounds; Heart ruff; Diamond ruff; Heart ruff; Diamond ruff; Heart ruff. If you have worked your way through this orgy of ruffing you will see that Declarer had by now scored 9 tricks and had finally established that long Heart in his hand. That was the good news. The bad news was that all the trumps were now gone, the lead was in Dummy, and there was no way back to Declarer's hand to score that long Heart. Down one!

North politely said "Nice try, Partner" which in this case loosely translates to "You blundering imbecile!" A nicer try by Declarer would have been to use his trump entries to better effect. After ruffing the Club, Declarer should cash the ♥A, ruff a Heart, return to hand with a trump and ruff another Heart. This subtle change in timing solves the entry problem and now, by the time that the Hearts are finally ruffed out, there will still be a way back to Declarer's hand (via another ruff). Making four! "Nicely played, Partner!"

#47 - A SMOOTH DUCK

|                                   |                                           |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                   | ♠ QT754<br>♥ AQT9<br>♦ 64<br>♣ 83         |                                   |
| ♠ K63<br>♥ 63<br>♦ KT982<br>♣ T52 | North<br><br>West<br>East<br><br>Declarer | ♠ J2<br>♥ K8542<br>♦ A5<br>♣ 9764 |
|                                   | ♠ A98<br>♥ J7<br>♦ QJ73<br>♣ AKQJ         |                                   |

*Both Vulnerable*

| South | West     | North | East |
|-------|----------|-------|------|
| 1♣    | Pass     | 1♠    | Pass |
| 2NT   | Pass     | 3♥    | Pass |
| 3NT   | All Pass |       |      |

Some N-S pairs might blunder into 4♠ (down one), but our own N-S stumbled instead into 3NT. West led a Diamond (the Ten is standard from that holding) won by East's Ace. Then a Diamond to the Queen and King, and a third Diamond. Declarer won that, lost the Heart finesse, but now had 9 easy tricks (a Spade, 3 Hearts, a Diamond, 4 Clubs).

The defense could have done better! It was fine to lead and continue Diamonds, but East missed a chance when Declarer took that Heart finesse. Yes, indeed, East should smoothly duck that trick! When Declarer repeats the Heart finesse, East pounces with the King and shoots back a Club. With no entries to Dummy's Hearts, Declarer is up the creek and down one.

Next, suppose that, when the Heart finesse is taken, East ducks, but this time not smoothly. Now a resourceful Declarer may smell a rat, in which case he can make the contract anyway. He wins the second round of Hearts with the Ace, and cashes the Clubs. By now West is down to ♠K6 and ♦82. Declarer has ♠A98 and ♦7 and will exit with the Diamond. After taking his two Diamonds, West is forced to play Spades, and if Declarer guesses correctly he will play the ♠Q and make his contract.

Post Script: Of course, it would be quite improper for East, when *not* holding the ♥K, to fake out Declarer by hesitatingly unduly on the first Heart, simulating a non-smooth duck. Such shenanigans are OK for poker, but not for bridge.

#### #48 - THE CUSTOMARY RETORT

|                                   |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                   | ♠ 32<br>♥ Q832<br>♦ AK52<br>♣ K43 |                                   |
| ♠ KQT97<br>♥ 4<br>♦ 98763<br>♣ 75 | <i>North</i>                      | ♠ J8<br>♥ 765<br>♦ QJT4<br>♣ QJT2 |
|                                   | <i>West<br/>East</i>              |                                   |
|                                   | <i>Declarer</i>                   |                                   |
|                                   | ♠ A654<br>♥ AKJT9<br>♦<br>♣ A986  |                                   |

*E-W Vulnerable*

| <i>South</i> | <i>West</i> | <i>North</i> | <i>East</i> |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
|              |             | 1♦           | Pass        |
| 1♥           | Pass        | 2♥           | Pass        |
| 6♥           | Pass        | Pass         | Pass        |

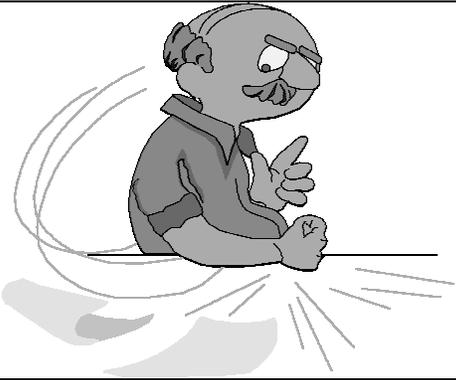
After that bold leap to 6♥, West leads the ♠K. Declarer can count 10 top tricks (consisting of 5 trumps and 5 side-suit winners). Our question to you is “Where are the other two tricks coming from?”

Will it help Declarer’s cause to ruff two Diamonds? No, those ruffs are in the “long hand”. Declarer’s five trumps have already been included in the trick total, and using two of

them for ruffing does not create two extra trump tricks. But getting a couple of ruffs in the “short hand”, well that is an entirely different kettle of fish. That’s right, Declarer can make his contract is by arranging two Spade ruffs in Dummy.

Getting those ruffs must be done early in the play. It won’t do to draw two rounds of trumps (hoping they are 2-2) and then to lose a Spade. In that case, East will win the Spade and fire back another trump, holding the Spade ruffs to just one. It’s OK to draw just one round of trumps, but then the Spade trick must be conceded. Now, whatever the defense does, Declarer gets those two ruffs in the short hand for a total of 12 tricks.

It was fortunate for Declarer that Dummy showed up with the ♥8! If you were to exchange Dummy’s ♥8 with East’s ♥7, then the slam fails (East can over-ruff one of the Spade tricks). When East curses his rotten luck in being dealt that inadequate ♥7, the customary retort is “But we would never have bid the slam without the ♥8”



**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!!**

## **Upcoming tournaments:**



**Bloomington-Normal Sectional  
January 20-22, 2012  
UAW 2488  
Bloomington, IL**