



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 14 Number 7 – July, 2012

10 pages



July Events



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

July 2 – open pairs

July 9 – open pairs

July 16 – open pairs

July 23 – NAP qualifier open pairs

July 30 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

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

Tuesday, July 3, NO GAME – ENJOY YOUR INDEPENDENCE DAY

Wednesday, July 4, NO GAME – ENJOY YOUR INDEPENDENCE DAY

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

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

Monday, July 9, 99ers only pairs – Heartland

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

Wednesday, July 11, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

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

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

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

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

Wednesday, July 18, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

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

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

Monday, July 23, 6:15PM – NAP qualifier 99ers only pairs - Heartland

Tuesday, July 24, 6:15PM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, July 25, 1:15PM – NAP qualifier 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, July 26, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, July 28, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Westminster

Monday, July 30, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs - Heartland

Tuesday, July 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

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

All games sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League.

Announcement: Effective 4/1/2012, all ACBL-sanctioned bridge games held in Bloomington-Normal are fragrance free. Please be respectful of those who are fragrance intolerant. Thank you!

The Bloomington-Normal "Top 25" Masterpoint holders
 As of 6/1/2012 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

- 1 3,411.52 Betty Capodice
- 2 2,761.30 Steve Babin
- *** 2,557.18 Laura Addison
- 3 1,892.13 Mike Tomlianovich
- 4 1,779.36 Zack Freehill
- 5 1,682.61 Steve Hawthorne
- 6 1,567.44 Hank Hoffman
- *** 1,398.35 Sharad Chitgopekar
- 7 1,375.11 Eunice Patton
- *** 1,320.43 Ed Lombard
- 8 1,372.32 Dewey Gronau
- 9 1,141.83 Stan Gutzman
- *** 1,091.94 Marian Edmunds
- 10 1,085.83 Jeanne Strand
- 11 1,054.10 Ivey Weaver
- 12 928.26 Jean Barnett
- 13 866.43 Charlie Morton
- 14 825.89 Ann Schuyler
- *** 792.95 Don Strand
- 15 790.43 Glen Beaman
- *** 780.34 Jack Kessler
- 16 781.86 Randall Motchan
- 17 758.18 Henrietta Crain
- *** 741.06 Pearl Harris
- *** 610.73 Martin Compton
- 18 594.37 Peg Deutsch
- 19 570.80 Ann Farnsworth
- *** 567.22 Ruth Wettaw
- 20 540.11 Dennis Moll
- *** 481.88 Bev Upp
- *** 474.92 Nona Wooley
- 21 485.80 Dave Freehill
- 22 461.74 Bob Smith
- 23 440.94 Steve Wulfers
- 24 398.63 Bev Meginnes
- 25 358.78 Stevie Joslin
- *** deceased

Other players:

- *** 12,741.55 Dick Benson-LeRoy
- 10,758.54 Chris Benson-LeRoy
- *** 4,073.45 Alan Wienman-Morton
- 3,938.86 Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
- 3,767.14 Larry Matheny-Colorado
- 3,316.71 Carl Brueckner-Champaign
- 3,163.81 Ron Sholes-Springfield
- 2,813.84 Leonard Kaufman-Peoria
- 2,424.49 Georgia Heth-Morton
- 2,410.93 Gail Moon-Tennessee
- 2,419.58 Liz Zalar-Springfield
- 2,411.25 Kish Devaraj-Georgia
- 2,215.70 Chuck Zalar-Springfield
- 2,244.83 Paul Lindauer-Varna
- 2,235.68 Leah Newell- Springfield
- 2,120.85 Ray Russ-Henry
- 2,037.24 Joanne Glazebrook-Peoria
- 2,058.54 Carole Sholes-Springfield
- 1,919.42 Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
- 1,908.13 Margaret Hansell-Champaign
- *** 1,776.22 John Burdon
- 1,559.82 Tim Cull-Arizona
- 1,492.24 Bobbie Straker-Pekin
- 1,425.22 Marilyn Stickel-Laon
- 1,244.38 Jim Moon-Tennessee
- 1,076.86 John Maloney-Champaign
- 1,034.41 Donna Kaufman-Peoria
- *** 916.41 Floyd Sherry-Eureka
- 882.87 Ron Emmett
- 825.12 Camilla Rabjohns-Peoria Heights
- 785.50 Bev Fast-Peoria
- 728.42 Phil Kenney-Eureka
- 691.84 Marilyn Toubeaux-Peoria
- 621.75 Eunice Viktor-Morton
- 619.91 Bill Carley-Peoria
- 590.93 Carole Miller-Champaign



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#1

In a team game, the state of your match may require you to take aggressive action. In this match I knew we were behind when this hand came up.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#12-07	♣ A83		West	North	East	South
Dir S	♥ K92					1 ♥
Vul none	♦ AQ32					
	♣ AQ5		2 ♦	3 ♦	Pass	4 ♥
♣ K5		♣ 109762	Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
♥ 87		♥ 63	Pass			
♦ KJ9874		♦ 1065				
♣ KJ4		♣ 972				
	♣ QJ4					
	♥ AQJ1054					
	♦					
	♣ 10863					

BIDDING: I was sitting North with only two hands left in the match. We had two bad results and I estimated we were down around 10 IMPs. Since I knew we needed a good result, I was excited when my partner opened the bidding. I liked my hand even more when West bid diamonds. I cue bid diamonds showing a limit+ raise of hearts and my partner jumped to game to show a sound opener. (It turns out he was also pushing a bit.) I leaped to the slam.

PLAY: West led a low heart and my partner stopped to analyze the hand. The overcall strongly suggested both black kings would be on-side and this would give him a chance. He won the opening lead in his hand and took the club finesse. After the queen won, he followed with the ace and a third round of clubs. Both followed with West winning the king. My partner won the heart return and took the winning spade finesse. He now only had to discard a spade on the ace of diamonds and score up the slam.

At the other table the N/S pair stopped in game so we won 11 much needed IMPs and were now back in the match.

#2

In a pairs game you need to maximize your plus scores so overtricks are important. This hand provided declarer a safe and easy way to find an extra trick.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#12-08	♠ KQ743				
Dir W	♥ 752	West	North	East	South
Vul none	♦ A106	Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♥
	♣ 105	Pass	2 ♣*	Pass	4 ♥
♠ J52		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♥ J	□				
♦ QJ752					
♣ QJ87					
	♠ A96				
	♥ Q106				
	♦ K93				
	♣ 6432				
	♠ 108	*Drury			
	♥ AK9843				
	♦ 84				
	♣ AK9				


BIDDING: After first passing, North showed a limit raise in hearts by using the Drury convention and South bid the game.

Play: West led a low spade to the king and ace. East shifted to a low diamond won with the ace in dummy. Declarer noted the contract was not in danger as long as the trumps were not divided 4-0. At trick three, declarer played a heart to his ace and after both followed, he looked for an overtrick. He cashed another high heart followed by the top two clubs. Next he played the king of spades and ruffed a spade. When that suit divided 3-3, he ruffed his last club in dummy and discarded his diamond loser on a good spade. He lost only one spade and one heart.

#3

When defending a hand, signals showing attitude or count take priority. However, there are situations where a suit preference signal is clearly needed.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#12-09	♠ 97		West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ KQJ5		Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT
Vul none	♦ KQ54		Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♣ J98					
♠ AJ52		♠ K643				
♥ 97		♥ 10864				
♦ 107		♦ J98				
♣ KQ1042		♣ A7				
	♠ Q108					
	♥ A32					
	♦ A632					
	♣ 653					


BIDDING: This was a routine partscore auction.

Play: West was reluctant to lead a low club from this holding because in this auction, declarer frequently has clubs. He considered a spade lead but finally selected the king of clubs. When the king held the trick it was clear his partner held the ace because declarer would never duck with that card. If partner started with three clubs there was no problem but what if he held only two? To handle either case, at trick two West led the ten of clubs. This was a suit preference card showing an entry in spades. East won the ace and continued with the three of spades. The defenders had no problem cashing five clubs along with four spades for a great score.

#4

The elimination of the side suits followed by putting the lead in a defender's hand for a fortuitist lead is a play that all declarers need to employ. In this hand, poor West was the victim.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#12-10	♠ AJ3		West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ AK83		1♣	DBL	Pass	1♥
Vul none	♦ A963		Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
	♣ K10		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♠ KQ84		♠ 10652				
♥ J6		♥ 95				
♦ KJ5		♦ 104				
♣ Q976		♣ A8432				
	♠ 97					
	♥ Q10742					
	♦ Q872					
	♣ J5					

BIDDING: South's response of 1♥ showed 0-7 high card points. North's jump bid invited game and South accepted.

Play: West led the king of spades and was immediately disappointed when the ace and jack hit in

dummy. Declarer saw he had one spade loser, possibly two in diamonds, and a guess in the club suit. He won the ace of spades followed by the ace and queen of hearts. Next, he led his last spade toward dummy and West rose with the queen. A low club followed and declarer guessed correctly by playing the ten. East won the ace and played a second round. Declarer won the king and discarded a diamond on the jack of spades. The black suits had been eliminated so it was now easy for declarer to lead a low diamond and play the seven when East followed with the four. West won the jack but was forced to lead away from his king of diamonds or concede a ruff/sluff.

Although East should play his ten of diamonds on the first round, the end-play still works. Declarer will cover the ten with the queen but now West will have to lead away from his jack.

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2012/06/18	72.22%	Melissa Paschold/Bev Branning & Mike Gross(99ers)
2012/06/18	71.67%	Dorothy Berg & Joyce Werner(99ers)
2012/05/16	78.89%	Jason Cannell & Jerry Oswald(NLMers)
2012/05/09	71.11%	Don Randall & Dan Liu(NLMers)
2012/05/02	76.11%	Bob Bye & Jason Cannell(NLMers)
2012/04/25	70.15%	Roberta Weddig & Joe Krause(NLMers)
2012/04/18	79.17%	Carol Denny & Gaye Hoselton(NLMers)
2012/04/11	70.56%	Lou Savage & Jim Fernstrom(NLMers)
2012/04/02	72.65%	Dorothy Berg & Joyce Werner(99ers)
2012/03/15	75.46%	Mike Tomlianovich & Steve Babin

2012/02/22 70.56% Joyce & Bob Clay(NLMers)

2012/02/09 72.92% Eunice Patton & Jeff Furler



BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell

#73 – A TWO-EDGED SWORD

	♠ T762 ♥ 43 ♦ Q654 ♣ Q64	
♠ J4 ♥ 85 ♦ K9832 ♣ J975	<i>North</i>	♠ K53 ♥ AT2 ♦ AT7 ♣ AT83
	<i>West East Declarer</i>	
	♠ AQ98 ♥ KQJ976 ♦ J ♣ K2	

E-W Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
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	Pass	Pass	1NT #
2♥	3♦	Pass	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

15-17 HCP

West boldly competed to 3♦, but South pushed on to 3♥, a precarious contract which depended on playing the Spades for one loser. Given the apparent lack of entries to Dummy, that was likely to be problematic.

West led his 4th best Diamond and, as this was the Three, it was clear that West had led from a five-card suit. East won

his Ace, and Declarer ruffed the Diamond continuation. Before drawing trumps, Declarer played the ♠K, hoping to force an entry to Dummy. But E-W were up to the challenge. West followed with the Club Nine, the start of a high-low count signal, telling East that West had started with an *even* number of Clubs. Armed with that information, East could duck the trick, safe in the knowledge that Declarer was not trying to sneak through her singleton King. Then Declarer played the ♥K losing to the Ace, ruffed the Diamond return, and drew the remaining trumps.

The play in the Diamond suit had made it clear that West started with the ♦K, so East needed to hold the ♠K to make up his 15-17 HCP. Should Declarer play ♠A followed by a *low* Spade (hoping that East had started with Kx)? Or ♠A followed by the *Queen* (hoping that West had started with Jx)?

How was Declarer to know? West's Club count signal (which had helped East to find the correct play when the ♠K was led) was a two-edged sword, as it also gave away the distribution to Declarer. By now West was known to have started with five Diamonds, an even number of Clubs (surely four), and two Hearts. That left two Spades, and Declarer's only chance was to play ♠A followed by the Queen, hoping that West had started with ♠Jx. Making 9 tricks!

#74 – READING THE LEAD

	♠ AJ7 ♥ 8543 ♦ 876 ♣ AJ9	
♠ Q42 ♥ QJ962 ♦ KJ2 ♣ Q7	North West East Declarer	♠ 8 ♥ K7 ♦ AQ9543 ♣ 6543
	♠ KT9653 ♥ AT ♦ T ♣ KT82	

Both Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
		Pass	2♦
2♠	3♦	4♠	All Pass

East's Weak Two shows 5-10 HCP and a 6-card suit. N-S cruise into 4♠, West leads the ♦2 won by East's Ace, then a low Diamond, ruffed by Declarer, West following with the Jack. Looking just at the N-S hands, what can you deduce from the play so far? And how do you play the hand?

The bidding tells Declarer that East started with six Diamonds and West with three. If West had KQx he would have led the King ... if East had ♦AK he would have played

the King on the first trick ... therefore (unless there is some fiendish false-carding going on) West started with ♦KJ and East with ♦AQ.

Who has the ♠Q? Generally speaking, Declarer would play the Spades from the top, playing for the drop of the ♠Q in one or two rounds. This line is a slight favorite over the alternative of finessing (one way or the other) against the Queen. But the odds changed when East showed long Diamonds (leaving less room in his hand for Spade cards), so here Declarer correctly decides to cash the ♠K and finesse the ♠J on the second round.

That's the first guess successfully negotiated, now where is that ♠Q? Declarer cannot be sure, so she plays ♥A and another Heart, hoping to learn more, and on the second Heart East wins his King. At this point Declarer can be fairly certain that East started with 1=2=6=4 distribution. As East has four Clubs to West's two does that make East more likely to hold the Queen? Not in this case! East has shown up with 9 HCP, there's no room left in his 5-10 hand for the ♠Q. So, Declarer plays West for that card and, thanks to a little counting, she brings home her vulnerable game with an overtrick.

#75 – DIFFERENT CONTRACT, SAME PLAY

	♠ KQT54 ♥ KQ63 ♦ 987 ♣ 8	
♠ 9876 ♥ J8 ♦ 52 ♣ QT765	North West East South	♠ A ♥ T9752 ♦ A643 ♣ KJ2
	♠ J32 ♥ A4 ♦ KQJT	

♣ A943

Both Vulnerable
West North East South

	1♥	Dbf
Pass 2♠	Pass	??

After this beginning the contract might reasonably be 3NT (played by South) or 4♠ (by North). Let's dispose of the 3NT contract first, because this one our readers will make in their sleep. West leads a Club, Declarer holds up until the third round (in case the Clubs are 5-3), and makes her contract when both enemy Aces are with the short Clubs. Nine nervous tricks!

Now watch North declare 4♠ and see where he goes wrong. East (aggressively) leads a Club, and Dummy's Ace wins the trick. Then a Spade is conceded to East's Ace and the Club continuation is ruffed by Declarer. Next, trumps are played but Declarer comes unstuck when the suit is 4-1. East will get in with the ♠A and persist with Clubs, at which point Declarer will have lost trump control. Down one!

North should have taken a leaf out of the No Trump playbook. That hold-up play in Clubs, which is almost routine when playing No Trump, can also work in a suit contract. North can win the opening Club lead with Dummy's Ace but, when East gets in with the ♠A and continues Clubs, the correct play is to refrain from ruffing immediately. When a third round of Clubs is played, North must ruff, but West never gets in again to do damage with his Club winners. What's good for No Trump is also sometimes good for suit play!

#76 – DUPLICATE DECISION

♠ 543		
♥ K3		
♦ QT965		
♣ KQ5		
	North	
♠ 876		♠ QJT9
♥ A6	West	♥ QJT75
♦ A42	East	♦ 7
♣ J9732		♣ T86
	Declarer	
♠ AK2		
♥ 9842		
♦ KJ83		
♣ A4		

None Vulnerable
South West North East
1NT Pass 3NT All Pass

In most forms of bridge, Declarer's main objective is to make the contract, with overtricks being only a secondary consideration. But in duplicate bridge scoring (aka matchpoints) overtricks loom large and it is not unheard of for Declarer to risk the contract in search of an overtrick. Here is a case in point.

South opens a 15-17 No Trump, North raises to game, and West leads a Club. Declarer wins that trick and knocks out the ♠A. Back comes a Club, at which point there are nine tricks for the taking in the shape of two Spades, four Diamonds and three Clubs. Is it time for Declarer to fold his tent, claim nine tricks and move on to the next hand? Not necessarily!

The matchpoint player is always looking for that extra trick. Is there one? The only possibility is in Hearts, but leading towards the ♥K (before cashing nine tricks) is not without risk, and it's possible that East will take Dummy's King with his Ace and that the defense will then cash three or four more Heart tricks, defeating the contract.

Is it just a 50-50 shot? No, the odds favor going for the overtrick. Half the time the ♥A will be onside and Declarer gets his overtrick and a good score. And even when the ♥A is offside it's unlikely that the defense will then run the suit, because (a) the Hearts may be blocked (picture West with QT_x or J_x or similar holdings, or East with AQT or AJ or the like); (b) even if the Hearts are not blocked, the defense may do the job themselves (for example, East may hold AQJ_x and not realize that, after winning the ♥A, he must return a low Heart). It's a case of "Heads Declarer wins, tails she loses only

occasionally”.

Announcement: Effective 4/1/2012, all ACBL-sanctioned bridge games held in Bloomington-Normal are fragrance free. Please be respectful of those who are fragrance intolerant. 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!!

Upcoming tournaments:



**Peoria Fall Sectional
September 21-23, 2012
Hult Health Center
Peoria, IL**