



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 14 Number 8 – August, 2012

12 pages



August Events



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

August 6 – open pairs August 13 – open pairs

August 20 – open pairs August 27 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Wednesday, August 1, 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

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

Saturday, August 4, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Westminster

Monday, August 6, 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, August 7, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, August 8, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, August 9, 11:45AM – open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, August 11, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

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

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

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

Thursday, August 16, 11:45AM – Addison-Lombard charity CC open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, August 18, 11:45AM – Addison-Lombard charity CC open pairs – Westminster

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

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

Wednesday, August 22, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

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

Saturday, August 25, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

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

Tuesday, August 28, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, August 29, 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, August 30, 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.

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 7/1/2012 – 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

The trend for years has been to open weaker and weaker hands. This certainly allows players to get into the auction sooner, but without the proper tools it's easy to get too high.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#12-11	♣ KQ3		West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ KQ3		Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Vul none	♦ J54		Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦*
	♣ J742		Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
♠ 976		♠ 102	Pass			
♥ J865		♥ 10742	Pass			
♦ AK8		♦ 7632	Pass			
♣ Q95		♣ AK6				
	♠ AJ854					
	♥ A9					
	♦ Q109					
	♣ 1083					

*New minor forcing

BIDDING: South was interested in game if North held a sound opener. The 2♦ rebid was artificial asking North to further describe his hand. North's rebid showed 3-card spade support with minimum values. With a better hand, North would have jumped to 3♠. This convinced South to settle for the partscore.

Play: West led the ace of diamonds and received a discouraging deuce from his partner. West then shifted to a low club and the defense quickly captured five minor suit tricks. Declarer claimed the rest and entered +110 on this scorecard. Why is this hand interesting? Because several N/S pairs reached the 3-level or even game.


If you are going to open flat hands with only twelve high card points such as the one held by North, be sure you know how to stop.

#2

Everyone loves to hold powerful hands. However, some may be difficult to bid if you don't have the

tools to keep the auction alive until you find your best contract.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#12-12	♠ 10842		West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ Q743		Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣
Vul none	♦ 9842		Pass	2♥*	Pass	3♣
	♣ 3		Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
♠ 63		♠ Q75	Pass	4♣	Pass	6♣
♥ J1092		♥ K865	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♦ J107		♦ K653	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♣ 10942		♣ J5	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♠ AKJ9					
	♥ A					
	♦ AQ					
	♣ AKQ876					

*Double negative

BIDDING: South opened his huge hand with a forcing 2♣ bid. North's disappointing response denied as much as two queens. South showed his club suit but North replied 3♦, again indicating no values. After South bid a second suit, North raised to game. Hoping for the spade queen or at least an entry to dummy for a finesse, South bid the slam.

Play: West led the jack of hearts to declarer's ace. Declarer cashed the ace of spades followed by the ace of clubs. A club ruff in dummy established that suit and gave declarer the entry he needed to take the spade finesse. Next, he led the ten of spades from dummy and that held the trick. He was careful not to take the diamond finesse for if it lost, another club would allow East to ruff and defeat the contract. A spade to the ace drew the last trump and declarer conceded a diamond at the end.

Although short of high cards, the fourth spade and the club singleton made North's hand a great dummy.

#3

The half-full or half-empty view of life can follow us to the bridge table. In this hand, I was the pessimist and my partner was, shall we say, very optimistic.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#12-13	♠ KQ10842				
Dir W	♥ K3	West	North	East	South
Vul none	♦	1♥	2♥	Pass	2♣
	♣ AQ1043	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
♠ AJ		Pass	5♣	Pass	5♣
♥ A10872		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♦ 109865					
♣ K					
	♠ 976				
	♥ J65				
	♦ KQJ				
	♣ J962				
	♠ 53				
	♥ Q94				
	♦ A7432				
	♣ 875				

BIDDING: I was sitting South and was not excited when my partner cue bid hearts showing a two-suited hand with spades and a minor. I indicated no interest by just bidding 2♣ but my partner next cue bid hearts to say he had a very good hand. Since I had a fit with whichever minor he held, I bid game. However, my partner was not through and now he showed me that his minor suit was clubs. I hoped we weren't too high as a I signed off in 5♣.

Play: West led a diamond and I quickly saw I had the two major suit aces to lose and no entry to my hand. My only hope seemed to be a 2-2 spade break. So I trumped the diamond in dummy followed by the king of spades. West won the ace and tapped dummy again with another diamond. I played the queen of spades and had my first break when the suit divided 2-2. I entered my hand with a spade to my nine and put the nine of clubs on the table. The king came up on my left and I won the ace. Next I led a club to my jack followed by a low heart toward the king. West won the ace and dummy was good.

Our score of +450 was matched at the other table but I suspect they stopped at the 4-level.

#4

Everyone loves to bid slams but it isn't always an easy task. To reach the ultimate contract, it often requires the necessary conventions and agreements.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#12-14	♠ A842				
Dir S	♥ A108	West	North	East	South
Vul none	♦ 974				1♦
	♣ AQ4	Pass	1♣	Pass	2♥
♠ 106		Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥
♥ 9632		Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
♦ 1082		Pass	5NT	Pass	7NT
♣ KJ95		Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♠ KQJ975				
	♥ 7				
	♦ 3				
	♣ 108632				
	♠ 3				
	♥ KQJ54				
	♦ AKQJ65				
	♣ 7				

*forcing

BIDDING: The 2♥ rebid by South was a reverse showing extra values in either high cards or distribution. Holding three aces North was instantly thinking slam. He took a (forcing) preference to opener's first bid suit waiting to hear more from his partner. South next rebid hearts to show (at least) 5-6 distribution and North leaped to 4NT. This pair uses Roman Keycard Blackwood (4 aces + trump king) so South admitted to two keycards and the queen of diamonds. North's 5NT asked about kings and also confirmed the possession of all five keycards. South had an easy bid of 7NT.

Play: West led a spades and declarer soon claimed. It wouldn't seem that difficult to reach this grand slam but in a local game, 5 pairs stopped in game, 10 bid a small slam, and only 1 bid seven. I think playing 3♦ as forcing allowed the room to properly investigate.

September 12, 2012

Illinois Senior Olympics Duplicate Bridge Registration Form

1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Sponsored by,
the Springfield Park District

What: One session duplicate bridge pairs game (must have own partner). Sponsored by the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL and Unit 208)

When: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Where: Erin's Pavilion, Southwind Park, corner of Southwind and South Second Street—4965 S. Second, Springfield

Fee: \$20 per pair, which includes refreshments. Mail entry form w/check for \$20.00 made payable to the Springfield Park District by September 6, 2012 to:

Springfield Park District
Illinois Senior Olympics
1601 North 5th Street
Springfield, Illinois 62702

Questions: Contact Ron Sholes, coordinator, at srathlete@aol.com, or call Deborah at the Springfield Park District 753-0700; email dstaley@springfieldparks.org

Format:

- You will play approximately 26 boards (hands) of bridge with your partner
- You will have the opportunity to win ACBL Master Points based on your results as a pair. Senior Olympic medals will be awarded based on how well you do individually in your age group
- Registration required by Thursday, September 6, 2012; limited to first 40 pairs to sign up

Player Number 1

Name: _____
Date of Birth: ____/____/____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: ____
Zip Code: _____ Tele: _____
E-mail address _____
ACBL Member #: _____

Player Number 2

Name: _____
Date of Birth: ____/____/____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: ____
Zip Code: _____ Tele: _____
E-mail address _____
ACBL Member #: _____

Illinois Senior Olympics Duplicate Bridge

Bloomington-Normal 70% club – year 2012 only
Sponsored by: Heartcare Midwest
Dedicated to Excellence in Cardiovascular Health
Offices located in Bloomington, Peoria, and Pekin
Bloomington office located at:
Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Drive, Bloomington

2012/07/25	75.00%	Nancy Callis & Sallie Boge(NLMers)
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



#77 – A SITTING DUCK

	♠ K3 ♥ 6 ♦ AQ853 ♣ QJT98	
♠ QJ9852 ♥ 82 ♦ 972 ♣ 76	North West East Declarer	♠ ♥ KQJ754 ♦ KJ4 ♣ A542
	♠ AT764 ♥ AT93 ♦ T6 ♣ K3	

N-S Vulnerable

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

N-S are a little shy of the 25 or so HCP generally required to make 3NT. On the other hand, they do have a source of tricks in Clubs which gets Declarer up to eight winners. And where there are eight there's often a 9th, as East is about to find out to his detriment.

West dutifully leads his partner's Heart suit and the Jack is taken by Declarer's Ace (holding up won't achieve anything).

The ♣K comes next and East wins his Ace. At this point East can count (at least) eight tricks for Declarer, namely two Spades (because surely Declarer has the Ace), one Heart, one Diamond and four Clubs. East can also deduce that Declarer started with ♥AT9x, because West's opening lead from ♥Tx would be the Ten and from ♥Txx would be a low one. That being the case, it's clear that persisting with Hearts will merely serve to set up Declarer's game-going trick. A Diamond is no better, of course, so East does the best he can by exiting safely with a Club. A nice try, but it just delays the inevitable.

On the run of the Clubs Declarer pitches two Spades and a Diamond, and then cashes the ♠K followed by the ♠A. With East known to have the missing Heart honors and nothing left but red cards, he is a sitting duck for an end-play. Declarer simply exits with the ♥T and sits back smugly while East chooses whether to surrender the 9th trick in Hearts or in Diamonds.

#78 – THE GRIFFINS CLUB

	♠ Q32 ♥ QJ2 ♦ AJ654 ♣ 43	
♠ 6 ♥ T986 ♦ QT98 ♣ KJ86	North West RR Declarer	♠ 54 ♥ K7543 ♦ 7 ♣ QT975
	♠ AKJT987 ♥ A ♦ K32 ♣ A2	

If you are looking for a hilarious bridge read, try the *Bridge in the Menagerie* series, written by the late Victor Mollo. The setting is the Griffins bridge club, and the protagonists are named for animals whose characteristics they exhibit. Our favorites are the hopeless (but amazingly lucky) Rueful Rabbit (RR) and the insufferably brilliant, claret-swilling Hideous Hog.

The contract is an ambitious 7♠. West leads the ♥T, and a devious Declarer plays the Queen from Dummy, hoping to tempt East into covering. But East plays low, knowing that West would not underlead an Ace against a grand slam. Declarer's Ace wins the trick and trumps are drawn. Next,

Declarer cashes the ♦K, finesses the ♦J, cashes the ♦A and ruffs a Diamond. The ♠Q provides an entry to the long Diamond and that's 13 tricks for Declarer. Routine stuff, eh?

That may be the normal way to play and defend, but RR doesn't do normal. To spare himself the chore of thinking (which he finds quite difficult) he lives by certain rules ... third hand high ... cover an honor with an honor ... and many others. So, at Trick 1, RR *does* cover the ♥Q, gleefully following two rules at one fell swoop! This "mistake" gives Declarer an option. Now, instead of relying on the 50% Diamond finesse, he can triumph whenever Diamonds are 3-2 (a 68% chance) ... draw trumps,

cash the ♦K, cross to the ♦A, pitch a Diamond on the Rabbit-created Heart winner, and ruff a Diamond. But, alas for Declarer, this fails when Diamonds are 4-1 and he goes down in his cold grand. RR strikes again!

If the Hog had been sitting East he also would have covered with the ♥K at Trick 1. But in his case the Hog would (somehow) have divined that it was the winning play and we can still hear him chortling in between celebratory gulps of Chateau Margaux 94 (perhaps some of them even from his own glass).

#79 – THE ONLY CHANCE

	♠ QJ76 ♥ 872 ♦ 964 ♣ K32	
♠ A ♥ J3 ♦ AKJT5 ♣ T8754	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ 42 ♥ QT964 ♦ Q87 ♣ QJ9
	♠ KT9853 ♥ AK5 ♦ 32 ♣ A6	

N-S Vulnerable

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♣	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

The defense starts with Diamonds and Declarer ruffs the third round. Declarer has lost two tricks already, must later lose the ♠A, and appears to have an inescapable Heart loser. Down one? Or perhaps there is a way to escape that Heart loser after all?

Declarer makes her contract by “stripping the hand”. After ruffing the Diamond, she cashes the ♠A, then the ♠K, and ruffs a Club. Then she cashes the ♥A and ♥K and plays a trump. Her hope is that West started with the singleton Ace of trumps in which case there will be no safe exit. Whichever minor suit West chooses to lead, Declarer will be able to ruff in one hand and pitch the “inescapable” Heart loser from the other hand.

A bouquet for Declarer, who did well to grab the only chance she had to make her contract. But a brickbat to West who apparently was fast asleep during the entire proceedings. He walked straight into that end-play and could have avoided it by cashing the trump Ace at Trick 2, before persisting with Diamonds. After that defense there really would be no way to avoid a Heart loser.

#80 – NERVES OF STEEL

	♠ AK76 ♥ QJ ♦ J64 ♣ QT76	
♠ 932 ♥ T8754 ♦ 75 ♣ K43	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ 54 ♥ K93 ♦ AKT98 ♣ J92
	♠ QJT8 ♥ A62 ♦ Q32 ♣ A85	

Both Vulnerable

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

4♠ is a miserable contract, and clearly has no chance after the defense cashes two Diamonds and gets a Diamond ruff. E-W will be happy to go plus, but naturally they would prefer down two to down one. You are West, your nerve is about to be tested.

After getting your Diamond ruff, you exit safely with a trump. Dummy’s ♠A wins that, the ♥Q is run around successfully,

the ♠K is cashed, then the ♥J is covered by the King and Ace. Next is a Heart ruff and a Club to Declarer's Ace. Have you been busily counting the distribution, Mr. West? Of course you have! By now it is clear that Declarer was dealt four Spades (as East followed twice), and three Hearts (as East also showed up with three), and three Diamonds (from the bidding and the play). That means that Declarer started life with three Clubs, no more, no less.

You see where this is headed, don't you? Declarer now leads a low Club, and you resist the temptation to grab the ♠K for the setting trick. Instead, with an air of nonchalance, you play low, after which it is a pretty safe bet that Declarer will guess to finesse the Ten, losing to East's Jack. Down two!

It didn't really take nerves of steel to duck the ♠K, all that was required was some counting as the play unfolded. That would have reassured West that Declarer started with three Clubs and not a doubleton, and that the ♠K was sure to score a trick sooner or later.

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**