



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 15 Number 1 – January, 2013

12 pages



January Events



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

January 7 – open pairs January 14 – open pairs

January 21 – open pairs January 28 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Tuesday, January 1, NO GAME – HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wednesday, January 2, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, January 3, 11:45AM – open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, January 5, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, January 7, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs - Heartland

Tuesday, January 8, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, January 9, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, January 10, 11:45AM – open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, January 12, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, January 14, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs - Heartland

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

Wednesday, January 16, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, January 17, 11:45AM – open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, January 19, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, January 21, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs - Heartland

Tuesday, January 22, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, January 23, 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, January 24, 11:45AM – open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, January 26, NO GAME – TOURNAMENT AT UAW 2488

Monday, January 28, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, January 29, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, January 30, 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, January 31, 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 12/30/2012 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

1	3,455.69	Betty Capodice
2	2,890.49	Steve Babin
	*** 2,557.18	Laura Addison
3	1,922.58	Mike Tomlianovich
4	1,919.87	Zack Freehill
	*** 1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne
5	1,656.52	Hank Hoffman
6	1,579.67	Eunice Patton
7	1,416.06	Dewey Gronau
	*** 1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar
	*** 1,320.43	Ed Lombard
8	1,180.54	Stan Gutzman
9	1,098.73	Jeanne Strand
	*** 1,091.94	Marian Edmunds
10	1,073.48	Ivey Weaver
11	963.02	Jean Barnett
12	938.87	Ann Schuyler
13	935.58	Charlie Morton
14	836.79	Randall Motchan
15	798.00	Glen Beaman
	*** 792.95	Don Strand
	*** 780.34	Jack Kessler
16	760.16	Henrietta Crain
	*** 741.06	Pearl Harris
17	623.87	Peg Deutsch
	*** 610.73	Martin Compton
18	591.50	Dennis Moll
19	570.80	Ann Farnsworth
	*** 567.22	Ruth Wettaw
20	529.88	Dave Freehill
21	506.90	Cindy Moore
22	492.50	Steve Wulfers
	*** 481.88	Bev Upp
	*** 474.92	Nona Wooley
23	461.74	Bob Smith
24	404.63	Bev Meginnes
25	386.17	Stevie Joslin
	***	deceased

Other players:

*** 12,741.55	Dick Benson-LeRoy
10,930.46	Chris Benson-LeRoy
*** 4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
3,966.88	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
3,946.18	Larry Matheny-Colorado
3,376.48	Carl Brueckner-Champaign
3,338.10	Ron Sholes-Springfield
2,872.75	Leonard Kaufman-Peoria
2,586.836	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
2,489.76	Liz Zalar-Springfield
2,433.42	Georgia Heth-Morton
2,412.51	Gail Moon-Tennessee
2,385.13	Paul Lindauer-Varna
2,245.31	Chuck Zalar-Springfield
2,181.01	Carole Sholes-Springfield
2,189.92	Ray Russ-Henry
2,084.04	Joanne Glazebrook-Peoria
2,001.92	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
1,955.13	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
*** 1,776.22	John Burdon
1,615.13	Tim Cull
1,515.08	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
1,462.45	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
1,245.96	Jim Moon-Tennessee
1,147.00	John Maloney-Champaign
1,068.46	Donna Kaufman-Peoria
*** 916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
928.94	Ron Emmett
915.16	Camilla Rabjohns-Peoria Heights
800.89	Bev Fast-Peoria
755.95	Phil Kenney-Eureka
640.44	Bill Carley-Peoria
625.06	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
596.81	Carole Miller-Champaign
441.95	Chris Biggs-South Carolina

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#1

There is no doubt bridge requires some mathematical ability, but it often involves no more than counting to thirteen.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#12-31	♠ Q3	West	North	East	South
Dir S	♥ AK				1 ♣
Vul N/S	♦ AKJ10543	Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
	♣ Q7	Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♣
♣ A64		Pass	4NT	Pass	5 ♣
♥ 987653	♠ 98	Pass	5 ♣	Pass	Pass
♦ 6	♥ 10	Pass			
♣ A83	♦ Q987	Pass			
	♣ J106542	Pass			
	♠ KJ10752				
	♥ QJ42				
	♦ 2				
	♣ K9				

BIDDING: South thought his hand was too strong for a weak-2 bid so he opened 1♣. North made a game forcing 2♦ response and the auction quickly accelerated. South admitted to holding one keycard (king of spades) and North signed off at the five-level.

Play: I was in the West chair and led the ace of clubs. It was clear to me that if declarer held four hearts, my partner had only one. At trick two I led the nine of hearts to dummy's king. A spade was led and I won the ace and gave partner a heart ruff to defeat the contract. All it took was some simple math.

Speaking of math, as I left the table I saw that North was mentally counting the high card points in his partner's hand and just shook his head.

#2

Slam bidding can be difficult. One of the problems that occurs frequently is the inability to invite slam. Too often the choice is to sign off in game or blast to the six-level. This pair employed a nice tool to avoid defeat.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#12-32	♠ KQJ3	West	North	East	South
Dir E	♥ KQ74			Pass	1NT
Vul N/S	♦ 3			Pass	2♥
	♣ K753	Pass	2♣	Pass	3NT
♠ 109765		Pass	3♣	Pass	4♥
♥ 1063	□	Pass	4♦	Pass	
♦ AQ87		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♣ 10					
	♠ 42				
	♥ 92				
	♦ 10962				
	♣ QJ962				
	♠ A8				
	♥ AJ85				
	♦ KJ54				
	♣ A84				

BIDDING: North used Stayman to uncover the heart fit and was strong enough to invite slam, but not insist upon it. His jump to 3♣ showed heart support, slam interest, and shortness in an unknown suit. South followed with 3NT asking about the short suit and North indicated it was diamonds. South held a maximum notrump hand but his diamond holding was possibly useless opposite a singleton or void so he reluctantly signed off in game.

Play: West led the 10 of spades and declarer stopped to count his tricks. Assuming hearts behaved he could count only ten. He could ruff one or two diamonds in dummy but that still left a club loser. He won the spade in his hand and drew two rounds of trumps ending in dummy. He next led the diamond from dummy and his jack lost to the queen. He ended with eleven tricks.

Several pairs bid the slam and failed while a few were successful when West led the ace of diamonds. This N/S pair's score of +650 was average.

#4

I feel experienced players should not only provide encouragement for new players, they should also take the opportunity to play with them. Of course there can be tense moments when you're not sure if your new partner has the same understanding.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #12-34
Dir E
Vul None

♠ 1052
♥ 10987
♦ J652
♣ 64

♠ J3
♥ QJ2
♦ 1098
♣ J8752



♠ AKQ964
♥ 63
♦ AQ4
♣ Q3

♠ 87
♥ AK54
♦ K73
♣ AK109

West	North	East	South
		1NT	2♣
Pass	Pass	DBL	Pass
3♣	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

BIDDING: Playing with an inexperienced partner I opened a standard 1NT in the East chair. My left hand opponent thought for a moment and then bid 2♣. My partner and right hand opponent passed and I inquired to confirm 2♣ was a natural bid. It seemed wrong to pass, but if I reopened with a double, I wasn't sure my novice partner would recognize it as a takeout bid. I chanced it and after West passed, my partner bid 3♣. I was delighted to pass this and South closed the auction with a 3♣ bid.

PLAY: It is usually wrong to allow the opponents to play at the two-level when they have a fit and this hand was no exception. We took two hearts, one diamond, and two clubs to defeat the contract by one trick. We would have made 3♣ losing only four tricks so South made the right decision. Those who allowed N/S to play 2♣ received a poor matchpoint score.

Bloomington-Normal 70% club – year 2012 only
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Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Drive, Bloomington

2012/12/17	75.56%	Carroll Kinnaman & Mike Gross(99ers)
2012/12/12	71.11%	Terri Huebsch(99ers) & Anita Carney(NLMers)
2012/12/05	71.53%	Lane O'Connor & Jerry Oswald(NLMers)
2012/12/03	74.44%	Marilyn & Gene Byers(99ers)
2012/11/21	77.78%	Mary Tweedie & Cindy Moore(NLMers)
2012/11/01	70.74%	Hank Hoffman & Steve Babin
2012/10/24	79.16%	Dorothy Berg & Mike Gross(99ers)
2012/09/29	73.75%	Asher Kach & Aaron Hanford
2012/09/26	73.44%	Joe Krause & John Sheen(NLMers)
2012/09/24	70.62%	Melissa Paschold & Mike Gross(99ers)
2012/08/29	72.22%	Vi Kothe & Dorothy Berg(NLMers)
2012/08/15	72.78%	Carol Denny & Mary Houska(NLMers)
2012/08/15	72.78%	Mary Tweedie & Cindy Moore(NLMers)
2012/08/01	72.78%	Cindy Moore & Jerry Oswald(NLMers)
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

#97 - DOUBLE DECEPTION

♠ T6 ♥ 763 ♦ AQT653 ♣ 87		
♠ K2 ♥ QJT42 ♦ J42 ♣ T43	<i>North</i>	♠ QJ543 ♥ 985 ♦ K7 ♣ QJ9
	<i>West East</i>	
	<i>Declarer</i>	
		♠ A987 ♥ AK ♦ 98 ♣ AK652

E-W Vulnerable

South West North East

1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass
2NT Pass 3NT All Pass

We've mentioned in previous Bites how much pleasure bridge players derive from a dastardly bit of trickery now and again. The deception you are about to see was all the more fun because *both* defenders had to be in on the joke.

This looks like a routine contract, wouldn't you say? West leads the ♥Q won by Declarer's Ace. Declarer runs the Diamond Nine, losing to East's King. Back comes a Heart, but now Dummy's Diamonds are good and Declarer romps home with 10 tricks. Bridge is an easy game! But when the deal was played in real life, East and West conspired to make Declarer's life not quite so easy.

East started the fun at Trick 2 by ducking the Diamond! Now Declarer had a choice to make. Should he play West to have started with ♦KJx, in which case the Diamonds will run? Or, should he play for 3-3 Clubs and get to 9 tricks that way? Declarer decided to try Diamonds first and led a second round of the suit. Now West realized that playing low would be fatal for the defense, making it plain to Declarer that West had not started with KJx, that the Diamonds were not coming in and therefore that Dummy's Ace must be played. So, to keep the deception alive, West squandered the Jack on the second round of Diamonds! Our duped Declarer confidently finessed Dummy's Queen, which was taken by East's King. Dummy was now officially dead and Declarer was down.

Nice play by both defenders, but Declarer could have given himself a second way to win. After the Diamond Nine holds the trick he should duck a Club, win the Heart return, and cash the ♠AK. If the suit is 3-3 then there are 9 tricks without the Diamonds ... if the suit does not break then he must rely on a lucky Diamond situation.

#98 - ONE WINNER TOO MANY

	♠ J9 ♥ AJ98 ♦ K87632 ♣ 8	
♠ QT42 ♥ ♦ JT4 ♣ JT9542	North West East Declarer	♠ K753 ♥ 543 ♦ AQ95 ♣ 76
	♠ A86 ♥ KQT762 ♦ ♣ AKQ3	

Both Vulnerable

South West North East

1♥ Pass 3♥ Pass

6♥ All Pass

South might have opened the bidding with an artificial game-forcing 2♣, but one way or the other it seems that N-S should get to slam on these cards. In fact 7♥ is a fine contract, though a hard one to reach. Sadly, our Declarer even managed to go down in 6♥, which took a lot of doing!

Against 6♥, West led the ♣J, Dummy went down and South rued the missed grand slam. Even so, this being a duplicate bridge event, making the overtrick was important. With that

in mind, he counted four side-suit tricks, and could make the rest with ruffs back and forth. In fact, with 10 trumps between the two hands he even had one trump more than was needed to score 13 tricks. So, he cashed the ♥A, followed by his two remaining Club winners. Tragically for Declarer, East ruffed the third round of Clubs and fired back a trump. Suddenly, Declarer's 13 tricks had been compressed into 11 and he was down one!

Declarer's drawing of a round of trumps served no useful purpose whatsoever, the missing trumps being miniscule and offering no overruffing threat. Also, cashing that third Club was a needless risk, Declarer could count up to 13 with just three side-suit tricks and ten trumps. Making the overtrick was simple enough: Win the ♣A, cash the ♣K (pitching a Spade), cash the ♠A, and merrily cross-ruff the rest of the hand for all the tricks. That ♣Q was one winner too many, if instead Declarer had been dealt ♣AK32 then he would have made 13 tricks with ease!

#99 - YOU MIGHT BE AN EXPERT IF ...

	♠ KJ ♥ AQ9 ♦ KJ65 ♣ KT75	
♠ 9743 ♥ 652 ♦ QT94 ♣ Q9	North West East Declarer	♠ A852 ♥ 43 ♦ 732 ♣ 8632
	♠ QT6 ♥ KJT87 ♦ A8 ♣ AJ4	

E-W Vulnerable

South West North East

1♥ Pass 2♣ Pass

3NT Pass 6♥ All Pass

Playing in 6♥ there are 11 easy tricks. The 12th might come from a Diamond finesse (it works!), a Club finesse against West (that works too!), or a Club finesse against East (that fails). You might be an expert if you managed to go down in this contract.

Against 6♥ West led the Spade Three to East's Ace. Back came the Spade Two won in Dummy, after which our expert Declarer cashed two trumps only, then ♦A, ♦K, followed by a

Diamond ruff. Now back to Dummy with a trump and the last Diamond was ruffed.

Let us pause to admire Declarer's technique so far. The purpose of ruffing a Diamond was to build a 12th trick if the Queen were to come down in three rounds. And, by ruffing that Diamond before drawing the last trump, Declarer had the timing to ruff the last Diamond also. Thus he was able to discover that West had started with four Diamonds. West had also started with three Hearts. How about the Spades? That suit looked to be 4-4 based on the opening lead and the play to the second trick, in which case West's original distribution was 4=3=4=2.

Decision time had arrived and, with West known to have two Clubs and East four, the odds were two to one in favor of East holding the Queen. So our unfortunate Declarer finessed against East and went down *two* when West produced the ♠Q and a Spade winner.

When this deal was played in a local club duplicate game, most Declarers made 12 tricks ... a few went down one when they misguessed Clubs ... but only one Declarer was expert enough to ruff two Diamonds, get a perfect count on the distribution, and then go down two. How expert were *you* on this deal?

#100 - MAXIMUM DAMAGE

	♠ J96 ♥ Q876 ♦ A4 ♣ Q643	
♠ AT32 ♥ 5 ♦ JT962 ♣ JT9	<i>North</i>	♠ 875 ♥ A432 ♦ KQ83 ♣ 75
	<i>West East</i>	
	<i>Declarer</i>	
	♠ KQ4 ♥ KJT9 ♦ 75 ♣ AK82	

Both Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

The defense will score the ♠A, ♥A and a Diamond trick for sure, but the rest of the hand looks solid for Declarer. The only hope for the defense is that the 4-1 trump split will prove awkward for Declarer. How can East inflict maximum damage and set 4♥?

West's opening lead is the ♦J, won in Dummy. At this point the defense's strategy is to lead Diamonds at every opportunity, hoping that repeated ruffs by Declarer (or Dummy) will eventually set up a trump trick for East. At Trick 2, Declarer tackles trumps, and let's suppose that East grabs her Ace immediately, cashes a Diamond and continues the suit. Dummy ruffs that and plays a second round of trumps, getting the news of the 4-1 break. Now Declarer must delay drawing trumps while he knocks out the ♠A. When West is in he persists with Diamonds, again ruffed in Dummy. Now Declarer is home free, he simply crosses to hand with a Club, draws trumps and is left with nothing but black suit winners. Making 10 tricks.

East can do better than that. She must hold off with the Ace on the first round of trumps. And also on the second round! Now Declarer is done for. If he leads a third trump then East will finally take her Ace, after which repeated Diamond leads will set up a trump trick for East ... and if Declarer abandons trumps then East's small trump will score a Club ruff. Down one!

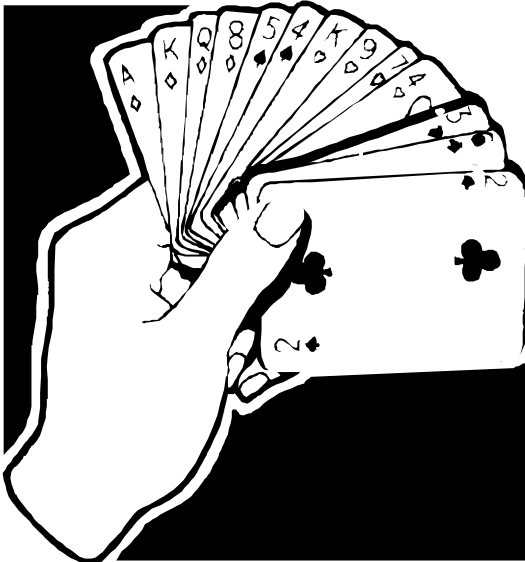
Nice defense by East, who will remember to say "Great opening lead, Partner!" The auction told West that Declarer was probably in a 4-4 fit and had a bad trump split in his future. So, West concluded that a forcing defense might be the best way to put Declarer's trump holding under pressure. Accordingly, he led his long Diamond suit, the only way to set the contract.

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:



**Twin City Winter Sectional
January 25-27, 2013
UAW 2488**