



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 15 Number 2 – February, 2013

12 pages



February Events



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

February 4 – open pairs February 11 – open pairs

February 18 – open pairs February 25 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Saturday, February 2, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, February 4, 6:15PM – STaC 99ers only and open pairs - Heartland

Tuesday, February 5, 6:15PM – STaC open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, February 6, 1:15PM – STaC 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Wednesday, February 6, 6:15PM – special STaC open pairs– Heartland

Thursday, February 7, 11:45AM – STaC open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Thursday, February 6, 6:15PM – special STaC open pairs– Heartland

Friday, February 6, 6:15PM – special STaC open pairs– Heartland

Saturday, February 9, 11:45AM – STaC open pairs – Westminster

Sunday, February 10, 1:15PM – special STaC open pairs– Heartland

Monday, February 11, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs - Heartland

Tuesday, February 12, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, February 13, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, February 14, 11:45AM – open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, February 16, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, February 18, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs - Heartland

Tuesday, February 19, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, February 20, 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, February 21, 11:45AM – open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, February 23, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, February 25, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, February 26, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, February 27, 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, February 28, 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 **404.63 Bev Meginnes**
- 24 **386.17 Stevie Joslin**
- 25 **382.64 Lori Moore**
- *** **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**
- 2,586.83 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**
- 928.94 Ron Emmett**
- *** **916.41 Floyd Sherry-Eureka**
- 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

Defense can be very difficult and if you lose your concentration for even a moment, a crafty opponent will take advantage.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #12-35

Dir W

Vul N/S

♠ J8
♥ 742
♦ Q762
♣ AK54

♠ Q102
♥ Q1086
♦ 943
♣ 632



♠ 5
♥ AJ53
♦ AKJ85
♣ Q107

♠ AK97643
♥ K9
♦ 10
♣ J98

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	3♠	DBL
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

BIDDING: After two passes East applied maximum pressure with a three-level preemptive bid. South made a takeout double that left North with a difficult decision. He finally took an aggressive view and jumped to 4NT asking South to pick a minor.

PLAY: Declarer trumped the second spade and soon realized he had two heart losers. He saw a possibility if either opponent held a doubleton heart honor. Accordingly, he led a diamond to dummy followed by a low heart. East played low and declarer won the ace. Next, declarer drew trumps followed by three rounds of clubs. Declarer then exited with a heart. East won the king but had to lead a spade allowing declarer to ruff in his hand and discard dummy's last heart.

It was difficult for East to see the end play coming but it would not cost to play the king when a heart was led from dummy. But give credit to declarer because if he had waited until the end game to play ace and a low heart, East may have been alert enough to drop the king under the ace. After all, if declarer held the AQ of hearts he could have simply finessed.

#2

Some hands are just fun to play. This hand offered an elimination and end-play that was easy to find and impossible for the opponents to avoid.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #12-36	♠ K965				
Dir S	♥ QJ7532				
Vul N/S	♦ 53				
	♣ 4				
♠ Q42	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: inline-block;"></div>	♠ A108	West	North	East
♥ 10		♥ 4			South
♦ K8764		♦ J1092	Pass	4♥	Pass
♣ 10763		♣ AQ952	Pass		Pass
	♠ J73				
	♥ AK986				
	♦ AQ				
	♣ KJ8				

BIDDING: My partner sitting North made a preemptive raise to game.

PLAY: West led the ten of hearts that I won in dummy. I counted five possible losers: 3 spades, 1 diamond, and 1 club. I led a club at trick two and East won the ace. He shifted to the jack of diamonds and I rose with the ace. Next, I discarded dummy's last diamond on my king of clubs and then trumped a club in dummy. I returned to my hand with a heart in order to ruff my last diamond. Now it was back to my hand with a heart in order to lead a spade toward dummy. When West played a low spade I put in the nine and East was end-played. He either had to play another spade or give me a ruff/sluff.

The opportunity to eliminate the side suits before leading a strategic suit occurs frequently and should not be overlooked.

#3

Hands with wild distribution don't always lend themselves to scientific bidding. Sometimes you just have to take a stab at the right bid.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #12-37	♠ Q987				
Dir S	♥ J853				
Vul none	♦ Q6				
	♣ J93				
♠	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: inline-block;"></div>	♠ 64	West	North	East
♥ AK1097		♥ Q642	2♥	3♠	4♥
♦ K753		♦ 10	Pass	Pass	Pass
♣ A1075		♣ KQ8642			
	♠ AKJ10532				South
					1♣
					6♣

♥
 ♦ AJ9842
 ♣

BIDDING: I loved my hand with 7-6 distribution and started the auction by bidding 1♣. West overcalled and my partner sitting North surprised me with a preemptive spade raise. Knowing there were 4+ spades in his hand, I jumped to the slam hoping for a favorable diamond layout.

PLAY: West led the ace of hearts that I ruffed. I drew trumps followed by the queen of diamonds from dummy. West won the king but I had the rest. Unfortunately, several N/S pairs were doubled in slam so my +980 did not score as high as I hoped. Perhaps a slower sequence would have prompted a double.

#4

There are a number of conventions available to allow you to show two suits when you enter the auction. However, both suit quality and the vulnerability need to be considered. If you are not careful, you may be punished.

Hand: #12-38
 Dir: E
 Vul: N/S

♠963
 ♥K4
 ♦64
 ♣K106432

♠QJ104
 ♥J1032
 ♦QJ1072
 ♣

♠875
 ♥A98
 ♦A3
 ♣AQJ85

North	East	South	West
	1NT	2♦*	DBL
Pass	Pass	Pass	

♠AK2
 ♥Q765
 ♦K985
 ♣97

*diamonds + higher suit

Bidding: I was sitting West considering my response to partner's 1NT opening. I was going to start with Stayman and then decide what to do next. However, South entered the auction showing diamonds and a higher suit. After examining the vulnerability, I decided even with a hand that contained no ace or king I was going to get rich. I doubled and that ended the auction.

Play: I led the queen of spades to declarer's ace. He led a low heart to dummy's king and my partner's ace. To prevent heart ruffs, East continued with the ace and a second diamond. Declarer won the king and eventually won only four tricks: 2 spades, 1 heart, and 1 diamond. The score of +1100 was a top for us.

Ironically, if South had simply passed, I would have passed my partner's 2♦ response and we would have declared that contract. Of course taking nine tricks that way would result in only +110. The loss of that trailing zero would be worth far fewer matchpoints.

Bloomington-Normal 70% club – year 2012 only

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Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Drive, Bloomington

2013/01/23	74.31%	Mary Tweedie & Sallie Boge(NLMers)
2013/01/23	70.83%	Carroll Kinnaman & Jerry Oswald(NLMers)
2013/01/09	79.63%	Lou Savage & Joe Krause(NLMers)
2013/01/02	73.96%	Don Randall & Bob Clay(NLMers)
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



#101 - WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

	♠ A95 ♥ K854 ♦ KJ653 ♣ Q	
♠ JT732 ♥ T72 ♦ A98 ♣ T2	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ Q8 ♥ QJ9 ♦ Q7 ♣ KJ9843
	♠ K64 ♥ A63 ♦ T42 ♣ A765	

None Vulnerable

South West North East

Pass 1♠ Dbl 1♣
 2NT Pass 3NT All Pass 2♣

Optimistic N-S bidding lands South in a seemingly hopeless 3NT. But one good thing about such contracts is that it's so much fun when they make! You will need to put on your hornswoggling shoes for this one.

West leads the ♠T and Declarer holds up her Ace. East continues the suit, and it looks safe for Declarer to win that one (surely West is now out of Clubs). Can Declarer make

nine tricks if East holds the ♦A? No, if East has that card then the contract will be down on the run of the Clubs. So, if Declarer is to make 3NT, she must assume that West has the ♦A. Next question. Where is the ♦Q? If West has the ♦A, then Declarer can safely assume that, in order for East to have his opening bid, he must hold all the missing Queens, including the ♦Q.

Things are looking bleak, but perhaps East's ♦Q is singleton, will that help? No, the ♦Q will fall under the King, but West has the spots and will get two Diamond tricks, giving Declarer no more than eight total tricks.

When all else fails, Declarer must rely on a defensive error. Can you see a way to put East to the test? Yes, there's a neat little swindle in the cards! After winning the ♣A, Declarer crosses to Dummy's ♥K and leads a low Diamond! If East is not at the top of his game he will routinely play low, and Declarer's Ten will force the Ace. Later, the ♦Q falls under the King, and Declarer has four Diamond tricks and nine altogether!

#102 - A REVEALING AUCTION

	♠ Q765 ♥ 7 ♦ AK8 ♣ AKQ86	
♠ KT43 ♥ 98632 ♦ 974 ♣ 9	<i>North</i> <i>West East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ A982 ♥ AQ ♦ T52 ♣ 7532
	♠ J ♥ KJT54 ♦ QJ63 ♣ JT4	

Both Vulnerable

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The delicate N-S auction was designed to determine whether they belonged in 3NT or 5♣. Eventually they chose 3NT but along the way they generously donated all sorts of useful information to their opponents.

West mulled over the auction, always a good idea before making the opening lead. What did North's 2♦ mean? It was inconceivable that N-S would play in a Diamond contract, so West concluded that North was bidding out his pattern, which appeared likely to be 4=1=3=5. By so doing, North was indirectly saying to Partner (and to the opponents) "I am short in Hearts, if your Hearts are weak then perhaps we belong in Clubs rather than 3NT".

As for South, he had bid Hearts, after which he would not have bid No Trump without something in the unbid Diamond suit. For his third bid he raised Clubs, at which point there didn't seem to be much room for a whole lot of Spades in his hand, maybe two but quite possibly only one.

After that riveting and revealing auction, what would you lead? Not a Heart, nor a Club, those can hardly be right. A Diamond lead doesn't seem so appealing, either, with North and South both indirectly showing something in the suit. That leaves a Spade. Which one? Yes, West must lead the *King*, protecting against South having a singleton Queen or Jack. Nicely done, Mr. West, the ♠K is the killing lead! And, of course, West will be sure to follow up with the ♠T at Trick 2.

A more Neanderthal North would simply have raised 1NT to 3NT. Now West has fewer clues. He might lead a top-of-nothing Diamond, he might lead a Spade, but even if he chooses the latter there won't be a compelling reason to lead the spectacular King.

#103 - PARTNERSHIP DEFENSE

	♠ AQJT7 ♥ Q32 ♦ A76 ♣ 74	
♠ K6532 ♥ K86 ♦ 92 ♣ J32	<i>North</i> <i>West East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ 4 ♥ T95 ♦ K84 ♣ AKQT85
	♠ 98 ♥ AJ74 ♦ QJT53 ♣ 96	

None Vulnerable

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
		1♠	2♣
Dbl	3♣	Pass	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

It's often said that defense is the toughest part of the game. But sound partnership agreements are a big help, and on this board E-W work together like a well-oiled machine to get a ruff and defeat the contract.

A part-score battle lands N-S in 3♦. West leads a Club and this is where the partnership agreement comes in. On opening lead against a suit contract, with three small in a suit, common practice is to lead a low one. But an exception occurs when the opening leader has bid the suit, as she did in the auction above. In such a case, it is customary to lead the top card, denying an honor, safe in the knowledge that Partner won't misread the lead as a doubleton.

Alert readers will have noticed that West does not actually have three small. Precisely! So her

opening lead is a *low* Club, promising an honor. East wins that with the Queen and tries to figure out where the defense might be getting their five tricks. The \spadesuit K is one ... two Club tricks hopefully ... surely not more than one Heart (West would no doubt have led a high Heart holding AK) ... and no Spades. That's only four, and a Spade ruff is needed to get to five. So, At Trick 2, East shifts to a Spade, leading into Dummy's imposing suit. West plays low on this (otherwise Declarer's Heart losers will all disappear), and Declarer now loses the trump finesse to East's King. East confidently underleads his \clubsuit AK to West's Jack, gets his Spade ruff, and eventually the \heartsuit K becomes the setting trick. Nicely done!

#104 - NO MATH REQUIRED

	\spadesuit KT8 \heartsuit QJ652 \diamondsuit A874 \clubsuit 7	
\spadesuit 53 \heartsuit KT84 \diamondsuit QT63 \clubsuit T98	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	\spadesuit 642 \heartsuit A97 \diamondsuit J92 \clubsuit KJ64
	\spadesuit AQJ97 \heartsuit 3 \diamondsuit K5 \clubsuit AQ532	

E-W Vulnerable

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
1 \spadesuit	Pass	2 \heartsuit	Pass
3 \clubsuit	Pass	4 \spadesuit	Pass
6 \spadesuit	All Pass		

This week's hand offers two ways to play the Clubs. Which is better? No need to be a math whiz, some simple logic comes up with the same correct solution as that calculated by our resident Professor of Statistics.

West led a trump, a good choice! After that opening lead, this is not a good slam at all, requiring Clubs to be brought home for no losers, with only two Club ruffs available on the board. Do you cash the \clubsuit A and ruff a couple of Clubs, hoping that the \clubsuit K comes down in three rounds? Or do you finesse the \clubsuit Q and then ruff two Clubs, hoping that the King is onside and comes down in four rounds?

Things get simpler as soon as Declarer realizes that, regardless of who holds the King, Clubs must be 4-3, otherwise the suit will never set up. What are the chances of the Club finesse working? 50%. What are the chances of one of the defenders holding \clubsuit Kxx (we are counting the Jack as an x for this discussion)? The aforementioned professor would make some calculations with lots of factorials involved and announce that, if Clubs are 4-3, there are 30 possible holdings of Kxx and 40 holdings of Kxxx. That makes Kxx about a 43% probability, not as good as the finesse. And simple logic arrives at the same conclusion. If one hand has four places for the King and the other has only three places, where is the King more likely to be? That's right, in the hand with longer Clubs.

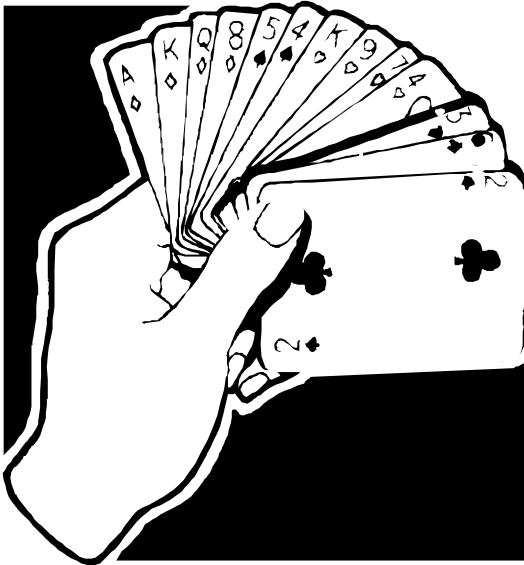
So, Declarer wins the opening trump lead in Dummy, finesses the \clubsuit Q, ruffs a Club, crosses to the \spadesuit K, ruffs a Club, cashes \diamondsuit A, ruffs a Diamond, draws trumps, and cashes the remaining Clubs. 12 tricks!

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 Spring Sectional
March 1-3, 2013
Peoria Hult Health Center**