



# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 15 Number 3 – March, 2013

12 pages



## March Events



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

March 4 – ACBL-wide seniors only pairs      March 11 – open pairs

March 18 – open pairs      March 25 – open pairs

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

**Mike's Bridge Club schedule:**

Saturday, March 2, NO GAME – tournament in Peoria

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

Tuesday, March 5, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

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

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

Saturday, March 9, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thursday, March 28, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, March 30, 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.

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 3/1/2013 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

1	3,473.25	Betty Capodice
2	2,920.87	Steve Babin
***	2,557.18	Laura Addison
3	1,972.16	Zack Freehill
4	1,934.01	Mike Tomlianovich
***	1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne
5	1,680.72	Hank Hoffman
6	1,637.89	Eunice Patton
7	1,426.87	Dewey Gronau
***	1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar
***	1,320.43	Ed Lombard
8	1,183.95	Stan Gutzman
9	1,102.55	Jeanne Strand
***	1,091.94	Marian Edmunds
10	1,078.94	Ivey Weaver
11	970.64	Jean Barnett
12	965.76	Charlie Morton
13	962.04	Ann Schuyler
14	841.97	Randall Motchan
15	801.70	Glen Beaman
***	792.95	Don Strand
***	780.34	Jack Kessler
16	761.06	Henrietta Crain
***	741.06	Pearl Harris
17	629.47	Peg Deutsch
***	610.73	Martin Compton
18	600.88	Dennis Moll
19	576.80	Cindy Moore
20	570.80	Ann Farnsworth
***	567.22	Ruth Wettaw
21	546.00	Dave Freehill
22	497.13	Steve Wulfers
***	481.88	Bev Upp
***	474.92	Nona Wooley
23	410.20	Lori Moore
24	406.50	Bev Meginnes
25	402.37	Stevie Joslin
***		deceased

### Other players:

***	12,741.55	Dick Benson-LeRoy
	10,983.10	Chris Benson-LeRoy
***	4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
	3,979.71	Larry Matheny-Colorado
	3,970.10	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
	3,381.77	Carl Brueckner-Champaign
	3,370.75	Ron Sholes-Springfield
	2,898.95	Leonard Kaufman-Peoria
	2,637.94	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
	2,519.82	Liz Zalar-Springfield
	2,437.44	Georgia Heth-Morton
	2,443.27	Paul Lindauer-Varna
	2,412.51	Gail Moon-Tennessee
	2,248.47	Chuck Zalar-Springfield
	2,191.89	Carole Sholes-Springfield
	2,212.88	Ray Russ-Henry
	2,105.90	Joanne Glazebrook-Peoria
	2,036.18	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
	1,973.74	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
***	1,776.22	John Burdon
	1,623.31	Tim Cull
	1,515.43	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
	1,465.71	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
	1,245.96	Jim Moon-Tennessee
	1,198.90	John Maloney-Champaign
	1,088.86	Donna Kaufman-Peoria
	975.17	Ron Emmett
***	916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
	941.23	Camilla Rabjohns-Peoria Heights
	807.19	Bev Fast-Peoria
	761.09	Phil Kenney-Eureka
	645.44	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
	641.64	Bill Carley-Peoria
	597.97	Carole Miller-Champaign
	446.00	Chris Biggs-South Carolina



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#1

While many hands are difficult to defend, often a little more thought will help solve the problem. In this hand, the defender played too quickly and declarer was the victor.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #12-39 ♠ A654  
 Dir N ♥ 8  
 Vul N/S ♦ KQ983  
 ♣ K86

♠ 1092  
 ♥ J952  
 ♦ J1075  
 ♣ 42



♠ J  
 ♥ Q74  
 ♦ A42  
 ♣ AQJ1073

West	North	East	South
	1♦	2♣	2♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

♠ KQ873  
 ♥ AK1063  
 ♦ 6  
 ♣ 95

Bidding: North-South reached a routine game contract.

Play: West led the four of clubs to East's ten. East knew declarer must hold most of the missing honor cards so he felt his only chance for a fourth trick was to promote a trump trick. He continued at trick two with the ace of clubs and then led a third round. But, declarer simply discarded his diamond loser and West ruffed. It was now easy for declarer to win any return and draw trumps.

East must cash the ace of diamonds before leading the third round of clubs. Declarer had no answer to this and the ten of spades became the setting trick.

#2

The game of bridge has a lot of rules, guidelines, and do's and don'ts. It is sometimes difficult to know exactly which of them to apply. This hand illustrates the problem.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #12-40 ♠ K1072  
 Dir N ♥ K85  
 Vul N/S ♦ 654  
 ♣ KJ6

♠ 95  
 ♥ 9643  
 ♦ KQJ10  
 ♣ 872



♠ AQJ3  
 ♥ AQJ  
 ♦ 93  
 ♣ Q1095

♠ 864  
 ♥ 1072  
 ♦ A872  
 ♣ A43

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Bidding: North used Stayman to find the spade fit and reach game.

Play: West led the king of diamonds and continued the suit until declarer ruffed the third round. Next, declarer drew trumps and subsequently lost only the ace of clubs to wrap up his game. Why is this hand interesting? Because this was in a team game and at the other table the auction was simply 1NT-3NT. That contract was quickly defeated. Some subscribe to the theory that Stayman should not be used when responder's distribution is 4-3-3-3. This is based on the premise that with no ruffing values in dummy, 3NT is often the best contract. Or, why go down when the trump suit breaks badly and you have nine tricks?

Of course one hand does not make or break any theory, but it does give us pause. Perhaps the quality of our 4-card major should be our guide. Or perhaps the theory makes more sense when responder has a stronger hand and can find nine tricks on sheer strength and doesn't want to risk going down on a bad trump break.

It seems there is no rule that works every time.

#3

There are bidding convention and agreements used to get you to the proper contract and there are those that keep you from getting too high. Here is an example.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #12-41 ♠ K963  
 Dir N ♥ 9742  
 Vul N/S ♦ 62  
 ♣ KQ3

♠ 84  
 ♥ 865  
 ♦ J107  
 ♣ AJ1086



♠ J7  
 ♥ AKQJ103  
 ♦ AKQ3

♠ AQ1052  
 ♥  
 ♦ 9854  
 ♣ 9752

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

♣ 4

**Bidding:** South's opening bid showed either 22+ high card points in a balanced hand or 9+ tricks in an unbalanced hand. North's 2♦ response was a waiting bid. Next, South jumped to 3♥ to set the trump suit and ask North to show any ace. Lacking an ace, North bid 3NT which said "I have one or more kings but no aces." With no ace or king, North would have bid 4♥. Knowing they were missing two aces, South signed off in game.

**Play:** West led the ace of clubs and then shifted to the eight of spades. East captured two spade tricks and led a third round. Declarer ruffed high, drew trumps, and claimed ten tricks. Several N/S pairs were defeated when they made it to the five or even six level. It's nice to have tools that prevent you from getting too high.

#4

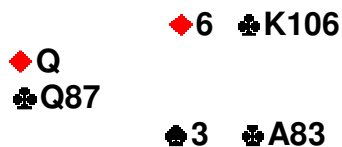
When declaring a hand, the auction is often the guide to the right play.

**Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)**

Hand #12-42	♠ A102				
Dir N	♥ J6				
Vul E/W	♦ AK63				
	♣ K1062				
		West	North	East	South
♠ 1087	□		1NT	3♥	3♣
♥ Q98542		Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
♦ Q874		Pass	5♥	Pass	6♣
	♠ KQJ9653	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♥ Q				
	♦ J7				
	♣ A83				

**Bidding:** After his partner opened 1NT, South thought about slam. Pushing aside East's preemptive bid, South used Blackwood to make sure he was not off two aces.

**Play:** West led the seven of hearts to East's king and a second round was ruffed by South. Declarer stopped to analyze the hand. He thought he would need a lot of luck in the club suit but first he drew trumps to find out more about the hand. After East had revealed a long heart suit and three spades, he was surely short in the minors. With that in mind, declarer played the ace, king, and a third diamond ruffing in his hand. With the six of diamonds a threat card in dummy, it merely remained for declarer to play the rest of his trumps to subject West to a diamond-club squeeze. Here was the ending when declarer played his last spade:



If West discarded his diamond, dummy's six would be good and it would be no better if he discarded a club.



**Bloomington-Normal 70% club – year 2012 only**  
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2013/02/20	74.44%	Carroll Kinnaman & Jerry Oswald (NLMers)
2013/01/30	70.00%	Joyce Werner & Dorothy Berg(NLMers)
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



### #105 –THE VANISHING TRUMP TRICK

	♠ 52 ♥ AJ ♦ 9872 ♣ AQJT9	
♠ KJ ♥ 9642 ♦ KJ5 ♣ K753	<i>North</i>	♠ Q983 ♥ 875 ♦ AT43 ♣ 86
	<i>West East</i>	
	<i>Declarer</i>	
	♠ AT764 ♥ KQT3 ♦ Q6 ♣ 42	

*E-W Vulnerable*

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

None of the N-S bids was completely terrible, but the auction worked out badly, leaving South to labor in a poor 3♠ contract. But careful timing and accurate card reading will win the day.

West leads a low Diamond to East's Ace, a Diamond is returned to West's King, and the ♦J is ruffed by Declarer.

Things are looking pretty bleak! For starters, Declarer will need the Club finesse to work. And then there is the small matter of the trump suit, where Declarer can afford only two losers. Doesn't that require the suit to be 3-3? Not necessarily!

After ruffing the Diamond, Declarer cashes the ♠A and exits a low Spade, West following with the Jack and then winning the second round with the King. West exits with a Heart won by Dummy's Ace, then the ♥J is overtaken by the King. Declarer could now exit with a Spade, making his contract if Spades are 3-3. Is that a good idea? No, West has shown up with ♦KJ and ♠KJ and needs to have the ♣K if the contract is to make. That's 11 HCP, so West cannot also have the ♠Q, that would give him an opening bid. To have a chance, Declarer must assume that West started with ♠KJ doubleton and East with ♠Q983. But if that is the case, doesn't East have two trump tricks coming? Not necessarily!

Leaving East's ♠Q9 at large, Declarer finesses the ♠Q, ruffs a Diamond, cashes a third Heart (playing East to be 4=3=4=2), and crosses to the ♠A (no need to repeat the Club finesse). Declarer has

carefully arranged to get the lead in Dummy with just two cards left. East has ♠Q9, and Declarer has the ♠T and a Heart. Dummy leads a Club and, whether East ruffs high or ruffs low, one of his two Spade “winners” vanishes! It’s called a *Coup en Passant*.

#106 – A GOOD ATTITUDE

	♠ K ♥ J743 ♦ J8765 ♣ KJ7	
♠ T96 ♥ T982 ♦ AQ ♣ T985	North  West East  Declarer	♠ J532 ♥ 5 ♦ KT92 ♣ A632
	♠ AQ874 ♥ AKQ6 ♦ 43 ♣ Q4	

*Both Vulnerable*

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

Against 4♥ West leads the Club Ten, won by East’s Ace. A Diamond shift is clearly called for, and the standard play from that holding is the Ten, the so-called “top of an interior sequence”. Is that your choice or are there other considerations?

If West has Ace doubleton in Diamonds then East can envisage a trump promotion if West also has the right trump holding. But, as it happens, West has ♦AQ and the danger is that West will win the ♦Q on the first round of the suit. That would be the right play if East held a trump honor but not the ♦K, but it would be disastrous on the actual layout, killing the chance of a trump promotion.

In the middle of the hand (starting at Trick 2), many partnerships play “attitude leads”, whereby shifting to a low card usually shows a high card in the suit, and shifting to a high card is either from a weak holding or from the top of a sequence. So, reasoning that it is more important to advertise his ♦K than it is to make an ambiguous interior sequence lead, East shifts to the Diamond Two. Of course, West must be alert and majestically squander his Ace on that trick. Then, back comes the ♦Q overtaken by East’s King, and the third round of Diamonds promotes the setting trump trick. Nice defense!

A Spectacular Deception! Next, imagine that West holds ♦AQ9 and East ♦KT2. Again the opening lead is a Club to East’s Ace and again a low Diamond comes back. West, who is a shockingly devious fellow, wins with his Ace and returns the ♦Q. East overtakes that and sends back a third Diamond. Naturally, Declarer ruffs high, and later finds out to his chagrin that trumps are 4-1 and that he has just gone down in a cold contract!

#107 – WHAT’S YOUR PLAN B?

	♠ QJ732 ♥ AQ6 ♦ J98 ♣ A3	
♠ AT964 ♥ 97 ♦ T7 ♣ QJ92	North  West East  Declarer	♠ 85 ♥ T32 ♦ K32 ♣ KT754
	♠ K ♥ KJ854 ♦ AQ654 ♣ 86	

*E-W Vulnerable*

	South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass		1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass		4♥	All Pass

West leads the ♠Q, won in Dummy. You are playing a duplicate event, meaning that an overtrick will be well rewarded in the scoring. What is your Plan A for making as many tricks as possible? When Plan A doesn’t work, you’ll need to follow up with a well-reasoned Plan B.

Plan A must surely be to set up the Spades. If Declarer can lose a Spade, ruff a Spade, and draw trumps ending in Dummy, then there are 10 tricks (assuming that Spades are



4-3 and trumps 3-2), with a valuable overtrick in the offing if the ♦K is onside. But Declarer cannot draw trumps before playing on Spades, she needs the ♥A and ♥Q as later entries to the board. So, Declarer loses the ♠K to West's Ace, after which West cashes the ♣J and exits a trump, won in Dummy. Declarer ruffs a Spade, cashes a high trump and crosses to Dummy's last trump. But that well-timed play comes to naught when Spades turn out to be 5-2.

Goodbye Plan A, hello Plan B. This requires playing Diamonds correctly, with Dummy's ♦J98 opposite Declarer's ♦AQ6, and with ♦KT732 somehow distributed between the defenders. There are two certain tricks here, but what's the best play for three? Should you finesse the ♦Q and cash the Ace, hoping that East has ♦Kx? ... or should you lead the ♦J, playing for East to have Kxx and West to have ♦Tx? As West has the long Spades it makes sense to play for East to have the longer Diamonds. With that in mind, Declarer plays East to hold ♦Kxx rather than ♦Kx, which means that leading the ♦J from Dummy is the route to the coveted overtrick.

### #108 – TRUST THE OPPONENTS

	♠ AT ♥ 72 ♦ 54 ♣ AKQJ872	
♠ 2 ♥ AKQJT943 ♦ KQ ♣ T3	North West                  East Declarer	♠ 753 ♥ 65 ♦ JT876 ♣ 654
	♠ KQJ9864 ♥ 8 ♦ A932 ♣ 9	

*E-W Vulnerable*

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♠
4♥	5♣	Pass	5♦
5♥	Dbl	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

On this deal, West trusted Declarer's bidding and found a brilliant shift at Trick 2. And Declarer trusted West's bidding enough to find a clever counter and bring home her slam.

On lead against 6♠, West cashed a high Heart and had to decide what to do at Trick 2. If he had tried to cash a second Heart then there would be no story to tell, as Declarer would ruff that, draw trumps and run the Clubs. But West was in a trusting mood, and concluded that Declarer was unlikely to have two Heart losers on this auction. So he found the fiendish shift of the Club Ten, knocking out Dummy's only side-suit entry before trumps had been drawn.

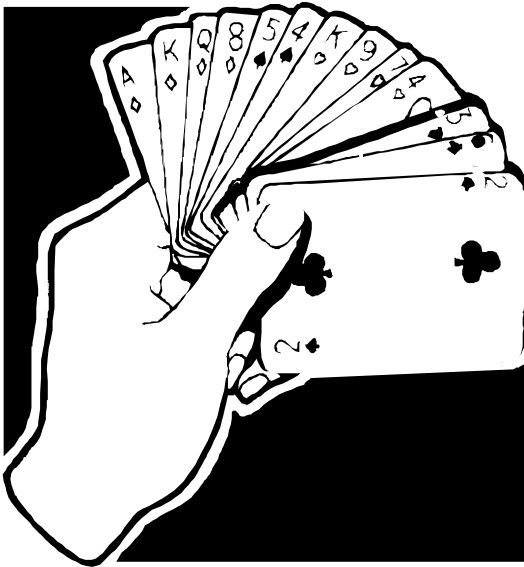
What should Declarer do now? One possibility was to hope for 2-2 trumps, in which case trumps could be drawn, ending on the board, and the Diamond losers then disposed of on the Clubs. But Declarer reasoned that West had done a considerable amount of vulnerable bidding and probably had 8 or 9 Hearts. That being so, it seemed more likely that West had a singleton trump. So, Declarer cashed just one trump on the board and started running the Clubs, pitching Diamonds. East ruffed the fourth round of Clubs, Declarer overruffed, returned to the board with a trump (drawing East's last trump in the process), and got rid of the last Diamond loser on another Club winner. Well bid, well defended, well declared!

**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:



**District 8 GNT  
May 4-5, 2013  
Springfield Eagles Club**

