



# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 15 Number 9 – September, 2013

12 pages



## September Events



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

September 2 – open pairs      September 9 – club championship open pairs

September 16 – open pairs      September 23 – open pairs      September 30 – open pairs

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

**Mike's Bridge Club schedule:**

Monday, September 2, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, September 3, 1:00pm – Illinois Senior Olympics open pairs - Springfield

Wednesday, September 4, 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

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

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

Monday, September 9, 6:15PM – club championship 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, September 11, 1:15PM - club championship 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, September 12, 11:45AM – club championship open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, September 14, 11:45AM – club championship open pairs – Westminster

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

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

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

Saturday, September 21, NO GAME – Peoria tournament

Monday, September 23, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, September 25, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, September 26, 11:45AM – open pairs– Knights of Columbus

Saturday, September 28, September 10, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, September 30, 6:15PM – 99ers only 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](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 8/1/2013 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

1	3,494.00	Betty Capodice
2	3,015.81	Steve Babin
	*** 2,557.18	Laura Addison
3	2,071.57	Zack Freehill
4	1,979.86	Mike Tomlianovich
5	1,750.47	Eunice Patton
	*** 1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne
6	1,711.48	Hank Hoffman
7	1,470.75	Dewey Gronau
	*** 1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar
	*** 1,320.43	Ed Lombard
8	1,206.40	Stan Gutzman
9	1,114.23	Jeanne Strand
	*** 1,091.94	Marian Edmunds
10	1,086.17	Ivey Weaver
11	1,061.37	Ann Schuyler
12	1,019.60	Ron Emmett
13	1,011.04	Charlie Morton
14	980.83	Jean Barnett
15	863.32	Randall Motchan
16	807.40	Glen Beaman
	*** 792.95	Don Strand
	*** 780.34	Jack Kessler
17	765.92	Henrietta Crain
18	747.47	Cindy Moore
	*** 741.06	Pearl Harris
19	647.15	Peg Deutsch
20	616.40	Dennis Moll
	*** 610.73	Martin Compton
21	573.60	Dave Freehill
	*** 570.80	Ann Farnsworth
	*** 567.22	Ruth Wettaw
22	559.59	Lori Moore
23	527.29	Steve Wulfers
	*** 481.88	Bev Upp
	*** 474.92	Nona Wooley
24	468.02	JoAnn Schroeder
25	419.97	Stevie Joslin

**Other players:**

*** 12,741.55	Dick Benson-LeRoy
11,116.17	Chris Benson-LeRoy
4,073.49	Larry Matheny-Colorado
*** 4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
3,971.77	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
3,512.74	Carl Brueckner-Champaign
3,456.52	Ron Sholes-Springfield
2,855.86	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
2,607.69	Liz Zalar-Springfield
2,539.20	Paul Lindauer-Varna
2,465.71	Georgia Heth-Morton
2,412.51	Gail Moon-Tennessee
2,264.57	Chuck Zalar-Springfield
2,262.26	Carole Sholes-Springfield
2,246.99	Ray Russ-Henry
2,135.65	Joanne Glazebrook-Peoria
2,110.58	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
2,012.74	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
1,804.05	Mary Allen-Peoria
*** 1,776.22	John Burdon
1,647.66	Tim Cull-Springfield
1,521.41	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
1,490.60	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
1,384.80	Dennis Fitton-Champaign
1,252.14	John Maloney-Champaign
1,245.96	Jim Moon-Tennessee
1,128.69	Donna Kaufman-Peoria
987.32	Camilla Rabjohns-Peoria Heights
*** 916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
910.83	Melissa Fitton-Champaign
812.80	Bev Fast-Peoria
787.36	Phil Kenney-Eureka
708.88	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
674.41	Doug Steele-Seymour
615.72	Carole Miller-Champaign
452.68	Chris Biggs-South Carolina

\*\*\* deceased



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#1

We all know how important it is to give the hand sufficient thought before playing to trick one. However, we often make the mistake of following declarer's tempo later in the hand. This hand demonstrates how necessary it is to stop and think when a red flag appears.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#13-10	♣ 863	West	North	East	South
Dir N	♥ Q72	-	Pass	Pass	2♣
Vul N/S	♦ 876	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
	♣ AQ63	Pass	3♣	Pass	4NT
♠ A97		Pass	5♣	Pass	6♠
♥ J10864	♠ 42	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♦ 1093	♥ 3				
♣ 108	♦ QJ52				
	♣ J97542				
	♠ KQJ105				
	♥ AK95				
	♦ AK4				
	♣ K				

Bidding: North's 2♦ response showed values but no strong suit. South's 4NT bid was Roman Key Card and North showed one keycard (4 aces + spade king).

Play: West led the jack of hearts won by declarer with the ace. At trick two, declarer continued with the queen of spades and West followed with the seven without giving the problem enough thought. West won the next round of spades but it was too late to defeat the contract. West should have stopped to consider the hand. It was clear South must have most if not all of the missing honors to justify the strong opening bid. So, why the queen of spades and not the king? Since declarer had checked on keycards, it was clear declarer held the king of spades. After analyzing all of this data, West might have concluded that the only way to defeat was if East could ruff a heart. So, he should win the first spade and continue hearts for down one.

While this may not seem difficult, the act of following low to the spade queen without giving the hand sufficient thought is a mistake made far too often.



#13-12	♠		West	North	East	South
Dir E	♥ QJ1098		-	-	Pass	2♣
Vul E/W	♦ K875		Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
	♣ J954		Pass	3♦	Pass	4♥
♠ QJ8763		♠ 109542	Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
♥		♥ 7542	Pass			
♦ Q1092		♦ 64	Pass			
♣ 632		♣ KQ				
	♠ AK					
	♥ AK63					
	♦ AJ3					
	♣ A1087					

**Bidding:** North's 2♦ response was game forcing denying a suit headed by two of the top three honors. South showed a balanced hand with 22-23 high card points and North's 3♦ rebid was a transfer to hearts. South made a "super accept" and North simply bid the slam.

**Play:** West led the queen of spades and declarer stopped to analyze the hand. He saw he had all of the high club spots and decided a finesse in clubs offered the best chance of success. He would discard two of dummy's diamonds on the spades and play for the 75% chance that either the king or queen of clubs was on his right. So he discarded a diamond on the spade lead and played the ace of trumps. He was disappointed when West discarded a spade but continued with his plan. He drew three more rounds of trumps and then led the jack of clubs. The queen came up and declarer quickly claimed 12 tricks: 2 spades, 5 hearts, 2 diamonds, and 3 clubs. If the club finesse had lost to West, he would have won the return and repeated the finesse in clubs. Slam was also bid and made at the other table so no IMPs were won or lost.

#4

As declarer it is usually right to set up your own hand. However, it is sometimes easier to establish dummy.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#13-13  
Dir E  
Vul E/W

♠ J864  
♥ AKQ108  
♦ 87  
♣ 104

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

♠ 1053  
♥ J96  
♦ AQ102  
♣ A32



♠ Q9  
♥ 542  
♦ 9654  
♣ K765

♠ AK72  
♥ 73  
♦ KJ3  
♣ QJ98

Bidding: North jumped to 3 ♣ inviting game and South accepted.

Play: With no attractive lead, West settled on a low spade. Declarer won East's queen and continued with a second round. With trumps behaving, declarer decided the heart suit offered the best chance for success. If the suit divided 3-3 or the jack dropped doubleton, he would have 9 tricks: 4 spades and 5 hearts. The hearts did divide 3-3 so he discarded three diamonds and then trumped a diamond in his hand for his 10<sup>th</sup> trick. He lost only 1 diamond and 2 clubs.

The defense had four available tricks, but a club lead on this auction with this holding would seem impossible to find. At the other table, they stopped in a spade partscore and made only 9 tricks. Either West found a club lead or declarer did not use the heart suit to his advantage.



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**Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Dr, Bloomington**

- 2013/08/26 71.25% Doug Lamb & John Ford(99ers)
- 2013/08/24 70.00% Stan Gutzman & John Maloney
- 2013/08/01 73.15% Cindy Moore & Eunice Patton
- 2013/05/29 75.00% Bob Ragland & Jim Swanke(NLMers)
- 2013/05/06 86.81% Vi Kothe & Lou Savage(99ers)
- 2013/03/30 70.37% Ann Schuyler & Camilla Rabjohns

2013/03/07 72.22% **Cindy Moore & Eunice Patton**  
 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)**



## BRIDGE BITES

from: **The American Contract Bridge League**

By: Brian Gunnell

### #129 – SENDING A MESSAGE

	♠ A ♥ T94 ♦ QJT63 ♣ KJT4	
♠ 9872 ♥ J62 ♦ A ♣ Q9865	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ 53 ♥ KQ875 ♦ 754 ♣ A32

♠ KQJT64
♥ A3
♦ K982
♣ 7

*Both Vulnerable*

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

Sometimes the winning defense is obvious to one defender but not to the other, and in such cases it behooves the defender who is in the know to help out Partner as much as possible. Today's West missed such an opportunity.

Against 4♠, West led the ♦A. He shifted to the Heart Two and East's Queen was taken by Declarer's Ace. At this point Declarer was home free if only she could draw trumps, but there were transportation problems. After playing a Spade to Dummy's Ace, she had no fast way back to hand to draw the remaining trumps, so she exited with a Heart, won by East's King.

To West it was obvious that East should give him a Diamond ruff. But it wasn't obvious to East. No doubt he should have figured it out, but he had this fixed idea in his head that West had led a Diamond from AKx or AKxx. So, seeing no rush for the defense to cash its winners, East exited with a Heart. Declarer gratefully ruffed that, drew trumps, pitched the Club loser on the Diamonds, and claimed 11 tricks.

That was not an impressive performance by East but West could have made things crystal clear. That's right, when the second round of Hearts was played, West should have dumped his Heart Jack under East's King! This clever play means that Dummy's Heart Ten is now good, and therefore a Heart return is most definitely not required. The fog lifts, East now knows what to do and the defense continues: Diamond ruff, Club to the Ace, Diamond ruff. Down two!

### #130 - PERILOUSLY HIGH

	♠ T2 ♥ JT43 ♦ KJ93 ♣ T95	
♠ K9 ♥ K6 ♦ Q854 ♣ AQ764	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ 87643 ♥ 72 ♦ A72 ♣ J32
	♠ AQJ5 ♥ AQ985 ♦ T6 ♣ K8	

*E-W Vulnerable*

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

South's game-try got N-S perilously high, and with the Clubs badly placed, and with both major suit finesses destined to lose, it seemed that 3♥ would be going down one. But, of course, one way to avoid losing finesses is simply not to take them.

Against 3♥, West started with a low Diamond, low from Dummy, won by East's Ace. Now the defense played Clubs and Declarer ruffed the third round. Pausing to take stock, Declarer reflected upon the auction. West had made a vulnerable two-level overcall and probably had both major suit Kings. How about East? He had shown up with the ♦A and the ♠J, surely if he had an additional King he would have raised to 3♣. Yes, all the signs were that both major suit finesses would fail.

So, trusting her judgment, Declarer decided to play West for a singleton or doubleton Heart King. After ruffing the third Club she plunked down the ♥A, but West did not oblige with a singleton King. Next, Declarer removed West's safe exit cards by finessing the ♦J, cashing Dummy's ♦K and ruffing a Diamond. Now, when Declarer exited with a trump, West was end-played. Upon winning his ♥K West had the unpleasant choice of leading away from the ♠K, or conceding a ruff and discard by



leading a Club.

A strange hand! Declarer had potential losers in both majors but declined to take the finesses ... but she *did* take the Diamond finesse when there were no remaining losers in the suit!

Post Script: West missed a chance to spoil Declarer's fun. After the defense takes the ♦A and two Clubs, if West reverts to Diamonds then Declarer can no longer extract all of West's exit cards and will be down one.

#131 – A TALE OF TWO SUITS

	♠ AQ ♥ A72 ♦ 9432 ♣ 6542	
♠ T8652 ♥ K6 ♦ A876 ♣ AJ	North  West East  Declarer	♠ 9743 ♥ 9543 ♦ Q ♣ T973
	♠ KJ ♥ QJT8 ♦ KJT5 ♣ KQ8	

Both Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Thanks in large part to the horrible Spade duplication (where ten HCP bring in two measly tricks), 3NT needs some luck. And, after the opening lead of the Spade Five, 3NT also requires careful play in Diamonds and Hearts. Can you make nine tricks?

Your best chance for nine tricks is to score four Hearts and three Diamonds. How do you play the Diamonds? Yes, you must take the tiny precaution of leading a *low* Diamond from the board. The trap to be avoided is running the Nine, that would be fatal in the actual case where East has the singleton Queen and where West's spots would prevent the suit from running. So, Dummy's ♠Q wins the opening lead, and a low Diamond is led, to the Queen, King and Ace.

West returns the Spade Two, again won on the board. You get back to hand with a Diamond (East pitching a Club), but refrain from cashing the two other Diamond winners, they may provide some useful back and forth later in the play. Instead, you lead the ♥Q, covered by the King and Ace. Back to hand with the ♥J, both defenders following, but neither dropping the all-important Nine.

Where is that Nine? You don't know for sure, so you will go with the odds. West's opening lead was the Five, and he later played the Two, so he appears to have started with a minimum of five Spades. West also started with four Diamonds, that's nine of his cards accounted for. By contrast, East started with a total of only five cards in those suits. Clearly, East has more room in her hand for Hearts, and the odds tell you to finesse against East for the Heart Nine rather than to play for the drop. So, you cash the Diamond Ten, cross to Dummy's carefully preserved Nine, and finesse the Heart Eight. Nine well-earned tricks!

#132 – WORST-CASE SCENARIO

	♠ AK82 ♥ 952 ♦ Q5 ♣ QJ42	
♠ J6 ♥ QT87	North  West	♠ QT943 ♥ KJ

♦ T9873 ♣ A7	<i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♦ 6 ♣ K9865
	♠ 75 ♥ A643 ♦ AKJ42 ♣ T3	

*E-W Vulnerable*

**South West North East**

1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass  
1NT Pass 2NT Pass  
Pass Pass

Put yourself in Declarer's seat, with only the N-S hands in view. West leads the Heart Seven, East plays the King. Looks like two Spades, a Heart and five Diamonds will get you to eight. What can possibly go wrong?

Many Declarers would jump right in, grabbing the ♥A, and rattling off the Diamonds. But, as it happens, they don't rattle and the 5-1 split derails the contract. Declarer cannot cash four Diamonds, that would set up the defense's sixth trick ... and if he cashes only three Diamonds there is no way to come to eight tricks.

When things look easy, Declarer is advised to consider the worst-case scenario. In this case it is a bad Diamond break, giving Declarer only seven top tricks. Can Declarer do something about that? Yes, before going all-in with the Diamond suit, Declarer can hedge his bets by playing Clubs first, building a trick there just in case the Diamonds misbehave. The defense can take their three Hearts and two Clubs but that is all they get. Did you play on Clubs before Diamonds? Well done if you did!

One more point. Did you win the Heart at Trick 1? Or did you duck, planning to win the second Heart, in case the suit was 5-1? It's safe to win the first trick, the Hearts cannot be 5-1. East played the King, so he denies the Queen and cannot have five in the suit ... and if West had QJT87 he would no doubt have led the Queen. So, it's OK to win the first trick and play on Clubs, safe in the knowledge that the defense cannot cash six tricks. If you cautiously ducked the first Heart then it would be just your luck for the defense to find the killing Spade shift.

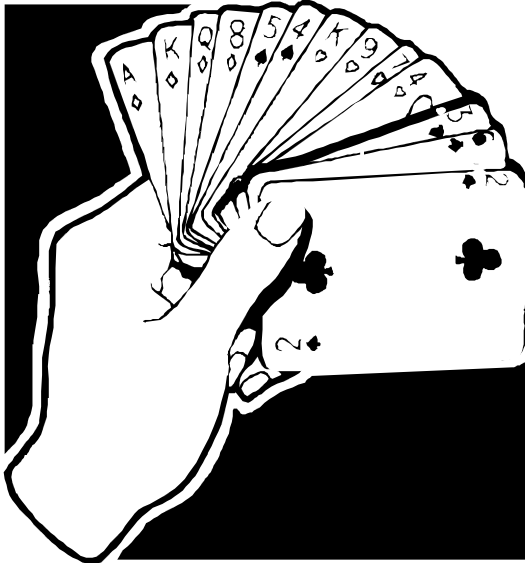
**Announcement: Effective 4/1/2012, all ACBL-sanctioned bridge games held in Bloomington-Normal are fragrance free. Please be respectful of those who are fragrance intolerant. Thank you!**





**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 20-22, 2013  
Peoria Hult Center**

