



# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 15 Number 10 – October, 2013

12 pages



## October Events

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

October 7 – club appreciation CC open pairs      October 14 – open pairs

October 21 – open pairs      October 28 – open pairs

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

**Mike's Bridge Club schedule:**

Wednesday, October 2, 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

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

Saturday, October 5, 11:45AM – club appreciation CC open pairs – Westminster

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

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

Thursday, October 10, 11:45AM – club appreciation CC open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, October 12, NO GAME – Springfield tournament

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

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

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

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

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

Wednesday, October 23, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

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

Saturday, October 26, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

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

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

Thursday, October 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](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**           \*\*\* deceased

**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**



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#1

Before making an opening lead it is always right to review the auction. However, some defenders interpret the information better than others.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#13-14	♠ J1083	West	North	East	South
Dir E	♥ 864	-	-	Pass	1 ♠
Vul E/W	♦ AKQ83	Pass	2♦	Pass	2 ♠
	♣ K	Pass	3♠	Pass	4 ♣
♠ 4		Pass	4♦	Pass	5 ♠
♥ A103	♠ 76	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♦ 1097642	♥ KJ72				
♣ 643	♦ 5				
	♣ J109852				
	♠ AKQ952				
	♥ Q95				
	♦ J				
	♣ AQ7				

**Bidding:** North's 2♦ was game forcing. After North agreed spades, South made a club cue bid and North cooperated with a diamond cue bid. South jumped in spades to ask if North held a heart control. North's holding was a dreadful three small so she quickly passed.


**Play:** Now it was up to West to find the right lead. The auction begged for a heart lead so he put the ace on the table. East encouraged with the seven and soon won the second heart trick. But, that was all for the defense as declarer quickly claimed the rest.

A more thoughtful West might have realized that since both opponents denied holding a first or second round heart control, a low heart could not hurt. As we can see a low heart to East's king followed by a heart back through the queen would defeat the contract.

#2

Too many players bid with no clear objective. You should be trying to 1) buy the contract, 2) impede the opponents, 3) suggest a sacrifice, or 4) make a lead directing bid. Otherwise, you are just helping the opponents.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#13-15	♠ 3	West	North	East	South
Dir S	♥ A7	-	-	-	1♥
Vul N/S	♦ AQ42	Pass	2♣	DBL	Pass
	♣ AQ9532	2♠	3♦	Pass	3NT
♠ K9872		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♥ 864					
♦ 876					
♣ 87					
	♠ AQ6				
	♥ K10932				
	♦ J5				
	♣ J64				

Bidding: After an opening bid and a game forcing 2♣ response, East's takeout double was very questionable. After North rebid 3♦, South bid the notrump game.

Play: West led a low spade and when East could only play the ten, it seemed clear that the king was in the West hand. That also meant every other missing honor was in the East hand. With this information, declarer won the queen of spades and led a club to the ace hoping the king was singleton. A club was continued to East's king. She led another spade and South ducked to rectify the count for the squeeze that seemed likely to work. Declarer won the third spade, cashed the ace of diamonds, and then played the remaining clubs. Here was the four-card ending when the last club was led:


♥A7	♦Q	♣2	
			♥QJ5
			♦K
♥K109	♦J		

East discarded a heart and declarer had 11 tricks for a near top. Without the takeout double, would declarer have taken the losing diamond finesse? We will never know.

#3

Hands with wild distribution can be difficult to bid because it's not always clear who can make what. After an opponent opens a strong 1NT, it's usually unlikely you can make game, but if the hand is wild enough....

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#13-16	♠ A87543	West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ AQ8754	1NT	2♦*	2NT	3♣
Vul E/W	♦ 10	Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
		Pass			
♣ K9					
♥ J96					
♦ AK106					
♣ AJ98					
	♠ J				
	♥ 102				
	♦ Q8542				
	♣ K7654				
	♠ Q1062				
	♥ K3				
	♦ J973				
	♣ Q32				

\*majors

Bidding: North's 2♦ bid showed the majors and East's 2NT the minors. With a good holding in the major suits, South bid 3♣ and was quickly raised to game.


Play: West led the ace of diamonds and declarer stopped to analyze the hand. He had a club to lose and as long as the heart suit behaved, he only had to decide how to play trumps. Since West would not open 1NT with a singleton, there were four possible spade holdings for West: KJ, K9, KJ9, and J9. He decided J9 was unlikely and he could do nothing about KJ or KJ9, so he concentrated on the remaining K9 holding. He trumped the opening lead and came to his hand with the king of hearts. He continued with the queen of spades, West covered with the king, and the jack dropped on his right. He now had only to draw the last trump and run the heart suit. He was able to discard his clubs on the hearts and ruff dummy's club in his hand for his thirteenth trick.

Not bad after the strong 1NT.

#4

People who use the negative double convention sometimes forget they can still penalize the opponents. This hand is an excellent example.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#13-17	♠ J83	West	North	East	South
Dir N	♥ J97	-	Pass	1♣	2♦
Vul N/S	♦ 3	Pass	Pass	DBL	Pass
	♣ J98762	Pass	Pass		
♠ K10					
♥ Q1083					
♦ A10965					
♣ 104					
	♠ A9652				
	♥ A54				
	♦ 7				
	♣ AQ53				
	♠ Q74				
	♥ K62				
	♦ KQJ842				
	♣ K				

**Bidding:** After South overcalled 2♦, West noted the vulnerability and passed in tempo. East made a routine re-opening double and everyone passed.

**Play:** West led the king of spades and continued with another. East won the ace and returned the deuce of spades asking for a club return. West ruffed the third spade and obediently led back a club. East won the ace and switched to his diamond. Declarer played the king and West won the ace. West then exited with a club to the queen and declarer ruffed. The rest was ugly as declarer managed only four diamonds and one heart. This meant +800 for E/W and a great matchpoint score.

South's bid was no worse than many others that are made, but a vulnerable two-level overcall is a dangerous bid.



**Bloomington-Normal 70% club – year 2013 only**  
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**Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Dr, Bloomington**

2013/09/18	70.56%	Sallie Boge & Jason Cannell(NLMers)
2013/09/11	70.00%	Bob Ragland & Jim Swanke(NLMers)
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



### #133 – THE ONLY CARD

♠ KT954 ♥ 2 ♦ QJ653 ♣ 94		
♠ QJ87 ♥ Q6 ♦ KT82 ♣ KQJ	North  West East  Declarer	♠ 62 ♥ J87 ♦ A974 ♣ T872
♠ A3 ♥ AKT9543 ♦ ♣ A653		

*Both Vulnerable*

**South West North East**

1♥ Dbl 1♠ Pass

4♥ Pass Pass Pass

You are West, looking at the N-W hands, there must be something on your breakfast table to cover the S-E hands. Against 4♥ you lead the ♠K, and that holds the trick, Partner playing the Two. Now, at Trick 2, there is only one card in your hand that will defeat this contract. What is it?

Before you play to Trick 2, let's analyze Trick 1. Partner played the Two, and in standard carding methods that is discouraging. In other words, Partner does not like the suit

and it is safe to assume that he does not have the Ace. So Declarer has the Ace, yet she did not win the trick. What is she up to? That's right, she would just love for you to continue with Clubs, allowing her to win the Ace and get a ruff in Dummy.

It goes against the grain to lead away from certain trump holdings, and leading from Qx has potential for blowing a trump trick. Nonetheless, stopping the ruff is paramount, so you bite the bullet and shift to a trump. But which one? Leading a low trump would deprive Declarer of a trick

by stopping his Club ruff, but it might return the trick by destroying Partner's trump holding. Time to remove that diagonally placed (pre-syrup) waffle from your morning newspaper, and take a peek at the S-E hands.

Yes, at Trick 2, the only card in your hand that will beat the contract is the ♥Q! Not only does it deprive Declarer of his ruff in Dummy, but it also preserves Partner's natural trump trick. In the fullness of time the defense will score three Clubs and a Heart, and that is down one.

### #134 - A SURPRISING DUCK

	♠ 8432 ♥ AJ43 ♦ J62 ♣ K2	
♠ KT76 ♥ 72 ♦ T9854 ♣ 63	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ J9 ♥ T9865 ♦ 73 ♣ JT98
	♠ AQ5 ♥ KQ ♦ AKQ ♣ AQ754	

*Both Vulnerable*

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	6NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South's 2♣ bid was artificial and strong, and North's 2♦ was also artificial, showing a hand without a suit worth bidding. Then common sense took over, and N-S blasted into 6NT. Can you make 12 tricks? Be warned, this one's not easy!

West led the Diamond Ten and Declarer could count 11 top tricks. Where was the 12<sup>th</sup>? One possibility was the Spade finesse but that was only a 50% proposition and Declarer

knew that a 4-2 or 3-3 Club break was more likely. So Declarer's general plan was to unblock the ♥KQ, cross to the ♣K, cash Dummy's Heart winners (pitching Spades), and play on Clubs, hoping for a reasonable break in the suit.

But Declarer had neglected to think about the consequences of a bad *Heart* break. That's right, when Dummy's Heart winners were cashed the suit proved to be 5-2. Even worse, it turned out that the defender with the long Hearts also had the long Clubs. Declarer could set up his 12<sup>th</sup> trick alright, but the defense scored a Heart and a Club first. Down one!

We'll admit that Declarer was most unlucky with that line of play, it only failed because Hearts were 5-2, Clubs were not 3-3, *and* the long Hearts and long Clubs were in the same hand. But good players make their own luck and Declarer had a most surprising play at his disposal. Remember, he had won the opening Diamond lead, and unblocked the ♥KQ. Now at Trick 4 he ducks a Club! See the difference? Yes, the Club trick that he could afford to lose is now lost before Dummy's Hearts have been cashed (in other words, before East's long Heart has become a winner). That's a difficult play to find at the bridge table, did you find it at your breakfast table?

### #135 - HELPING PARTNER

	♠ KT6 ♥ 4 ♦ 75 ♣ T876542	
♠ 853 ♥ 983 ♦ JT943 ♣ J3	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ AQJ42 ♥ 762 ♦ Q86 ♣ K9
	♠ 97	



♥ AKQJT5
♦ AK2
♣ AQ

*Both Vulnerable*  
**South West North East**  
 Dbl Pass 2♣ 1♠  
 Pass Pass

4♥ Pass Pass Pass

3NT is cold, but our South was in 4♥. That would have succeeded against some E-W pairs, but not against this E-W. Watch how West wakes up her partner and persuades him to make the right play in Diamonds.

West leads a Spade, low from Dummy, won by East's Jack. East looks at Dummy and realizes that it's useless for Declarer's purposes. Well, almost! There is that doubleton Diamond, a potential ruffing value if Declarer happens to have ♦AKx. So, East promptly shifts to a trump, snuffing out that threat.

Declarer still has four potential losers, with no way of reaching Dummy for the Club finesse. He may decide that the best chance now is to play for East to have Qxx in Diamonds. So he draws trumps, and plays ♦AK and a low Diamond, hoping to throw in East. If the plan works then East will be forced to give Declarer his 10<sup>th</sup> trick in one of the black suits. But our E-W are made of sterner stuff and you can be sure that East will jettison his ♦Q under the Ace or the King, allowing West to win the third Diamond trick. You can also be sure that West will play the ♦J on the first round of Diamonds. That says (a) I can afford to play the Jack, (b) I don't have the Queen, if I did I could have afforded to play it, (c) I have the Ten, otherwise I could not afford the Jack. That considerate play by West should persuade even the sleepest East to dump the Queen.

Here's a little twist. If those defenders are so confoundedly smart, then most of the time they will be able to arrange for West to win the third Diamond. That being so, Declarer might try a swindle. Look at what happens if, instead of playing Diamonds, Declarer cashes the ♣A. Now, a clued-in East will be seriously tempted to dump the ♣K, playing Declarer to hold ♦AKJ and ♣AJ!

#136 – FROZEN SUIT

♠ 542
♥ AQ87
♦ AK7
♣ T32

♠ QT83	<i>North</i>	♠ J96
♥ 64		♥ 932
♦ QJ98	<i>West</i>	♦ T54
♣ Q98	<i>East</i>	♣ K764

♠ AK7
♥ KJT5
♦ 632
♣ AJ5

*Both Vulnerable*  
**South West North East**  
 1NT Pass 2♣ Pass  
 2♥ Pass 4♥ Pass  
 Pass Pass

3NT would have been an easy contract but South found herself in 4♥, where there are the same nine winners. N-S have mirror distributions, so there are no ruffs to add to that total. Where is the 10<sup>th</sup> trick?

This deal is all about the Club suit. On the lie of the cards, if Declarer breaks open the suit, she will score just the Ace and will lose the other two tricks. But if the defense breaks open

the suit then Declarer will make two tricks. In other words, it's a frozen suit, and whoever plays Clubs first loses. But Declarer has the majority of the high cards and the trumps, let's see how she uses them to make the defense blink first.

West leads the ♦Q which is won in Dummy, and trumps are drawn in three rounds. Declarer avoids playing Clubs, of course, instead she cashes her Spade winners and her second Diamond winner, and exits with a Diamond. The defense can safely cash a Spade, but now they will be faced with

unpleasant alternatives:

- *Either* they can play a Spade or a Diamond, giving Declarer a ruff and discard (one hand ruffs, the other discards a Club loser)
- *Or* they can break open the frozen Clubs and give up the 10<sup>th</sup> trick that way.

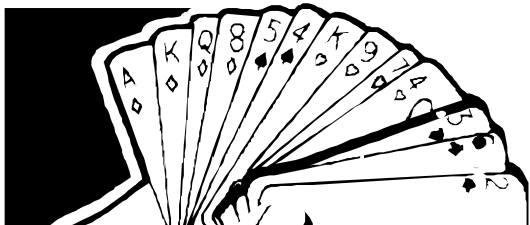
That line of play was not guaranteed to succeed. Imagine West with ♣KQx, and further suppose that East is able to win the third round of Spades and of Diamonds. Now, when Declarer exits a Diamond, East wins and fires a Club through, won by West. Back comes a Spade to East and another Club through, and that's down one. Declarer can avoid this grisly fate by ducking the opening Diamond lead (now East gets in only once and cannot lead Clubs twice), but that play will not be a great success if East is able to ruff the second round of Diamonds.

**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:**



**See the Leaves Fall Sectional  
October 11-13, 2013  
Chatham American Legion**

