



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 16 Number 10 – October, 2014

14 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 6 – open pairs October 13 – open pairs
October 20 – open pairs October 27 – STaC open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Wednesday, October 1, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick
Thursday, October 2, 11:45AM – open pairs– St Patrick
Saturday, October 4, 11:45AM – open pairs – Heartland
Monday, October 6, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland
Wednesday, October 8, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick
Thursday, October 9, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick
Saturday, October 11, 11:45AM – open pairs – Heartland
Monday, October 13, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland
Wednesday, October 15, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick
Thursday, October 16, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick
Saturday, October 18, 11:45AM – open pairs – Heartland
Monday, October 20, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland
Wednesday, October 22, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick
Thursday, October 23, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick
Saturday, October 25, 11:45AM – STaC open pairs – Heartland
Sunday, October 26, 1:15PM – STaC open pairs – Heartland
Monday, October 27, 6:15PM – STaC 99ers only & open pairs – Heartland
Tuesday, October 28, 6:15PM – STaC open pairs – Heartland
Wednesday, October 29, 1:15PM – STaC 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick
Wednesday, October 29, 6:15PM – STaC open pairs – Heartland
Thursday, October 30, 11:45AM – STaC open pairs– St Patrick
Thursday, October 30, 6:15PM – STaC open pairs – Heartland
Friday, October 31, 6:15PM – STaC open 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

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 9/6/2014 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

1	3,580.22	Betty Capodice
2	3,155.30	Steve Babin
***	2,557.18	Laura Addison
3	2,240.05	Zack Freehill
4	2,015.80	Mike Tomlianovich
5	1,984.15	Eunice Patton
6	1,794.58	Hank Hoffman
***	1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne
7	1,508.94	Dewey Gronau
***	1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar
***	1,320.43	Ed Lombard
8	1,325.29	Ann Schuyler
9	1,258.11	Stan Gutzman
10	1,162.24	Cindy Moore
11	1,141.49	Jeanne Strand
12	1,124.56	Ron Emmett
***	1,091.94	Marian Edmunds
13	1,102.81	Charlie Morton
14	1,101.57	Ivey Weaver
15	1,007.74	Jean Barnett
16	978.67	JoAnn Schroeder
17	907.20	Randall Motchan
18	838.87	Lori Moore
19	817.60	Glen Beaman
***	792.95	Don Strand
***	780.34	Jack Kessler
20	776.30	Henrietta Crain
***	741.06	Pearl Harris
21	664.01	Dennis Moll
22	662.35	Peg Deutsch
***	610.73	Martin Compton
23	605.58	Dave Freehill
24	599.79	Steve Wulfers
***	570.80	Ann Farnsworth
***	567.22	Ruth Wettaw
***	481.88	Bev Upp
25	478.88	Stevie Joslin

Other players:

***	12,741.55	Dick Benson-LeRoy
	11,436.79	Chris Benson-LeRoy
	4,231.29	Larry Matheny-Colorado
***	4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
	3,995.77	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
	3,639.36	Ron Sholes-Springfield
	3,590.38	Carl Brueckner-Champaign
	3,299.98	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
	2,678.38	Liz Zalar-Springfield
	2,636.39	Paul Lindauer-Varna
	2,480.67	Georgia Heth-Morton
	2,428.30	Gail Moon-Tennessee
	2,359.26	Ray Russ-Henry
	2,345.89	Carole Sholes-Springfield
	2,296.40	Chuck Zalar-Springfield
	2,244.84	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
	2,204.54	Joanne Glazebrook
	2,082.19	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
	2,053.42	Mary Allen-Peoria
***	1,776.22	John Burdon
	1,730.50	Tim Cull-Springfield
	1,561.13	Marilyn Stickel-Laon
	1,528.93	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
	1,499.20	Dennis Fitton-Champaign
	1,411.15	John Maloney-Champaign
	1,261.33	Jim Moon-Tennessee
	1,054.95	Camilla Rabjohns-Peoria Heights
***	916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
	989.78	Melissa Maloney-Urbana
	824.74	Phil Kenney-Eureka
	784.94	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
	727.98	Doug Steele-Seymour
	640.50	Carole Miller-Champaign

*** deceased



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#1

Minor suit slams are difficult to bid. Many players just don't have the tools and others are reluctant to bid past 3NT since it is often the winning contract.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#14-15	♠ AJ98	West	North	East	South
Dir E	♥ A9	-	-	Pass	1♣
Vul N/S	♦ 107	Pass	1♣	Pass	2♦
	♣ A9732	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
♠ K1064	□	Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
♥ 765432		Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
♦ 832		Pass	7♣	Pass	Pass
♣		Pass			
	♠ Q7532				
	♥ K8				
	♦ J654				
	♣ Q5				
	♠				
	♥ QJ10				
	♦ AKQ9				
	♣ KJ10864				


Bidding: South's reverse into diamonds showed a big hand with at least five clubs. North's club raise established the trump suit and showed values. South cue bid diamonds to show a control and then North asked for keycards (4 aces + trump king) by bidding 4♣. South showed two key cards without the club queen. North bid 4NT to ask for kings and South showed the king of diamonds. Knowing they held a minimum of ten trumps, North wasn't worried about the missing club queen and bid the grand slam.

Play: West led a heart won by the ace in dummy. Declarer drew trumps followed by the top three diamonds discarding dummy's last heart. Now it was a simple cross ruff for thirteen tricks.

#3

It's nice to pick up strong hands but they are not always easy to bid. This pair reached the second best contract.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#14-17	♠ AKQ62	West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ AKQ2	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Vul N/S	♦	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
	♣ KQJ2	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♦
♠ 10874		Pass	5♣	Pass	6NT
♥ J10873		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♦ 85					
♣ 86					
	♠ J93				
	♥ 4				
	♦ K10942				
	♣ 10543				
	♠ 5				
	♥ 965				
	♦ AQJ763				
	♣ A97				

Bidding: North loved his huge hand and opened 2♣. South considered jumping to 3♦ but hated to take up too much bidding room. Instead he made a game forcing response of 2♦. North continued to bid his suits and South ended the auction by bidding 6NT.

Play: West led a low club and declarer counted 11 tricks: 3 spades, 3 hearts, 1 diamond, and 4 clubs. He saw a 12th trick could be developed if the spades broke 4-3 or if the hearts divided 3-3. He also realized he needed to keep the club entry to his hand in order to later cash the ace of diamonds. So he won the first trick in dummy and started on the spade suit. When both opponents followed to the first three rounds, he conceded a spade to West and soon claimed his slam.

One pair reached the cold grand slam in clubs and a few went down in 6NT when they won the first club trick in their hand.

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**Bloomington-Normal 70% club
year 2014 only**

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Offices located in Bloomington, Peoria, and Pekin
Bloomington office located at:
Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Dr, Bloomington**

2014/09/08	73.89%	Vi Kothe & Kirk Kimmel (99ers)
2014/08/27	70.56%	Jim Swanke & Jason Cannell (NLMers)
2014/08/21	71.48%	Tom Teeters & Jerry Oswald
2014/08/20	70.56%	Mary Tweedie & Jason Cannell (NLMers)
2014/07/21	74.31%	Linda Odette & Joyce Werner (99ers)
2014/07/16	70.00%	Marilyn & Gene Byers (99ers)
2014/07/09	70.14%	Mary Houska & Lynda Frankeberger (NLMers)
2014/06/21	70.83%	John Maloney & Steve Babin
2014/06/11	70.85%	Bev Branning & Jim Fernstrom (NLMers)
2014/04/28	70.24%	Tom Teeters & Steve Wulfers
2014/04/24	72.50%	Jeff Furler & Jason Cannell
2014/04/21	71.11%	Linda Odette & Joyce Werner (99ers)
2014/04/16	72.00%	Joyce Clay & Jason Cannell (NLMers)
2014/04/14	72.92%	Jeff Furler & Hank Hoffman
2014/04/10	75.56%	Lori Moore & Jason Cannell
2014/04/02	71.11%	Bob Ragland & Jim Swanke (NLMers)
2014/03/26	73.33%	Zoe Freeman & Jim Fernstrom (NLMers)
2014/03/19	70.14%	Kirk Kimmel & Jim Swanke (NLMers)
2014/02/19	71.67%	Carroll Kinnaman & Jerry Oswald (NLMers)
2014/01/29	70.00%	Joyce & Bob Clay (NLMers)
2014/01/11	70.53%	Betty Capodice & Jason Cannell

Springfield See the “Silver” Leaves Sectional

Sponsored by the Central Illinois Bridge Association unit 208

October 10, 11, and 12, 2014

Friday, October 10 – 12:30pm – stratified open pairs

6:30pm – stratified open pairs

Saturday, October 11 – 2 session stratified open pairs – 10:30am & 4:00pm

“single session entries will be accommodated”

Entry fees returned to overall winners in each stratification

Sunday, October 12 – 2 session play through – lunch provided at about 2:00-2:30pm

\$40 returned to each winning team in each stratification

Stratifications – A – open; B – under 2000; C – non-life master under 500

all determinations by average masterpoint holdings

Entry fees

Friday & Saturday

\$10 per person per session – life masters

\$8 per person per session – non-life masters

Sunday --- \$100 per team (lunch provided)

Note: \$3 per person per session for non-ACBL or non-paid up ACBL members

Complimentary coffee and snacks – new players welcome – zero tolerance enforced

99ers games available if attendance warrants

All players – fragrance free – your fellow players appreciate it!

Chair – Jeff Ehrlich – 217-793-1645 - mjehrich@comcast.net

Partners – Doug Sutton – 217-787-5318 - dougsutton2@cs.com

Director – Rick Beye

BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



#25 – FISHING FOR CLUES

As the play-of-the-hand develops Declarer is constantly on the look-out for the clues which will point to the right line of play. But these clues don't always come gift-wrapped, sometimes Declarer must go fishing.

	♠ 5 ♥ QJ63 ♦ AJ7432 ♣ A8	
♠ A98432 ♥ 84 ♦ ♣ T9754	North West East Declarer	♠ 76 ♥ 92 ♦ Q85 ♣ KQJ632
	♠ KQJT ♥ AKT75 ♦ KT96 ♣	

E-W Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Against 6♥, West tries a Heart lead and Declarer draws trumps in two rounds. It's a fine slam but not quite iron-clad. There's a Spade to be lost, and the key to success is not to lose a Diamond. How would *you* play the hand, looking only at the N-S cards?

If Diamonds are 2-1 then Declarer is home free, but suppose that the suit is 3-0. Now, Declarer has a guess. If he thinks that *West* is more likely to hold three Diamonds then he'll play his ♦K on the first round, later finessing against West's Queen if East does indeed show out. Conversely, he'll play Dummy's ♦A first if he suspects that *East* might have the three Diamonds. Which do you choose?

At this point it's a complete guess, so, before playing on Diamonds, Declarer goes fishing. He concedes a trick to the Spade Ace, and let's say that West returns a Club. Declarer ruffs that, then cashes Spades, and reels in a whopper of a clue when East shows out on the third round! Ha! Now Declarer knows that East started with four cards in the majors, and West with eight. The odds have changed dramatically! If one of the defenders has three Diamonds it's surely East. So Declarer plays Dummy's ♦A on the first round, and says a silent "Yippee!" when West shows out. 12 tricks if Declarer delays the Diamond play and first looks for clues in the other suits.

#26 – INTRODUCING DR GOODLEAD

This week we feature a terrific opening lead, found in real life by John Brady of Jacksonville, FL (known to some as Dr Goodlead).

	♠ QJ96 ♥ J974 ♦ 9 ♣ K874	
♠ KT5432 ♥ A5 ♦ A76 ♣ 52	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ ♥ 86 ♦ T5432 ♣ QJT963
	♠ A87 ♥ KQT32 ♦ KQJ8 ♣ A	

N-S Vulnerable

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

Imagine yourself as East, if you will, looking at the N-E hands. West, the good doctor, leads the Spade Ten. A strange-looking lead, don't you think? It's not fourth best, not top of a sequence. Has the doctor's legendary common-sense finally deserted him?

While you are puzzling over that bizarre opening lead, Dummy plays the ♠Q and you gleefully ruff. What next, Mr East? West found a grand opening lead, and life would be even grander if only you could get back to West's hand for a second ruff. If that is to happen, West must have ♦A or ♣A. Any clues as to which?

The opening lead is your much-needed clue. West led an unnecessarily *high* Spade, and is trying to tell you something. Yes, he is advertising the Ace in the *higher*-ranking side-suit! So, after ruffing, you shoot back a Diamond to West's Ace and get your second Spade ruff. Down one!

Doctor G's lead from ♠KT5432 was not without risk, but he saw no appealing alternative, and he reasonably concluded that East had no more than two Spades (due to non-support in the auction). He didn't necessarily expect a void, but singleton was also a possibility (in which case West would later win the ♥A and give East a second-round Spade ruff).

What just happened was a *Suit Preference* signal, whereby, in certain situations, the play of a high card says "I have the higher-ranking suit", vice versa with a low card. This defensive signal is a rare bird on opening lead, it usually comes later in the hand and even then only in specialized situations. Dr Goodlead gave us the caviar, we'll have some meat-and-potatoes examples in later Bridge Bites.

#27 – THREE DEGREES OF BACON

This week's hand features an astonishing defense by West - we'll get to the winning play by degrees.

	♠ AT2 ♥ Q6 ♦ KQJT73 ♣ 84	
♠ 765 ♥ 542 ♦ 54 ♣ AQJ96	North West East Declarer	♠ KQJ93 ♥ A3 ♦ 982 ♣ K73
	♠ 84 ♥ KJT987 ♦ A6 ♣ T52	

E-W Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
Pass	2♠	3♦	1♠
3♥	All Pass		Pass

E-W did well not to compete to 3♠ (that contract is down one if N-S get their Diamond ruff). Instead, E-W are required to defeat South's 3♥ contract. Will they? West's lead is a Spade, won in Dummy.

In the first degree, you are Declarer. With that running Diamond suit you have loads of winners, but the danger is that E-W will get five tricks first. You can try for a Club ruff in

Dummy, but alert defenders will switch to trumps (being sure to hold up the ♥A until the second round). Nonetheless, at Trick 2, you lead a Club hoping that something good will happen.

In the second degree, you are East, trying to thwart Declarer. Dummy's ♠A wins the first trick, and a Club is led, won by West's Jack. West shifts to a trump, and you have a dilemma:

- If Declarer has the ♣A, and West the ♦A, then the winning defense is to take the ♥A immediately and play another Heart, stopping the Club ruff.
- If Declarer has the ♦A, and West the ♣A, then the winning defense is to duck the first trump, win the next Club, cash ♥A and then a third Club.

To bring home the bacon the defense must go to the third degree. This time, you are West, trying to help East to thwart Declarer. Same start, but instead of routinely winning the ♣J at Trick 2, you do some thinking. Declarer did not play Clubs like someone holding the ♣K, so East surely has that card. In that case you can afford to squander the Ace! This brilliant stroke solves East's dilemma, telling him what he needs to know. How many Wests would find that truly remarkable play? None that we know of!

#28 – WE’VE GOT YOU SURROUNDED

	♠ T9532 ♥ A92 ♦ 8 ♣ KJ32	
♠ J ♥ K76 ♦ KQJ642 ♣ T98	North West East Declarer	♠ 4 ♥ QT85 ♦ T973 ♣ AQ75
	♠ AKQ876 ♥ J43 ♦ A5 ♣ 64	

N-S Vulnerable

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

Perhaps East should have tried 5♦ over 4♠, that would be a cheap sacrifice if 4♠ is making. Instead, she guesses to defend and must find a nice defensive play if she is to justify her shyness in the bidding.

You are that shy East, so try looking at only the N-E hands. West leads the ♦K, won by Declarer’s Ace. A Diamond is

ruffed in Dummy, followed by a Spade to Declarer’s Ace. Then a Club to Dummy’s Jack and your Queen. What next?

At this point, you cannot play a Club or a Diamond without blowing a trick, so you must shift to a Heart. Which Heart? It seems routine to play a low Heart, but let’s stop and think. If Declarer has the ♥K it won’t matter what you do, so let’s assume that West has the King. If West has the ♥J to go along with that King then you can shift to any old Heart, again it won’t matter. So the case to worry about is the one you see looking at all four hands.

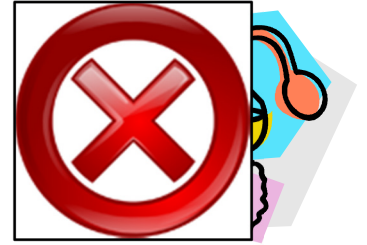
Look what happens if you shift to a low Heart. Dummy plays low, West must play the King, losing to the Ace. That’s only one Heart loser for Declarer. The required shift is the Heart *Ten*! Your Ten and Eight have Dummy’s Nine “surrounded” and that’s what makes the surprising shift to the Ten the winning play. The Ten is covered by the Jack, King and Ace, after which East’s Q8 sits over Dummy’s 92, providing two Heart tricks for the defense.

Surrounding plays don’t happen every day, and are easy to miss in the heat of battle. But now that you are an expert on the subject you will no doubt spot this one right away:

	Dummy T65	
West A432		East KJ9
	Declarer Q87	

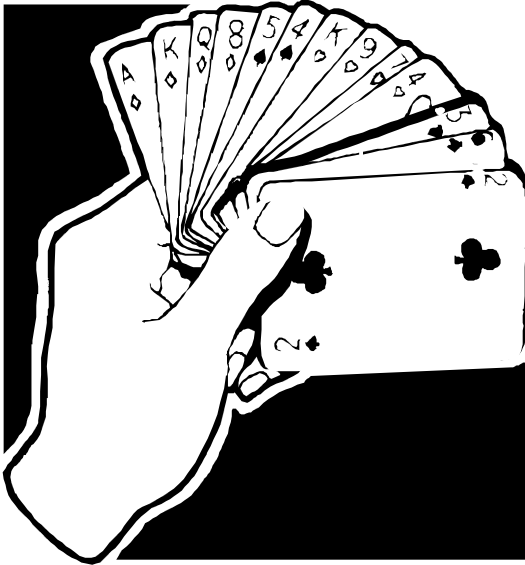
East’s J9 surround Dummy’s Ten and it is a shift to the *Jack* which is the winning play, picking up the whole suit.

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 "Silver" Leaves Sectional

Oct 10-12, 2014

Springfield Senior Center

701 West Mason St. Springfield, IL

District 8 NAP Finals

Nov 1, 2014

Fraternal Order of Eagles

2700 E. Ash

2700 E. Ash Springfield, IL 62703