



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 17 Number 1 – January, 2015

14 pages



January Events



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

January 5 – open pairs January 12 – open pairs

January 19 – open pairs January 26 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Thursday, January 1, NO GAME – HAPPY NEW YEAR

Saturday, January 3, 11:45AM – open pairs – Heartland

Monday, January 5, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, January 7, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, January 8, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, January 10, 11:45AM – open pairs – Heartland

Monday, January 12, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, January 14, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, January 15, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, January 17, 11:45AM – open pairs – Heartland

Monday, January 19, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – location TBA

Wednesday, January 21, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, January 22, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, January 24, NO GAME – TOURNAMENT at UAW 2488

Monday, January 26, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, January 28, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, January 29, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, January 31, 11:45AM – 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 12/6/2014 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

- 1 3,599.78 Betty Capodice
- 2 3,201.17 Steve Babin
- *** 2,557.18 Laura Addison
- 3 2,294.08 Zack Freehill
- 4 2,051.87 Eunice Patton
- 5 2,028.50 Mike Tomlianovich
- *** 1,735.61 Steve Hawthorne
- 6 1,522.93 Dewey Gronau
- *** 1,398.35 Sharad Chitgopekar
- 7 1,326.79 Ann Schuyler
- *** 1,320.43 Ed Lombard
- 8 1,275.13 Cindy Moore
- 9 1,263.31 Stan Gutzman
- 10 1,156.36 Ron Emmett
- 11 1,147.91 Jeanne Strand
- 12 1,124.92 Charlie Morton
- 13 1,104.10 Ivey Weaver
- 14 1,097.06 JoAnn Schroeder
- *** 1,091.94 Marian Edmunds
- 15 1,014.10 Jean Barnett
- 16 929.75 Lori Moore
- 17 920.34 Randall Motchan
- 18 820.82 Glen Beaman
- *** 792.95 Don Strand
- 19 780.75 Henrietta Crain
- *** 780.34 Jack Kessler
- *** 741.06 Pearl Harris
- 20 678.91 Dennis Moll
- 21 668.50 Peg Deutsch
- 22 622.72 Steve Wulfers
- 23 618.04 Dave Freehill
- *** 610.73 Martin Compton
- *** 570.80 Ann Farnsworth
- *** 567.22 Ruth Wettaw
- 24 486.38 Stevie Joslin
- *** 481.88 Bev Upp
- 25 441.25 Jeff Furler
- *** deceased

Other players:

- *** 12,741.55 Dick Benson-LeRoy
- 11,464.99 Chris Benson-LeRoy
- 4,277.76 Larry Matheny-Colorado
- *** 4,073.45 Alan Wienman-Morton
- 3,997.95 Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
- 3,682.51 Ron Sholes-Springfield
- 3,611.71 Carl Brueckner-Champaign
- 3,399.17 Kish Devaraj-Georgia
- 2,694.20 Liz Zalar-Springfield
- 2,656.40 Paul Lindauer-Varna
- 2,480.67 Georgia Heth-Morton
- 2,437.71 Gail Moon-Tennessee
- 2,430.63 Pat Carrington-Champaign
- 2,381.21 Ray Russ-Henry
- 2,358.93 Carole Sholes-Springfield
- 2,300.65 Chuck Zalar-Springfield
- 2,250.92 Margaret Hansell-Champaign
- 2,219.84 Joanne Glazebrook-Chicago
- 2,112.10 Mary Allen-Peoria
- 2,096.87 Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
- 1,798.28 Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
- *** 1,776.22 John Burdon
- 1,740.78 Tim Cull-Springfield
- 1,574.96 Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
- 1,528.93 Bobbie Straker-Pekin
- 1,533.04 Dennis Fitton-Champaign
- 1,437.74 John Maloney-Champaign
- 1,270.74 Jim Moon-Tennessee
- 1,067.54 Camilla Rabjohns-Peoria Heights
- *** 916.41 Floyd Sherry-Eureka
- 997.55 Melissa Maloney-Urbana
- 831.26 Phil Kenney-Eureka
- 793.50 Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
- 734.20 Doug Steele-Seymour
- 647.63 Carole Miller-Champaign
- 496.89 Dot Bergstrom-Peoria
- 492.48 Brian Maloney-Urbana



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#1

The scoring in a pair's event rewards overtricks and this will sometimes persuade players to ignore safety plays, instead hoping for a favorable layout. However, when you are in a nice slam, it often pays to be careful.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)


#14-27	♠ Q108	West	North	East	South
Dir E	♥ 102	-	-	Pass	2♣
Vul N/S	♦ AQ64	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
	♣ K864	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
♠ 7543		Pass	4♥	Pass	6♥
♥ J		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♦ J107		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♣ J10972					
	♠ J92				
	♥ Q853				
	♦ 9852				
	♣ Q5				
	♠ AK6				
	♥ AK9764				
	♦ K3				
	♣ A3				

Bidding: North's 2♦ bid was an artificial game force. South showed a strong heart hand and North's 2NT was forward-going showing a balanced hand with values in the other suits. South rebid his suit and North raised to game. South finished the auction by bidding a small slam.

Play: West led the jack of clubs that declarer won in his hand. Seeing no problems outside of the trump suit, declarer cashed the ace of hearts at trick two. The jack dropped on his left and declarer saw that if West held the QJ doubleton, it was safe to continue with the king of hearts. However, if the jack was a singleton, he was in danger of losing two trump tricks. Instead, declarer took the safety play of a low heart from his hand at trick three. West discarded a club as East won the ten with the queen. It was now easy for declarer to win any return and extract the remaining trumps from East.

There are several types of games tries available for partnerships. These include long suit, help suit, and short suit. Some pairs even have multiple types available to them. For example, bidding the next step might ask where your partner's values are (help suit) while skipping a step puts a short suit try in action. In this hand, the short suit game try worked very well.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#14-28	♠ 10872	West	North	East	South
Dir E	♥ K10	Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
Vul N/S	♦ KJ2	Pass	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♣
	♣ 8762	Pass	4 ♣	Pass	Pass
♠ J4		♠ 96	Pass		
♥ Q3		♥ J9764			
♦ Q8643		♦ 95			
♣ KJ105		♣ AQ94			
	♠ AKQ53				
	♥ A852				
	♦ A107				
	♣ 3				

Bidding: After receiving a raise from partner, South made a short-suit game try in clubs. As the name implies, South showed club shortness and asked his partner to evaluate his red suit cards. Although holding meager values, North realized all of his honor cards should be helpful so he bid the game.


Play: West led the jack of clubs to East's ace. East returned the four of clubs and declarer ruffed. Next, declarer drew trumps in two rounds followed by a low heart to dummy's king. Another heart to his ace and a third heart was ruffed with West discarding a club. The clubs seemed to be divided 4-4 so declarer now had a tentative count on the hand. It appeared West started with 2=2=5=4 distribution making it more likely the diamond queen was in his hand. A low diamond to the jack won and now declarer had twelve tricks: 5 spades, 2 hearts, 2 heart ruffs and 3 diamonds.

Several pairs missed this game when North decided his seven high card points weren't enough to accept partner's game try.

#3

When partnership harmony is lost, good bridge often leaves with it. This East-West pair arrived at the table smiling but left frowning.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#14-29	♠ 874	West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ 653	Pass	Pass	1♥	1♣
Vul N/S	♦ AK986	Pass	2♥	Pass	4♣
	♣ K9	DBL	Pass	Pass	Pass
♣ Q10962					
♥ 92					
♦ J42					
♣ Q76					
	♠ AKJ53				
	♥ K108				
	♦ 53				
	♣ AJ2				
				♠ AQJ74	
				♦ Q107	
				♣ 108543	

Bidding: In third seat East decided to bid his heart suit. South overcalled and North showed a limit raise with a cue bid. South bid the game and West doubled.

Play: West led the nine of hearts to his partner's ace and the queen of hearts was continued to the king. Declarer realized the penalty double must be based on a trump stack so he had to hope for an end play. At trick three, declarer led a diamond to the ace followed by the king and a diamond ruffed in his hand. Next, he played the king, ace, and a third club which he ruffed in dummy. Now he led a good diamond from dummy discarding a heart. West ruffed and led his last heart to his partner. East led another heart to this end position:

♠874 ♦8
 ♣Q1096
 ♠ AKJ5


Declarer ruffed the heart with his five and claimed the last three tricks. The recriminations now flew. West: "You opened on that?" East: "You doubled on that?" North-South just reached for the next hand.

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#4

When defending, sometimes it's better to pass rather than double and chase the opponents to a better contract. East learned that lesson with this hand.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#14-30	♠ K9843	West	North	East	South
Dir S	♥ Q85	-	-	-	1 ♣
Vul N/S	♦ J10	2NT	Pass	4 ♥	DBL
	♣ K109	Pass	4 ♠	DBL	5 ♣
♠ J10763		DBL	Pass	Pass	Pass
♥ AK9652					
♦ J6					
	♠ QJ1052				
	♥ K942				
	♦ Q8				
	♣ 42				
	♠ A76				
	♥ A				
	♦ 743				
	♣ AQ8753				

Bidding: West's 2NT bid showed hearts and diamonds. East jumped to 4♥ and South doubled to show extras with a spade tolerance. East doubled, South ran to clubs, and West closed the auction with another double.

Play: West led the top two diamonds and continued with a third round. Declarer ruffed with the nine of clubs as East pitched the nine of hearts. Declarer came to his hand with a heart and led a club to dummy's ten. He continued with the king of clubs drawing the last trumps. He now knew that West started with ten or eleven red cards along with two clubs. If East also held the king of hearts, he could be squeezed. Declarer ruffed a heart to his hand and played the rest of his clubs. Here was the ending with one club left to be played:

♠ K98	♥ Q	
		♠ QJ10
		♥ K
♠ A76	♣ 5	

On the last club, declarer discarded dummy's eight of spades and poor East had no answer.

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Mike's Bridge Club announces master point race winners for 2014

Addison-Lombard

(all of Mike's games)

- 1 55.49 Zach Freehill
- 2 55.01 Steve Babin
- 3 48.48 Jason Cannell
- 4 46.40 Jeff Furler
- 5 44.33 Betty Capodice
- 6 35.39 Steve Wulfers
- 7 32.40 Jerry Oswald
- 8 32.02 Lori Moore
- 9 31.42 Eunice Patton
- 10 25.94 Kirk Kimmell

McClintock

(only those players who started the year as a 99er)

- 1 25.94 Kirk Kimmell(*)
- 2 24.48 Linda Odette
- 3 22.94 John Ford
- 4 20.59 Jim Swanke(*)
- 5 15.25 Jim Fernstrom
- 6 14.62 Gene Byers
- 7 14.46 Bev Branning
- 8 14.37 Marilyn Byers
- 9 14.24 Vi Kothe
- 10 14.12 Carol Denny

(*) – not eligible year 2015 and beyond

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!!



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Sectional
Sponsored by Central IL Bridge Association Unit 208

When: January 23-25, 2015

Where: UAW Local 2488, 10226 East North Road, Bloomington, Ill

Schedule of Events

Friday, January 23 – Open Pairs - NEW EARLY TIME!

10:30 AM - Stratified Open Pairs.
4:00 PM - Stratified Open Pairs

Saturday, January 24 – Open Pairs

10:30 AM – Stratified Open Pairs
4:00 PM – Stratified Open Pairs

Sunday, January 25 – Swiss teams

10:30 AM – Double session with lunch provided. Break determined by Director.

Stratification

A–Open; B–Under 2000; C–Non Life Master under 500

(All stratifications will be determined by the team or partnership's *average* points.)

ALL GAMES WELCOME NEW PLAYERS.- 199er games if attendance warrants.

Entry Fees

Friday and Saturday - \$10 per session
Sunday - \$25 per person (\$100 per team) Lunch provided
Note: \$3 extra for non-ACBL or unpaid members

General Comments

Complimentary Coffee and home-made snacks during the tournament!
All Unit 208 Tournaments are FRAGRANCE-FREE for the comfort of all players.

Tournament Chair: Eunice Patton
(309) 660-2380
E-mail: eunis54@me.com

Co-Chair: Lori Moore
(309) 838-8085
E-mail: whisperpines@comcast.net

PARTNERSHIPS: If you would like help finding a partner or a team please contact either one of us. Thank you.



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

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Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Dr, Bloomington**

2014/10/30	77.50%	Doug Lamb & John Ford (99ers)
2014/10/08	70.00%	Bev Branning & Sallie Boge (NLMers)
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

BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



#37 – THE TRUMP COUP

This deal contains a little bit of magic whereby a “certain” trump loser evaporates into thin air thanks to some well-timed Declarer play.

	♠ T9 ♥ AQJ ♦ A543 ♣ AQ52	
♠ 2 ♥ T83 ♦ JT96 ♣ JT984	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i>	♠ K765 ♥ 9654 ♦ Q72 ♣ K7
	<i>Declarer</i>	
	♠ AQJ843 ♥ K72 ♦ K8 ♣ 63	

Against your 6♠ contract West leads the ♠J. You finesse the Queen but that loses to the King and East returns a Club to Dummy’s Ace. It was a fine slam but it got worse when that Club finesse lost. Now you must pick up the trump suit for no losers. You run the ♠T and it holds. You say a silent “Yippee!” but that quickly changes to “Rats!” when you repeat the finesse and West shows out. How will you overcome this setback?

East still has ♠K7 but there are no Spades left in Dummy with which to repeat the finesse. That might seem like a certain trump loser but you have a resource, it’s known as a Trump Coup. For this to work you must shorten your trumps down

to two (the same length as East) and also make sure that you win the 11th trick in Dummy. If you can do that, then when you lead from Dummy at Trick 12, East will be forced to ruff in front of you, thereby losing his “sure” trump trick.

So, after the second trump finesse wins, the play goes: ♦K; ♦A; Diamond ruff; over to Dummy’s ♥Q; Club ruff; back to Dummy’s ♥J. The ♥A is now cashed and at Trick 12 Dummy leads a Club (or Diamond) and East is forced to ruff in front of you. Great stuff! Be sure to realize that you needed *both* those ruffs in your hand, if you had not shortened your trumps to the right length then there would have been no Trump Coup.

#38 – THE ANTI-BATH COUP

	♠ KJT ♥ 865 ♦ 72 ♣ AQT96	
♠ 962 ♥ KQT94 ♦ JT8 ♣ 42	North West East Declarer	♠ 8743 ♥ 73 ♦ KQ953 ♣ K3
	♠ AQ5 ♥ AJ2 ♦ A64 ♣ J875	

The Bath Coup is well known by now:

865
KQT94 73
AJ2

West leads the King and Declarer craftily ducks. Now if West continues he gives Declarer a second trick in the suit. The rule for East here, when holding Jxx, is to *encourage* with his higher spot card, hopefully that agreement will save West from the ignominy of the Bath Coup.

However, in the diagram above, Declarer pulled off what has been termed as the “Anti-Bath Coup”. Against 3NT, West led the ♥K and Declarer could have ducked this trick in order to

lure West into a Bath Coup. But Declarer could see that a Diamond shift might be fatal, so in order to muddy the waters he played the ♥J on the first trick! Our (gullible) West assumed that Declarer had started with ♥AJ doubleton and continued Hearts, won by Declarer’s Ace. The Club finesse was lost, but East was out of Hearts and Declarer had 9 tricks. Of course, a Diamond shift at Trick 2 beats the contract, but Declarer’s clever false card diverted West from the winning play.

Yes, West erred grievously! After that first Heart trick (King, Five, Three, Jack), he should have smelled a rat. Where was the Two? East would not play the Three from 732, instead he would play his lowest card saying “I don’t have the Jack!” So, an alert West (and one who trusted his Partner to signal correctly) could have figured out that Declarer had false-carded. But, in the heat of battle, such clues can be missed!

#39 – THE SCISSORS COUP

This deal features the Scissors Coup, so-called because it cuts communications between the two defenders.

	♠ J95 ♥ AKJ7 ♦ 43 ♣ AT87	
♠ A4 ♥ T ♦ AJT65 ♣ KQJ52	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ 2 ♥ 8643 ♦ KQ987 ♣ 643
	♠ KQT8763 ♥ Q952 ♦ 2 ♣ 9	

Both Vulnerable

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1♦	Dbl	4♦	4♠
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East's 4♦ was preemptive, showing long Diamonds and not much else.

As West, what's your opening lead? It would be reasonable to lead ♣K, attempting to set up a Club trick while you still have the ♠A entry. That doesn't work on the actual deal because of Declarer's Club singleton. A more promising plan might be to lead the singleton Heart, later winning the ♠A,

then *underleading* the ♦A to East's hoped-for ♦K, and getting a Heart ruff for down one. As you can see, that plan is the winner. Well, not quite, because there is a clever counter-measure. How can Declarer deprive West of his ruff?

Enter the Scissors Coup. Declarer wins the Heart lead in Dummy, and before touching trumps she cashes ♣A and leads another Club, *pitching a Diamond* when East plays low. By this maneuver Declarer trades a Diamond loser for a Club loser, in the process thwarting West in his plan to reach East with the ♦K. Now, with the defensive communications snipped, Declarer loses only the ♠A and a Club (but there is no Diamond loser and no Heart ruff).

Post Script: As West you no doubt found that well-thought-out Heart opening lead. Then as Declarer you made a clever play to bring home the 5♠ contract. Next, imagine that you hold the East cards, but with the ♣6 replaced by the ♣J. Now, after Dummy's ♣A has been cashed, when a second Club is played, we are quite confident that you would alertly hop up with that ♣J, foiling the Scissors Coup. Nice play!

#40 – THE DEVIL’S COUP

You could play a lifetime of bridge without pulling off a Devil’s Coup, but it’s worth a look purely for its entertainment value.

	♠ AT4 ♥ Q954 ♦ KJ96 ♣ A7	
♠ J73 ♥ A872 ♦ T82 ♣ Q54	North West East Declarer	♠ Q8 ♥ JT63 ♦ 753 ♣ J632
	♠ K9652 ♥ K ♦ AQ4 ♣ KT98	

tricks? Sure you do! You ruff winner!) and, when the ♣T is led, the then Dummy overruffs and you score ... *if West ruffs high* then Dummy position against East’s Queen!

To bring off this small miracle, West’s 3=4=3=3 or 3=5=3=2 and he had to honors. We don’t know if that offers 8%, but we are sure that bringing off

It looks like Partner has overbid again because you find yourself in the dreadful contract of 6♠. West cashes the ♥A at Trick 1 and now the success of your slam depends upon losing no trump tricks, missing QJ873. The chances of one defender holding QJ doubleton are pretty remote (8%, actually) and you can do better by *not* drawing trumps.

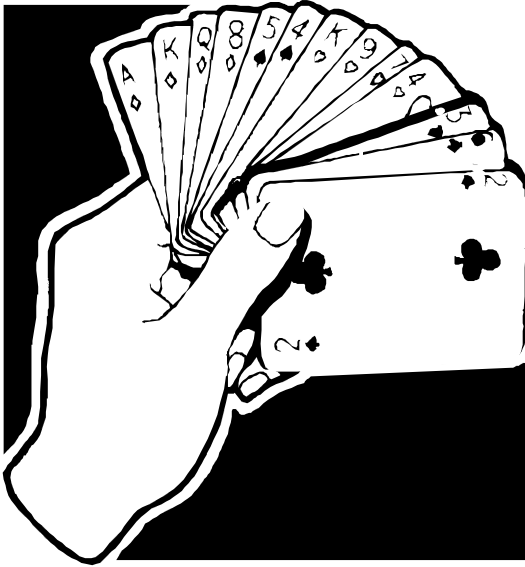
At Trick 2, you ruff the Heart continuation, cash three Diamonds (ending in Dummy), ruff another Heart, cash ♠A and ♠K, and ruff a Club, reaching this position, with the lead in Dummy:

	♠ AT ♥ Q ♦ 9 ♣	
♠ J73 ♥ 7 ♦ ♣		♠ Q8 ♥ J ♦ ♣ J
	♠ K96 ♥ ♦ ♣ T	

Do you see how to win the rest of the Dummy’s ♥Q (even though it is a defense is toast. *If West ruffs low* the last two tricks with the ♠A and ♠K overruffs and there is now a finesse Devilish indeed!

distribution had to be precisely hold one of the missing Spade better odds than the aforementioned the Devil’s Coup is so much more fun!

Upcoming tournaments:



Bloomington Winter Sectional

Jan 23-25, 2015

UAW 2488 Hall

10226 E. 1400 North Rd. Bloomington, IL 61705