



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 17 Number 3 – March, 2015

14 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 2 – ACBL-wide seniors only open pairs March 9 – open pairs

March 16 – open pairs March 23 – open pairs March 30 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Monday, March 2, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, March 4, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, March 5, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, March 7, NO GAME - TOURNAMENT in EAST PEORIA

Monday, March 9, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, March 11, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – location TBA

Thursday, March 12, 11:45AM – open pairs – location TBA

Saturday, March 14, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, March 16, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, March 18, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, March 19, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, March 21, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, March 23, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, March 25, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, March 26, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, March 28, 11:45AM – open pairs – location TBA

Monday, March 30, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

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 2/6/2015 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

1	3,612.39	Betty Capodice
2	3,225.25	Steve Babin
***	2,557.18	Laura Addison
3	2,320.05	Zack Freehill
4	2,073.27	Eunice Patton
5	2,042.06	Mike Tomlianovich
***	1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne
6	1,536.04	Dewey Gronau
***	1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar
7	1,340.29	Ann Schuyler
***	1,320.43	Ed Lombard
8	1,323.43	Cindy Moore
9	1,263.31	Stan Gutzman
10	1,178.26	Ron Emmett
11	1,150.68	Jeanne Strand
12	1,147.71	JoAnn Schroeder
13	1,137.27	Charlie Morton
14	1,109.68	Ivey Weaver
***	1,091.94	Marian Edmunds
15	1,018.97	Jean Barnett
16	951.85	Lori Moore
17	923.71	Randall Motchan
18	821.22	Glen Beaman
***	792.95	Don Strand
19	781.49	Henrietta Crain
***	780.34	Jack Kessler
***	741.06	Pearl Harris
20	690.21	Dennis Moll
21	668.94	Peg Deutsch
22	629.85	Steve Wulfers
23	626.42	Dave Freehill
***	610.73	Martin Compton
***	570.80	Ann Farnsworth
***	567.22	Ruth Wettaw
24	500.94	Stevie Joslin
***	481.88	Bev Upp
25	476.46	Jeff Furler
***		deceased

Other players:

***	12,741.55	Dick Benson-LeRoy
	11,538.71	Chris Benson-LeRoy
	4,313.48	Larry Matheny-Colorado
***	4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
	4,006.53	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
	3,711.46	Ron Sholes-Springfield
	3,619.27	Carl Brueckner-Champaign
	3,422.45	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
	2,704.89	Liz Zalar-Springfield
	2,669.39	Paul Lindauer-Varna
	2,480.67	Georgia Heth-Morton
	2,437.71	Gail Moon-Tennessee
	2,442.56	Pat Carrington-Champaign
	2,390.02	Ray Russ-Henry
	2,373.51	Carole Sholes-Springfield
	2,301.80	Chuck Zalar-Springfield
	2,258.18	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
	2,232.52	Joanne Glazebrook-Chicago
	2,129.88	Mary Allen-Peoria
	2,107.18	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
	1,809.30	Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
***	1,776.22	John Burdon
	1,751.66	Tim Cull-Springfield
	1,581.88	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
	1,528.93	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
	1,541.05	Dennis Fitton-Champaign
	1,469.90	John Maloney-Champaign
	1,270.74	Jim Moon-Tennessee
	1,069.18	Camilla Rabjohns-Peoria Heights
	1,005.41	Melissa Maloney-Urbana
***	916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
	837.68	Phil Kenney-Eureka
	802.54	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
	743.66	Doug Steele-Seymour
	651.77	Carole Miller-Champaign
	498.35	Dot Bergstrom-Peoria
	507.03	Brian Maloney-Urbana



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#1

While some hands are straight forward, others take tender loving care. In this hand it was necessary to take a finesse before drawing trumps.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#14-35	♠ K	West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ Q98542	Pass	Pass	Pass	2NT
Vul Both	♦ Q2	Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
	♣ QJ83	Pass	4♥	Pass	6♥
♣ J9874		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♥ K					
♦ J754					
♣ 1065					
	♠ Q102				
	♥ 1063				
	♦ 10986				
	♣ K97				
	♠ A653				
	♥ AJ7				
	♦ AK3				
	♣ A42				

Bidding: After South's 2NT, North made a mild slam try by transferring to hearts and then raising to game. With no slam interest, North would have simply used a 4-level Texas transfer. South loved his hand and bid the slam.


Play: West led a low spade to dummy's king. It's usually easier to set up the long trump suit hand and declarer saw he could discard two of dummy's clubs on the spade ace and a high diamond. That left the club finesse and the heart suit. If the club finesse succeeded, he could take a safety play in hearts. If the finesse failed, he had to play the heart suit for no losers. So at trick two he led the queen of clubs. When that held the trick, he followed with a low heart to the ace. He was delighted when the king came down and he was able to draw trumps. Next, he played three rounds of diamonds and the ace of spades to discard two small clubs from dummy. Making all thirteen tricks earned a great score.

Note if the club finesse had failed, declarer would have the difficult task of bringing in the heart suit without a loss.

#2

Defense is considered by many to be the most difficult part of bridge. However, an alert defender anticipating the play can defeat many of declarer's schemes.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #14-36	♠ KJ6	West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ J8732	Pass	Pass	3♦	3♥
Vul N/S	♦ 109	Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
	♣ K42	Pass			
♠ 10852					
♥ 106					
♦ A65					
♣ A1065					
	♠ A43				
	♥ 9				
	♦ QJ87432				
	♣ Q8				
	♠ Q97				
	♥ AKQ54				
	♦ K				
	♣ J973				

Bidding: Even knowing his diamond king might be of little value, South still overcalled East's preempt. North liked his hand and bid game.

Play: West led the ace of diamonds and continued with a second round that declarer trumped. Declarer saw he still had a spade loser and two likely club losers. Declarer drew trumps in two rounds and then led a low spade to the king. East won the ace and exited with another spade. Declarer won in dummy and led a third spade to his queen. Next, he led a low club toward dummy, West ducked, and played the king. Without hesitation, East dropped the queen under the king. Now when declarer led another club, West was ready with the A10 over the jack to defeat the contract. While East didn't know who held what club cards, it was clear to him that if he kept the queen, he would have to concede a ruff/sluff.

Too many players decide what card to play when presented with the decision...this is often too late.

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#3

Cue bids made at the one-level usually have partnership agreement, but many players have not discussed how to use them at higher levels.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #14-37	♠ A74	West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ 6	2♥	3♥	Pass	3NT
Vul N/S	♦ AKQJ1052	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♣ A4				

♠ 983	□	♠ KQJ
♥ AKJ1095		♥ 432
♦ 943		♦ 86
♣ 10		♣ KJ952
		♠ 10652
		♥ Q87
		♦ 7
		♣ Q8763

Bidding: West opened a weak-two bid and North was looking at nine tricks. His cue bid of the opponent's suit asked his partner to bid 3NT with a heart stopper. South nervously obeyed.

Play: West led the ace of hearts and received the discouraging deuce from his partner. He next switched to a spade but declarer had his nine tricks.

Notice that there are only the same nine tricks in a diamond contract so most of those who took strong action with the North hand were headed for a minus score.

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#4

The following auction is long but enough information was exchanged to allow North-South to confidently bid a small slam.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #14-38	♠ AQ53		West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ J64		Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Vul N/S	♦ K976		Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
	♣ KJ		Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
♠ 7		♠ 1062	Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
♥ K10952		♥ Q83	Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
♦ A1082		♦ 543	Pass	6♣	Pass	6♠
♣ 1082		♣ 7653	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♠ KJ984					
	♥ A7					
	♦ QJ					
	♣ AQ94					

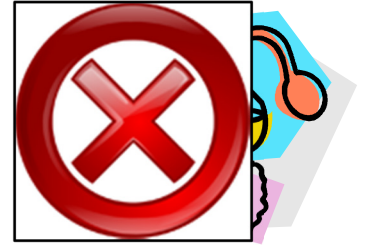
Bidding: South's bid of 2NT asked North about his strength and trump support. The response of 3♠ showed 4-card support and a maximum raise. Next, South showed a control in clubs and North cooperated by showing a diamond control. South now used Roman Keycard Blackwood to find that North held one keycard (4 aces + trump king), the queen of spades, and the king of clubs.

Play: West led the ace of diamonds and South had no trouble winning the remaining tricks.

Note that South was strong enough to be interested in slam but not to insist upon it. He found out that his partner had a maximum raise and good trump support before getting too high.

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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!!

PEORIA'S Warren F. Tatting Memorial BRIDGE SECTIONAL

March 6th, March 7th, and March 8th 2015

NEW LOCATION: Fon du Lac Park District Administration Center

201 Veterans Drive, EAST PEORIA, IL 61611 Ph. 309 699-3923

Take I-74 to Exit 96, Turn Right, then Right at first stoplight (Veterans Drive)

Schedule of Events

Friday, March 6th

10:30 AM - Stratified Open Pairs.

4:00 PM - Stratified Open Pairs

Saturday, March 7th –Pairs event!*

10:30 AM – Stratified Pairs (1 of 2)

4:00 PM – Stratified Pairs (2 of 2)

*Single session pairs will be accommodated

Sunday, March 8th

10:30 AM – Stratified Open Swiss teams

Double session with lunch provided. Break approximately 2:00 or 2:30

Stratification

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

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

Entry Fees

Friday and Saturday - \$10 per session

Sunday - \$25 per person (\$100 per team) Lunch provided

Note: \$3 extra for non-ACBL member or unpaid members

General Comments

Complimentary Coffee and Snacks during the tournament.

ALL GAMES WELCOME NEW PLAYERS.

IF ATTENDANCE WARRANTS, WE WILL HAVE '99ers GAMES.

Please note Zero Tolerance Policy is enforced

We are Fragrance Free: Thank you for NOT wearing perfumes and colognes!

Tournament Chair: Mary Allen

(309) 258-3361

E-mail: hilinemary@yahoo.com

Partnerships: Marilyn Stickel or Mary (Chair)

(309) 246-8915

bdmup1@hotmail.com

Motel: Recommendations:

Nicer: Holiday Inn and Suites, Embassy Suites, Stoney Creek, Par-a-Dice

Moderate: Hampton Inn East Peoria (close to Par-a-Dice), Fairfield Inn & Suites

Budget: Super 8—Closest to Tournament Site



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Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Dr, Bloomington

2015/02/04	70.00%	John Stahly & John Ford (NLMers)
2015/02/02	71.30%	John Stahly & Rick Kern (99ers)
2015/01/05	70.83%	Kay Marvin & Terri Huebsch (99ers)
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



#45 – FIND THE LADY

	♠ KJT3 ♥ AQJ ♦ AJ95 ♣ J4	
♠ 9862 ♥ 98653 ♦ 7 ♣ KT2	North West East Declarer	♠ 7 ♥ 42 ♦ Q86 ♣ AQ98765
	♠ AQ54 ♥ KT7 ♦ KT432 ♣ 3	

With both sides vulnerable, East opened 3♣ (a weak bid, usually made with a 7-card suit), and South wound up declaring 6♠.

East's Ace won the opening Club lead and the next Club was ruffed by Declarer. Trumps were drawn in four rounds, East following once and then pitching three Clubs. Now all that remained was for Declarer to avoid losing a trick to the ♦Q. Was it a guess, or was it a certainty?

When the hand was actually played, our Declarer was familiar with the idea that, with a 9-card fit, it was customary to cash the Ace and King (playing for the Queen to drop in two rounds) rather than finessing. But (unfortunately) he remembered that East's bidding had shown a long Club suit, and this persuaded him that West was therefore more likely to hold longer Diamonds. Accordingly, he cashed the ♦K, planning to finesse on the next round if West followed with a low Diamond. Poor Declarer got a nasty shock when, instead, West showed out and it was *East* who turned out to have the Diamond length. Down two (East still has a Club winner and the trumps are all gone) in a cold slam!

Declarer should have gone fishing for extra clues before taking the crucial Diamond guess. If (after drawing trumps) he cashes three Hearts first, East will show out on the third round. Now Declarer has a perfect count on the hand. East started with one Spade, two Hearts and (based on the bidding and the play) seven Clubs. That means East has three Diamonds, and leading a Diamond to Dummy's Ace, and finessing on the second round, is guaranteed to succeed.

#46 – “NICE TRY, PARTNER”

	♠ J7532 ♥ 3 ♦ 9765 ♣ J62	
♠ Q ♥ T84 ♦ QJ42 ♣ KQ753	North West East Declarer	♠ T9 ♥ KQ76 ♦ AKT ♣ AT94
	♠ AK864 ♥ AJ952 ♦ 83 ♣ 8	

E-W Vulnerable

<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>
1NT	2♠	3♠	4♠
Dbl	All Pass		

Opposite a 15-17 1NT, West had the HCP for game and cue-bid 3♠, hoping that East had something in Spades and could bid 3NT. Does North’s 4♠ seem a bit nutty? Or completely so? It was neither, North expected that 4♠ doubled would be a good sacrifice against an E-W game.

Yes, North fully expected that 4♠ would go down and South went out of his way not to disappoint her. The play went like this: ♠K and ♦K and ♦A were cashed; Club ruffed by Declarer;

trumps drawn in two rounds; Heart ruff; Diamond ruff; Heart ruff; Diamond ruff; Heart ruff. If you have worked your way through this orgy of ruffing you will see that Declarer had by now scored 9 tricks and had finally established that long Heart in his hand. That was the good news. The bad news was that all the trumps were now gone, the lead was in Dummy, and there was no way back to Declarer’s hand to score that long Heart. Down one!

North politely said “Nice try, Partner” which in this case loosely translates to “You blundering imbecile!” A nicer try by Declarer would have been to use his trump entries to better effect. After ruffing the Club, Declarer should cash the ♥A, ruff a Heart, return to hand with a trump and ruff another Heart. This subtle change in timing solves the entry problem and now, by the time that the Hearts are finally ruffed out, there will still be a way back to Declarer’s hand (via another ruff). Making four! “Nicely played, Partner!”

#47 – A SMOOTH DUCK

	♠ QT754 ♥ AQT9 ♦ 64 ♣ 83	
♠ K63 ♥ 63 ♦ KT982 ♣ T52	North West East Declarer	♠ J2 ♥ K8542 ♦ A5 ♣ 9764
	♠ A98 ♥ J7 ♦ QJ73 ♣ AKQJ	

Both Vulnerable

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

Some N-S pairs might blunder into 4♠ (down one), but our own N-S stumbled instead into 3NT. West led a Diamond (the Ten is standard from that holding) won by East's Ace. Then a Diamond to the Queen and King, and a third Diamond. Declarer won that, lost the Heart finesse, but now had 9 easy tricks (a Spade, 3 Hearts, a Diamond, 4 Clubs).

The defense could have done better! It was fine to lead and continue Diamonds, but East missed a chance when Declarer took that Heart finesse. Yes, indeed, East should smoothly duck that trick! When Declarer repeats the Heart finesse, East pounces with the King and shoots back a Club. With no entries to Dummy's Hearts, Declarer is up the creek and down one.

Next, suppose that, when the Heart finesse is taken, East ducks, but this time not smoothly. Now a resourceful Declarer may smell a rat, in which case he can make the contract anyway. He wins the second round of Hearts with the Ace, and cashes the Clubs. By now West is down to ♠K6 and ♦82. Declarer has ♠A98 and ♦7 and will exit with the Diamond. After taking his two Diamonds, West is forced to play Spades, and if Declarer guesses correctly he will play the ♠Q and make his contract.

Post Script: Of course, it would be quite improper for East, when *not* holding the ♥K, to fake out Declarer by hesitatingly unduly on the first Heart, simulating a non-smooth duck. Such shenanigans are OK for poker, but not for bridge.

#48 – THE CUSTOMARY RETORT

	♠ 32 ♥ Q832 ♦ AK52 ♣ K43	
♠ KQT97 ♥ 4 ♦ 98763 ♣ 75	<i>North</i>	♠ J8 ♥ 765 ♦ QJT4 ♣ QJT2
	<i>West</i> <i>East</i>	
	<i>Declarer</i>	
	♠ A654 ♥ AKJT9 ♦ ♣ A986	

E-W Vulnerable

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

After that bold leap to 6♥, West leads the ♠K. Declarer can count 10 top tricks (consisting of 5 trumps and 5 side-suit winners). Our question to you is “Where are the other two tricks coming from?”

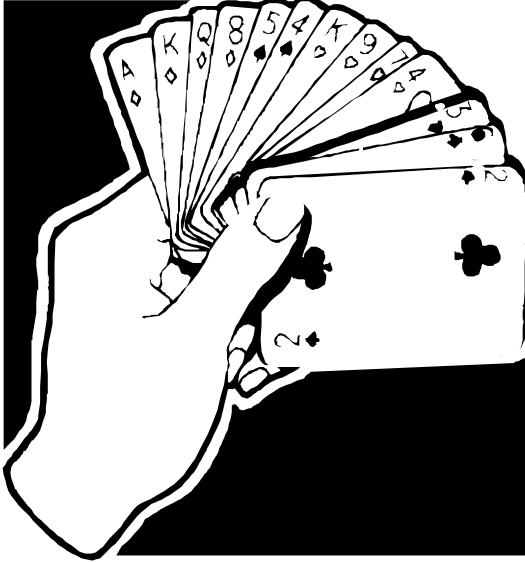
Will it help Declarer’s cause to ruff two Diamonds? No, those ruffs are in the “long hand”. Declarer’s five trumps have already been included in the trick total, and using two of

them for ruffing does not create two extra trump tricks. But getting a couple of ruffs in the “short hand”, well that is an entirely different kettle of fish. That’s right, Declarer can make his contract is by arranging two Spade ruffs in Dummy.

Getting those ruffs must be done early in the play. It won’t do to draw two rounds of trumps (hoping they are 2-2) and then to lose a Spade. In that case, East will win the Spade and fire back another trump, holding the Spade ruffs to just one. It’s OK to draw just one round of trumps, but then the Spade trick must be conceded. Now, whatever the defense does, Declarer gets those two ruffs in the short hand for a total of 12 tricks.

It was fortunate for Declarer that Dummy showed up with the ♥8! If you were to exchange Dummy’s ♥8 with East’s ♥7, then the slam fails (East can over-ruff one of the Spade tricks). When East curses his rotten luck in being dealt that inadequate ♥7, the customary retort is “But we would never have bid the slam without the ♥8”

Upcoming tournaments:



Peoria Spring Sectional

Mar 6-8, 2015

Fon du Lac Park District Admin. Ctr.
201 Veterans Dr., East Peoria, IL 61611