



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 17 Number 6 – June, 2015

14 pages



June Events

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

June 1 – open pairs June 8 – NAP qualifier open pairs

June 15 – quarterly club championship open pairs June 22 – open pairs June 29 – open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Monday, June 1, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, June 3, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, June 4, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, June 6, 12:01PM – WWBC open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, June 8, 6:15PM – NAP qualifier 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, June 10, 1:15PM – NAP qualifier 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, June 11, 11:45AM NAP qualifier open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, June 13, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, June 15, 6:15PM – quarterly club championship 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, June 17, 1:15PM - quarterly club champ 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, June 18, 11:45AM – quarterly club championship open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, June 20, 11:45AM – quarterly club championship open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, June 22, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, June 24, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, June 25, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, June 27, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, June 29, 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

It's often difficult to find the best defense. This hand presented East with a tough choice at trick one and he made a reasonable but incorrect decision.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #14-47	♠ AJ10763	West	North	East	South
Dir E	♥	-	-	2♦	4♥
Vul N/S	♦ K8	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♣ K7643				

♠ K842	□	♠ Q95
♥ A1086		♥ 9
♦ J		♦ A107654
♣ KJ52		♣ Q95
	♠	
	♥ KQJ75432	
	♦ Q932	
	♣ A	

Bidding: After East's weak-two bid, South jumped to the heart game to end the auction.


Play: West led her singleton diamond and East stopped to consider the auction. It seemed unlikely that declarer held four diamonds for his leap to game so East encouraged with the seven and declarer won the queen. From the auction, declarer expected the ace of hearts to be in the West hand and after unblocking the ace of clubs, if either opponent led a black card, declarer would have discards on the ace of spades and king of clubs. If the hearts divided 3-2, he would lose one heart and then be able to end-play East in the diamond suit. If the hearts were 4-1, West could be forced to give declarer an entry to dummy. At trick two, declarer played the ace of clubs followed by the king of hearts. It did not matter which heart trick she won, West would eventually be thrown back in and forced to lead a black card. At the table, she ducked the first two high hearts but then declarer merely exited with a low heart and West was doomed.

The winning defense was for East to win the first diamond and give his partner a diamond ruff. West could then cash her ace of hearts, exit with a heart, and declarer would have to concede a diamond for the setting trick.

#3

There are so many bridge conventions swirling out there it is difficult to decide which are important enough to add to your list of partnership agreements. Perhaps choosing those that are easy to remember and used frequently are good guidelines.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

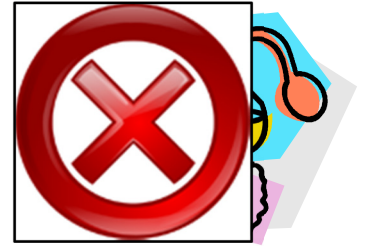
Hand #14-49	♠ J7	West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ QJ4	Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣
Vul N/S	♦ 963	Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
	♣ K10975	Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
♠ A9843		Pass			
♥ 102					
♦ J108					
♣ 432					
	♠ Q6				
	♥ AK876				
	♦ AKQ				
	♣ AQ6				

Bidding: South's rebid of 2NT showed a balanced or semi-balanced hand with 22-24 high card points. North raised to 3NT.

Play: West made the normal lead of 4th best in his longest and strongest and the defense quickly captured the first five spade tricks. At other tables, North used the Puppet Stayman convention to discover that South held a five-card heart suit and the heart game was reached. Many players in the West chair chose the jack of diamonds as their opening lead and those declarers soon claimed all thirteen tricks.

If you open 1NT or 2NT when holding a five-card major, the Puppet Stayman convention is a valuable tool.

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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!!



**Bloomington-Normal 70% club
years 2014 & 2015 only**

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Bloomington office located at:

Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Dr, Bloomington

2015/03/23	71.79%	Eunice Patton & Jeff Furler
2015/03/02	71.11%	Lynn Steffen & Bev Branning (99ers)
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



#57 –THE FORCING GAME

	♠ K52 ♥ A76 ♦ A54 ♣ Q872	
♠ AT98 ♥ 9832 ♦ KQJ3 ♣ 6	North West East Declarer	♠ 6 ♥ J54 ♦ T9876 ♣ A943
	♠ QJ743 ♥ KQT ♦ 2 ♣ KJT5	

None Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
		1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

North might well have rebid 1NT (showing 12-14) but, being a polite sort of fellow, he supported Partner's Spades. Either way, South was destined to declare 4♠, and the fate of that contract rested on West's opening lead. What would be your choice?

When the hand was played in real life, West led a Club and got the immediate gratification of a Club ruff at Trick 2. West

shifted to the ♦K, won in Dummy, followed by a trump to the Queen and South's Ace. West persisted with Diamonds, but Declarer ruffed that, drew the remaining trumps, and had nothing left but winners. Making 10 tricks.

West was on the wrong track when he pursued the Club ruff, that served only to weaken his trump holding while establishing Club winners for Declarer. Thanks to those good intermediate cards West had two trump tricks even without scoring a ruff. He would have done better to attack Diamonds immediately. Look what happens. Declarer wins the opening Diamond lead, loses a trick to the ♠A, ruffs the Diamond continuation, and then gets the bad news about the 4-1 trump split. Declarer must still lose a trick to the ♣A and now another Diamond is ruinous and 4♠ goes down. The moral to this story is: *When you have a powerful trump holding it usually doesn't pay to go after ruffs. Better to attack with the defense's strong suit, forcing Declarer to weaken his own trumps and (hopefully) to lose control.*

#58 – A SELF-INFLICTED WOUND

	♠ Q97654 ♥ A7 ♦ 8 ♣ AK62	
♠ KT32 ♥ 6 ♦ KQJ95 ♣ T75	North West East Declarer	♠ AJ ♥ K432 ♦ T7432 ♣ QJ
	♠ 8 ♥ QJT985 ♦ A6 ♣ 9843	

E-W Vulnerable

South West North East

2♥ Pass 4♥ All Pass

In last week's Bridge Bite, the defense prevailed by forcing Declarer to ruff repeatedly, causing him to lose trump control in the process. This week's Declarer suffered a similar fate but in this case he had no excuse, his defeat was entirely self-inflicted.

Against 4♥, West led the ♦K, won by Declarer's Ace. Assuming that Clubs were breaking 3-2, and by taking a Diamond ruff in Dummy, Declarer could count 10 tricks (5

trump winners, ♦A and a Diamond ruff, and 3 Clubs). The only losers would be a Spade, the ♥K, and a Club.

A pretty simple hand, eh? Well, not exactly! Declarer won the Diamond opening lead, ruffed a Diamond in Dummy, and cashed the ♥A. Declarer needed to get back to hand in order to draw trumps, and that would have to be done with a ruff. So he lost a Spade, ruffed the Diamond return, and played the ♥Q, driving out East's King. With West showing out of Hearts on the second round, and with East returning yet another Diamond, Declarer's goose was cooked. He could ruff the Diamond and draw East's remaining trumps, but then would be out of trumps himself. When he later lost the third round of Clubs, the defense would cash a Spade for down one.

Where did Declarer go wrong? At Trick 2 he should have ruffed the Diamond with Dummy's Ace! Now he can play a low Heart from the board, overtaking in hand if East plays low. This avoids the need for one of those ruffs, trump control is thereby retained, and 10 tricks roll home.

#59 – DUCK A LA GLYNDA

	♠ T62 ♥ 75 ♦ T7 ♣ AJT632	
♠ 97 ♥ A943 ♦ J852 ♣ Q98	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>Glynda</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ QJ83 ♥ T862 ♦ Q63 ♣ K4
	♠ AK54 ♥ KQJ ♦ AK94 ♣ 75	

Don't be fooled by that title, what follows is not a recipe, it is a bridge column.

Both Vulnerable

South West North East

2NT Pass 3NT Pass

Pass Pass

This was played at a local club duplicate, a form of the game where each deal is played by many different pairs.

At every table the contract was 3NT played by South. And at almost every table the play went much the same way. West led a low Heart, won by Declarer. It was clear to Declarer that

he would not have enough tricks unless Dummy's Clubs could be established, so at Trick 2 he finessed the ♣J, losing to East's King. The defense continued Hearts and when Declarer got back in he took a deep breath and tried a second Club finesse. When that worked Declarer had no fewer than 11 tricks.

But, at one table, East (we'll refer to her as Glynda because that happened to be her name) found a rather fine play. When Declarer finessed the Clubs at Trick 2 she brazenly ducked her doubleton King! Well done, now the Club suit was dead as poultry (due to Dummy's shortage of entries), and was worth only two tricks instead of five. Declarer's last resort was to play on Spades, hoping that the suit was 3-3, but that did not work so there were just eight tricks, with no chance of a ninth. Down one! As husband West was gleefully writing +100 on his scorecard, he explained to Glynda "If I don't hold on to my Clubs when the Spades are played, Declarer makes his contract." "Quite so, my dear, nicely defended," replied Glynda.

#60 – A JOY TO BEHOLD

	♠ KT4 ♥ QJ4 ♦ 8432 ♣ 975	
♠ J87 ♥ T3 ♦ KQT6 ♣ QT82	North West East Declarer	♠ Q965 ♥ 9765 ♦ 75 ♣ KJ3
	♠ A32 ♥ AK82 ♦ AJ9 ♣ A64	

N-S Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

This deal was played in a team-of-four game. At both tables South opened 2NT, showing a balanced hand and 20-21 HCP, and North raised to game. West's opening lead was the ♦K. Do you see how to make 9 tricks?

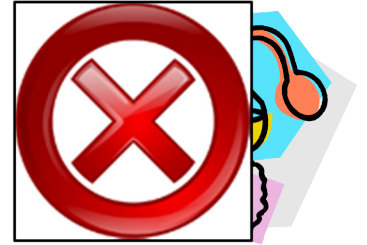
Clue: There is some trickery involved!

At the first table, Declarer counted eight top tricks and the only prospect for a ninth was to score a second Diamond. One possibility was to let the ♦K win the first trick, in the

hope that West would be lured into continuing Diamonds, allowing Declarer's Jack to score (the so-called Bath Coup). But that was unlikely to work, as West (who had not been born the day before) would surely shift at Trick 2, presumably to a Club. Another chance for the ninth trick was to establish a second Diamond winner by force, eventually setting up Dummy's Eight. So, Declarer took the ♦A on the first trick and returned the ♦J, won by West's Queen. However, that line of play was also doomed to failure when West promptly shifted to a Club and the defense got their five tricks before Declarer could rustle up his nine tricks. Down one.

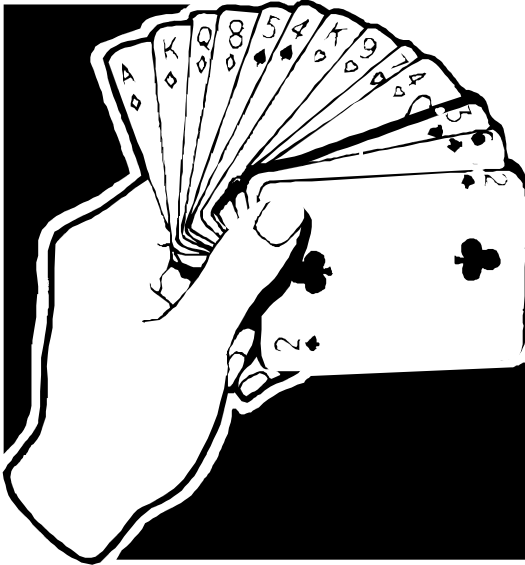
At the other table, West also led the ♦K, but this time Declarer found a rather surprising play. She smoothly dropped the Jack! Playing Declarer to have started with doubleton AJ, West confidently led a low Diamond to East's presumed Nine. It was a joy to behold the look of astonishment on West's face when it was Declarer who produced the Nine and claimed her nine tricks.

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Upcoming tournaments:



Carl Sandburg Sectional

June 12-14, 2015

Friday and Saturday events: 10:30am & 4:00pm

Sunday swiss teams: 10:30am

Sandburg Mall-Community Room

1150 W. Carl Sandburg Dr., Galesburg, IL 61401

Bloomington-Normal Summer Sectional

In memory of our special friend: Steve Hawthorne

July 10-12, 2015

Friday and Saturday events: 10:30am & 4:00pm

Sunday swiss teams: 10:30am

UAW Hall

10226 E. 1400 North Rd., Bloomington, IL 61705