



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 17 Number 8 – August, 2015

16 pages



August Events

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

August 3 – open pairs August 10 – open pairs

August 17 – open pairs August 24 – open pairs

August 31 – NAP qualifier open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Saturday, August 1, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, August 3, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, August 5, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, August 6, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, August 8, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, August 10, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, August 12, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, August 13, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, August 15, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, August 17, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, August 19, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, August 20, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, August 22, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, August 24, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, August 26, 1:15PM - NAP qualifier 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, August 27, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, August 29, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, August 31, 6:15PM – NAP qualifier 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 6/7/2015 – residents of Bloomington-Normal
only – paid up ACBL members only

1	3,628.97	Betty Capodice
2	3,268.55	Steve Babin
***	2,557.18	Laura Addison
3	2,377.79	Zack Freehill
4	2,185.80	Eunice Patton
5	2,049.21	Mike Tomlianovich
***	1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne
6	1,552.72	Dewey Gronau
7	1,461.16	Cindy Moore
8	1,444.63	Ann Schuyler
***	1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar
***	1,320.43	Ed Lombard
9	1,307.49	JoAnn Schroeder
10	1,263.31	Stan Gutzman
11	1,180.75	Ron Emmett
12	1,157.80	Jeanne Strand
13	1,156.19	Charlie Morton
14	1,118.67	Ivey Weaver
***	1,091.94	Marian Edmunds
15	1,080.86	Lori Moore
16	1,024.08	Jean Barnett
17	935.59	Randall Motchan
18	822.26	Glen Beaman
***	792.95	Don Strand
19	782.71	Henrietta Crain
***	780.34	Jack Kessler
***	741.06	Pearl Harris
20	699.24	Dennis Moll
21	672.63	Peg Deutsch
22	651.54	Steve Wulfers
23	648.59	Dave Freehill
***	610.73	Martin Compton
***	570.80	Ann Farnsworth
***	567.22	Ruth Wettaw
24	551.58	Jeff Furler
***	481.88	Bev Upp
25	515.20	Stevie Joslin
***		deceased

Other players:

***	12,741.55	Dick Benson-LeRoy
	11,671.89	Chris Benson-LeRoy
	4,499.06	John Seng-Champaign
	4,394.61	Larry Matheny-Colorado
***	4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
	4,013.73	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
	3,776.03	Ron Sholes-Springfield
	3,573.24	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
	2,714.01	Paul Lindauer-Varna
	2,485.66	Georgia Heth-Morton
	2,437.71	Gail Moon-Tennessee
	2,465.99	Pat Carrington-Champaign
	2,417.00	Ray Russ-Henry
	2,427.61	Carole Sholes-Springfield
	2,298.33	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
	2,261.68	Mary Allen-Peoria
	2,133.09	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
	1,831.87	Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
***	1,776.22	John Burdon
	1,769.55	Tim Cull-Springfield
	1,612.93	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
	1,550.53	Dennis Fitton-Champaign
	1,528.93	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
	1,520.52	John Maloney-Champaign
	1,270.74	Jim Moon-Tennessee
***	916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
	846.87	Phil Kenney-Eureka
	846.16	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
	768.73	Doug Steele-Seymour
	657.64	Carole Miller-Champaign



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#1

The bidding tools used to keep you out of bad slams are as important as those you use to reach good ones.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

Hand #15-03	♠ 75	West	North	East	South
Dir W	♥ QJ7	Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Vul N/S	♦ KQ87	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
	♣ AJ53	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
♠ Q63		Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
♥ 10985	♠ A10	Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
♦ 62	♥ 643	Pass	5♠	Pass	Pass
♣ 10984	♦ J10954	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♣ 762	Pass			
	♠ KJ9842				
	♥ AK2				
	♦ A3				
	♣ KQ				

Bidding: After North opened the bidding, South immediately thought of slam. South's 2♣ rebid was the New Minor Forcing convention. North's 2NT rebid showed a minimum opener with only two spades. Next, South forced to game and showed six+ spades and North raised to game. South continued with Roman Keycard Blackwood and North admitted to holding one keycard. South asked if North held the queen of spades and the answer was no. Disappointed, South reluctantly stopped at the five-level.


Play: West led the ten of hearts and declarer saw his only concern was the trump suit. He won the heart in dummy and led a low spade to the ten, jack, and queen. He later lost the ace of spades and made his contract.

In a local game seven N/S pairs went down in slam, one bid and made slam, and five stopped in game. The Keycard Blackwood convention is a valuable tool and the trump queen-ask feature is priceless. You don't usually want to be in slam missing a keycard and the queen of your trump suit.

#3

When playing in a Pairs event with matchpoint scoring, your goal is to not necessarily make your contract, but rather to maximize your plus scores and minimize your minus scores. Sometimes playing for down one is good bridge.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand #15-06	♠ QJ42	West	North	East	South
Dir S	♥ AJ96	-	-	-	3♦
Vul E/W	♦ 5	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♣ J1054				
♠ 109875		♠ AK			
♥ K832		♥ Q54			
♦ J10		♦ 842			
♣ 32		♣ AK876			
	♣ 63				
	♥ 107				
	♦ AKQ9763				
	♣ Q9				

Bidding: I was sitting East and when the bidding came around to me I wasn't sure of what action to take. I finally decided passing might be our last chance for a plus score.

Play: My partner led a low heart and assuming diamonds behaved, declarer counted five losers: 2 spades, 1 heart, and 2 clubs. Instead of accepting down one, he ducked the first heart perhaps hoping to later discard card a loser on the jack of hearts. I won the queen followed by the AK of spades and the two top clubs. Next, I led a third club and declarer had a problem. His choices were to play me for both the jack and ten of diamonds and ruff with the nine, or to ruff high and hope for a doubleton J10 of diamonds. He finally trumped with the nine, my partner over-ruffed with the ten, and the contract was down two.

We had no contract that would succeed so it was right to pass the 3♦ bid. Declarer should have accepted down one instead of trying to make the contract. In a pairs event, you must fight for every matchpoint.

Illinois Senior Olympics 2015 Duplicate Bridge Form



**Tuesday, September 1, 2015
1p.m. — 5p.m.**

WHAT One session duplicate bridge pairs game (must have own partner). Sponsored by the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL and Unit 208).

WHEN Tuesday, September 1, 2015 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

WHERE Erin's Pavilion, Southwind Park, corner of Southwind and South Second Street — 4965 S. Second Street, Springfield.

FORMAT You will play approximately 26 boards (hands) of bridge with your partner. You will have the opportunity to win ACBL Master Points based on your results as a pair. Senior Olympic medals will be awarded based on how well you do individually in your age and gender group.

FEE \$20 per pair, which includes refreshments. Mail entry form with check made payable to **Illinois Senior Olympics** by **August 21, 2015** to:

Illinois Senior Olympics
701 West Mason
Springfield, IL 62702

Jennifer Phillips, State
Games Director
217.528.4035 ext. 130
seniorolympics@ssoci.org
Illinois Senior Olympics
701 West Mason
Springfield, IL 62702
www.ilsenoly.org

Player Number 1

Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Tele: _____

ACBL # _____ # Master Pts. _____

Player Number 2

Name:

Date of Birth:

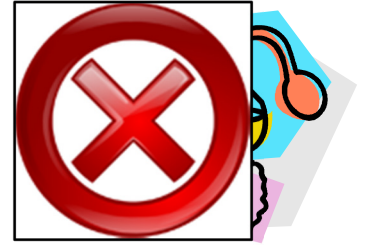
Address:

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Tele: _____

ACBL # _____ # Master Pts. _____

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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!!



TIP OF THE MONTH

The Convention Card – part 2 of a 16-part series

This month: the section titled “NOTRUMP OPENING BIDS”.

Last month’s tip described the portion of the convention card that shows the partnership’s general approach.

It would be best to have a copy of the latest convention card used at your local club as you read this tip.

If the item is written in black, the agreement is considered normal. If the item is written in red, then the agreement must be alerted whenever the agreement is used. If the item is written in blue, then the agreement must be announced whenever used.

Just beneath the general approach section is the section that describes the partnership’s agreement for opening bids of 1NT, 2NT, or 3NT.

For 1NT opening bids, show the point count range, usually 15-17 or 16-18. But there are other ranges used, all of which must be announced by the adopter. If the partnership more often than not will open 1NT with a 5-card major, then mark accordingly.

Each response to the 1NT opener is described:

2 clubs: Indicate which version of Stayman used. Most use regular Stayman, which is a variation called non-forcing Stayman. There is an item called forcing Stayman that must be alerted. Some players use another alertable variation called Puppet Stayman.

2 diamonds: Indicate if your agreement uses 2 diamonds as a transfer to hearts. Since this item is written in blue, this agreement must be announced when used in an auction.

2 hearts: Indicate if your agreement uses 2 hearts as a transfer to spades. Since this item is written in blue, this agreement must be announced when used in an auction.

2 spades: Indicate what a 2 spade response means. Many players use 2 spades as a relay to 3 clubs. There are other agreements for the 2 spade response. All agreements where 2 spades does not mean spades must be alerted.

2NT: Indicate if the 2NT response means an invitational bid of 8-9 points. Some players use 2NT as a relay to 3 diamonds. Any agreement other than invitational 8-9 points must be alerted.

3 clubs, 3 diamonds, 3 hearts, 3 spades: Many players use these bids as forcing or invitational. There are other agreements, all of which must be alerted.

4 diamonds, 4 hearts: Indicate if these bids mean a transfer to the respective higher ranking bid.

Smolen, Lebensohl, stolen bids, negative double, and other treatments for when the opponents

overall your 1NT opening bids must be indicated and alerted when used.

2NT: Indicate your point range. Most players use 20 to 21 points for the 2NT open with 2 clubs and a 2NT rebid showing 22-24 points. Also show use of Puppet Stayman, Jacoby (3 level transfer) or Texas (4 level transfer).

3NT: Show what a 3NT opening bid means. Many players use this bid to mean 25-27 points. Some players use a gambling 3NT reserving a 2 club opener with a 3NT response as 25-27 points. Also show use of other agreements than the ones used for 1NT or 2NT opening bids.

Lastly, if any of 1NT, 2NT, or 3NT opening bids are conventional, indicate the agreement that must be alerted.

Next month's tip: The section titled "opening 1 of a major suit".



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**Bloomington-Normal 70% club
years 2014 & 2015 only
Sponsored by: TBA**

2015/07/29	71.25%	Marilyn & Gene Byers(NLMers)
2015/07/15	71.67%	Mary Tweedie & Michelle Tomlin(NLMers)
2015/06/17	70.00%	Linda Odette & Ramesh Chaudhari(NLMers)
2015/06/08	81.25%	John Stahly & Rick Kern(99ers)
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



#65 – NICE TRY!

	♠ A9752 ♥ 985 ♦ A97 ♣ 64	
♠ KJ ♥ AKT7 ♦ K84 ♣ T753	North West East Declarer	♠ QT86 ♥ J64 ♦ JT653 ♣ 8
	♠ 43 ♥ Q32 ♦ Q2 ♣ AKQJ93	

None Vulnerable

South West North East

1♣ 1♥ 1♠ 2♥

3♣ Pass Pass Pass

West cashes the ♥A and gets the discouraging Four from East. West shifts to a trump, after which things look bleak! From the bidding and the play to the first trick it appears that West has overcalled with ♥AKxx. How do you avoid losing five tricks?

The only chance is an end-play against West. If you can force him to play a second round of Hearts or to lead the first round of Diamonds, then one of your losers will disappear.

The best hope is that West has the doubleton Spade King, in which case you can draw trumps, play a Spade to the Ace, and exit a Spade. West is forced to win the trick with his ♠K, and must now play one of the red suits. Bingo, that's 9 tricks!

That was well done, but if Zia had been sitting West he would have dumped the ♠K on the first round of Spades! No problem! Your clever counter would be to duck that trick (remember, the idea is to keep East off lead) and to win the Spade return with Dummy's Ace. Now you ruff a Spade and, when Zia shows out, you can count his original distribution as 2=4=3=4. So you cash your last trump and Zia is squeezed! He has these unpleasant choices:

- If he comes down to ♥Kx ♦Kx, you play ♦A and out a Diamond, end-playing him in Hearts.
- If he comes down to ♥K ♦Kxx, you throw him in with a Heart and make a surprising overtrick!
- If he comes down to ♥Kxx ♦K, you can cash two Diamonds.

Good defense, Zia, but not quite good enough!

#66 – A FAILURE TO COMMUNICATE

	♠ T97 ♥ 96 ♦ KJ654 ♣ AJT	
♠ Q854 ♥ KT85 ♦ 7 ♣ 8532	North West East Declarer	♠ J32 ♥ A72 ♦ AT98 ♣ 964
	♠ AK6 ♥ QJ43 ♦ Q32 ♣ KQ7	

Both Vulnerable

	South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	3NT	Pass	
	Pass	Pass		

Which of West's 4-card suits would you lead against 3NT? As North did not bother with Stayman, there would be a tendency to lead a major in this situation. So, let us assume that West leads his 4th best Heart, if only because it's the stronger suit.

East's ♥A won the opening lead, the Heart Seven was returned to Declarer's Queen and West's King, and the third round of the suit knocked out Declarer's Heart stopper, setting up a third Heart winner for the defense. Next Declarer played on Diamonds. East won the Ace and, being out of Hearts, shifted to a Spade, won by Declarer. Thanks to the 4-1 Diamond break there was still a Diamond to be lost, but eventually Declarer was able to rustle up his 9th trick in the suit. Poor West never did score that third Heart trick, and the defense had to make do with two Hearts and two Diamonds.

West slipped up when he won the second round of Hearts. With no quick entry, West must keep the Heart suit as the line of communication between the E-W hands. So West must duck the second trick, letting Declarer have her Heart trick early and leaving East in a position to lead Hearts again when he gets in with the ♦A. Now the defense scores three Heart tricks and two Diamonds, and that's down one.

The defense did not shine here, and had to do everything just wrong to let 3NT make. A Club or a Spade opening lead would beat the contract ... as would a Heart lead and a (non-obvious) Spade shift by East at Trick 2 ... or the aforementioned Heart lead and duck of the second round of Hearts.

#67 – A FREE SHOT

	♠ A42 ♥ 865 ♦ 9643 ♣ T43	
♠ QJ7 ♥ KQJ97 ♦ 875 ♣ 85	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ T985 ♥ AT432 ♦ K2 ♣ KJ
	♠ K63 ♥ ♦ AQJT ♣ AQ9762	

None Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1♣	1♥	Pass	4♥
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Against 5♣ doubled, West leads a Heart, ruffed by Declarer's Club Two. Over to the ♠A, Club finesse, cash the ♠A, back to Dummy's ♠T, Diamond finesse. 12 tricks! Was that a foolish Double or what?

It's always embarrassing when you double them and they make an overtrick. But East missed the chance for a delicious deception! When Declarer leads a trump from

Dummy at Trick 3, East might casually play the King! Now look at the hand from Declarer's point of view. East "obviously" started with the singleton ♣K ... the bad news is that there is a trump loser to West's ♣J85 ... the good news is that by now playing low towards Dummy's ♠T (instead of cashing the ♣Q) Declarer can force a second entry to the board for the Diamond finesse.

So, Declarer tries the aforementioned, but Dummy's ♠T is taken by East's Jack! That play of the ♣K has swindled a trump trick for the defense. And it has also swindled Declarer out of an entry to the board. Now the Diamond finesse cannot be taken and it's down one instead of making with an overtrick!

East's falsecard was almost a free shot. East may not have foreseen the havoc it would wreak, he just needed to know that unless West had the singleton ♣A his play would not cost, and that one way or another it might gain. As for South, he could have saved the day. He had ruffed the opening Heart lead with the trump nearest to his left thumb, and unfortunately for him that was the Two. If he had saved that valuable Two for later and splurged out with the Six or Seven, he would still have a trump entry to the board for the Diamond finesse. But who would think of that at Trick 1?

#68 – A STRANGE LEAD

	♠ JT3 ♥ 743 ♦ J86 ♣ AK87	
♠ 982 ♥ KQJT952 ♦ ♣ 963	North West East Declarer	♠ A ♥ A6 ♦ T9743 ♣ QJT42
	♠ KQ7654 ♥ 8 ♦ AKQ52 ♣ 5	

Both Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1♠	3♥	3♠	4♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West's 3♥ jump overcall showed long Hearts and not much else (preemptive, in other words), and South eventually bought the contract in 4♠. Put yourself in the West seat. You'd love to get a Diamond ruff (or two) but, alas, you are on opening lead. Any thoughts?

This deal was played in a team game and at one table West routinely led the ♥K. Declarer ruffed the second Heart and played a trump to East's Ace. A Diamond was returned for West to ruff, briefly raising the hopes of E-W. But that was all they got, and Declarer had 10 tricks. In the post mortem West stated the obvious by pointing out that East needed to overtake the King with his ♥A at Trick 1 and shoot back a Diamond, getting the defense *two* ruffs and setting the contract.

At the other table, West was made of smarter stuff. At Trick 1 she led the Heart *Two!* Unless leading "top of a sequence" it is customary to lead 4th best from a long suit (some prefer "3rd or 5th"), so that Heart Two was distinctly fishy-looking, considering that West's bidding had announced 6 or 7 Hearts. What was West trying to say by her strange lead? She clearly wanted a shift, probably for a ruff. East concluded that Diamonds were more promising than Clubs, all the more so as, if West was out of Clubs, then East had natural Club tricks coming his way. So back came a Diamond for the first of two ruffs. Down one!

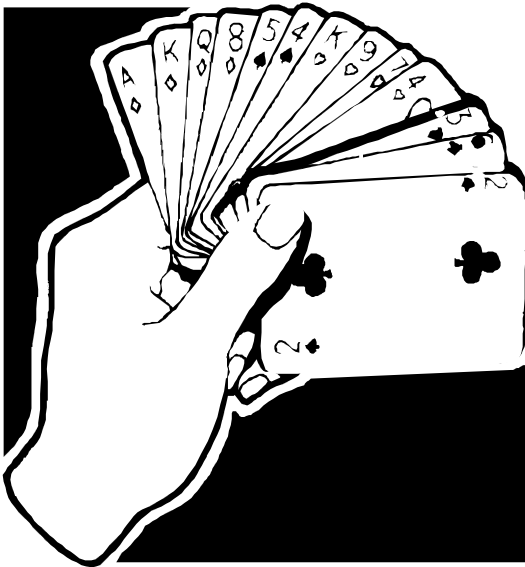
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Upcoming tournaments:



Peoria Fall Sectional

Sep 18-20, 2015

Fri: 10:30 & 3:30 – 99ers only and open pairs

Sat: 10:30 & 3:30 – 99ers only and 2 session open pairs

Sun: 10:30 – swiss teams – 2 session play through

Fon du Lac Park District

201 Veterans Dr., East Peoria, IL 61611