



# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 18 Number 8 – August, 2016

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 1 – open pairs      August 8 – open pairs**

**August 15 – open pairs      August 22 – open pairs      August 29 – open pairs**

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

**Mike's Bridge Club schedule:**

**Monday, August 1, 6:15PM - 99ers only pairs – First Christian**

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

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

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

**Monday, August 8, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian**

**Wednesday, August 10, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Thursday, August 11, 11:45AM – NAP qual open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Saturday, August 13, 11:45AM – NAP qual open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Monday, August 15, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Wednesday, August 17, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Thursday, August 18, 11:45AM – Addison-Lombard charity club champ open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Saturday, August 20, 11:45AM – Addison-Lombard charity club champ open pairs – Centennial Christian**

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

**Tuesday, August 23, 12:30PM – invitation only pairs – Clinton Country Club**

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

**Thursday, August 25, 11:45AM – NAP qual open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Saturday, August 27, 11:45AM – NAP qual open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Monday, August 29, 99ers only pairs – First Christian**

**Tuesday, August 30, 1:00PM – Illinois Senior Olympics bridge event – Erin's Pavillion-Springfield**

**Wednesday, August 31, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Centennial 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](http://clubresults.acbl.org)**

**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 4/6/2016 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only  
paid up ACBL members only



- 1 3,699.19 Betty Capodice
- 2 3,443.54 Steve Babin
- \*\*\* 2,557.18 Laura Addison
- 3 2,598.85 Zack Freehill
- 4 2,414.38 Eunice Patton
- 5 2,096.29 Mike Tomlianovich
- \*\*\* 1,735.61 Steve Hawthorne
- 6 1,770.15 Cindy Moore
- 7 1,732.26 JoAnn Schroeder
- 8 1,691.19 Ann Schuyler
- 9 1,598.43 Dewey Gronau
- \*\*\* 1,398.35 Sharad Chitgopekar
- \*\*\* 1,320.43 Ed Lombard
- 10 1,310.22 Lori Moore
- 11 1,270.81 Ron Emmett
- 12 1,263.31 Stan Gutzman
- 13 1,256.55 Charlie Morton
- 14 1,191.74 Jeanne Strand
- 15 1,133.86 Ivey Weaver
- \*\*\* 1,091.94 Marian Edmunds
- 16 1,042.65 Jean Barnett
- 17 974.61 Randall Motchan
- \*\*\* 835.37 Glen Beaman
- 18 794.41 Henrietta Crain
- \*\*\* 792.95 Don Strand
- 19 788.87 Jeff Furler
- \*\*\* 780.34 Jack Kessler
- 20 754.51 Dennis Moll
- 21 748.95 Steve Wulfers
- \*\*\* 741.06 Pearl Harris
- 22 699.35 Peg Deutsch
- 23 693.34 Dave Freehill
- \*\*\* 610.73 Martin Compton
- 24 601.57 Joyce Clay
- 25 581.99 Stevie Joslin
- \*\*\* deceased

### Other players:

- \*\*\*12,741.55 Dick Benson-LeRoy
- 12,072.03 Chris Benson-LeRoy
- 4,779.12 John Seng-Champaign
- 4,647.72 Larry Matheny-Colorado
- \*\*\* 4,073.45 Alan Wienman-Morton
- 4,057.25 Ron Sholes-Springfield
- 4,024.58 Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
- 3,899.50 Christine Carroll-Champaign
- 3,798.37 Kish Devaraj-Georgia
- 2,890.98 Paul Lindauer-Varna
- 2,596.62 Carole Sholes-Springfield
- 2,529.71 Mary Allen-Peoria
- 2,523.24 Pat Carrington-Champaign
- 2,518.30 Georgia Heth-Morton
- 2,513.61 Ray Russ-Henry
- 2,446.86 Gail Moon-Tennessee
- 2,369.03 Margaret Hansell-Champaign
- 2,299.92 Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
- 1,921.96 Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
- 1,808.14 Tim Cull-Arizona
- \*\*\* 1,776.22 John Burdon
- 1,737.03 John Maloney-Champaign
- 1,699.47 Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
- 1,565.73 Dennis Fitton-Mahomet
- 1,532.31 Bobbie Straker-Pekin
- 1,279.89 Jim Moon-Tennessee
- 1,003.76 Chuck Langley-Mechanicsburg
- \*\*\* 916.41 Floyd Sherry-Eureka
- 948.47 Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
- 940.57 Phil Kenney-Eureka
- 792.59 Doug Steele-Seymour
- 558.68 Wes Seitz-Champaign



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#1 -

Minor suit slams are often difficult to bid. With the scoring in a Pairs event there is a natural reluctance to go beyond three no trumps. This N/S pair breezed to the slam but the play was a bit dicey.

## Matchpoints (Pairs)

#16-02	♠ 8742		West	North	East	South
Vul E/W	♥ 6		Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣
	♦ AJ109		Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
	♣ A954		Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
♠ KQ		♠ J109653	Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
♥ J98753		♥ Q	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
♦ 8764		♦ 32	Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
♣ 6		♣ 10872	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
	♠ A					
	♥ AK1042					
	♦ KQ5					
	♣ KQJ3					


**BIDDING:** North's two diamond response was artificial and game forcing. South bid hearts and North bid 2NT to deny heart support or a long suit of his own. South next showed a club suit and North raised. The four diamond bid was Roman Keycard Blackwood with clubs as the agreed suit and the response of 4NT showed two keycards. Since North was a passed hand it was unlikely he also held a king but South checked anyway. The six club reply denied a king.

**PLAY:** West led the king of spades to declarer's ace. Declarer saw no problem with the hand until he played the king-queen of clubs and discovered the bad break. Next, he led the five of diamonds to dummy's jack followed by a spade ruff with the three of clubs. He now cashed his jack of clubs followed by the king of diamonds overtaking with the ace in dummy. Next he played the ace of clubs to draw the last trump and discard the queen of diamonds from his hand. He now had his 12 tricks: 1 spade, 1 spade ruff, 2 hearts, 4 diamonds, and 4 clubs.

#2 -

When novice players learn new conventions they are anxious to use them. That anxiety needs to be tempered with good judgment.

### Matchpoints (Pairs)

#16-03	♠ J10862		West	North	East	South
Vul none	♥ J10754		-	-	1♣	Pass
	♦					
	♣ Q104		1♦	2♦	DBL	2♥
♣ 75		♣ AK9	DBL	Pass	Pass	Pass
♥ AKQ3		♥ 2				
♦ AQ863		♦ K975				
♣ 76		♣ KJ932				
	♠ Q43					
	♥ 986					
	♦ J1042					
	♣ A85					

**BIDDING:** North's cue bid of two diamonds was the Michael's convention showing the major suits. East doubled, South took a preference to hearts, and West closed the auction with another double.


**PLAY:** West led the queen of trumps and it was brutal. After three rounds of trumps West led diamonds to force declarer to use dummy's remaining trumps. Declarer managed only three tricks for -1100. A few E/W pairs bid the diamond slam for +920 but most stopped in 3NT.

There is simply no reason for North to enter the auction.

#3 –

While a hand may be strong enough to bid at the one-level, it takes more strength to enter the auction at higher levels. This strength can be in high card points or distribution.

**Matchpoints (Pairs)**

#16-04	♠ KQJ				
Vul N/S	♥ 10973	West	North	East	South
	♦ A986	3♠	DBL	Pass	4♥
	♣ K4	Pass	Pass	DBL	Pass
♠ A987432		Pass	Pass		
♥ 4		Pass	Pass		
♦ K32					
♣ 83					
	♠ 10				
	♥ KJ82				
	♦ Q1075				
	♣ J1065				

**BIDDING:** North made a takeout double of West's preempt and although South didn't know it, he was in trouble. East's double sealed declarer's doom.


**PLAY:** West led the ace of spade followed by a club shift. Declarer ended up losing 1 spade, 1 heart, 1 diamond, and 2 clubs. Down two and -500 when E/W could only make +140 in spades meant a zero for N/S. North should have passed West's preemptive bid confident that South would balance if he had enough strength to enter the auction.

With the classic 4-4-4-1 shape for a takeout double, a good guideline for minimum high card count is eleven at the one-level, thirteen at the two-level, and fifteen at the three-level. Obviously intermediate cards, vulnerability, and position at the table are also important factors.

#4 –

It is often correct to extract all of the opponents' trumps. However, there are times when this must be delayed.

**Matchpoints (Pairs)**

#16-05	♠ AQ10854	West	North	East	South
Vul N/S	♥ QJ4	-	-	Pass	1♥
	♦ A	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
	♣ AJ10	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
♠ 32		Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
♥ 9		Pass			
♦ K986432		Pass			
♣ Q32		Pass			
	♠ K96				
	♥ K85				
	♦ 107				
	♣ 97654				
	♠ J7				
	♥ A107632				
	♦ QJ5				
	♣ K8				

**BIDDING:** The South hand seems too good for a weak-two and perhaps not good enough for a one bid. This South player liked the hand and slam was soon reached. The five club response to Roman Keycard Blackwood showed one key-card.

**PLAY:** West led a low diamond to dummy's ace. It appeared declarer needed either the heart finesse or the spade finesse to succeed. However, he had to be careful. At trick two he led the queen of hearts and it won the trick. Next, he led a low heart to his ten as West discarded a diamond. It was important that he now take the spade finesse leaving the jack of hearts to protect dummy. East won the king of spades and returned a diamond to the queen, king, and the jack of hearts. Declarer now only had to lead a club to his king, draw the last trump, and claim the contract.

Note that if declarer pulls the last trump and then loses the spade finesse, the opponents will cash a diamond to defeat the contract.

**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!!**

# Illinois Senior Olympics 2016 Duplicate Bridge Form



**Tuesday, August 30th, 2016  
1p.m. — 5p.m.**

**WHAT** One session duplicate bridge pairs game (must have own partner).

**WHEN** Tuesday, August 30th, 2016 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 26, 2016** to:

Illinois Senior Olympics  
701 West Mason  
Springfield, IL 62702

Justin Yuroff, State Games  
Director

217.528.4035 ext. 118  
development@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. \_\_\_\_\_





# TIP OF THE MONTH

## The Convention Card – part 14 of a 16-part series

**This month: the section “slam conventions”.**

**It would be helpful to have a copy of the convention card as you read this tip.**

**The most common slam convention is Blackwood, where a 4NT bid by one partner asks for the other to show the number of aces held. For example: 5C->all or no aces, 5D->1 ace, 5h-2 aces, 5s->3 aces.**

**This is called “regular Blackwood”. If you and your partner use this convention, then check the box following “4NT: Blackwood”.**

**If you and your partner use the Gerber convention, where a 4C bid asks for aces, check the box titled “Gerber”. Most players use Gerber only over a 1NT opening bid. If this is your agreement, then write the letters “ONTO” (over no trump only) under the word “Gerber”.**

**There is a variation of Blackwood called “keycard Blackwood”, where a 5th “ace” is indicated when holding the potential trump suit king. Players who adopt “keycard Blackwood”, when there is an agreed upon suit fit (1S, 3S, 4NT, etc), the king of spades is treated as a 5th ace.**

**Many players agree that when the immediate last bid is a suit, the king of that suit is treated as a 5th ace (ex: 1S, 3H, 4NT, etc). Here the heart king is the “5th ace”. Since there are 5 “aces” and only 4 suits to bid, use this guideline:**

**5 clubs means 3 or no keycards**

**5 diamonds means 1 or 4 keycards**

**5 hearts means 2 keycards without the queen of the agreed upon suit**

**5 spades means 2 keycards with the queen of the agreed upon suit**

**5NT and higher responses also have a special meaning to involved for this article.**

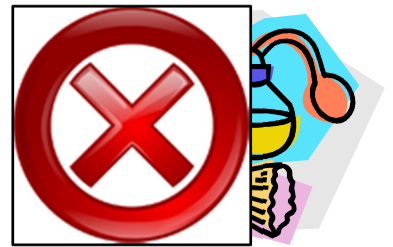
**In addition, notice the box titled “RKC”. RKC is for when you use the agreement just described. If you exchange the meaning of 5 clubs and 5 diamonds, then mark “1430” on your agreement sheet.**

**Lastly, what happens if the opponents bid during your Blackwood auction? This is where the agreements “DOPI”, “DEPO”, or “ROPI” are used. “DOPI” means double for no aces, pass for 1 ace, bid the next suit up the line for 2 aces, etc. If you have a keycard agreement, then double shows what 5 clubs means, pass shows what 5 diamonds, bidding the next suit up the line shows**

what 5 hearts means, etc. “DEPO” means double for an even number of aces, pass for an odd number of aces. “ROPI” is used when the opponents double your response to 4NT. “ROPI” means redouble for zero aces, pass with 1 ace, bid the next higher suit for 2 aces, etc. Most players agree to use “DOPI”, not “DEPO” and then possibly ROPI.

Next month’s tip: The section titled “opening leads”.

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**Bloomington-Normal 70% club  
Years 2015 & 2016  
Sponsored by: TBA**

<b>2016/7/27</b>	<b>70.95%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Linda Odette(NLMers)</b>
<b>2016/6/28</b>	<b>73.33%</b>	<b>Joni Newburg &amp; Lois Johnson(Clinton invitational)</b>
<b>2016/3/16</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>Bev Branning &amp; John Ford(NLMers)</b>
<b>2016/3/14</b>	<b>71.11%</b>	<b>Larry Ziegler &amp; Rick Kern(99ers)</b>
<b>2016/3/14</b>	<b>70.56%</b>	<b>Mike Gross &amp; Carroll Kinnaman(99ers)</b>
<b>2016/2/10</b>	<b>72.02%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Linda Odette(NLMers)</b>
<b>2016/2/3</b>	<b>71.67%</b>	<b>Lynn Steffen &amp; Mary Houska(NLMers)</b>
<b>2016/1/12</b>	<b>70.14%</b>	<b>Marilyn &amp; Darryl Bremner(Clinton invitational)</b>
<b>2015/12/14</b>	<b>70.83%</b>	<b>Mike Gross &amp; Carroll Kinnaman(99ers)</b>
<b>2015/12/5</b>	<b>70.31%</b>	<b>Christine Carroll &amp; Wes Seitz</b>
<b>2015/11/30</b>	<b>71.11%</b>	<b>Phil Kenney &amp; Zach Freehill</b>
<b>2015/11/28</b>	<b>72.22%</b>	<b>Ann Schuyler &amp; Zach Freehill</b>
<b>2015/11/2</b>	<b>71.35%</b>	<b>Ann Schuyler &amp; Dennis Moll</b>
<b>2015/10/28</b>	<b>71.11%</b>	<b>Gary Kemp &amp; John Ford(NLMers)</b>
<b>2015/10/10</b>	<b>73.66%</b>	<b>Lane O'Connor &amp; Steve Wulfers</b>
<b>2015/09/02</b>	<b>71.11%</b>	<b>Gary Kemp &amp; John Ford(NLMers)</b>
<b>2015/08/17</b>	<b>73.33%</b>	<b>Mary Lou Gold &amp; Gaye Hoselton(99ers)</b>
<b>2015/08/10</b>	<b>70.56%</b>	<b>Linda &amp; Dave Odette(99ers)</b>
<b>2015/07/29</b>	<b>71.25%</b>	<b>Marilyn &amp; Gene Byers(NLMers)</b>
<b>2015/07/15</b>	<b>71.67%</b>	<b>Mary Tweedie &amp; Michelle Tomlin(NLMers)</b>
<b>2015/06/17</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>Linda Odette &amp; Ramesh Chaudhari(NLMers)</b>
<b>2015/06/08</b>	<b>81.25%</b>	<b>John Stahly &amp; Rick Kern(99ers)</b>
<b>2015/03/23</b>	<b>71.79%</b>	<b>Eunice Patton &amp; Jeff Furler</b>
<b>2015/03/02</b>	<b>71.11%</b>	<b>Lynn Steffen &amp; Bev Branning (99ers)</b>
<b>2015/02/04</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>John Stahly &amp; John Ford (NLMers)</b>
<b>2015/02/02</b>	<b>71.30%</b>	<b>John Stahly &amp; Rick Kern (99ers)</b>
<b>2015/01/05</b>	<b>70.83%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Terri Huebsch (99ers)</b>

## BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



### #109 – RIGHT THROUGH THE PACK

	♠ 32 ♥ 2 ♦ J9876 ♣ 87543	
♠ JT7654 ♥ T86 ♦ 54 ♣ K2	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ KQ98 ♥ 9754 ♦ KT2 ♣ A6
	♠ A ♥ AKQJ3 ♦ AQ3 ♣ QJT9	

Perhaps the most charming bridge book of all time is *Right Through The Pack*, published back in the late forties. The setting is a bridge club in London, the players go home at the end of the game, and the cards then come to life, all 52 of them eager to tell a delightful tale in which they had excelled. If this deal were in that book then it might well be *The Tale of the Heart Two*. See how that heroic little trump saves the day in 4♥.

West leads the ♠J and North tables a rather sad Dummy. To make her contract, Declarer must set up some minor suit tricks. But it won't do to draw trumps first and then start establishing minor winners, in that case the defense will keep pounding away in Spades, forcing Declarer to lose trump control. Well, if drawing trumps won't work then one must do the other thing and not draw trumps. Instead, Declarer plays on the minors, leaving Dummy's valiant Heart Two at large to handle the defensive Spade onslaught.

Which minor should Declarer attack at Trick 2? There won't be enough tricks from Clubs alone because the suit is blocked, so Declarer plays the ♦Q at Trick 2. But East wickedly withholds the King, allowing the Queen to hold the trick! Now the Diamonds are dead and Declarer must play on Clubs. She loses a Club, ruffs the Spade return, and loses another Club. The defense can lead another Spade if they wish, but to no avail, Dummy's Heart Two is there to take care of that and bring home the contract. So there you have it, a modern-day version of *The Tale of the Heart Two*, with a villainous co-starring role for the Diamond King.

## #110 – ODDS-ON FAVORITE

	♠ 82 ♥ 73 ♦ Q982 ♣ A6432	
♠ 97 ♥ QJT98 ♦ J63 ♣ QT8	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ 654 ♥ AK6 ♦ KT754 ♣ 95
	♠ AKQJT3 ♥ 542 ♦ A ♣ KJ7	

*Both Vulnerable*

**South West North East**

1♠ Pass 1NT Pass

4♠ Pass Pass Pass

Against 4♠, West led the ♥Q and when Dummy went down both defenders could see the need to stop a Heart ruff in Dummy. In case it was necessary to lead through Declarer (West might have ♠Kx), East overtook with his ♥K and fired back a trump.

You can count nine top tricks and are clearly not going to be allowed to get your tenth via the aforementioned Heart ruff. So, Clubs must come to the rescue, and one obvious line of

play is simply to draw trumps, cross to the ♣A and finesse the ♣J. There's a 50% chance that East will have the ♣Q, in which case you'll make your contract. Can you find a line that is odd-on favorite to succeed?

It's better than 50% that the missing Clubs are split 3-2. In fact the odds of that are 68%, so a substantially better bet for developing an extra trick from that Club holding is to lose the first round of Clubs and later to play the ♣K, then ♣A, hoping that the suit behaves.

But it won't work to win the trump shift at Trick 2, draw the remaining trumps, and then lose a Club. In that case the defense will take two Heart tricks and four altogether. Better timing is required. The Club must be lost *before* drawing trumps, that way there will still be a trump on the board to handle that third round of Hearts.

A Rule of Thumb: You don't need to memorize probability tables in order to know if a suit is likely to break evenly. Here's a short cut ... when missing an *even* number of cards in the suit then the odds are against it splitting 1-1 or 2-2 or 3-3 ... when missing an *odd* number then the suit is odds-on to split 2-1 or 3-2 or 4-3.

## #111 – ANTI-DISCOVERY PLAY

	♠ J6 ♥ 862 ♦ AKQ642 ♣ 63	
♠ K75 ♥ Q3 ♦ JT975 ♣ Q75	<i>North</i>	♠ Q843 ♥ KJ974 ♦ 3 ♣ J42
	<i>West East Declarer</i>	
	♠ AT92 ♥ AT5 ♦ 8 ♣ AKT98	

*E-W Vulnerable*

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Against 3NT, West led the ♥Q and Declarer held up on the first trick. West continued the suit, and Declarer had to decide whether to win this or hold up again. Looking only at the N-S hands what would be your choice?

If the Heart suit is 4-3 then it's a good idea to hold up a second time, that way, if the Diamonds don't break, it may be possible to develop the Clubs for a total of nine tricks,

without the defense scoring five tricks first. But if Hearts are 5-2 then the second hold-up is pointless.

At Trick 1 Declarer had no idea of the Heart situation. Clearly the King was with East, but West's opening lead could have been from Qx or QJx or QJ9x or QJ9xx, all were equally likely as a Heart opening lead was almost inevitable given the auction. But at Trick 2 all became clear when East played the Jack. Now, unless West was a remarkably slippery customer, given to making extravagant opening leads, surely the suit was 5-2. So, Declarer won the second trick, and played Diamonds from the top. When that suit didn't break, Declarer ducked a Club to West, who could cash a couple of Diamonds. But that was all for the defense, scoring those two Diamonds, a Club, and only one Heart.

In order to beat the contract, East must practice the art of concealment. At Trick 2, if he plays the ♥K, then Declarer will be none the wiser. Now it will appear to Declarer that West has led from ♥QJ93, in which case a second hold-up *is* required. But, in fact, it turns out to be fatal, that second Heart trick for the defense will result in the ultimate defeat of the contract.

## #112 – A SECOND CHANCE

	♠ 76 ♥ J743 ♦ T65 ♣ J643	
♠ QJT42 ♥ 986 ♦ Q98 ♣ KT	North  West East  Declarer	♠ AK53 ♥ ♦ 7432 ♣ Q9872
	♠ 98 ♥ AKQT52 ♦ AKJ ♣ A5	

*Both Vulnerable*

	South	West	North	East
2♣		Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥		Pass	4♥	All Pass

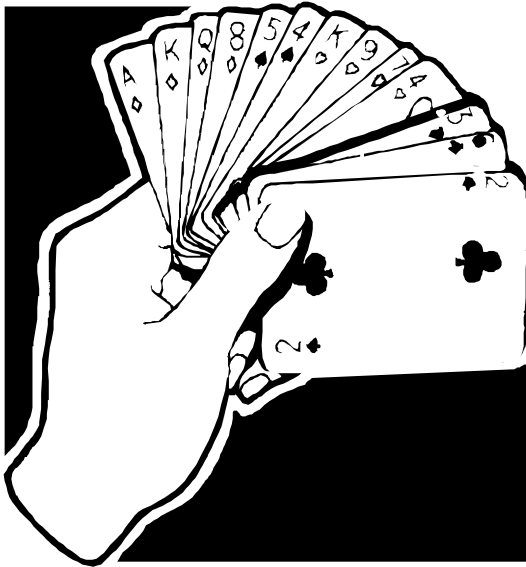
2♣ and 2♦ were artificial (strong and weak respectively), and West led the ♠Q against 4♥. Can you spot the winning defense? And, when East fails to find it, can you see how Declarer takes advantage of her second chance?

The winning defense is for East to overtake the Spade and shift to a Diamond at Trick 2. Sooner or later, Declarer will be forced to take the losing Diamond finesse and that will be down one.

What actually happened was that East did overtake the ♠Q at Trick 1 but cashed a second Spade before shifting to Diamonds. Declarer's Ace won that, then trumps were drawn, at which point it might appear that Declarer must put her money on the Diamond finesse. Down one, as before? Not at all! Before putting all her eggs in the Diamond basket, Declarer loses nothing by cashing the ♣A and exiting a Club. This end-plays West if he happens to hold both the ♣K and ♣Q, or if he holds ♣KT or ♣QT doubleton. It was somewhat unlikely that the Club position would allow the end-play to work, but it was an extra chance that cost nothing, and Declarer always had the Diamond finesse to fall back on, if necessary. *Question:* Wouldn't West also be end-played if he held, say, ♣K2? No, because he would dump that ♣K under Declarer's Ace like a hot potato, cleverly allowing East to win the second Club trick, thereby avoiding the end-play!

Did East misdefend when he failed to shift to a Diamond at Trick 2? Well, there were hands when his defense would have been necessary (picture Declarer with ♠98, ♥AKQT2, ♦AKQ8, ♣K5, for example) so let's just count East as somewhat unlucky.

# Upcoming tournaments:



## Illinois Senior Olympics Bridge

Aug 30, 2016, 1:00pm

Erin's Pavilion

4965 S. Second St., Springfield, IL 62711

## East Peoria Sectional

Sep 16-18, 2016

Fon du Lac Park District Admin Center

201 Veteran's Drive, East Peoria, IL 61611

