



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 19 Number 10 – October, 2017

14 pages



October Events

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

October 2 – club appreciation open pairs October 9 – club appreciation open teams

October 16 – ACBL Educational Foundation Charity open pairs

October 23 – district 8 bridge camp charity open pairs October 30 – STaC open pairs

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

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Monday, October 2, 6:15PM - club appreciation 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, October 4, 1:15PM – club appreciation 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, October 5, 11:45AM – club appreciation open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, October 7, 11:45AM – club appreciation open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, October 9, 6:15PM - club appreciation 99ers only teams – First Christian

Tuesday, October 10, 12:30PM – invitation only pairs – Clinton Country Club

Wednesday, October 11, 1:15PM – club appreciation 499ers only teams – Centennial Christian

Thursday, October 12, 11:45AM – club appreciation open teams – Centennial Christian

Saturday, October 14, 11:45AM – club appreciation open teams – Centennial Christian

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

Wednesday, October 18, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, October 19, 11:45AM – ACBL Educational Foundation Charity open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, October 21, 11:45AM – ACBL Educational Foundation Charity open pairs – Centennial Christian

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

Tuesday, October 24, 12:30PM – invitation only pairs – Clinton Country Club

Wednesday, October 25, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Special open pairs – ACBL-wide instant match point game

Thursday, October 26, 11:45AM – district 8 bridge camp charity open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, October 28, 11:45AM – district 8 bridge camp charity open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, October 30, 6:15PM – STaC 99ers only pairs plus special STaC open pairs – First Christian

Contact Mike Tomlianovich at 309-825-5823 for information or to arrange for a partner. All game results are posted online: <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 9/6/2017 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only
paid up ACBL members only



1	3,727.58	Betty Capodice
2	3,695.49	Steve Babin
3	2,907.66	Zack Freehill
4	2,769.48	Eunice Patton
***	2,557.18	Laura Addison
5	2,232.13	Cindy Moore
6	2,152.63	Mike Tomlianovich
7	2,136.08	JoAnn Schroeder
8	1,915.62	Ann Schuyler
***	1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne
9	1,659.38	Dewey Gronau
10	1,622.64	Lori Moore
11	1,495.54	Ron Emmett
12	1,403.08	Charlie Morton
***	1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar
***	1,320.43	Ed Lombard
13	1,263.31	Stan Gutzman
14	1,229.50	Jeanne Strand
15	1,155.50	Ivey Weaver
16	1,116.63	Jeff Furler
***	1,091.94	Marian Edmunds
17	1,045.75	Jean Barnett
18	990.59	Randall Motchan
19	869.71	Joyce Clay
20	859.99	Steve Wulfers
***	835.37	Glen Beaman
21	797.02	Henrietta Crain
***	792.95	Don Strand
***	780.34	Jack Kessler
22	766.07	Dennis Moll
23	752.37	Dave Freehill
***	741.06	Pearl Harris
***	699.99	Peg Deutsch
24	629.83	Stevie Joslin
***	610.73	Martin Compton
***	570.80	Ann Farnsworth
***	567.22	Ruth Wettaw
25	519.20	Lane O'Connor

Other players:

***	12,741.55	Dick Benson-LeRoy
	12,455.46	Chris Benson-LeRoy
	5,009.19	John Seng-Champaign
	4,858.32	Larry Matheny-Colorado
	4,323.07	Ron Sholes-Springfield
***	4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
	4,063.73	Christine Carroll-Champaign
	4,025.08	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
	3,971.15	Jim Carbaugh-Metamora
	3,877.71	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
	3,110.03	Paul Lindauer-Varna
	2,795.20	Mary Allen-Peoria
	2,763.10	Carole Sholes-Springfield
	2,583.06	Ray Russ-Henry
	2,576.29	Pat Carrington-Champaign
	2,544.76	Georgia Heth-Morton
	2,497.49	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
	2,473.93	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
	2,450.98	Gail Moon-Tennessee
	2,076.64	Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
	1,993.94	John Maloney-Champaign
	1,887.35	Tim Cull-Arizona
	1,809.41	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
***	1,776.22	John Burdon
	1,552.42	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
***	1,525.29	John La Rue-Pontiac
	1,284.01	Jim Moon-Tennessee
	1,199.03	Chuck Langley-Mechanicsburg
	1,145.21	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
***	1,093.04	Phil Kenney-Eureka
***	916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
	736.83	Wes Seitz-Champaign

*** deceased

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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!!



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2051 Ireland Grove Road, Bloomington, IL 61704



#1 –

Many think the New Minor Forcing convention is only used to discover major suit fits. It can also be used to show a strong minor suit raise.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 17-07	♠ AKQ9	West	North	East	South
	♥ 87	-	-	Pass	1♦
Vul E/W	♦ AJ73	Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
	♣ A63	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
♠ 104	♠ J8532	Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
♥ Q9532	♥ J4	Pass	4♦	Pass	5♣
♦ 52	♦ 109	Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass
♣ KQ52	♣ 10987	Pass			
	♠ 76	Pass			
	♥ AK106				
	♦ KQ864				
	♣ J5				


Bidding: North's two club bid was New Minor Forcing asking South to further describe his hand. The two heart rebid showed a 4-card suit and North's three diamond bid showed a very strong diamond raise. South had a maximum for his 1NT rebid so he cooperated by cue bidding hearts. North's four diamond bid was Roman Keycard Blackwood for diamonds. The five club bid showed two keycards and the queen of diamonds and North bid the slam.

Play: West led the king of clubs won by the ace. Declarer drew trumps in two rounds and discarded his club loser on a top spade. Next declarer ruffed two hearts in dummy for all thirteen tricks. Those who reached the higher scoring 6NT failed by one trick.

#2 –

It is often important for declarer to prevent the defenders from knowing the line of play he has chosen. Later when he springs his trap, it will be too late.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 17-08	♠ AQ7		West	North	East	South
	♥ QJ92		-	-	Pass	1 ♥
	♦ 74					
Vul E/W	♣ 10754		Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
♠ 1096542		♠ J3	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♥		♥ 753				
♦ Q52		♦ KJ10863				
♣ QJ98		♣ K6				
	♠ K8					
	♥ AK10864					
	♦ A9					
	♣ A32					

Bidding: North's bid of three hearts was a limit raise showing 4+card heart support and 10-12 points. Holding extras, South bid game.


Play: West led the ten of spades and declarer saw only three losers, one of which could be discarded on a high spade. Since overtricks are important in a pairs event, declarer looked for a possible 12th trick. He saw an elimination-endplay might be possible with a fortunate club position. He won the king of spades and drew trumps. Then he cashed the two minor suit aces followed by a spade to dummy. He discarded his diamond on the third spade and continued with a diamond ruff to his hand. He now led a low club and East had to win the king. With nothing left but diamonds, East allowed declarer to discard his last club as he trumped in dummy. Making 12 tricks resulted a good score.

East had a chance to avoid the endplay by unblocking his king of clubs on the ace. He should have concluded that if declarer also held the queen of clubs, he would have finessed. Note that it was important for declarer to cash the ace of clubs early before the impending endplay could more easily be diagnosed.

#4 –

Originally the double was used to penalize opponents. Today it has many different meanings but we still need to be able to use it as it was first intended.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 17-10	♠ 107632	West	North	East	South
	♥ 4	1♣	Pass	1♦	1♥
Vul N/S	♦ KQ965	Pass	Pass	DBL	Pass
	♣ 82	Pass	Pass		
♠ K4					
♥ KJ109					
♦ 87					
♣ A10654					
	♠ Q98				
	♥ 875				
	♦ A1042				
	♣ KQ9				
	♠ AJ5				
	♥ AQ632				
	♦ J3				
	♣ J73				

Bidding: This E/W pair use the Support Double convention to show 3-card support for partner's suit. Here West could not double the one heart overcall for that reason. However, East doubled to show values and ask his partner to act. West was happy to pass.

Play: West led the eight of diamonds to the king and ace. East cashed the king and queen of clubs before shifting to a trump. Declarer ended with only four tricks for a score of -800. South's bid was one that people make every day but sometimes they run into a hand like this one.

It is results like this that remind how dangerous overcalls can be...particularly when vulnerable.

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**Bloomington-Normal 70% club
Year 2017 only
Sponsored by: TBA**

2017/9/25	73.15%	Bev Branning & Lynn Steffen(99ers)
2017/9/23	72.22%	Cindy Moore & Steve Babin
2017/8/7	71.25%	Eric Malchodi & Larry Ziegler(99ers)
2017/8/7	71.88%	Eunice Patton & Steve Babin
2017/7/31	70.14%	Ron Calabrese & Bob Bye (99ers)
2017/6/19	73.33%	Gary Kemp & Larry Ziegler(99ers)
2017/6/3	71.43%	Eunice Patton & Steve Babin
2017/5/15	74.31%	Lynn Steffen & Mary Houska(99ers)
2017/5/15	73.61%	Gaye Hoselton & Larry Ziegler(99ers)
2017/5/9	70.83%	Nancy Lamkin & Connie Finney(Clinton invitational)
2017/5/8	70.56%	Ron Calabrese & Bob Bye(99ers)
2017/5/4	71.48%	Ann Schuyler & Mike Tomlianovich
2017/4/25	73.61%	Marilyn & Darryl Bremner(Clinton invitational)
2017/3/27	75.69%	Lynn Steffen & Mary Houska(99ers)
2017/3/22	70.24%	Bob Clay & Kirk Kimmel(499ers)
2017/2/8	73.81%	Kay Marvin & Linda Odette(499ers)
2017/2/1	70.24%	Kay Marvin & Linda Odette(499ers)

BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



#009 – A DOUBLE ORDER OF DUCK

	♠ K74 ♥ A987 ♦ A9743 ♣ Q	
♠ QJT3 ♥ 4 ♦ JT6 ♣ T8652	North West East South	♠ 9865 ♥ 53 ♦ Q8 ♣ A9743
	♠ A2 ♥ KQJT62 ♦ K52 ♣ KJ	

None Vulnerable

South West North East

1♦ Pass
 1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
 4NT Pass 5♥ Pass
 6♥ Pass Pass Pass

West leads the ♠Q and, when Dummy goes down, Declarer can see that his 6♥ contract is quite hopeless. The ♣A must be lost and there is no way to avoid a Diamond loser. Declarer will win the opening Spade, draw trumps and then cash the ♦K and ♦A before conceding the third round of Diamonds. When West wins the ♦J, he will quickly shift to a Club, and East's ♣A scores the setting trick before

Declarer's Clubs disappear on the long Diamonds. Down one.

But that's not what happened! It's true, looking at all four hands, that 6♥ *should* go down, but West was looking at only two hands. Taking advantage of that, Declarer came up with a truly brilliant deception. He ducked the opening lead in both hands! The defense can now cash the ♣A to beat the contract, but it never occurred to West that his partner might have the ♣A and not the ♠A. So, naturally enough, West persisted with Spades. Imagine West's surprise when Declarer's Ace won the second Spade trick! Next, trumps were drawn, a Diamond was pitched on the ♠K, the ♦K was cashed, then the ♦A, and a Diamond was ruffed. Now there were two good Diamonds in Dummy, on which Declarer was able to pitch his losing Clubs. Making 12 tricks!

A most unusual hand! Declarer started out with an inescapable loser in Diamonds and another in Clubs. But, thanks to that lovely first round double duck, he ended up losing a Spade but nothing else!

#010 – A PRACTICE FINESSE

The humble finesse is the first thing we learn, and we also learn that some finesses win, some lose. Later we learn that some finesses are purely for practice and serve no useful purpose. Here is a case in point.

	♠ QJ965 ♥ KJ97 ♦ A2 ♣ AQ	
♠ 843 ♥ ♦ KJ983 ♣ J9875	North West East South	♠ ♥ Q65432 ♦ QT4 ♣ KT63
	♠ AKT72 ♥ AT8 ♦ 765 ♣ 42	

Both Vulnerable
South West North East
 1♠ 2NT Dbl 5♣
 Pass Pass 6♠ All Pass

West's 2NT was the "Unusual No Trump", showing both minors, and North eventually plunged (some would say recklessly) into slam. West leads a Club, your job is to make 12 tricks.

A Diamond loser is unavoidable, so you must guess the whereabouts of the ♥Q if this slam is to make. And then there is the small matter of the Club suit. Do you take the finesse? Surprisingly, it's not necessary!

We've already determined that you need to bring in the Hearts, and if that is the case then the 4th round of Hearts can be used to pitch the Club loser.

OK, you hop up with the ♣A, and draw trumps, ending on the board. Who has the ♥Q? Surely East! West's bidding showed both minors (usually 5-5) and later he played three Spades. That doesn't leave room for many Hearts! So, Declarer runs the ♥J around and West predictably shows out. Another Heart finesse, the ♥A is cashed, over to the ♦A, then the Club loser goes on the ♥K. Making 12 tricks, losing just a Diamond.

Getting the Heart suit right did not require rocket science. Realizing that the Club finesse was not needed? Not so obvious. The winning train of thought was: I must lose a Diamond ... so I cannot lose a Heart ... if I don't lose a Heart then I can park the losing Club on the 4th round of Hearts.

#011 – FINESSES ARE EASY

Of course they are! You just lead towards the AQ or KJ or some such holding, and, when fate is kind, an extra trick materializes. But, if they can, experienced players will avoid the whims of fate, as in this deal.

	♠ JT765 ♥ 652 ♦ A7 ♣ AT8	
♠ 98 ♥ QJT7 ♦ KJ6 ♣ Q652	North West East South	♠ 4 ♥ 983 ♦ QT9852 ♣ K97
	♠ AKQ32 ♥ AK4 ♦ 43 ♣ J43	

Both Vulnerable
South West North East
 1♠ Pass 3♠ Pass
 4♠ All Pass

West leads the ♥Q, and Declarer can see a certain loser in Hearts and another in Diamonds. So, if 4♠ is to make, then Declarer must avoid losing two Clubs. Any ideas?

One way to play Clubs (after drawing trumps) is to finesse the Ten, hoping that West has the King *and* the Queen. That's somewhat unlikely (around 25%). Another possibility is to finesse the *Eight*, and later finesse the Ten, hoping that West has K9 or Q9. That's a 37% chance. Or, Declarer might

run the Jack, giving himself the extra chance that West might neglect to cover with his honor.

Which finesse will you choose? The correct answer is that you don't care for *any* of these finesses, you much prefer the 100% method! Draw trumps, cash the red suit winners and exit with a Heart (or a Diamond). The defenders can take their Heart and Diamond tricks but now their goose is cooked. If they lead another red card then Declarer pitches a Club loser from one hand and ruffs in the other hand (the so-called "ruff and sluff"). And if they break open Clubs then Declarer will lose only one trick in the suit. Yes, finesses are easy, especially when you can avoid taking them!

#012 – ONE FINESSE TOO MANY

It's great when our finesse works, but against a cunning opponent, when we try that same finesse a second time, we sometimes get an unpleasant surprise.

	♠ J ♥ QJT ♦ T97 ♣ AJT954	
♠ 862 ♥ K953 ♦ 865 ♣ Q87	North West East South	♠ 73 ♥ 872 ♦ K432 ♣ K632
	♠ AKQT954 ♥ A64 ♦ AQJ ♣	

N-S Vulnerable

South West North East

2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass

3♣ Pass 3NT Pass

6♠ All Pass

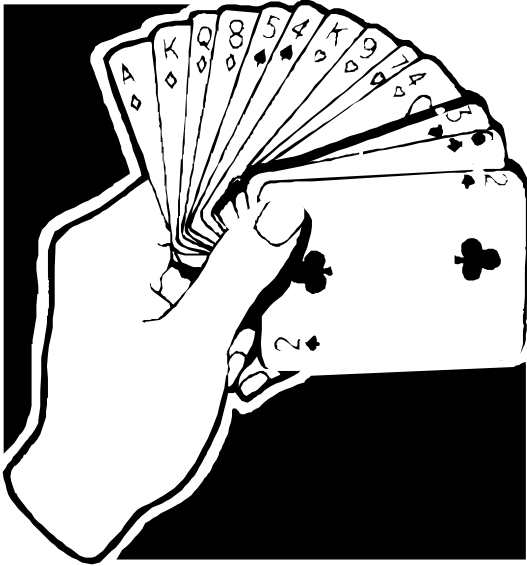
After that artificial (and strong) 2♣ opening, the rest of the auction was natural. West leads a trump against your slam, how do you propose to make 12 tricks?

It may be too late already, but let's do this one without peeking at the E-W hands. The opening trump lead has knocked out your entry to Dummy, and you must use that entry to take one of those red suit finesses. Which one?

Surely it must be right to finesse in Hearts because, if that loses to West, you'll have a Heart entry back to the board for the Diamond finesse.

So, the ♥Q is led from the board and it holds. Yippee! Now Dummy's ♣A is cashed (pitching a Diamond) and the winning Heart finesse is repeated. Oops! This time that dastardly West fellow produces the King! Even worse, Declarer now has no way of avoiding a Diamond loser also. Down one! When the first Heart finesse worked, Declarer took his eye off the ball. He must realize that a second Heart finesse is unnecessary. After the ♥Q wins, the 100% safe line is to cash the ♣A (pitching a Heart), ruff a Club high (just in case there is an overruff in the cards), then draw trumps and give up a Diamond.

Upcoming tournaments:



See The Leaves Sectional

Oct 13-15, 2017

Springfield, IL

District 8 NAP Finals

Nov 12, 2017

Wyndham Hotel

1001 W. Killarney Street, Urbana, IL 61801

