



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 20 Number 9 – September, 2018

14 pages



September Events

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

September 3 – ACBL International Fund mentor pairs

September 10 – ACBL International Fund open pairs September 17 – ACBL International Fund open pairs

September 24 – ACBL International Fund open pairs

Contact Ann Schuyler at 309-826-9791/309-663-4052 for information or to arrange for a partner.

Mike's Bridge Club schedule – ALL games at Centennial Christian Church, 1219 E. Grove St, Bloomington, unless otherwise noted:

Saturday, September 1, 11:45AM – ACBL international fund open pairs

Monday, September 3 – NO GAME – ENJOY LABOR DAY

Wednesday, September 5, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs

Thursday, September 6, 11:45AM - ACBL international fund open pairs

Saturday, September 8, 11:45AM – ACBL international fund open pairs

Monday, September 10, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs

Tuesday, September 11, 12:30PM – Clinton invitational pairs – location TBA

Wednesday, September 12, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs

Thursday, September 13, 11:45AM – ACBL international fund open pairs

Saturday, September 15, NO GAME – EAST PEORIA TOURNAMENT

Monday, September 17, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs

Wednesday, September 19, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs

Thursday, September 20, 11:45AM – ACBL international fund open pairs

Saturday, September 22, 11:45AM – ACBL international fund open pairs

Monday, September 24, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs

Tuesday, September 25, 12:30PM – Clinton invitational pairs – location TBA

Wednesday, September 26, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs

Thursday, September 27, 11:45AM – ACBL international fund open pairs

Saturday, September 29, 11:45AM – ACBL international fund open pairs

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 8/6/2018 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only
paid up ACBL members only



1	3,851.81	Steve Babin
2	3,729.55	Betty Capodice
3	3,123.76	Zack Freehill
4	2,959.68	Eunice Patton
***	2,557.18	Laura Addison
5	2,446.29	JoAnn Schroeder
6	2,392.53	Cindy Moore
7	2,197.87	Mike Tomlianovich
8	2,067.31	Ann Schuyler
9	1,790.44	Lori Moore
***	1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne
10	1,669.78	Dewey Gronau
11	1,651.50	Ron Emmett
12	1,483.50	Charlie Morton
***	1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar
13	1,376.75	Jeff Furler
***	1,320.43	Ed Lombard
14	1,243.43	Jeanne Strand
15	1,160.57	Ivey Weaver
***	1,091.94	Marian Edmunds
16	1,045.75	Jean Barnett
17	1,021.70	Joyce Clay
18	994.16	Randall Motchan
19	948.10	Steve Wulfers
***	835.37	Glen Beaman
20	797.02	Henrietta Crain
***	792.95	Don Strand
21	788.49	Dave Freehill
***	780.34	Jack Kessler
***	741.06	Pearl Harris
***	699.99	Peg Deutsch
22	686.02	Stevie Joslin
***	610.73	Martin Compton
***	570.80	Ann Farnsworth
***	567.22	Ruth Wettaw
23	559.72	Ray Dostal
24	541.67	Sallie Boge
25	448.08	Mary Cralley

Other players:

12,602.89	Chris Benson-LeRoy
***12,568.06	Dick Benson-LeRoy
5,134.00	John Seng-Champaign
5,101.83	Larry Matheny-Colorado
4,554.93	Ron Sholes-Springfield
*** 4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
4,158.42	Christine Carroll-Champaign
*** 4,048.11	Jim Carbaugh-Metamora
4,025.08	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
3,941.60	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
3,287.29	Paul Lindauer
2,953.30	Mary Allen-Peoria
2,939.39	Carole Sholes-Springfield
2,818.79	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
2,667.30	Ray Russ-Henry
2,606.38	Pat Carrington-Champaign
2,555.50	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
2,550.34	Georgia Heth-Morton
2,472.63	Gail Moon-Tennessee
2,218.31	Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
2,087.71	John Maloney-Champaign
1,929.74	Tim Cull-Arizona
1,873.89	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
*** 1,776.22	John Burdon
1,581.98	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
*** 1,525.29	John La Rue-Pontiac
1,305.66	Jim Moon-Tennessee
1,262.25	Dan Bunde-Champaign
1,248.76	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
***1,093.04	Phil Kenney-Eureka
*** 916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
893.24	Wes Seitz-Champaign
723.34	Carole Miller-Champaign
566.35	Lane O'Connor

*** deceased



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2051 Ireland Grove Road, Bloomington, IL 61704



#1 –

One of the first bidding conventions used by new players is Blackwood. Its primary purpose is to keep you out of slams when missing two aces. The convention is a valuable tool but unfortunately is often used incorrectly.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 17-51	♠ Q972	West	North	East	South
	♥ AK	-	-	Pass	1♠
Vul E/W	♦ A10962	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
	♣ J8	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
♠ 1083	♠ 6	Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
♥ 9872	♥ J6543	Pass			
♦ 83	♦ 75	Pass			
♣ AK97	♣ 105432				
	♠ AKJ54				
	♥ Q10				
	♦ KQJ4				
	♣ Q6				

Bidding: North's two notrump bid was a forcing raise showing 4+spades and game going values. It was now up to South to describe his hand. His three spade rebid showed a balanced hand with 17+ points. North couldn't wait to ask for aces and bid slam after finding only one was missing.

Play: West led the AK of clubs to quickly defeat the slam. There were several mistakes made by this N/S partnership. First, North was not strong enough to insist upon slam. The second problem was using Blackwood with an "open" suit. Open means a suit without first or second round control. As this hand demonstrates, only one missing ace does not guarantee slam.

Cue bidding of first and second round could have prevented this. North should cue bid four diamonds to show his first control (ace, king, singleton, or void). Skipping over clubs would tell South the club suit had two losers and the poor slam would be avoided.

#2 –

Locating the missing high cards is important if you want to succeed. The sources for this information are the auction, the opening lead, and the play of the hand.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 17-52	♠ 4		West	North	East	South
	♥ AQ932		Pass	1♥	1♠	1NT
Vul E/W	♦ KQJ92		2♠	3♦	Pass	3NT
	♣ 84		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♠ 9732		♠ KJ1085				
♥ J875		♥ K106				
♦ A7		♦				
♣ J103		♣ A9765				
	♠ AQ6					
	♥ 4					
	♦ 1086543					
	♣ KQ2					

Bidding: South's 1NT bid showed 8-11 high card points and a spade stopper. After North showed his diamond suit, South continued on to game.

Play: West led the deuce of spades to the king. Declarer won the second spade and then knocked out the ace of diamonds. West returned a third spade and declarer stopped to analyze the hand. After West showed up with the ace of diamonds, declarer felt the rest of the missing honor cards would be with East. After winning the third spade he ran the diamonds to come down to this ending:


♥AQ ♣84 ♠10 ♥KJ ♣A
 ♥4 ♣KQ2

Declarer now led a club to East. He cashed the ten of spades but then had to lead a heart into dummy. Declarer now had nine tricks: 2 spades, 2 hearts, and 5 diamonds. East should have seen this ending coming and discarded down to the singleton king of hearts. Declarer may have caught this but we will never know.

#3 –

In a Pairs event overtricks are so important. In this hand declarer found a safe way to find an extra trick without endangering the contract.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)


Hand 17-53	♠ A32		West	North	East	South
	♥ 983		Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Vul E/W	♦ A952		Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
	♣ KQ5		Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
♠ K10		♠ 97654	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♥ A107		♥ 65				
♦ 1076		♦ QJ8				
♣ J10974		♣ 862				
	♠ QJ8					
	♥ KQJ42					
	♦ K43					
	♣ A3					

Bidding: South used the New Minor Forcing convention to uncover the heart fit. The two heart response showed three cards in the suit and a minimum hand so South knew slam was doubtful.
Play: West led the jack of clubs and declarer stopped to study the hand. She hoped for only one heart loser and had a spade and diamond to worry about. One loser could go on the third club and the diamond suit might break 3-3. She started by winning the ace of clubs in her hand and continued with the king of hearts. West ducked the first heart but won the second round and played a third. She led the king and another diamond to the ace. Next she played the king and queen of clubs discarding her last diamond. Now she ruffed a diamond in her hand and was pleased to see the suit behave. She next led the queen of spades covered by the king. She won the ace of spades, discarded the eight of spades on the nine of diamonds, and had twelve tricks for an excellent score.

#4 –

The Roman Keycard Blackwood (RKC) convention is a powerful tool. Unlike standard Blackwood, it treats the king of the agreed suit as an ace. It also allows you to find out if the trump queen is with you or the enemy.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 18-01	♠ K96		West	North	East	South
	♥ AQJ984		-	-	Pass	1 ♠
Vul E/W	♦ KQ9		Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♦
	♣ 10		Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♥
♠ Q107		♠ 43	Pass	4NT	Pass	5 ♥
♥ 632		♥ 1075	Pass	5 ♠	Pass	Pass
♦ 532		♦ 864	Pass			
♣ K985		♣ AJ742	Pass			
	♠ AJ852					
	♥ K					
	♦ AJ107					
	♣ Q63					

Bidding: North forced to game with two hearts and South showed extras by bidding three diamonds. After North established spades as trump, South cue bid the king of hearts. North used RKC to discover that his partner held two keycards but not the queen of spades. Unless you hold ten or more trumps between the two hands, it's usually best to stay out of slams when missing a keycard and the trump queen. Reluctantly, South signed off in five spades.

Play: West led the five of clubs to his partner's ace. Declarer won the diamond shift and soon found there was also a spade loser. Making five was an above average result since several N/S pairs failed in the spade slam.



Bloomington-Normal 70% club Year 2018 only

2018/8/20	74.07%	Doug Lamb & Joe Culpepper(99ers)
2018/8/6	76.39%	Ron Calabrese & Bob Bye(99ers)
2018/7/30	70.37%	Larry Ziegler & Terry Goodykoontz
2018/7/25	71.43%	John Ford & John Cralley(499ers)
2018/7/23	76.25%	Ron Calabrese & Bob Bye(99ers)
2018/6/2	70.00%	Cindy Moore & Zach Freehill
2018/5/7	70.34%	Cindy Lake & Eunice Patton
2018/4/18	70.48%	Kay Marvin & Linda Odette(499ers)
2018/4/9	70.37%	Doug Lamb & Joe Culpepper(99ers)
2018/3/17	72.22%	Ron Emmett & Paul Lindauer
2018/2/26	78.08%	Bob Bray & Larry Ziegler(99ers)
2018/1/24	70.24%	John Ford & Ray Dostal(499ers)

PEORIA'S Wienman Memorial BRIDGE SECTIONAL

Sept 14th, Sept 15th, and Sept 16th 2018

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--NOTE STARTING TIME CHANGE--All Events start at 10:30 AM!

Friday, Sept 14th

10:30 AM - Stratified Pairs - Charity Game*

3:00 PM - Stratified Pairs*

*If table count allows, a concurrent stratified team event may be added to the pair's event. Teams may be formed in advance or randomly by DIC. This gives players a chance to earn the higher of masterpoint awards from the two events.

Saturday, Sept 15th

10:30 AM - Stratified Pairs - Charity Game*

3:00 PM - Stratified Pairs*

*If table count allows, a concurrent stratified team event may be added to the pair's event. Teams may be formed in advance or randomly by DIC. This gives players a chance to earn the higher of masterpoint awards from the two events.

Sunday, Sept 16th

10:30 AM - Stratified Open Swiss teams

Double session with lunch provided. Break determined by Director

Stratification

A - Open; B - Under 2500; C - Non-Life Master under 500

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

Entry Fees

Friday and Saturday - \$10 per session

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

Note: \$4 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 299ers only pairs.

Please note ZERO TOLERANCE Policy is enforced

Unit 208 Tournaments are Fragrance Free: Thank you for NOT wearing perfumes and colognes!

Tournament Chair: Bill Bulfer

(309) 264-7629

E-mail: bulfews@hotmail.com

Partnerships: Chuck Young

(309)-397-0831

E-mail: charles.young21@comcast.net

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

BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



#053 – TIMING IS EVERYTHING

	♠ T ♥ 9765 ♦ A9632 ♣ AKQ	
♠ KQJ9653 ♥ T8 ♦ 85 ♣ 54	North West East Declarer	♠ 4 ♥ KQJ ♦ KQJT4 ♣ T763
	♠ A872 ♥ A432 ♦ 7 ♣ J982	

E-W Vulnerable

West North East South

2♠ Dbl 1♦ Pass

All Pass Pass 4♥

West's 2♠ (showing long Spades and not much else) pushed N-S into the precarious contract of 4♥. Look at what happened in actual play, and then figure out how you would have done better as Declarer.

West led the ♠K, won by Declarer's Ace. With six side-suit tricks it would be necessary to score four trump tricks, and as the trump suit was so weak it was apparent that some ruffing would be required. One line that would clearly not work would be to get the enemy trumps out of the way first, that would leave Declarer a trick short (scoring only three trump tricks). So Declarer cashed the ♥A at Trick 2, and then, leaving three enemy trumps at large, he played on the side-suits. His general plan was to let the opponents take their trumps whenever they wished, but that was all they would get. He started with Dummy's high Clubs, but West ruffed the third round and played another Spade. Dummy ruffed, East over-ruffed and cashed her high Heart, leaving Declarer with just 9 tricks.

Declarer needed to time the play better if he was to score 10 tricks. At Trick 2 he must duck a trump! Now, he wins the Diamond return, plays the Ace of trumps and (leaving one enemy trump at large) goes about his business of cashing winners and cross-ruffing. Altogether Declarer has 11 potential tricks via the ♥A, four ruffs and six side-suit winners, but that enemy trump will rub out one of those tricks and reduce the total to 10. Making 4♥, thanks to careful timing.

#054 – A ROAD MAP

	♠ T ♥ 9765 ♦ A9632 ♣ AKQ	
♠ KQJ9653 ♥ 8 ♦ J8 ♣ 543	North West East Declarer	♠ 4 ♥ KQJT ♦ KQT54 ♣ T76
	♠ A872 ♥ A432 ♦ 7 ♣ J982	

E-W Vulnerable

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1♦	Pass
2♣	Dbf	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dbf	All Pass

If the N-S hands look familiar, that's because they were featured in last week's Bridge Bite. But the E-W hands have been changed, and East, who now has four trumps, could not resist doubling 4♥. That was not a wise move, as we are about to see.

Last week, in the absence of a Double, Declarer played for 3-2 trumps, and as that turned out to be the case, 10 tricks

could be made by winning the Spade lead, and ducking a round of trumps at Trick 2. Declarer could win the return, draw just one more round of trumps and, leaving one trump at large, could cash winners and cross-ruff his way to 10 tricks.

But this week Declarer has to make 10 tricks after East has doubled. Now it seems likely that East has 4 trumps and ducking a trump at Trick 2 will not work. East wins and returns a trump, and will later get in (with a Spade over-ruff or a Club ruff), draw another round of trumps and leave Declarer a trick short. So, guided by the Double, Declarer does not duck a trump at Trick 2. Instead, she cashes the ♥A and goes for three Diamond ruffs in her hand (confident that West is now out of trumps and cannot over-ruff). The play goes: ♠A; ♥A; ♦A; Diamond ruff; ♣A; Diamond ruff; ♣K; ♣Q; Diamond ruff. That's 9 tricks and when the ♣J is played next, there will be a 10th trick, one way or another.

No doubt East's Double seemed like a good idea at the time, but in fact it only served to give Declarer a road map to the winning line of play, by alerting him to the likely 4-1 trump split.

#055 – THAT SINKING FEELING

	♠ AK42 ♥ ♦ 764 ♣ AKT654	
♠ 765 ♥ T762 ♦ KQT95 ♣ 3	North West East Declarer	♠ ♥ QJ9543 ♦ J82 ♣ QJ98
	♠ QJT983 ♥ AK8 ♦ A3 ♣ 72	

The auction has not been recorded for posterity, but we can say that N-S must have bid quite superbly in order to reach the excellent contract of 7♠. “Nicely bid, Partner! A cold grand slam with only 28 combined HCP!” enthused Declarer when Dummy was tabled after the opening lead of the ♦K. Declarer was quite right, the slam was cold, but not the way that he played it. Of course, you can do better. How do you propose to make 13 tricks?

Declarer didn’t bother to count his tricks, perhaps feeling that it would have been rather unsporting to waste time when he had so many trumps and Club winners. At Trick 2, he played a trump to Dummy’s Ace and, when East showed out,

Declarer paused for thought (one trick too late!). It was then that he got that awful sinking feeling in the pit of his stomach, realizing that he could no longer get two ruffs in Dummy because of the shortage of entries back to his hand. Getting only one ruff would leave him a trick short, so he tried to set up the Clubs, but that lifeline failed him when the suit was 4-1. Down one!

“Rotten luck”, sympathized North, in soothing tones. “If Spades or Clubs had broken reasonably you would have made your slam”. What North politely refrained from saying was “Why on earth didn’t you win the opening Diamond lead, cash the Hearts (pitching Diamonds), ruff a Diamond *high*, get back to hand with a trump, ruff a Heart *high*, cross back with another trump, and draw the last trump?”

#056 – FINESSE FATALE

	♠ J94 ♥ 5 ♦ AJ643 ♣ 7542	
♠ K53 ♥ KQT2 ♦ Q9872 ♣ J	<i>North</i>	♠ 2 ♥ AJ984 ♦ KT ♣ Q9863
	<i>West East</i>	
	<i>Declarer</i>	
	♠ AQT876 ♥ 763 ♦ 5 ♣ AKT	

E-W Vulnerable

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

N-S reached their Spade game one baby step at a time and West led the ♥K. Seeing the danger of Heart ruffs in Dummy, East overtook with his Ace and smartly shifted to a trump. That was sensible defense, now what would be sensible Declarer play?

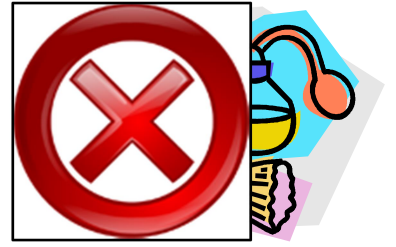
It may seem routine to finesse the Spade, but that would be fatal. West wins his King and returns another trump. Oops! Now Declarer has only one Heart ruff in Dummy and is down

one! The correct play is easy enough if Declarer counts his tricks. He has three side-suit winners, and if he can get *two* Heart ruffs in Dummy, then he can make do with just five trump tricks in his own hand. Ten easy tricks, but only if Declarer makes certain of both ruffs by hopping up with the ♠A at Trick 2. The full line of play is: ♥A; ♠A; Heart ruff; ♦A; Diamond ruff; Heart ruff; Diamond ruff; then play on trumps.

As Declarer was engineering those Heart ruffs he did well to return to hand with Diamond ruffs. If he had attempted to use the ♣A and ♣K as his entries then he'd have got a nasty shock when West ruffed the second Club for down one.

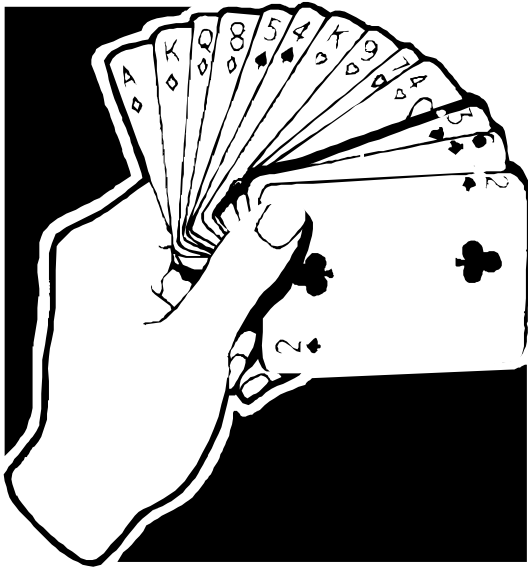
How about an opening trump lead? Does that set 4♠? Actually, no! Declarer wins and plays a Heart. If East wins that trick he cannot play another trump, and Dummy gets the two ruffs ... and if West wins he can lead a trump to stop the second ruff, but only at the expense of his natural trump trick. A Club opening lead is no better for the defense because, although the defense is able to arrange a Club ruff, that comes at the expense of their natural Club trick.

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!!

Upcoming tournaments:



East Peoria Open Sectional

Sep 14-16, 2018

Fon du Lac Park District Admin Center
201 Veteran's Drive, East Peoria, IL 61611

See The Leaves Sectional

Oct 12-14, 2018

Springfield Bridge Center
3900 Wood Duck Drive, Springfield, IL 62703
PH: 217-726-9456

