



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 21 Number 9 – September, 2019

12 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 2 – mentor pairs September 9 – ACBL International open pairs

September 16 – ACBL International open pairs September 23 – ACBL International open pairs

September 30 – ACBL International 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:

Monday, September 2, NO GAME – ENJOY LABOR DAY!

Wednesday, September 4, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs

Thursday, September 5, 11:45AM – ACBL International fund open pairs

Saturday, September 7, 11:45AM – ACBL International fund open pairs

Monday, September 9, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs

Tuesday, September 10, 12:30PM – Clinton pairs – Clinton Country Club

Wednesday, September 11, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs

Thursday, September 12, 11:45AM – ACBL International fund open pairs

Saturday, September 14, NO GAME – TOURNAMENT IN EAST PEORIA

Monday, September 16, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs

Wednesday, September 18, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs

Thursday, September 19, 11:45AM – ACBL International fund open pairs

Saturday, September 21, 11:45AM – ACBL International fund open pairs

Sunday, September 22, 1:15PM – monthly 299ers only pairs

Monday, September 23, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs

Tuesday, September 24, 12:30PM – Clinton pairs – Clinton Country Club

Wednesday, September 25, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs

Thursday, September 26, 11:45AM – ACBL International fund open pairs

Saturday, September 28, 11:45AM – ACBL International fund open pairs

Monday, September 30, 6:15PM – 99ers only 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 8/6/2019 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only
paid up ACBL members only



1	4,045.55	Steve Babin
2	3,729.55	Betty Capodice
3	3,344.01	Zack Freehill
4	3,129.60	Eunice Patton
5	2,842.16	JoAnn Schroeder
6	2,584.12	Cindy Moore
7	2,261.99	Mike Tomlianovich
8	2,233.56	Ann Schuyler
9	1,998.61	Lori Moore
10	1,768.49	Ron Emmett
11	1,497.27	Jeff Furler
12	1,262.19	Jeanne Strand
13	1,185.24	Joyce Clay
14	1,161.30	Ivey Weaver
15	1,045.75	Jean Barnett
16	1,034.86	Steve Wulfers
17	994.16	Randall Motchan
18	820.25	Dave Freehill
19	720.61	Stevie Joslin
20	611.88	Ray Dostal
21	606.92	Sallie Boge
22	492.33	Mary Cralley
23	490.29	Mary Tweedie
24	483.60	Fred Spitzerrie
25	410.35	John Cralley

Other players:

12,765.13	Chris Benson-LeRoy
5,326.19	Larry Matheny-Colorado
5,246.83	John Seng-Champaign
4,967.42	Ron Sholes-Springfield
4,230.26	Christine Carroll-Champaign
4,118.03	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
3,370.92	Doug Moore-St Louis
3,173.43	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
3,173.26	Carole Sholes-Springfield
3,116.53	Mary Allen-Peoria
2,657.70	Pat Carrington-Champaign
2,619.43	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
2,567.43	Georgia Heth-Morton
2,492.90	Gail Moon-Tennessee
2,399.24	Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
2,264.24	John Maloney-Champaign
1,934.52	Chuck Young-Peoria
1,913.44	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
1,391.81	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
1,325.93	Jim Moon-Tennessee
1,280.62	Dan Bunde-Champaign
999.43	Wes Seitz-Champaign
793.43	Bill Strauss-Urbana
753.49	Carole Miller-Champaign
609.72	Darryl Bremner-Canton
606.29	Bill Thompson-Champaign
605.59	Melda Richardson-California
567.25	Lane O'Connor-Naperville



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2051 Ireland Grove Road, Bloomington, IL 61704



#1 –

The 4-3-2-1 system we use to evaluate the strength of our hands only considers the honor cards. This hand shows how important the intermediate cards can be.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

		West	North	East	South
Hand 18-46	♠ AK9432	-	-	3♥	3♠
	♥ 4	Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
Vul N/S	♦ 987	Pass			
	♣ A102				

♠ 6		♠
♥ K5		♥ QJ109732
♦ K10653		♦ J4
♣ KJ963		♣ Q854
		♠ QJ10875
		♥ A86
		♦ AQ2
		♣ 7

Bidding: North respected his partner's vulnerable three-level overcall and bid what he hoped they could make.

Play: West led the king of hearts to declarer's ace. Declarer had two possible diamond losers but saw a way to guarantee the contract. At trick two he drew the only trump and then proceeded to eliminate the hearts and clubs. Ending in dummy, he led a low diamond planning to cover any card played by East. West won the ten of diamonds but was end-played. He had to return a diamond away from this king or lead a club and allow declarer to ruff in dummy and discard a diamond.

Notice it didn't matter where the king, jack, and ten of diamonds were located. The combined power of the 987 was tremendous. Those in six spades who simply relied on the diamond finesse were soon disappointed.

#2 –

Before making an opening lead, the auction should be examined for clues. In this hand, one West player was quick to lead his partner's bid suit. While such loyalty is to be admired, perhaps it's better to also use logic and reasoning.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

	West	North	East	South
Hand 18-47	-	-	1♥	Pass
Vul	1NT	DBL	2♥	Pass
	Pass	DBL	3♣	3♠
	Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
	Pass			

♠ AK95		♠ J73
♥ J2		♥ AKQ1098
♦ K1076		♦
♣ AKQ		♣ J974
♠ Q10842		
♥ 654		
♦ J85		
♣ 103		

Bidding: North doubled twice to show his very strong hand. South finally cooperated and North bid game.

Play: Without a great deal of thought, West led the seven of hearts. East won two heart tricks and then exited with a club. Declarer drew trumps and then led a diamond toward dummy. West won with the ace and declarer now had ten tricks. He was able to discard his other diamond loser on dummy's third club.

At the other table, West paid more attention to the same auction. He realized that if his partner held 6+ hearts, 4+ clubs, and very likely 2 spades, he was short in diamonds. This West led the ace of diamonds followed by another for his partner to ruff. East then cashed two hearts to defeat the contract.

#3 –

The scoring in a pairs event magnifies the importance of the overtrick. This declarer used a double squeeze to eke out one more trick.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

		West	North	East	South
Hand 18-48	♠ AKQ7	-	-	-	1 ♣
	♥ Q6	3 ♥	DBL	Pass	5 ♣
Vul Both	♦ K65	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♣ Q987				

♠ 985		♠ J642
♥ KJ8542	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: inline-block;"></div>	♥ A973
♦ J97		♦ Q1043
♣ J		♣ 2
	♠ 103	
	♥ 10	
	♦ A82	
	♣ AK106543	

Bidding: After West's preempt, North's negative double promised four spades and enough values for partner to compete to the four-level. South jumped to the club game.

Play: West led a low spade to dummy's ace. Declarer could count twelve tricks and was disappointed they had not reached the slam. However, this was a pairs event and overtricks were important, so he examined the hand more closely. He saw there was a squeeze possibility for a second overtrick. He drew trumps, cashed the KQ of spades discarding a heart, and then played the rest of the clubs. Here was the four-card ending with one trump left to be played:

	S-7	H-Q	D-K6	
H-K			S-J	
D-J97			D-Q103	
	D-A82	C-3		

When the club was played, West had to discard a diamond to keep the heart guard. Dummy discarded the queen of hearts and now East had to discard a diamond to keep the spade jack. The deuce of diamonds was the thirteenth trick. In the same contract, several West players made the opening lead of a heart and held those declarers to twelve tricks.

#4 –

One of the first rules you learn on defense is to play “third hand high”. While this is usually correct, as with most rules there are exceptions.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

		West	North	East	South
Hand 18-49	♠ Q82	-	-	-	1NT
	♥ 3	Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Vul Both	♦ J87	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♣ AJ10984				

♠ K975		♠ J103
♥ AK98	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: inline-block;"></div>	♥ J7652
♦ 432		♦ A65
♣ 65		♣ 72
	♠ A64	
	♥ Q104	
	♦ KQ109	
	♣ KQ3	

Bidding: In a local pairs game, most N/S pairs reached 3NT. Some invited with a jump to three clubs as this North did while others relayed to clubs before reaching 3NT.

Play: At most tables West led a top heart asking for an attitude signal. The East players were eager to encourage a heart continuation and followed with the seven. The fate of the contract now rested on the play to trick two. At one table when West continued with the eight of hearts, East simply played the jack. Declarer won the queen, but the heart suit was blocked, and E/W could not unravel their five tricks.

At another table, at trick two West cashed his other top heart and then led the eight. This East player also played the jack and again the suit was blocked. At the third table East recognized the potential problem with the heart spots and played a low heart on the third round. Declarer won the queen but could only collect eight tricks. After winning his six club tricks declarer led a diamond to East’s ace and he cashed two more hearts.

PEORIA'S Wienman Memorial BRIDGE SECTIONAL

Sept 13th, Sept 14th, and Sept 15th 2019

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--All Events start at 10:30 AM!

Friday, Sept 13th

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 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.

Sunday, Sept 15th

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, colognes, or scented hair spray!

Tournament Chair: Bill Bulfer

(309) 264-7629

E-mail: bulfewa@hotmail.com

Partnerships: Chuck Young

(309)-397-0831

E-mail: charles.young21@comcast.net

Motel: *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



Bloomington-Normal 70% club Year 2019 only

2019/8/30	72.32%	Margaret Hansel & Steve Babin
2019/8/13	76.85%	Darryl Bremner & Mike Tomlianovich(Clinton pairs)
2019/6/11	77.79%	Marilyn & Darryl Bremner(Clinton pairs)
2019/6/10	70.00%	Lori Moore & Steve Wulfers
2019/5/30	76.00%	Hank Hoffman & Steve Babin
2019/5/18	70.83%	Bill Strauss & Wes Seitz
2019/5/16	72.00%	Lori Moore & Steve Wulfers
2019/4/17	73.33%	Kay Marvin & Linda Odette(499ers)
2019/4/8	70.14%	Rick Dalton & Zoe Freeman(99ers)
2019/3/2	72.22%	Abigail Nichols & Carl Nelson
2019/2/9	73.21%	Lori Moore & Chuck Young
2019/1/7	72.50%	Doug Lamb & Bob Bray(99ers)
2019/1/2	73.02%	Larry Ziegler & John Ford (499ers)

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!!

BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



#101 –

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

	♠ A95 ♥ K854 ♦ KJ653 ♣ Q	
♠ JT732 ♥ T72 ♦ A98 ♣ T2	<i>North</i> <i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	♠ Q8 ♥ QJ9 ♦ Q7 ♣ KJ9843
	♠ K64 ♥ A63 ♦ T42 ♣ A765	

None Vulnerable

	<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
				1♣
Pass	1♠		Dbl	2♣
2NT	Pass		3NT	All Pass

Optimistic N-S bidding lands South in a seemingly hopeless 3NT. But one good thing about such contracts is that it's so much fun when they make! You will need to put on your hornswogling shoes for this one.

West leads the ♣T and Declarer holds up her Ace. East continues the suit, and it looks safe for Declarer to win that one (surely West is now out of Clubs). Can Declarer make

nine tricks if East holds the ♦A? No, if East has that card then the contract will be down on the run of the Clubs. So, if Declarer is to make 3NT, she must assume that West has the ♦A. Next question. Where is the ♦Q? If West has the ♦A, then Declarer can safely assume that, in order for East to have his opening bid, he must hold all the missing Queens, including the ♦Q.

Things are looking bleak, but perhaps East's ♦Q is singleton, will that help? No, the ♦Q will fall under the King, but West has the spots and will get two Diamond tricks, giving Declarer no more than eight total tricks.

When all else fails, Declarer must rely on a defensive error. Can you see a way to put East to the test? Yes, there's a neat little swindle in the cards! After winning the ♣A, Declarer crosses to Dummy's ♥K and leads a low Diamond! If East is not at the top of his game he will routinely play low, and Declarer's Ten will force the Ace. Later, the ♦Q falls under the King, and Declarer has four Diamond tricks and nine altogether!

A REVEALING AUCTION

	♠ Q765 ♥ 7 ♦ AK8 ♣ AKQ86	
♠ KT43 ♥ 98632 ♦ 974 ♣ 9	North West East Declarer	♠ A982 ♥ AQ ♦ T52 ♣ 7532
	♠ J ♥ KJT54 ♦ QJ63 ♣ JT4	

Both Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The delicate N-S auction was designed to determine whether they belonged in 3NT or 5♣. Eventually they chose 3NT but along the way they generously donated all sorts of useful information to their opponents.

West mulled over the auction, always a good idea before making the opening lead. What did North's 2♦ mean? It was inconceivable that N-S would play in a Diamond contract, so West concluded that North was bidding out his pattern, which appeared likely to be 4=1=3=5. By so doing, North was indirectly saying to Partner (and to the opponents) "I am short in Hearts, if your Hearts are weak then perhaps we belong in Clubs rather than 3NT".

As for South, he had bid Hearts, after which he would not have bid No Trump without something in the unbid Diamond suit. For his third bid he raised Clubs, at which point there didn't seem to be much room for a whole lot of Spades in his hand, maybe two but quite possibly only one.

After that riveting and revealing auction, what would you lead? Not a Heart, nor a Club, those can hardly be right. A Diamond lead doesn't seem so appealing, either, with North and South both indirectly showing something in the suit. That leaves a Spade. Which one? Yes, West must lead the *King*, protecting against South having a singleton Queen or Jack. Nicely done, Mr. West, the ♠K is the killing lead! And, of course, West will be sure to follow up with the ♠T at Trick 2.

A more Neanderthal North would simply have raised 1NT to 3NT. Now West has fewer clues. He might lead a top-of-nothing Diamond, he might lead a Spade, but even if he chooses the latter there won't be a compelling reason to lead the spectacular King.

PARTNERSHIP DEFENSE

	♠ AQJT7 ♥ Q32 ♦ A76 ♣ 74	
♠ K6532 ♥ K86 ♦ 92 ♣ J32	North West East Declarer	♠ 4 ♥ T95 ♦ K84 ♣ AKQT85
	♠ 98 ♥ AJ74 ♦ QJT53 ♣ 96	

None Vulnerable

	South	West	North	East
			1♠	2♣
Dbl		3♣	Pass	Pass
3♦		All Pass		

It's often said that defense is the toughest part of the game. But sound partnership agreements are a big help, and on this board E-W work together like a well-oiled machine to get a ruff and defeat the contract.

A part-score battle lands N-S in 3♦. West leads a Club and this is where the partnership agreement comes in. On opening lead against a suit contract, with three small in a suit, common practice is to lead a low one. But an exception occurs when the opening leader has bid the suit, as she did in the auction above. In such a case, it is customary to lead the top card, denying an honor, safe in the knowledge that Partner won't misread the lead as a doubleton.

Alert readers will have noticed that West does not actually have three small. Precisely! So her opening lead is a *low* Club, promising an honor. East wins that with the Queen and tries to figure out where the defense might be getting their five tricks. The ♦K is one ... two Club tricks hopefully ... surely not more than one Heart (West would no doubt have led a high Heart holding AK) ... and no Spades. That's only four, and a Spade ruff is needed to get to five. So, At Trick 2, East shifts to a Spade, leading into Dummy's imposing suit. West plays low on this (otherwise Declarer's Heart losers will all disappear), and Declarer now loses the trump finesse to East's King. East confidently underleads his ♣AK to West's Jack, gets his Spade ruff, and eventually the ♥K becomes the setting trick. Nicely done!

NO MATH REQUIRED

	♠ KT8 ♥ QJ652 ♦ A874 ♣ 7	
♠ 53 ♥ KT84 ♦ QT63 ♣ T98	North West East Declarer	♠ 642 ♥ A97 ♦ J92 ♣ KJ64
	♠ AQJ97 ♥ 3 ♦ K5 ♣ AQ532	

E-W Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

This week's hand offers two ways to play the Clubs. Which is better? No need to be a math whiz, some simple logic comes up with the same correct solution as that calculated by our resident Professor of Statistics.

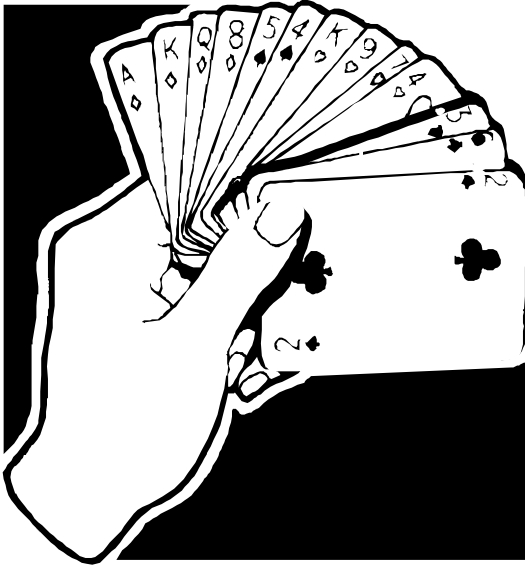
West led a trump, a good choice! After that opening lead, this is not a good slam at all, requiring Clubs to be brought

home for no losers, with only two Club ruffs available on the board. Do you cash the ♣A and ruff a couple of Clubs, hoping that the ♣K comes down in three rounds? Or do you finesse the ♣Q and then ruff two Clubs, hoping that the King is onside and comes down in four rounds?

Things get simpler as soon as Declarer realizes that, regardless of who holds the King, Clubs must be 4-3, otherwise the suit will never set up. What are the chances of the Club finesse working? 50%. What are the chances of one of the defenders holding ♣Kxx (we are counting the Jack as an x for this discussion)? The aforementioned professor would make some calculations with lots of factorials involved and announce that, if Clubs are 4-3, there are 30 possible holdings of Kxx and 40 holdings of Kxxx. That makes Kxx about a 43% probability, not as good as the finesse. And simple logic arrives at the same conclusion. If one hand has four places for the King and the other has only three places, where is the King more likely to be? That's right, in the hand with longer Clubs.

So, Declarer wins the opening trump lead in Dummy, finesses the ♣Q, ruffs a Club, crosses to the ♦K, ruffs a Club, cashes ♦A, ruffs a Diamond, draws trumps, and cashes the remaining Clubs. 12 tricks!

Upcoming tournaments:



East Peoria Sectional

Sep 13-15, 2019

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

STaC

Oct 28-Nov 3, 2019

District 8 NAP Final for 2019-2020

Nov 10, 2019

Hilton Garden Inn
3100 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703

