

# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 22 Number 8 – August, 2020



## August Events



Bloomington-Normal Duplicate games at the First Christian Church located at Jefferson and Lee streets near downtown Bloomington starting at 11:00AM:

All games cancelled due to COVID-19. Please play at Bridge Base Online(BBO) at these times:

Mondays, 11:50am – 199ers only pairs

Mondays, 12:10pm – open pairs

Tuesdays, 6:50pm – 499ers only pairs

Wednesdays, 6:50pm – open pairs

Thursdays, 12:10pm – 299ers only pairs

Thursdays, 6:50pm – open pairs

Saturdays, 12:10pm – open pairs

Sundays, 6:50pm – mentee-mentor 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> – open 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> pairs

Contact Lori Moore at 309-838-8085 for more information.

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

All games cancelled due to COVID-19. Please play at Bridge Base Online(BBO) at these times:

Mondays, 11:50am – 199ers only pairs

Mondays, 12:10pm – open pairs

Tuesdays, 6:50pm – 499ers only pairs

Wednesdays, 6:50pm – open pairs

Thursdays, 12:10pm – 299ers only pairs

Thursdays, 6:50pm – open pairs

Saturdays, 12:10pm – open pairs

Sundays, 6:50pm – mentee-mentor 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> – open 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> pairs

Contact Mike Tomlianovich at 309-825-5823 for more information.

All game results are posted online: <http://live.acbl.org/>

All games sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League.



## The Bloomington-Normal "Top 25" Masterpoint holders

As of 7/6/2020 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only  
paid up ACBL members only



1	4,177.52	Steve Babin
2	3,443.22	Zack Freehill
3	3,214.94	Eunice Patton
4	3,202.40	JoAnn Schroeder
5	2,648.44	Cindy Moore
6	2,322.43	Mike Tomlianovich
7	2,308.66	Ann Schuyler
8	2,089.55	Lori Moore
9	1,795.40	Ron Emmett
10	1,537.55	Jeff Furler
11	1,327.33	Joyce Clay
12	1,272.27	Jeanne Strand
13	1,161.80	Ivey Weaver
14	1,115.51	Steve Wulfers
15	995.47	Randall Motchan
16	830.65	Dave Freehill
17	680.08	Sallie Boge
18	668.14	Ray Dostal
19	552.39	Mary Tweedie
20	540.11	Fred Spitzzeri
21	525.99	Mary Cralley
22	437.79	John Cralley
23	335.51	Chris Zogg
24	321.17	Joyce Werner
25	316.54	Larry Ziegler

### Other players:

12,820.24	Chris Benson-LeRoy
5,496.39	Larry Matheny-Colorado
5,328.37	John Seng-Champaign
4,110.10	Leonard Kaufman-Peoria
3,293.06	Mary Allen-Peoria
2,689.15	Pat Carrington-Champaign
2,654.61	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
2,610.47	Georgia Heth-Morton
2,527.17	Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
2,404.77	John Maloney-Champaign
2,064.88	Chuck Young-Peoria
1,973.90	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
1,531.06	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
1,301.12	Dan Bunde-Champaign
1,120.51	Wes Seitz-Champaign
932.06	Bill Strauss-Urbana
762.10	Carole Miller-Champaign
689.62	Darryl Bremner-Clinton
671.95	Bill Thompson-Champaign
660.72	Melda Richardson-California
592.51	Lane O'Connor-Naperville
488.00	Kirk Kimmel-Peoria
459.58	Linda Odette-Palisade,CO
389.95	John Ford-Harvard,MA
356.26	Ron Sinn-Peoria
344.94	Connie Tucker-Champaign



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#1 –

In this hand the auction made the defense rather easy. Of course, that doesn't always translate into a good score.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

		West	North	East	South
Hand 19-39	♠ 65 ♥ K103	-	-	-	1♥
Vul N/S	♦ 872 ♣ A10976	1♠	2♥	2♠	3♣
♠ AKQ87		Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
♥ 764		Pass			
♦ QJ954					
♣					
	♠ 1043 ♥ 95 ♦ A1063 ♣ Q843				
	♠ J92 ♥ AQJ82 ♦ K ♣ KJ52				

**Bidding:** In this competitive auction, South showed his club suit as a game try and North had no trouble accepting. With favorable vulnerability, E/W were a bit timid.

**Play:** West led the ace and king of spades followed by a low diamond. East won the ace and realized if South held a club suit, West was void. A low club quickly defeated the contract.

However, at the other table that E/W pair bid to 4♠ and lost only two hearts and one diamond. The scores of +420 and -100 meant an eight IMP swing.

A preemptive bid can be a powerful tool. It can disrupt the opponents' auction making it unclear how many tricks can be won. However, it also is a two-edged sword that can work against you.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

	West	North	East	South
Hand 19-40	-	-	2♥	2NT
Vul E/W	Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
	Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
	Pass			

♠ AQ109		♠ 54
♥ 8		♥ KQJ6532
♦ QJ4		♦ 762
♣ KQ963		♣ 4
♠ K63		♠ J876
♥ 74		♥ A109
♦ 10983		♦ AK5
♣ 10752		♣ AJ8

**Bidding:** Looking at the adverse vulnerability, East opened only 2♥ with his seven-card suit. North overcalled 2NT and South used Stayman to find the spade fit. North then bid 4NT (Roman Keycard Blackwood) to find three keycards and bid the slam.

**Play:** Declarer won the heart lead and had all thirteen tricks when the king of spades was in the West hand. West felt this partner was timid and should have opened 3♥. He felt taking another level of bidding might have kept the opponents from the excellent slam.

At the other table East did open 3♥ but this propelled that N/S pair into 7NT. This was not a great contract, but the same thirteen tricks were available. This was a swing of eleven IMPs to the “timid” pair.



#4 –

Here is another example of a preemptive bid that turned out badly. Of course, that depends on which side of the table you were on.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

		West	North	East	South
Hand 19-42	♠ AK82	3♣	Pass	Pass	DBL
	♥ J1064	Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Vul N/S	♦ Q10	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♣ 983				

♠ 65		♠ Q109
♥ 3		♥ K9852
♦ 9764		♦ K85
♣ AKQ1042		♣ J5
	♠ J743	
	♥ AQ7	
	♦ AJ32	
	♣ 76	

**Bidding:** When the 3♣ bid came around South was concerned about balancing. He felt it was possible they could make something at the 3-level, but with those values, North might raise to the 4-level. He finally decided he had to compete, so he made a takeout double. His fears came true when his partner cue bid clubs showing both major suits. South bid his spade suit and that became the contract.

**Play:** West led the top three clubs with declarer ruffing. South cashed the ace-king of spades and then finessed in each red suit. Both kings were with East, so the worried declarer made his contract losing two clubs and one spade.

At the other table in this team game, West passed, and N/S ended in a spade partscore also ending with ten tricks. This was a swing of ten IMPs and decided the match.



## **Bloomington-Normal 70% club Years 2019 & 2020 only**

<b>2020/8/1</b>	<b>70.14%</b>	<b>Eunice Patton &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2020/7/20</b>	<b>72.78%</b>	<b>Cindy Lake &amp; Melissa Paschold(99ers)</b>
<b>2020/7/15</b>	<b>70.30%</b>	<b>Chris Benson &amp; John Seng</b>
<b>2020/6/22</b>	<b>71.99%</b>	<b>Cindy Moore &amp; Mike Tomlianovich</b>
<b>2020/4/23</b>	<b>70.16%</b>	<b>Larry Ziegler &amp; Ray Dostal</b>
<b>2020/1/6</b>	<b>75.00%</b>	<b>Rod Ruder &amp; Doug Lamb(99ers)</b>
<b>2019/11/23</b>	<b>70.09%</b>	<b>Chris Benson &amp; John Seng</b>
<b>2019/11/9</b>	<b>71.43%</b>	<b>Sallie Boge &amp; Kirk Kimmel</b>
<b>2019/9/23</b>	<b>83.33%</b>	<b>Gary Kemp &amp; Bob Bray(99ers)</b>
<b>2019/9/19</b>	<b>71.00%</b>	<b>Hank Hoffman &amp; Zach Freehill</b>
<b>2019/9/18</b>	<b>78.88%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Bob Clay(499ers)</b>
<b>2019/9/16</b>	<b>71.88%</b>	<b>Gary Kemp &amp; Bob Bray(99ers)</b>
<b>2019/8/30</b>	<b>72.32%</b>	<b>Margaret Hansel &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2019/8/13</b>	<b>76.85%</b>	<b>Darryl Bremner &amp; Mike Tomlianovich(Clinton pairs)</b>
<b>2019/6/11</b>	<b>77.79%</b>	<b>Marilyn &amp; Darryl Bremner(Clinton pairs)</b>
<b>2019/6/10</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>Lori Moore &amp; Steve Wulfers</b>
<b>2019/5/30</b>	<b>76.00%</b>	<b>Hank Hoffman &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2019/5/18</b>	<b>70.83%</b>	<b>Bill Strauss &amp; Wes Seitz</b>
<b>2019/5/16</b>	<b>72.00%</b>	<b>Lori Moore &amp; Steve Wulfers</b>
<b>2019/4/17</b>	<b>73.33%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Linda Odette(499ers)</b>
<b>2019/4/8</b>	<b>70.14%</b>	<b>Rick Dalton &amp; Zoe Freeman(99ers)</b>
<b>2019/3/2</b>	<b>72.22%</b>	<b>Abigail Nichols &amp; Carl Nelson</b>
<b>2019/2/9</b>	<b>73.21%</b>	<b>Lori Moore &amp; Chuck Young</b>
<b>2019/1/7</b>	<b>72.50%</b>	<b>Doug Lamb &amp; Bob Bray(99ers)</b>
<b>2019/1/2</b>	<b>73.02%</b>	<b>Larry Ziegler &amp; John Ford (499ers)</b>

**TENTH ANNUAL  
ADULT BRIDGE CAMP**

**Tuesday, October 20-Friday, October 23, 2020  
LAKE WILLIAMSON CHRISTIAN CENTER  
CARLINVILLE, IL**

**Cards on the table - hands on classes for the 0-199er  
Earn silver points at sanctioned pair and team games**

**CAMP FEE: single/\$380 - double/\$320 - Includes eight meals and tournament fees -  
Non-ACBL members can join for \$7.99 for a one-month temporary membership.**

**DEPOSIT : Mail your \$60 deposit check payable to YBEO with the BOTTOM HALF  
of this form to: Mary Shaw 17255 Cottonwood Ln. Carlinville, IL 62626**

**CHECK-IN: 12:45-1:30pm, Tuesday, Oct.20 - Supper @ 5:30pm - A confirmation email  
will be sent upon receipt of your registration. A detailed advance memo will be  
emailed  
about two weeks prior to camp.**

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CAMPER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ \_ single//double  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ \_ACBL# \_\_\_\_\_ \_POINTS \_\_\_\_\_  
EMERGENCY CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_ \_PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: \_\_\_\_\_  
PARTNER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
LIST TWO ITEMS YOU WOULD LIKE TO WORK ON: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE  
SCHEDULE MAY BE ADJUSTED AT DIRECTOR'S DISCRETION**

**SO MUCH TO LEARN - SO LITTLE TIME**

**Tues. October 20** 12:45-1:30 pm Check-in  
2:00 pm Get acquainted/Lesson/Supervised Play  
5:00 pm Walk around facility  
5:30-6:15 pm Supper  
6:30 pm Pairs Tournament  
**Wed. October 21** 8:15 am Breakfast  
**Thurs. October 23** 9:00 am-10:15 am Lesson/Hand Discussion  
10:20 am-12:20 am Swiss Tournament  
12:30 pm-1:15 pm Lunch  
1:20 pm-2:30 pm Lesson  
2:45 pm-5:00 pm Pairs Tournament  
6:15 pm Supper



7:00 pm Lesson/Practice Hands  
**Fri. October 23** 8:15 am Breakfast  
 9:00 am Sanctioned Game or supervised play (per majority)

## BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



### #145 – EAST TO THE RESCUE

	♠ 54 ♥ A7 ♦ 43 ♣ AJT8765	
♠ K863 ♥ QT52 ♦ Q862 ♣ 4	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ QT9 ♥ K943 ♦ JT9 ♣ Q32
	♠ AJ72 ♥ J86 ♦ AK75 ♣ K9	

*N-S Vulnerable*

<b>South</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>
1NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

North saw no good reason to show his Clubs and went straight to 3NT, giving West the minimum amount of information for his opening lead. But West guessed well, leading her fourth-highest Heart, not only attacking the defense's best suit, but also knocking out Dummy's entry to the Clubs.

The opening low Heart lead was ducked, in the hope that West had led from the King-Queen. But East took his King and continued the suit, after which Declarer had to bring home the Clubs if he was to make his contract. The obvious play was to cash the ♣K, and lead towards Dummy, either playing for the drop, or finessing against the Queen. Playing for the drop is the slight favorite, but that became a moot point when West showed out on the second round of Clubs. Now things were hopeless, and Declarer could score no more than six tricks.

North had obviously forgotten that Dummy's main role in life is to be supportive and soothing when Declarer fails in his contract. Instead, he conducted an unhelpful post mortem. "You knew, from the opening lead of the Heart Two, that the suit was 4-4, so you could afford a safety play in Clubs, protecting against East holding Qxx. Just run the Club Nine on the first round of the suit. East wins the Queen, but the defense has only four tricks. When you get in again you overtake your ♣K with the Ace and run the suit. Nine easy tricks!"

But North had been guilty of faulty analysis as well as poor behavior, and it was East who came to

the rescue of Declarer. “That line won’t work”, she explained, “I simply duck the first round of Clubs!” Yes, indeed, that would be a fine play.

### #146 – VARIATION ON A THEME

	♠ 54 ♥ 5 ♦ 763 ♣ AJT8765	
♠ JT9 ♥ T876432 ♦ Q4 ♣ 4	North  West East  Declarer	♠ Q87632 ♥ 9 ♦ K52 ♣ Q32
	♠ AK ♥ AKQJ ♦ AJT98 ♣ K9	

North opened 3♣, after which every South player in the room charged into slam. Some got to 6♣ or 7♣, but could manage only 11 tricks after East’s opening Diamond lead.

Other South players tried 6NT on the grounds that, if both slams made, 6NT was the better-scoring contract. If you read last week’s Bite, “East to the Rescue”, then the Club suit may look eerily familiar, and our question to you is “How do you play 6NT?”

An opening Diamond lead holds no terrors for 6NT, that merely hands Declarer 12 tricks without needing the long Clubs. Instead, West led the less helpful ♠J, won by Declarer.

At this point most Declarers took the simple approach, laying down the ♣K, then leading another Club. When West showed out, and when there was no good fortune in the Diamonds (such as doubleton or singleton honor with East), Declarer was down.

Declarer has a better line of play. At Trick 2, he leads the Club Nine and overtakes with Dummy’s Jack. East, perhaps a regular reader of Bridge Bites, knows that it would be fatal to take her ♣Q, that would give Declarer access to all those Club winners in Dummy. So she cleverly plays low on this trick. The good news for East is that she has deprived Declarer of a bunch of Club winners, the bad news is that now Declarer has two entries to Dummy. Those entries will be used to finesse twice in Diamonds, allowing Declarer to bring home 12 tricks in a different way (two Spades, four Hearts, four Diamonds and just two Clubs).

## #147 – THE NINE OF HEARTS

	♠ J94 ♥ AKQT8 ♦ J64 ♣ J3	
♠ T753 ♥ 762 ♦ K973 ♣ T2	North  West East  Declarer	♠ AQ82 ♥ J93 ♦ T2 ♣ K954
	♠ K6 ♥ 54 ♦ AQ85 ♣ AQ876	

When this deal was played in a duplicate club game, all but one of the 12 N-S pairs played in 3NT, scoring 9 or 10 tricks. But at one table Declarer managed to go down. How was such a thing possible? As you might have guessed from our title, the Heart Nine played a surprisingly important role in the proceedings.

Against 3NT, West found a Diamond opening lead, not the best for the defense as it happened. Declarer won that trick with the Queen, and now had to decide how to tackle the Heart suit. The odds favor playing for the drop of the ♥J, rather than finessing Dummy's Ten, and the plan was (hopefully) to cash the Hearts and to play on Clubs for an overtrick or two. But the plan changed when East casually dropped the Jack under Dummy's Ace on the first round of Hearts. Quite a play, don't you think?

This seemed liked good news for Declarer, as surely there were five Heart tricks available by taking the "marked" finesse of the Heart Eight. So, Declarer led the ♣J, covered by the King and Ace, and confidently finessed the Heart Eight. Oops! That lost to East's Nine, after which Declarer could not avoid going down one! Congratulations to Dan Jacobs of Jacksonville, FL, who sat East and found that lovely Heart play.

Post Script: After Dan had won the Heart Nine he shifted to the ♠A. Could Declarer have salvaged her contract by dumping the King under the ♠A in an attempt to force an entry to Dummy? A clever play, for sure, but not quite good enough. Dan would shift to a Club and, one way or another, the defense would get their five tricks.

#148 –

A PROFITABLE SACRIFICE

	♠ Q43 ♥ A9754 ♦ ♣ QJ985	
♠ K95 ♥ Q86 ♦ AJ85 ♣ AK7	North  West East  Declarer	♠ AJ2 ♥ ♦ KQ6432 ♣ T432
	♠ T876 ♥ KJT32 ♦ T97 ♣ 6	

*None Vulnerable*

When this was dealt at a duplicate game, most E-W pairs missed their slam and played in 5♦, making 12 tricks and scoring +420. At three tables, South played in 5♥ doubled. The object of the exercise here was to make 9 tricks, which would be down two and -300. Could South escape for down two, or would it be down three and the dreaded -500?

At Table 1, West led the ♦A, ruffed on the board. Now a Heart to Declarer's King, East showing out. The bad trump break meant that Declarer could not ruff three Diamonds in Dummy and also pick up West's trump holding. That being so, the

only way to avoid -500 was to set up some Club tricks. So, after winning the ♥K, Declarer led a Club which West won with the King. The defense cashed three Spades, and then a Diamond was ruffed on the board. A Club was ruffed (low), followed by a Heart to the Nine, another Club ruff (setting up the suit), then back to Dummy's ♥A to enjoy the Club winners. Down only two, for -300.

But West could have done better. After Declarer has taken the first Club ruff, the trump situation is:

♥ A9  
 ♥ Q8                      ♥ --  
 ♥ JT3

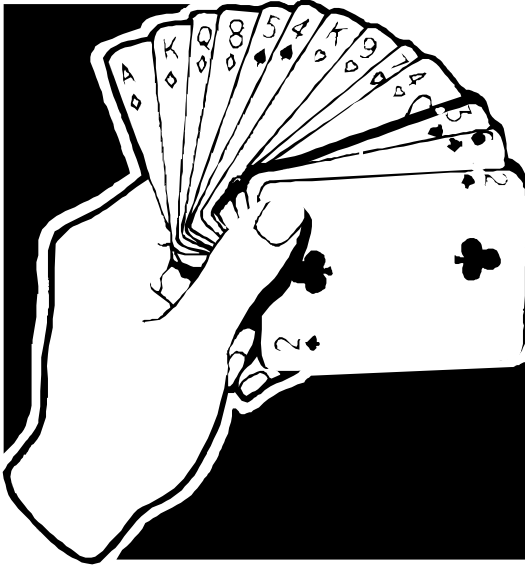
At Table 2, when Declarer led the Heart Three, West was a star, majestically rising with the Queen! That blocks the Heart suit and means that it's no longer possible later to win the third round of trumps in Dummy. Very nice defense, indeed, and -500 for N-S.

At Table 3, Declarer anticipated that blocking problem and cleverly ruffed the first Club with her Jack. Now the trumps were:

♥ A9  
 ♥ Q8                      ♥ --  
 ♥ T32

No blockage in this layout, so N-S escaped with -300 for a profitable sacrifice.

## Upcoming tournaments:



### Illinois Senior Olympics

Aug 25, 2020, 1:00pm

SAVE THE DATE – LOCATION TBA

