

# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 22 Number 10 – October, 2020



## October 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, 11:50am – 299ers only 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>-5th 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, 11:50am – 299ers only 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>-5th 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 9/6/2020 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only  
paid up ACBL members only



1	4,198.57	Steve Babin
2	3,443.22	Zack Freehill
3	3,265.62	JoAnn Schroeder
4	3,228.65	Eunice Patton
5	2,676.69	Cindy Moore
6	2,340.14	Mike Tomlianovich
7	2,314.64	Ann Schuyler
8	2,102.92	Lori Moore
9	1,795.40	Ron Emmett
10	1,541.82	Jeff Furler
11	1,340.97	Joyce Clay
12	1,272.27	Jeanne Strand
13	1,161.80	Ivey Weaver
14	1,118.43	Steve Wulfers
15	995.47	Randall Motchan
16	830.65	Dave Freehill
17	688.09	Sallie Boge
18	677.48	Ray Dostal
19	559.63	Fred Spitzzeri
20	558.37	Mary Tweedie
21	536.85	Mary Cralley
22	449.19	John Cralley
23	339.36	Larry Ziegler
24	335.51	Chris Zogg
25	321.17	Joyce Werner

### Other players:

12,847.60	Chris Benson-LeRoy
5,532.70	Larry Matheny-Colorado
5,366.57	John Seng-Champaign
4,162.06	Leonard Kaufman-Peoria
3,313.82	Mary Allen-Peoria
2,689.15	Pat Carrington-Champaign
2,654.61	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
2,630.37	Georgia Heth-Morton
2,527.17	Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
2,416.41	John Maloney-Champaign
2,083.24	Chuck Young-Peoria
1,973.90	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
1,554.76	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
1,307.59	Dan Bunde-Champaign
1,141.05	Wes Seitz-Champaign
951.35	Bill Strauss-Urbana
767.62	Carole Miller-Champaign
708.60	Darryl Bremner-Clinton
687.95	Bill Thompson-Champaign
662.72	Melda Richardson-California
600.17	Lane O'Connor-Naperville
498.84	Kirk Kimmel-Peoria
476.71	Linda Odette-Palisade,CO
408.37	John Ford-Harvard,MA
368.87	Ron Sinn-Peoria
349.92	Connie Tucker-Champaign



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 2051 Ireland Grove Road, Bloomington



#1 –

Defense is difficult so it's important to help your partner. In this hand, a defender had an opportunity to show his partner the way to success but failed to deliver the message.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

		West	North	East	South
Hand 19-47	♠ 107 ♥ AQ10986	2♦	2♥	2NT	4♣
Vul None	♦ Q2 ♣ QJ2	Pass	Pass	DBL	Pass
♠ 5	♠ 62				
♥ J752	♥ K43				
♦ KJ10973	♦ A84				
♣ 103	♣ AK876				
	♠ AKQJ9843				
	♥				
	♦ 65				
	♣ 954				

**Bidding:** After West's weak two bid, the auction heated up quickly. East showed a strong hand with 2NT and later doubled 4♣.

**Play:** West led the ten of clubs to East's king. Next, East cashed the ace of clubs and returned the six. This was East's lowest remaining club and it asked for a diamond return. West ruffed but he had not watched the club spots closely enough and erred by returning a low heart. Declarer put in the ten and ruffed the king. Now it was easy to lead a low spade to the seven, pull the last trump with the ten, and discard the two losing diamonds on the AQ of hearts.

The same auction and opening lead occurred at the other table but after winning the AK of clubs, East cashed the ace of diamonds. Now after West ruffed the third club, he cashed the king of diamonds for down two. This was a swing of 13 IMPs.

#2 –

Hand evaluation is subjective and can be difficult. Here is a hand where one declarer took a positive view while the other did not.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

		West	North	East	South
Hand 19-48	♠ A76 ♥ 8	-	-	-	1♥
Vul None	♦ Q64 ♣ KJ9754	Pass	1NT	Pass	3♣
	♠ K532 ♥ 97 ♦ J109853 ♣ 8	Pass	3♣	Pass	4♦
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; gap: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin-right: 10px;"></div> <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; gap: 5px;"> <div>♠ QJ984</div> <div>♥ K643</div> <div>♦ K7</div> <div>♣ 102</div> </div> </div>	Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
	♠ 10 ♥ AQJ1052 ♦ A2 ♣ AQ63	Pass	Pass	Pass	

**Bidding:** After North's 1NT response, South made a game-forcing jump shift. Suddenly North's hand went from average to super in support of clubs. To show this, North cue bid spades. South continued with a diamond cue bid and slam was reached.


**Play:** West led the jack of diamonds to the queen, king, and ace. Next, declarer played the ace and another heart ruffing in dummy. Now a trump to his hand, another heart ruffed high, and the last trump was drawn with the queen. Another heart ruff established that suit and declarer had thirteen tricks: 1 spade, 6 hearts, 1 diamond, 1 diamond ruff, and 4 clubs.

At the other table, South rebid 4♥ and the club suit was never mentioned. This declarer found eleven tricks, so it was +940 and +450 for a ten IMP swing.

#3 –

While the more common suit combinations are familiar to most players, there are some safety plays that come up infrequently. In this hand declarer knew how to play his trump suit.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

Hand 19-49	♠ AQ9862	West	North	East	South
	♥ 9	-	-	-	2NT
Vul None	♦ KQ8	Pass	4♥	Pass	4♣
	♣ J65	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
♠ J103		Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
♥ J53		Pass			
♦ J642					
♣ 1097					
	♠ 754				
	♥ AK86				
	♦ A93				
	♣ AKQ				

Bidding: North's 4♥ bid was the Texas Transfer convention to ensure the lead would come around to the stronger hand. Next, North bid 4NT to initiate the Roman Keycard Blackwood convention to find how many keycards (4 aces + spade K) were missing. The 5♦ response showed 3 keycards and North bid the slam.

Play: West led the ten of clubs to declarer's ace. It was clear there were no losers outside of the trump suit, so declarer stopped to consider. He saw that he could not handle a 4-0 split and if the spades divided 2-2 any play would work. That left him with the 3-1 breaks to consider. He was doomed if West held only 1 spade unless it was the king. He saw the answer and made the safety play of leading to dummy's ace of spades. When the king fell, declarer cashed the queen, and then conceded a spade trick to make the slam. If East followed with any other spade, declarer would go to his hand to lead another spade.

The result was the same at the other table.

#4 –

While most hand evaluation schemes involve counting high card points, others are used to show distribution. This declarer reached a nice slam after a short suit was identified.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

		West	North	East	South
Hand 19-50	♠ 3	-	-	-	1NT
	♥ K105	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Vul None	♦ AQ87542	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
	♣ K9	Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
♠ AJ872		Pass	5♣	Pass	6♦
♥ QJ9		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♦ 9		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♣ 10642		Pass	Pass	Pass	
	♠ K965				
	♥ 87632				
	♦ 6				
	♣ J87				
	♠ Q104				
	♥ A4				
	♦ KJ103				
	♣ AQ53				

**Bidding:** North's 2NT response was a transfer to diamonds. South's 3♣ rebid showed a great hand for diamonds. North's next bid showed interest in game or slam with shortness in spades. With very little wasted in spades, South's hand was getting better. His next bid of 4♦ was the Minorwood convention, asking for keycards (4 aces + diamond king). North replied he held one keycard and the 4♠ continuation asked about the diamond queen. North answered with 5♣ acknowledging the queen of diamonds along with the king of clubs. South completed the long auction by bidding the slam.

**Play:** West led ace of spades after which declarer soon claimed twelve tricks. At other tables those in 3NT failed after a spade lead while those in 5♦ made one or two overtricks depending on the opening lead.

Finding a short suit can keep you out of 3NT and allow you to reach minor suit games and slams.



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

<b>2020/10/3</b>	<b>71.03%</b>	<b>Bill Bulfer &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<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:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 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



### #153 – DETECTIVE WORK

	♠ AJ7 ♥ 8542 ♦ 876 ♣ A93	
♠ Q42 ♥ QJ963 ♦ K92 ♣ Q7	North  West East  Declarer	♠ 6 ♥ K7 ♦ AQJ543 ♣ 6542
	♠ KT9853 ♥ AT ♦ T ♣ KJT8	

*E-W Vulnerable*

South	West	North	East
		Pass	2♦
2♠	3♦	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

East's 2♦ was a Weak Two, showing six Diamonds and less than opening values. N-S push on to 4♠, a contract which is in danger of losing a trick in each suit. On the other hand, with a bit of sleuthing, you might even make an overtrick.

West leads a low Diamond to East's Ace, and you ruff the ♦Q continuation. Do you know who has the ♠Q? Not exactly, but

you do know who is more likely to hold that card. East started with six Diamonds and West with only three. That leaves more space in the West hand for Spades, and he is therefore more likely to hold the Queen. So, you cash the ♠K, finesse the ♠J successfully, and draw the last trump with the ♠A. Now the contract is assured, but can you make an overtrick?

There wasn't much sleuthing in that Spade guess, you just had to remember the implications of the E-W bidding. But to find the ♣Q you will need to do some detective work. Before trying to guess the ♣Q, you can learn more about the hand by playing on Hearts. You cash the ♥A, and exit a Heart. Lo and behold, East plays the King on this trick and exits with the ♦J which you ruff. That's the final clue, the mystery is now solved. East has shown the ♦AQJ and the ♥K, that's 10 HCP. Also, East claims (in the bidding) to have less than opening values. So, he can hardly have the ♣Q, that would take him up to 12 HCP, which, coupled with a good 6-card suit, is an opening one-bid in anyone's book. So, you run the ♣J around, then repeat the finesse, and end up with 11 tricks.

#154 – DECISION AT TRICK ONE

	♠ 32 ♥ KQ9 ♦ Q9832 ♣ A32	
♠ AKT76 ♥ JT763 ♦ 4 ♣ 76	North  West East  Declarer	♠ 98 ♥ 82 ♦ A765 ♣ QJ985
	♠ QJ54 ♥ A54 ♦ KJT ♣ KT4	

Both Vulnerable

	South	West	North	East
		Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	2♣	2♥	Pass	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

West's 2♣ was a Michaels Cue-Bid, showing 5-5 (or better) in the majors. North's 2♥ said "I have something in Hearts and a decent hand", and South took a shot at 3NT. What would you lead from the West hand? And how would you declare 3NT?

It would not be a good idea for West to lead a high Spade here. He has no entries outside the Spade suit, and playing Spades from the top would serve only to cut the communications between East and West. The best chance for getting the suit going is for West to lead his fourth-best Spade, hoping that East can profitably lead a Spade through Declarer later in the play. So, West leads the Spade Seven, East plays the Eight, and the key point in the play has already arrived. As Declarer, what would you play on this trick?

If you grab that first Spade trick with your Queen, then you must hope that West has the ♦A, because if East has that card he will fire back a Spade through your inadequate holding. Conversely, if you duck the first Spade, the defense will persist with Spades, knocking out your stopper. In that case, you must hope that East has ♦A, and that West's last Spade is therefore shut out.

So, to play the Spades correctly at Trick 1, it is necessary to deduce who has the ♦A. And the answer is? Yes, East must have it. West is marked with the ♠AK from the play at Trick 1, and can hardly have the ♦A as well. Remember, he passed originally, and would not have done so with Ace-King, Ace and 5-5 distribution. It's like they always say: "It pays to think at Trick 1, it may be too late at Trick 2"

#155 – 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> round of Hearts.

#156 – DASTARDLY DECEPTION

	♠ Q4 ♥ J93 ♦ AQJ5 ♣ 7643	
♠ K852 ♥ K862 ♦ 9 ♣ A985	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ AT973 ♥ T75 ♦ 842 ♣ T2
	♠ J6 ♥ AQ4 ♦ KT763 ♣ KQJ	

*N-S Vulnerable*

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

When this was played in a team game, 3NT was reached at both tables, and both West players failed to find the lethal opening Spade lead. Instead, they led their fourth-best Heart, and we can report that one Declarer made her contract, the other didn't. Here's how.

At Table 1, the opening Heart trick went: Two, Nine, Ten, Queen. Declarer could count just seven top tricks and at

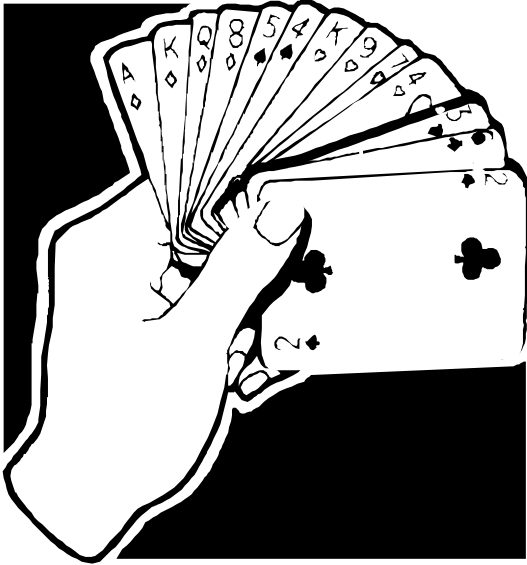
Trick 2 he played the ♣K in an attempt to set up two more. It was a futile effort, of course. West took his Ace and, not wanting to give Declarer a third Heart trick, he shifted to a Spade. Down two.

At Table 2, Declarer was more resourceful. She realized that, if she took that first trick with the ♥Q, the defense would probably find the Spade shift. So, in an attempt to muddy the waters, she squandered the ♥A! Now Declarer played a Club to West's Ace. Picturing East to have started with ♥QTx and Declarer with ♥Axx, West continued with a low Heart to East's supposed Queen. But it was Declarer who produced that card, and who promptly claimed nine tricks.

That was dastardly play by Declarer, but could West have seen through the deception? To West it seemed that Declarer might well have held something like: ♠Axx, ♥Axx, ♦Kxxx, ♣KQJ. Would Declarer not hold up in Hearts with such a hand? Not necessarily, if she did she might fall prey to a deadly Spade shift, allowing West to win his King and revert to Hearts for down one.

Postscript: There is a signaling device that could have saved E-W. It's the Smith Echo, whereby at Trick 2 East gives his attitude to the opening lead ... he plays a high Club to say "I like the opening lead" ... and a low Club to say "I don't" Here the message will be "I don't", so East plays the Two, after which West will presumably shift to a Spade. Or maybe not as, after the play to Trick 1, he might already have lapsed into auto-pilot mode.

# Upcoming tournaments:



## Fall Into Bridge Regional

Oct 15-18, 2020

Bridge Base Online

