

I/N News ... especially for you!

For Beginners...

Avoid reflex plays

In all departments of bridge, it is a mistake to make the reflex play thoughtlessly. In defence, try to work out what is going on. Ask yourself what has partner led from, and therefore what declarer holds in the suit.

Editor's Note: If East finds the lead of a heart (unlikely from the AQ) or a club (not so unlikely from a 5 card holding), the contract can be defeated off the top, E/W collecting two hearts and a club...

Declarer must always strive to take advantage of a "lucky" lead situation like this where the spade lead affords them an extra chance to succeed.

East Deals	♠ A 10 6		
None Vul	♥ 10 5		
	♦ A 9 8 7 3		
	♣ 7 6 3		
♠ Q 9 7		♠ J 8 5 4 2	
♥ A Q 9 8 3		♥ K 4	
♦ —		♦ 6 4	
♣ J 8 5 4 2		♣ A K 10 9	
	♠ K 3		
	♥ J 7 6 2		
	♦ K Q J 10 5 2		
	♣ Q		
West North East South			
		1 ♠	2 ♦
2 ♥	4 ♦	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

5 ♦ by South

In 1995, Andrew Robson founded the highly successful Andrew Robson Bridge Club in South West London. He has written the courses which tens of thousands have taken at the Club over the years. He still teaches several weekends a year. Andrew has written the daily Bridge column for The Times for over 20 years. He has written weekly for Country Life for 30 years and weekly for Money Week for nearly 20 years. He also writes monthly for The Oldie. Andrew produces acclaimed daily instruction "BridgeCast" videos for all levels of players (go to andrewrobsonbridgecast.com) and has seen a meteoric rise in many of his subscribers.



West led ♠7, declarer played low from dummy, and East..... East had already made the reflex "third hand high" play of ♠J. Declarer won ♠K, drew East's trumps finishing in hand, and played ♠3 to West's ♠9 and dummy's ♠10. When it held the trick, he was able to discard ♣Q on ♠A. He just lost two ♥s - trumping his third and fourth ♥s in dummy.

If East had not played ♠J at trick one, the contract would have gone one down. Could he have worked out to play low? The answer is an emphatic yes! West could not have both ♠K and ♠Q - or he would have led ♠K. There is no other holding where it could gain East to play ♠J, and plenty where it would lose heavily. Like the actual hand!

ANDREW'S TIP: Think before making the reflex play. When defending, work out partner's possible holdings in the suit he has led.

"SQOT" - The Suit Quality Overall Test

An overcaller must have a decent five-card suit or better to enhance the chances of a making contract or a profitable sacrifice should the overcaller declare, plus prevent calamities should the deal be a misfit. If the overcaller ends up defending, at least his partner will start with the best opening lead. The question is: just how good must the five-card suit be in order to justify the overcall? Cluttering up the auction for the opponents is good, but not at the cost of going for a large penalty or misleading partner.

Here is a rough guideline for the quality of the suit. – As it discounts important factors such as overall hand quality and vulnerability, it must not be taken as gospel.

Add up the no. of cards in you suit (minimum five) to the no. of honors (ace=one, king=one, queen=one, jack=one, ten=one) in the suit. Overcall if the total is at least as many as the number of tricks you are bidding for.

Exercise: Which of the following heart suits are worth a 1♥ overcall over 1♦, or a 2♥ overcall over 1♠?

(a) ♥KJ752 (b) ♥QJ1083 (c) ♥A97632 (d) ♥AKJ9

SQOT count: (a). Seven. (b). Eight. (c). Seven. (d). Seven.

(a). Overcall 1♥ over 1♦; not 2♥ over 1♠.

(b). Overcall 1♥ over 1♦ and 2♥ over 1♠.

(c). Overcall 1♥ over 1♦; not 2♥ over 1♠.

(d) Do not overcall on a four-card suit.

North Deals		♠ A 10 3	
None Vul		♥ K Q 10 7	
		♦ A Q 6 4	
		♣ 7 2	
♠ Q J 9 7 6			♠ 4 2
♥ 9 8 4	N		♥ A 6 5 2
♦ 10 9 2	W	E	♦ 8 3
♣ J 5	S		♣ K Q 10 6 4
		♠ K 8 5	
		♥ J 3	
		♦ K J 7 5	
		♣ A 9 8 3	

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

- Five clubs with three honors make eight, so East overcalls 2♣ (bidding for eight tricks). However, Two-level overcalls are dangerous and this bid is very marginal. I wouldn't chance it if vulnerable. Even non-vulnerable, perhaps I should have ♣9 instead of ♣4.

- Perhaps South is supposed to have a second club stopper, but he hopes ♣9 will do.

3 NT by South

Lead: ♣J

West - who would have led a spade without partner's overcall, enabling 3 NT to make easily - led the jack of clubs (top from two - to unblock). Declarer let this card hold the trick, but won a second club (to East's ten) with the ace. He cashed four diamonds, but East threw hearts. When, at Trick Seven, he knocked out the ace of hearts (as he had to), East won his ace and cashed three further clubs. Down one - entirely due to East's lead-directing overcall.

Robson For Advanced Players...

A change in fortune

Partner Tony Forrester and I had quite a torrid time early on in the European Championships in Croatia (mercifully, the other two pairs - the Davids (Bakhshi/Gold) and the Hacketts (Jason/Justin) both fired on all cylinders from the word go). Then suddenly we had a floodgate of decent results.

On a personal front, this was the board -from England-Serbia - that kickstarted a change in the Forrester-Robson fortunes. After partner opened a Weak Two in spades, the opponents sailed into 3 NT and I had to find an opening lead.

There were two contenders. I could lead my fourth highest club the sneak attack . Or I could lead the top-of-doubleton in partner's spades. I cogitated.

East Deals	♠ 7		
E-W Vul	♥ A Q 4		
	♦ A K 10 9 8 5 2		
	♣ 9 7		
♠ 9 2			♠ A J 10 8 6 4
♥ K 3			♥ J 10 2
♦ J 4 3			♦ 7
♣ A J 8 6 5 3			♣ Q 4 2
	♠ K Q 5 3		
	♥ 9 8 7 6 5		
	♦ Q 6		
	♣ K 10		
West North East South			
	2 ♠ ¹ Pass		
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Weak Two, showing six decent spades and 5-10 points.

For Leading a club: The opponents aren't ready for it. Partner will need only one key card - the king of clubs - and the clubs suit might run for six tricks.

For leading a spade: A vulnerable Weak Two bidder should have a pretty good suit. It will be worse for partnership morale if I lead a spade and a club would have beaten it, than the reverse. Partner is quite likely to have four hearts (and certainly three), otherwise the opponents will have been playing in 4 ♥ not 3 NT, so the chances of him having short clubs (making a club lead bad) is increased.

It was almost coin-toss. I fished out the ♠ 9.

East won the trick with ♠ A and in a jiffy plonked the ♣ Q was on the table. Declarer tried a forlorn ♣ K, but I won ♣ A, cashed the ♣ J felling 9 and declarer's ♣ 10, and could win my four winning clubs. Down three.

An opening club lead would have run to declarers ♣ K, where-upon declarer would quickly scamper home with seven diamonds and the ♥ A.

Note Tony Forrester's switch to ♣ Q from ♣ Qxx this was to cater for me holding ♣ AJ10xx (switching to a low club and declarer can duck to me and I cannot profitably continue the suit without presenting declarer a trick with his ♣ K).

"You did very well to lead a spade, Robbo" said the team afterwards. I knew what that meant. "Robbo, you made the anti-percentage lead and got lucky".

Bridge

cbuls

amsinddo

sahret

apsesd

rrapnte

drcleear

dahn

nhotr

suhto

tesa

eswt

lasm

uqeesez

cpuo

sfesnei

emga

lodeub

rodlebue

ecraisifc

Game Page...

Answers: Clubs, Diamonds, Hearts, Spades, declarer, hand, north, south, east, west, slam, squeeze, coup, finesse, game, double, redouble, sacrifice

Bharat	L	Agrawal	Junior Master
Artin		Goncu	Junior Master
Michael	B	Nash	Junior Master
Patricia		O'Donnell	Junior Master
Lynda	M	Parrilli	Junior Master
Diane		Petrovic	Junior Master
Stephen	D	Rheinstrom	Junior Master
G Peter		Shugart	Junior Master
Franette		Liebow	Club Master
Manmit		Pantle	Club Master
Lynn	U	Thorpe	Club Master
Richard	E	Bowerman	Sectional Master
Marion		Gagnon	Sectional Master
Scott		Gagnon	Sectional Master
Ranmit		Pantle	Sectional Master
Mary		Quirke	Sectional Master
Christopher		Swain	Sectional Master
William	L	Gould	Regional Master
Molly		Martin	Regional Master
Graham		Meyer	Regional Master
Susan		Salek	Regional Master
M		Jorndt	NABC Master
			Adv NABC
Rahul		Garga	Master
Geri	L	Grimes	Life Master
Martin	H	Matthews	Life Master
			Bronze Life
Geri	L	Grimes	Master
			Bronze Life
James	F	Sturtevant	Master
William		Buchman	Silver Life Master
Kazi	K	Farooqui	Silver Life Master
Rob		Gleason	Silver Life Master
Patricia		Taylor	Silver Life Master
Susan	K	Thiess	Silver Life Master
Cynthia		Polayes	Ruby Life Master
Robert		Zboralski	Ruby Life Master
			Diamond Life
Paul	D	Lindauer	Master

District 13
Rank Advancements
Well Done!!

2024 La Crosse Sectional

Sanction # 2411354

Thurs. November 14 - Sat. 16
The Harry J Olson Center
1607 North Street
La Crosse, WI 54603

Free coffee and snacks
all tournament long

Free Parking

Schedule of Events

Thursday, November 14
10:00 & 2:30 Open Pairs/Teams

Friday, November 15
10:00 & 2:30 Open Pairs/Teams
*Pizza Party & mini educational between sessions - \$5.00

Saturday, November 16
9:00 & 12:30 Stratified Swiss Teams – Lunch served between sessions

All Open Strata: 0-1000 / 1000-3000 / 3000+

\$10.00 per session for ACBL Members
Special Student Rate with Student ID

Partnerships: Linda Mills
608-738-8246
Onalinda41@hotmail.com

Chairperson: Jeri Sebo
608-386-5616
jvsebo@charter.net

Near by Hotel – Super 8
1625 Rose Street, La Crosse, WI
Book at: Super8.bookonline.com
or 608-433-2453



Milwaukee Winter Fun Sectional

January 7 – 10, 2025



Good Hope School – Room #26
(Follow signs to 4 Aces Bridge Club)
2315 W. Good Hope Road - Glendale WI

DIRECTIONS:
From I-43: Exit #80 Good Hope Road West for 1 1/4 miles
Turn left just before the tennis courts on the south side
From I-41: Exit #47 Good Hope Road East for 5.5 miles;
Turn right just after the tennis court on the south side.



TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

9:30 AM Single Stratified Pair/Teams
Stratified 499er Pairs
2:00 PM Single Stratified Pair/Teams
Stratified 499er Pairs



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

9:30 AM Single Stratified Pair/Teams
Stratified 499er Pairs
2:00 PM Single Stratified Pair/Teams
Stratified 499er Pairs

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

9:30 AM Single Stratified Pair/Teams
Stratified 499er Pairs
2:00 PM Single Stratified Pair/Teams
Stratified 499er Pairs



FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

9:30 AM Single Stratified Pair/Teams
Stratified 499er Pairs
2:00 PM Single Stratified Pair/Teams
Stratified 499er Pairs



TOURNAMENT CHAIR: Yvette Neary
Phone: 414-526-9035
Email: yneary@gmail.com

Strats: Open Games 0-1000/1000-3500/3500+
499er Games 0-100/100-300/300-499

Strata may be adjusted as attendance warrants



Hand Shapes Tips for Intermediates from Andy Robson

Hand distributions fall into four categories. Here are three of them:

1. Balanced. 4432, 4333, 5332.
2. Single-suited. e.g. 6322, 7321.
3. Two-suited. e.g. 5431, 5521.
4. Three-suited. 4441

Note that some shapes - 6-4s - belong to both (2) and (3).

There is no right or wrong way to treat this awkward shape (mercifully only the tenth most frequent). One approach is to open using the normal rules (i.e. higher ranking, but choosing hearts before spades when 4-4). Another is to open the "suit below the singleton" (preparing yourself for partner's most likely response); or even opening your lowest-ranked suit (to keep things cheap). I'll make a more formal suggestion next deal.

One thing is for sure. A 4441 shape is more suited to defence than play - you know that no suit will split well for an opposing declarer. So why not pass a marginal opener?

South Deals ♠ K J 9 6 3

Both Vul ♥ J 7 4

♦ 10 9 7

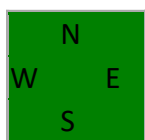
♣ Q 8

♠ 8 2

♥ 9 6 5 3

♦ A Q

♣ A K J 10 6



♠ A 10 7 5 4

♥ K 8

♦ 8 6 4 3

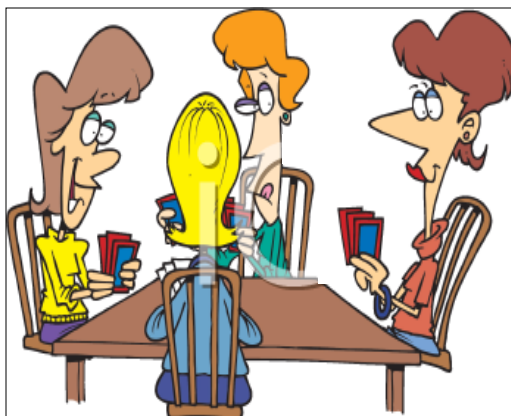
♣ 7 3

♠ Q

♥ A Q 10 2

♦ K J 5 2

♣ 9 5 4 2



If I'd been smart,
I'd chosen chess.
I have no clue...
Two-way finesse!
Heart queen left?
Heart queen right?
I'm faced with
Such an awful plight!

West North East South

1 ♥¹

2 ♣ 2 ♥ All pass

1. Mistake. Devalue ♠ Q and is it really right to open this defensive collection?

What happened

West cashed ♣ A against 2 ♥. East signalled encouragement with ♣ 7, so West continued with ♣ K and ♣ 10. East overtrumped dummy's ♥ 7 with ♥ 8 and switched to ♦ 8. West won ♦ AQ and followed with ♣ J. Declarer trumped with dummy's ♥ J (not best on the layout) and East overtrumped with ♥ K. He led ♦ 6, trumped by West, received ♠ 8 return to his ♠ A, then led ♦ 4. West trumped with ♥ 5 - too high for dummy - and the vulnerable part-score was down four.

What should have happened

E-W would have had tough decisions if South passes as dealer. West will likely open 1 ♣ and East will respond 1 ♠, all of West's rebids are compromised (1NT / 2 ♣ / 2 ♥) - You can see E-W getting in a mess..... They might escape if they stop low (1NT, 2 ♣). More likely, they would get overboard.

If you remember just one thing...

Do not open a 12 point 4441 with a singleton honor!

Give 'Em A Hand!

Dealer South. NS Vul.

<p>♠ 10 6 ♥ J 7 2 ♦ Q J 5 ♣ K 9 6 5 3</p>			
♠ A Q J 8 7		♠ 9 5 3 2	
♥ 5		♥ Q 10 9	
♦ 10 9 8 3		♦ K 7 6	
♣ Q 8 7		♣ J 10 2	
<p>♠ K 4 ♥ A K 8 6 4 3 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ A 4</p>			
West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♥
1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West did well not to lead a spade, beginning with the ten of diamonds instead. Declarer played the queen from dummy and East covered this with his king. Declarer won the trick with the ace then cashed the ace and king of trumps, discovering he had a trump loser as well as the three in the side suits.

His only chance to reduce the latter to two was that clubs were 3-3. So South cashed the ace and king of clubs and ruffed a club, establishing the suit. Next he crossed to dummy with the jack of diamonds and discarded his diamond loser on a good club. East played the queen of trumps to stop the overtrick but he was ruffing a loser, so the defence took only a trump and two spades.

This theme is well used by columnists and its point is that there is a defence to prevent declarer using the clubs for a discard! East must play low at trick one. After that ploy, the jack of diamonds is no longer an entry to dummy to play a winning club. So declarer fails by one trick; West takes two spades while East scores a diamond and a trump.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

<p>♠ K 4 2 ♥ 7 3 ♦ K Q 7 5 ♣ K 8 6 4</p>			
♠ 8 7 6 5 3		♠ J 10 9	
♥ --		♥ 10 9 8 6 5	
♦ J 10 8 4		♦ 3 2	
♣ J 10 9 2		♣ Q 7 5	
<p>♠ A Q ♥ A K Q J 4 2 ♦ A 9 6 ♣ A 3</p>			
West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 NT
Pass	7 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

After North's ostensibly negative two diamonds, South saw that more often than not he would make nine tricks in no

trumps. So he bid what he thought he could make, and so did North.

West led the jack of clubs, dummy and East playing low. Declarer took this in hand with the ace and cashed the ace of hearts, getting the bad news that the hearts were not running.

So South continued with the ace and queen of spades then the three top diamonds, ending in dummy. Next came the king of spades, discarding a low heart from hand. This reduced everyone to five cards.

As East has to keep four hearts he could only keep one club. When declarer cashed the remaining top hearts, West had to throw either his jack of diamonds, establishing dummy's seven, or a club. When he chose to part with a club, dummy discarded the seven of diamonds and the king of clubs was cashed, establishing the eight of clubs as the thirteenth trick.

Dealer North. NS Vul.

<p>♠ K 5 2 ♥ K 10 9 ♦ 8 6 3 ♣ A 7 5 4</p>			
♠ Q J 9 8		♠ 10 7 6 4	
♥ 8 5		♥ 7 6 2	
♦ A Q J 7		♦ 10 9 5	
♣ Q 10 3		♣ J 9 6	
<p>♠ A 3 ♥ A Q J 4 3 ♦ K 4 2 ♣ K 8 2</p>			
West	North	East	South
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♥
Double	Redouble	1 ♠	Pass
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Once again North-South avoided the best contract of three no trumps – surely South could bid a forcing two no trumps to ask North's opinion about of the final denomination.

Nevertheless, West led the queen of spades and South saw that he only had nine tricks, so he had to rely on the clubs being 3-3 and trumps breaking. With this in mind, he took the queen of spades with the ace, drew trumps and played the ace of clubs. However, West saw that he might be end-played and dropped his queen of clubs!

Somewhat taken aback, declarer continued with a justifiably nervous king and another club. East won the third round of clubs with the jack and shifted to the diamonds. The defence soon had three diamond tricks for a one trick set.

By now you will have seen that there was a counter to West's clever tactic of dumping his queen of clubs under the ace. It was to duck the first spade! Declarer wins the next spade with the ace, cashes the ace and king of clubs, throws a club on the king of spades then ruffs the clubs good. Next he draws three rounds of trumps ending in dummy so that he cash the established club as his tenth trick.

(continued on page 8)

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

Continued from Page 7

♠ Q 5 3
♥ 8 6 4
♦ A K 7 3
♣ Q 6 3

♠ 7 2
♥ A Q J 7
♦ J 10 9 2
♣ A 8 4

♠ 9 8
♥ 10 9 5 3
♦ Q 8 6
♣ J 10 9 5

♠ A K J 10 6 4
♥ K 2
♦ 5 4
♣ K 7 2

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

North's four spades is a lazy bid, for a cue bid of three hearts would see South bid three no trumps and take nine tricks very, very easily. Had East-West been playing them, a preemptive raise to three hearts would have made life more difficult for North-South by eliminating this possibility over South's presumed three spade overcall.

West led the jack of diamonds, won in dummy with the ace. South counted nine tricks; six trumps, the ace-king of diamonds, and a club. As West would have both the heart ace and club ace, there did not seem to be much chance of making a tenth trick unless West began with a doubleton club.

However, South saw another possibility – trumps might be 2-2, with West holding four diamonds; if that was so, he could be end-played. Since East-West were playing four-card majors, this seemed a decent chance, and it was more likely that West had two spades rather than two clubs.

So, declarer called for the king of diamonds and, after that held, ruffed a diamond high. After cashing the ace of trumps, then playing a trump to the queen, collecting all the outstanding trumps, dummy's fourth diamond was played. When East discarded a low heart, South threw a club, forcing West to lead away from one of his aces and give declarer a tenth trick.

Note that declarer had to be careful to retain the four of spades in hand so that he would be able to cross to the five in dummy when West won the diamond and continued with ace and another club.

From Bridge for Dummies by Eddie Kantar

Bridge etiquette: Bidding do's and don'ts

In bridge, bidding is an exchange of information. During bidding, you're trying to telegraph details about your cards to your partner. Your first impulse may be to develop some special bidding conventions that only you and your partner know.

According to the rules of the game, however, you can't have any bidding secrets with your partner; the same goes for your opponents. So even when the opponents may be bidding their heads off, you at least will know what their bids mean.

Here are some tips to help you keep your bidding on the straight and narrow (with bidding boxes, these tips are less relevant!):

- **Do try to use the minimum number of words possible when you bid.** If you want to pass, say just one word: "Pass." If you want to bid 3♣, say "Three clubs." No more, no less.
- **Do be careful about how you use your voice.** You may be tempted to bid softly if you have a weak hand or loudly if you have a strong one. Remember to keep all your bids at the same decibel level.
- **Don't use body language.** If your partner makes a bid you don't like, don't throw any looks across the table and don't use any negative body language. If your partner makes a bid that you do like, don't smile. You must refrain from any telltale signs of glee.
- **Don't give in to emotional reactions or breakdowns,** no matter what happens during the bidding. Bridge is too great a game to mess it up with illegal signals, so keep your posture on an even keel.

Continued on Page 9

Bidding tips for winning bridge games

In bridge, bidding is considered the most important aspect of the game. It's a given that a good bidder equals a winning bridge player. Here are a few bidding tips to start you off:

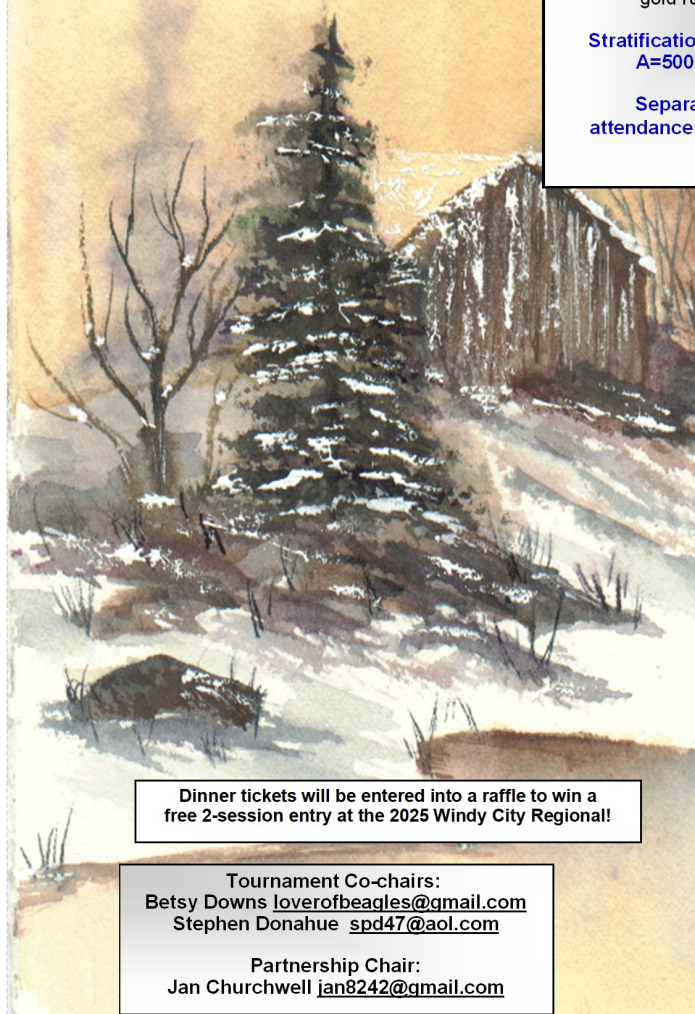
- Before opening, add your high card points (HCP): Ace = 4, King = 3, Queen = 2, Jack = 1. If you have 12 or more HCP, open the bidding.
- To open 1♥ or 1♠, you need at least five cards in the suit.
- With two five-card suits, open in the higher-ranking suit first.

The rank of the suits, from highest to lowest, is spades, hearts, diamonds, clubs.

- With two four-card suits, one a major (hearts or spades), one a minor (diamonds or clubs), open in the minor. With two four-card minors, open with the higher minor (1♦).
- Open 1 notrump (NT) or “no specific suit” with 15 to 17 HCP plus a balanced hand (no suits with zero or one card, or two suits of only two cards each, also called voids, singletons, or two doubletons).
- If your partner opens, pass if you have fewer than 6 HCP. With 6 or more HCP, bid your longest suit at the one level, if possible. Responding at the two level in a new suit requires 11 or more HCP. A response of 1NT shows 6 to 10 HCP and denies a four-card major if your partner opens 1♣ or 1♦.
- Supporting your partner's first bid major suit requires three or more cards in the suit; supporting *any* second bid suit requires four or more cards in the suit.
- A primary objective in bidding is to locate an eight-card or longer major suit fit between your hand and your partner's.

More From Bridge for Dummies from Eddie Kantar

Unit 123 WinterFest Sectional
January 31-February 2, 2025
White Eagle Banquet Center,
6839 N. Milwaukee, Niles, IL
Come for the Fun! Take home the Silver!



Dinner tickets will be entered into a raffle to win a free 2-session entry at the 2025 Windy City Regional!

Tournament Co-chairs:
 Betsy Downs loverofbeagles@gmail.com
 Stephen Donahue spd47@aol.com

Partnership Chair:
 Jan Churchwell jan8242@gmail.com

Friday Jan 31 10:00 AM pair/ team game
 3:00 PM pair/ team game
 Saturday Feb 1 10:00 AM & TBD
 Swiss Teams (2 sessions)
 6:30 PM annual dinner and meeting
 (Reservations will be Required)
 Sunday Feb 2 10:00 AM pair/ team game
 3:00 PM pair/ team game

All pair team events are single session
 pair/team games will be held if number of entries allows for this format. Separate pair/team events for gold rush at Director's Discretion.

Stratification (with masterpoint averaging)
 A=5000+ B=2000-5000 C=0-2000

Separate 750 pair/team events if attendance permits (Director's Discretion)

On Saturday night,
 Whether loser or winner,
 It's time for our
Annual Meeting and Dinner.

It will be fun.
 It won't be boring...
 The State of the Unit
 Delivered by Loring.
 Electing directors
 Requires a quorum.
 All will come off
 With proper decorum.

We'll have salad & soda
 And mmmm... pizza pies...
 You pay 15 dollars,
 And we subsidize...

Please send your check
 With your RSVP's
 By 1/17

To Ms. Judy Riehs
 (731 Hapsfield Lane
 Buffalo Grove IL 60089)

Checks should be
 Written to CCBA.
 The bank has requested
 We write them that way!

Pick up your tickets
 From Judy on site.
 And share with your friends,
 A warm winter night!

Tips for Better Scores...

Be logical. Don't tell your partner what they already know.

Concentrate and never take your eye off the game, unless you're the dummy

Count, count and count again.

Think in terms of shapes.

Be disciplined

Read bridge books and study hands. You can learn from the experts!

Consider "playing up" one day in any tournament. Your game will naturally improve from playing against better competition.

Note: We are no longer snail mailing any issues of this newsletter.

Snail mail has become cost prohibitive.

The newsletters are available online only at the District 13 website.

To access the site and find the newsletters, go to:

<http://acbl-district13.org/ArticlesAndNewsletters.htm>

Newsletters at this address go back to 2001.

You can read them, print them, and enjoy them from there.



I need help
 To get things right.
 Bridge can be
 An uphill fight!

District 13 2024/2025 Grand National Teams

Saturday, February 22, 2025, 11:00 and TBA & Sunday, February 23, 2025, 11:00 and TBA

White Eagle Banquets & Restaurant, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles, Illinois

The Championship Flight, Flight A, and Flight B events will take place over four sessions and will be concluded in a single weekend.

Flight C will be a two-session Swiss Team event played to conclusion on Sunday only.

There will be no competition among flights. Players must choose the flight in which they plan to play.

Flight	Masterpoints	Club Qualifying
Championship	Unlimited	Determined by Unit
Flight A	Fewer than 6000 points	Determined by Unit
Flight B	Fewer than 3000 points	Determined by Unit
Flight C	Non Life Master and fewer than 750 points	Determined by Unit

Flight eligibility is established by **ACBL's September 2024 masterpoint cycle**. This information was produced on August 6, 2024 in Horn Lake, MS. **Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for these events.**

Players must reside in District 13. Each member of the team must be a paid member in good standing with the ACBL. Club qualifying games are permitted at Unit discretion but are not required at any level of competition. A Flight B or C team may qualify under the rules of any Unit where a plurality of team members reside.

In addition, players who are currently, or have ever been in the past, members of another bridge organization, whether domestic (e.g., American Bridge Association) or foreign (e.g., Polski Związek Brydza Sportowego), must submit information on their past and/or current ranking in that organization. Submissions must be in writing (email is fine) and must be received by the District GNT Coordinator or District 13 Director at the time of registration for the event. The information submitted may be used to assign a conversion to ACBL masterpoints for purposes of verifying flight eligibility.

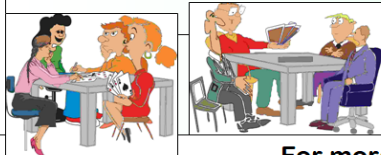
****An entry in the CHAMPIONSHIP Flight is a commitment to play in the National Final. Entries in lower flights may play to conclusion before declaring intent. We understand your reluctance to commit in advance.****

GNT Coordinator:

Suzi Subeck
847-509-0311 stansubeck@prodigy.net

One team will qualify in Championship and Fl. A
In the event that there are 8 or more teams in the District Final of Flight B &/or C, that flight or flights will qualify the 2 top teams.

Any teams representing D13 at the National Event will receive a stipend paid at or just after the NABC.



Registration:

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT.

All teams wishing to enter must provide notification by noon on February 14, 2025 by contacting:

Suzi Subeck, District 13 Director, (847)-509-0311 Home, (708) 927-6819 Cell, stansubeck@prodigy.net, or by registering on line at <http://bridgeinchicago.com> when it is available

Entering teams must have a written confirmation either by email or letter. No team without such a written confirmation should assume that entry has been verified. It is important to know in advance the teams entered. Captains should bring the confirmation with them to the site and be prepared to present it when purchasing an entry.

For more complete information, please consult conditions of contest at acbl.org... both local and ACBLwide... also, turn page for more information... or go to <https://www.acbl-district13.org/>

Covid Protocols: Please stay home if you are feeling ill. In GNT's you can be added to a team if it qualifies!

Valentine Sectional

Unit 222

FEBRUARY 12 - 15, 2025

GOOD HOPE SCHOOL (4 ACES BRIDGE CLUB) - ROOM #26

2315 W. Good Hope Road - Glendale WI

(The school is not visible from Good Hope Road)

From I-43: Exit #80 Good Hope Road West for 1 1/4 miles

Turn left just before the tennis courts on the south

From I-41: Exit #47 Good Hope Road East for 5.5 miles

Turn right just after the tennis courts on the south side. The drive will take you to the school.

ACBL Sanction #2502366



Wednesday - 2/12: 9:30 a.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game
2:00 p.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game



Thursday - 2/13: 9:30 a.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game
2:00 p.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game



Friday - 2/14: 9:30 a.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game
2:00 p.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game



Saturday - 2/15: 9:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. *BRUCE BROWN CUP OPEN PAIRS*
9:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. - 499er Pair Game (Single Sessions)

TOURNAMENT CHAIR:

John Pereles (414-559-3463) jrpereles@gmail.com

PARTNERSHIP CHAIR:

Yvette Neary (414-526-9035) yneary@gmail.com

Strata for all open games: 0-999, 1000-2999, 3000+
Pair/Team Game Strata for 499er games: 0-99, 100-299, 300-499



How do you remember cards on bridge tricks?

Some helpful tips:

Do not turn the trick fast. Look at the cards that were played, make a mental note.

Start with counting just the honors and trumps, when this becomes automatic try to remember every card.

When dummy – don't sit idle, count out your partners hand. Look at it later to see how well you counted.

MAD CITY SECTIONAL MADISON, WI DEC 5-7, 2024

WUMBA Tournament - Silver Points

Patrick Henry Building (left side of building in back)

313 W Beltline Hwy, Madison WI 53713



ACBL Sanction # 2412314

Thursday, Dec 5

9:30 499er Pair Game
Open Pair/Team* Game
2:00 499er Pair Game
Open Pair/Team* Game
7:00 499er Pair Game
Open Pair/Team* Game

Friday, Dec. 6

9:30 499er Pair Game
Open Pair/Team* Game
2:00 499er Pair Game
Open Pair/Team* Game

Saturday, Dec. 7

9:30 SWISS TEAM
2-session play-through
499er section if sufficient teams
LUNCH INCLUDED WITH ENTRY FEE

Great hospitality

Coffee and lots of snacks

Free lesson

Friday 1:15-1:45 pm

Entry fee

\$10/session

ACBL members with 0-5 points play for free

Stratifications by director

(generally, 0-1000, 1000-3000, 3000+)

*Pair/Team Games: you may buy a team-of-four entry with partners

Tournament Chair

Marge Morgan

(608) 271-6460

mumorgan55@gmail.com

Partnerships

David Raitt

david.raitt1@gmail.com

(612) 554-7913 (text preferred)

Partners guaranteed up to 1/2 hour before game

**Well-Suited!
Let the
Games Begin!**

