

# The Official Newsletter of the Valentine Regional

## Valentine Voices and Views



### Saturday, February 18

2:00 Morning Side Game Series - Session 1

**2:00, 7:30 Double Session Grassroots Fund Open Pairs – Three Strata (0-1,500, 1,500-3,000, Unlimited)**

**2:00, 7:30 Double Session Grassroots Fund Gold Rush Pairs – Three Strata (0-100, 100-300, 300-750)**

### Sunday, February 19

10:00 Stratified Swiss Teams (2-Session Playthru with FREE LUNCH)

### Monday, February 20

9:30 Morning Side Game Series - Session 2

**9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Players' Choice Open Pairs-Three Strata (0-1,500, 1,500-3,000, Unlimited)\***

**9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Players' Choice Gold Rush Pairs—Three Strata (0-100, 100-300, 300-750)\***

2:00, 7:30 Double Session Bracketed Swiss

7:30 Stratified Open Pairs Series A -Session 1 of 2

### Tuesday, February 21

9:30 Morning Side Game Series - Session 3

**9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Players' Choice Open Pairs-Three Strata (0-1,500, 1,500-3,000, Unlimited)\***

**9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Players' Choice Gold Rush Pairs—Three Strata (0-100, 100-300, 300-750)\***

2:00, 7:30 Double Session Bracketed Swiss

7:30 Stratified Open Pairs Series A - Session 2

### Wednesday, February 22

9:30 Morning Side Game Series - Session 4

**9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Players' Choice Open Pairs-Three Strata (0-1,500, 1,500-3,000, Unlimited)\***

**9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Players' Choice Gold Rush Pairs—Three Strata (0-100, 100-300, 300-750)\***

2:00, 7:30 Double Session Bracketed Swiss

7:30 Stratified Open Pairs Series B- Session 1 of 2

### Thursday, February 23

9:30 Morning Side Game Series - Session 5

**9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Players' Choice Open Pairs-Three Strata (0-1,500, 1,500-3,000, Unlimited)\***

**9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Players' Choice Gold Rush Pairs—Three Strata (0-100, 100-300, 300-750)\***

2:00, 7:30 Double Session Bracketed Swiss

7:30 Stratified Open Pairs B - Session 2

### Friday, February 24

9:30 Morning Side Game Series - Session 6

2:00, 7:30 Two-Session Stratified Swiss Teams (Mid-chart conventions allowed)

7:30 Side Game Open Pairs

### More Strats Mean More Masterpoints! More Gold! Our Valentine To You!

*Stratification: Unless otherwise specified: A: Unlimited, B: 0-2,000, C: 0-750*

\*Players' Choice: You may play any 2 of the 3 sessions, but you must specify which 2 when purchasing your entry.

**Bracketed Knockouts: Random draw within the bracket. Brackets determined at the discretion of the Tournament Directors.**

Events or strata may be combined due to insufficient attendance.

Mid-Chart conventions allowed in Swiss, KO Bracket 1 & in Flight A only events.

Masterpoint Averaging is in effect for all Pair Games and Swiss Team Events where permitted.

We adhere to ACBL Handicapping Practices. We handicap KO's when there's only one bracket.

Volume 2, Issue 6  
February 23, 2017  
Suzi Subeck, Editor  
Bob Young, Tournament Chairman

Thank you for not wearing fragrance!

We adhere to ACBL default  
handicapping.

**Free Coffee and Snacks  
Throughout the Week!!**



**GNT District Final:**

**Immediately following this tournament**

**Saturday, 2/25-Sunday, 2/26**

**at the NB Hilton**



## Source: [www.qldbridge.com](http://www.qldbridge.com) COVERING (OR FAILING TO COVER) HONORS

I played with a good intermediate player for a couple of years and we had some good games. She had decent technical skills, but for some reason she was loath to cover honors in certain situations, notably when declarer played the jack toward the A-Q in dummy. Just about every time it came up, I was sitting there with three to the 10 in the suit.

When I commented, she said, "But what if he has the 10?" In that case, there's nothing to be done. Declarer will win the ace, queen and 10 in the suit. Yes, declarer made a bad play by tabling the jack. If declarer played low to the queen and my partner started with a doubleton king, there would be three tricks available. Playing the jack would compress them to two. If you want to succeed at this game, you must learn when it's right to cover and when it's not. There are occasions when it's not right to cover. Here's a couple of them: Dummy has Q-J-9 and you hold three to the king. When declarer calls for dummy's queen, you should play low. Do you see why?

(1) If you cover the queen, declarer will win the ace and then have a finessing position against partner's 10. If declarer has the 10, it won't matter when you cover. If you play low and declarer does not have the 10, he might play the jack next, hoping that your partner started with a doubleton 10. In that case, it would go jack, king, ace, 10 and dummy's 9 would be good. If partner's 10 was not doubleton, it will be promoted to a trick if declarer plays the jack next and you cover. If you have the doubleton K-10, you must cover and hope that declarer finesses your partner for the 10.

(2) Dummy has A-5-4-3 and you hold Q-9-6. Declarer plays the jack, possibly fishing for the queen with a holding of K-J-10-x in hand. If you play low smoothly, declarer may go up with the ace and play your partner for the queen. If, however, declarer's holding is something like J-10-8-2, you must play low to assure your side of two tricks in the suit.

Say you cover the jack with the queen. Declarer wins the ace and plays a low diamond from dummy. Your partner, holding doubleton king and must play it. Now declarer's <sup>2</sup>10 is good. You win one trick. If you play low on the lead of the jack, partner will win the king and you will have the Q-9 remaining. When declarer leads the suit again, your 9 will knock out the ace and your queen will be good.

Here's a card combination that many new players overlook. Say you are in 4♠ and have lost three tricks but have no other losers outside of trumps. You are in dummy for the last time and have this trump holding:

♠ J 9 4 3

♠ A Q 10 2

You cannot afford a loser in this suit. How will you play it?

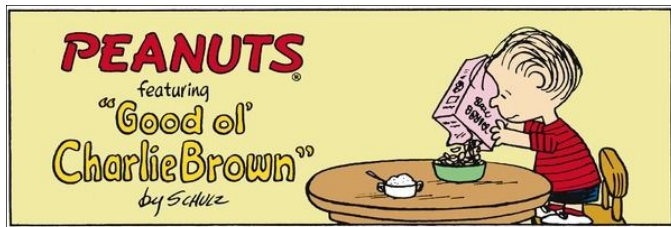
Obviously, the king must be on your right. You can protect against four to the king by starting with the 9. It holds and you are still in dummy. Now you can play the jack and let it run if RHO plays low. You are still in dummy and can finish off the suit by playing low to the queen. If RHO covers the 9 or jack, your high spades will take the rest. It doesn't work to play the jack first. If you don't unblock the 10, you will be in hand after a second finesse and the 4-1 break will beat you. If you unblock the 10, East will certainly take a trick because you will be stuck in your hand or RHO will cover the 9 to assure himself of a trump trick.

**Pick Up  
Your Copy  
of our North Shore  
Restaurant Guide  
Outside the  
Playing Area!!**

**Don't Forget  
GNT's next  
Saturday & Sunday  
at the NB Hilton**



# Tournament Information



### No Smoking Policy:

No smoking is allowed in the convention center, lobby, washrooms, fire exits, or service areas. Smokers must go outside to puff.

### Partnerships:

Singles should check in at the partnership desk 45 minutes before game time to allow those attending to arrange partnerships. The desk will be open prior to the morning, afternoon, and evening sessions. **Partners are guaranteed for all 99er events.** If no one is at the desk, leave a note, or contact Carl in person please.

### Partnership Desk and Daily Bulletin:

Check the Partnership Desk for hand records, tournament schedules, area info, and your copy of the **Valentine Views**. A bulletin box on the desk is available for you to submit any interesting hands, amusing bridge-related stories, or puzzles for publication in the daily bulletins. If you become a new life master while at the tournament, please drop a note in the bulletin box. Include the event so we know how you went over the top.

Also check your *Daily Bulletin* for specific hospitality information for the weekend.

Recorder Slips, should you need them, are available from the directors.

### Score Corrections:

For pair events, the score correction period expires at the start of the next session. For the last session of an event, the correction period expires after twenty-four hours or thirty minutes after the end of the tournament, whichever is earlier. See the director as soon as possible if you discover an error in your score. The appeal period for a director's ruling expires thirty minutes after the completion of the session.

**Tournament Chairman: Bob Young**  
**Hospitality: Adrienne Cohen**  
**Valentine Views Editor: Suzi Subeck**

## Puzzle Page ...

Which two letters are missing?

A	W
---	---

C	U
---	---

--	--

G	Q
---	---

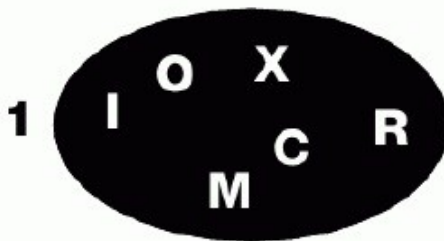
I	O
---	---

K	M
---	---

**Ans:** E and S.

Starting on the left and going down, then up the right column, letters advance in steps of two.

Which letter is the odd one out in each ellipse?



**Sol.**

1 = M , 2 = J The numerical values of No, 1 are divisible by 3, in No 2 the numbers are divisible by 4.

# Medium Sudoku

	6							
9						4	2	
3				6				
				4	1		5	
			6				2	
2	3	7						8
				5				
		1				3	7	
		4		8	7			

			1	4	2			
	5		6		9			
				8				
6			3		4			
		5						
1	3			9	2			
			3					1
	6		8		9			4
		7		6	8			

Be sure your cell phone is off in the playing area. Penalties will be assessed your cell phone rings ... whether you answer it or not!



The ACBL requires that you and partner have identically filled-out convention cards on the table at all times.

## Puzzle Answers:

Bottom Puzzle

5	9	7	1	4	6	8	2	3
3	6	1	8	2	9	5	7	4
2	4	8	7	3	5	6	9	1
1	3	4	5	9	2	7	8	6
8	2	5	4	6	7	1	3	9
6	7	9	3	8	1	4	5	2
9	1	6	2	5	8	3	4	7
4	5	2	6	7	3	9	1	8
7	8	3	9	1	4	2	6	5

Top Puzzle

1	2	4	3	8	7	5	6	9
8	5	6	1	9	2	3	7	4
7	9	3	6	4	5	2	8	1
2	3	7	9	5	1	6	4	8
4	1	5	8	6	3	7	9	2
6	8	9	7	2	4	1	3	5
3	4	8	2	1	6	9	5	7
9	7	1	5	3	8	4	2	6
5	6	2	4	7	9	8	1	3

# AMERICAN BRIDGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

## 2017 SUMMER NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

### Tentative Game Schedule

#### Thursday, August 17

3 PM Open Pairs (only Session)  
8 PM F. Alberta Peterson Scholarship Game

#### Friday, August 18

9 AM Speedball Swiss Teams (Only Session) 5 boards, 5 rounds, and 5 minutes per board)  
9 AM Side Game  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Belsaw Open Pairs  
1:30 PM Side Game  
7:30 PM Side Game

#### Saturday, August 19

9 AM Morning KO Teams  
(Registration by 7:30 PM Friday)  
9 AM Side Game  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Rex Watkins Men's Pairs  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Christine P Jones Women's Pairs  
(Flighted & Stratified)  
1:30 PM Side Game  
7:30 PM Side Game

#### Sunday, August 20

10: AM MEMORIAL SERVICE  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Pauline Taylor Mixed Pairs  
Championship (2 session play thru)  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Women's Pairs (2 session play thru)  
1:30 PM Side Game  
7:30 PM Side Game

#### Monday, August 21

9 AM Morning KO Teams 2<sup>nd</sup> Round  
9 AM AM KO Teams II (8 Team Flights)  
(Registration by Mid-night Sunday)  
9AM Side Game  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Victor Daly KO Teams-Championship  
16 Team Flights-Registration by 7:30  
PM Sunday  
1:30 PM Side Game  
7:30 PM Second Chance KO (Closed Event)  
7:30 PM Side Game

#### Tuesday, August 22

9 AM Morning KO Teams – Semi-Finals  
9 AM AM KO Teams II – Semi-Finals  
9 AM Side Game  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Victor Daly KO Teams  
Semi-Finals/Finals  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Second Chance KO  
Semi-Finals/Finals  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Open Pairs (2 session play thru)  
7:30 PM Side Game

#### Wednesday, August 23

9 AM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
11 AM AWARDS CEREMONY & BRUNCH  
3PM & 8 PM National Non-Mixed Pairs  
3 PM Side Game  
8 PM Side Game

#### Thursday, August 24

9 AM Side Game  
9 AM Morning KO Finals  
9 AM AM II KO Finals  
1:30 & 7:30 PM P.W. Goode National Open Pairs  
Championship (Flighted & Stratified)  
1:30 PM Side Game  
7:30 PM Side Game

#### Friday, August 25

9 AM PRO-AM/HAM Open Pairs  
(AM's - U/600; HAM's - 600 – 1999;  
PRO's- 0/2000)  
9 AM Side Game  
1:30 & 7:30 PM Will E. Richardson National Swiss  
Teams (Flighted & Stratified)  
1:30 PM Side Game  
7:30 PM Side Game

#### Saturday, August 26

9 AM Board-A-Match (Only Session)  
9 AM President's Pairs (Only Session)

Westin Lombard Yorktown  
70 Yorktown Center, Lombard, IL  
844-291-2495

# District 13 2016/2017 Grand National Teams

Saturday, February 25, 2017, 11:00 and TBA & Sunday, February 26, 2017, 11:00 and TBA

Hilton Northbrook, 2855 North Milwaukee Avenue, Northbrook, IL  
Telephone: (847) 480-7500 Call for Bridge Rate!

The Championship Flight and Flight A events will take place over four sessions and will be concluded in a single weekend. **\*\*In Flight B alone, there may be two teams remaining at conclusion of play on Sunday. These teams will be responsible to determine a final date and place (area club) at which to play their Final. The Coordinator will work with the teams to find suitable arrangements for Final.\*\*** (See CoC on the District 13 website for more information.) 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	None
Flight A	Fewer than 6000 points	None
Flight B	Fewer than 2500 points	Determined by Unit
Flight C	Non Life Master and fewer than 500 points	Determined by Unit

Flight eligibility is established by **ACBL's September 2016 masterpoint cycle**. This information was produced on August 6, 2016 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 may be required at the discretion of each Unit. 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 Zwiasek 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:

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



### Registration:

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT.**

All teams wishing to enter must provide notification by noon on February 18, 2017 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*** if and 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 buying an entry.*

For more complete information, please consult your conditions of contest on the District 13 website at <http://acbl-district13.org/>

# District 13 Spring Regional

April 3 - April 9, 2017

Grand Geneva Resort and Spa, Lake Geneva, WI

On Route 50, 1/2 mile East of Route 12

Call 262-248-8811/800-558-3417 on or before March 6th to ensure the Bridge Rate!

## Monday, April 3

7:30 KO Teams I: Session 1

7:30 Single Session Stratified Pairs Side Game to benefit the Grass Roots Fund

## Tuesday, April 4

9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Side Game Series I: Sessions 1, 2, 3 (single sessions)

9:30, 2:00 & 7:30 **Player's Choice Stratiflighted Pairs (0-1500; 1500-3000; 3000+)**

9:30, 2:00 & 7:30 **Player's Choice Gold Rush Pairs (0-100; 100-300; 300-750)**

9:30, 2:00 299er Pairs (single sessions)

9:30, 2:00, 7:30 KO Teams I: Sessions 2, 3, 4

2:00, 7:30 KO II: Sessions 1 & 2

## Wednesday, April 5

9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Side Game Series I: Sessions 4, 5, 6 (single sessions)

9:30, 2:00 & 7:30 **Player's Choice Stratiflighted Pairs (0-1500; 1500-3000; 3000+)**

9:30, 2:00 & 7:30 **Player's Choice Gold Rush Pairs (0-100; 100-300; 300-750)**

9:30, 2:00 299er Pairs (single sessions)

2:00, 7:30 KO II: Sessions 3 & 4

2:00, 7:30 KO III: Sessions 1 & 2

## Thursday, April 6

9:30, 2:00 299er Pairs (single sessions)

9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Side Game Series II: Sessions 1, 2, 3 (single sessions)

9:30 & 2:00 Stratified Daylight Senior Pairs

2:00 & 7:30 KO III: Sessions 3 & 4

2:00 & 7:30 Stratified Swiss Team

## Friday, April 7

9:30, 2:00 299er Pairs (single sessions)

9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Side Game Series II: Sessions 4, 5, 6 (single sessions)

2:00 & 7:30 KO IV: Session 1 & 2

9:30, 2:00 & 7:30 **Player's Choice Stratiflighted Pairs (0-1500; 1500-3000; 3000+)**

9:30, 2:00 & 7:30 **Player's Choice Gold Rush Pairs (0-100; 100-300; 300-750)**

## Saturday, April 8

9:30, 2:00 299er Pairs (single sessions)

9:30, 2:00, 7:30 Side Game Series III: Sessions 1, 2, 3 (single sessions)

2:00 & 7:30 KO IV: Session 3 & 4

2:00 & 7:30 Bracketed Swiss Teams

9:30, 2:00 & 7:30 **Player's Choice Stratiflighted Pairs (0-1500; 1500-3000; 3000+)**

9:30, 2:00 & 7:30 **Player's Choice Gold Rush Pairs (0-100; 100-300; 300-750)**

## Sunday, April 9

10:00 Stratiflighted Swiss Teams (7 rounds)

Flight A/X/Y

B/C/D Stratified

\* **Player's Choice: Player specifies which 2 sessions when purchasing entry**

### Tournament Chairs:

**Suzi Subeck**

847-509-0311

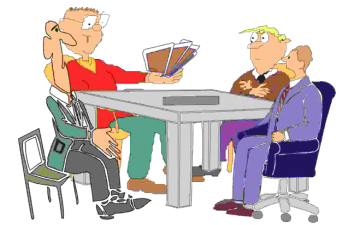
Email: stansubeck@prodigy.net

### Partnership Chair:

**Jan Churchwell**

847-373-3569

jan8242@gmail.com



## Intermediate & Newcomer Events 0-299er Masterpoints

0-5 ACBL members play FREE all week

**Tuesday - Saturday**

Single Session Games

at 9:30, 2:00

Stratified 299er Pairs

### Mid-Chart for Top Bracket of the KO's & Sunday Flight A/X/Y Swiss Teams

Stratified Games: A: 2000+; B: 750-2000; C: 0-750

### Stratiflighted Teams:

A: 5000+ X: 3000-5000 Y: 0-3000

B: 750-1500; C: 300-750; D: 0-300

Stratiflighted Pairs: 0-1500; 1500-3000; 3000+

Gold Rush Pairs: 0-100; 100-300; 300-750

Newcomer Events: 0-5/20/50/100/200/300

Masterpoint Averaging When Permitted!



We adhere to ACBL default handicapping.  
We handicap KO's when there is only a single bracket.

Fresh Fruit

Hospitality Suite!!!

Daily Bulletins

Students play for half price with  
valid student ID card!

Kibitzers: Golf, Tennis, Spa

Free Lunch with Entry on  
Wednesday and Sunday





## Buenos Aires, January 23, 2017

### Playing in the 4-2 Fit by Fernando Lima

Yesterday was played the Australian National Open teams Championship, Canberra Bridge Festival (AUS), with a field of 126 teams.

The two most powerful teams were the Lavazza team: Agustin Madala, Alejandro Bianchedi, Giorgio Duboin, Dennis Bilde, Norberto Bocchi and Antonio Sementa, who clashed with the Milner team: Reese Milner, Hemant Lall, Justin Lall, Jacek Pszczola, Jacek Kalita, Michael Nowosadzki.

The **trump coup** is a bridge coup used when the hand on lead (typically the dummy) has no trumps remaining, while the next hand in rotation has only trumps, including a high one that would have been onside for a direct finesse if a trump could have been led. The play involves forcing that hand to ruff, only to be overruffed.

The hand that follows is board 6 played in the first set of the final.

Dealer East, E/W Vul

	♠ Q 4	
	♥ Q 7	
	♦ A J 6 5 2	
	♣ A Q J 3	
♠ K J 8 7 3 2		♠ A 6
♥ J 6		♥ 10 8 5 4 2
♦ 10 8 7 3		♦ 9 4
♣ K		♣ 7 5 4 2
	♠ 10 9 5	
	♥ A K 9 3	
	♦ K Q	
	♣ 10 9 8 6	

In one of the rooms Agustin Madala and Alejandro Bianchedi (Lavazza) played 5♦. The defense cashed the two major spade honors and West repeated a third spade, dummy ruffed with a small trump and East over-ruffed with the ♦9: one down 50 points for East / West.

In the other room things were very different, let's see: With an auction that undoubtedly produced some kind of problem in the pair's system, Kalita ended up being the declarer of a 4H contract, played in the 4-2 fit.

*(continued on page 10)*

**The auction:**

West	North	East	South
Sementa	Nowosadzki	Bocchi	Kalita
		Pass	1 ♣
1 ♠	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♠	Dble	Pass
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Lead: ♠3

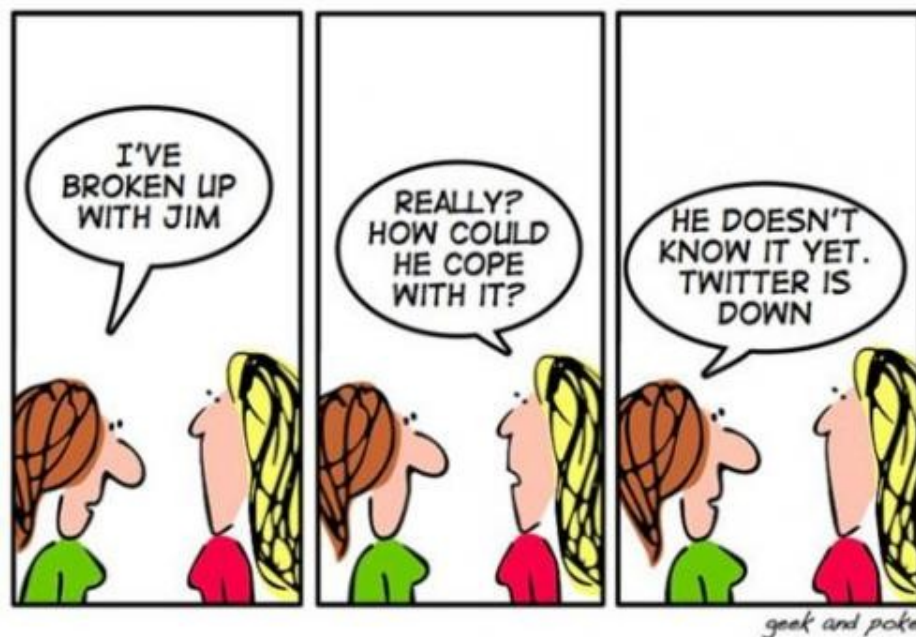
Sementa led the ♠3 to Bocchi's ♠A. The continuation was a spade to the ♠K and another spade. Dummy ruffed with the ♥7 and Bocchi overruffed with the ♥8. The defense had claimed the first three tricks.

Bocchi made the best return: a trump...South won with dummy's queen, came to his hand with a diamond and cashed the ♥A, West played the ♥J and things began to be clearer for the declarer.

At trick number seven, South cashed the ♦Q and played a club, West played his ♣K And Kalita had no doubts about the initial distributions, West was originally 6-2-4-1 and East 2-5-2-4.

With this information the end was easy, Kalita cashed the ♦A. Bocchi discarded a club and Kalita claimed all the tricks. 420 points for North and South, that added to the 50 of the other table gave 10 IMPs to the Milner team.

The final was very even until the last set where the Lavazza team managed to impose by 27 IMPS to win the tournament by only 4 IMPs.



## Modern Romance

# Opening in 4<sup>th</sup> Seat by Larry Cohen

## Weak Bid?

The normal range for a weak 2-bid is 6-10. But, after three passes, surely you wouldn't open the bidding with 6 points (nor 7, 8, or 9). Really, the range for a 4th-seat weak two should be about 10-14.

After three passes, I'd be happy to open 2♠ with: ♠ K Q 10 9 6 5 ♥ K 3 ♦ 9 8 ♣ K J 5

This combines preemption with description. Of course, you can't open this hand 2♠ in any other seat, because it is too strong. Three-level preempts in fourth seat also show close to opening-bid values.

Do not open a weak preemptive hand in 4th seat!

## Pearson Points

The "book" rule on whether or not to open with a 1-level bid in 4th seat says to add your HCP to your number of spades. If the total is 15, open the bidding. If less than 15, pass it out. The theory is that it will be a partscore battle, and if your side doesn't have enough of the high-ranking suit, you could easily lose the battle. So, you would pass out this hand: ♠ 4 ♥ K J 5 4 ♦ K J 8 7 ♣ K 9 8 7

But you would open this one: ♠ K Q 10 9 2 ♥ A J 4 ♦ 8 7 6 ♣ 5 3

Note that the second hand has one fewer high card points than the first.

This rule is commonly called "Pearson Points"

Now, forget the Rule of 15 for deciding whether to open or pass out the deal in fourth seat. I prefer CRIFS- "**Cohen's Rule In Fourth Seat.**" Any time it is borderline (like 10, 11, 12 HCP), evaluate your opponents!

Yes, I am serious. If you are playing against Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell (or the best pair at your local duplicate game), then pass it out. You will likely get a middlish score/result. Who needs to open and have to do battle with an expert pair who will fight hard for the partscore and play or defend well? Conversely, if you look up at your opponents and see Schlemiel and Schlimazel (the worst pair), then open the bidding. You can push them around in the auction and will get an extra trick or two in the play/defense. You rate to go plus—so don't pass the board out.

1. Now, now my good man, this is no time for making enemies. - Voltaire on his deathbed in response to a priest asking that he renounce Satan.
2. Wagner's music is better than it sounds. - Mark Twain.
3. I like work: it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours. - Jerome K. Jerome
4. It takes a long time to grow an old friend. - John Leonard
5. There are three faithful friends, an old wife, an old dog, and ready money. - Benjamin Franklin
6. I think; therefore I am. - Rene Descartes
7. I'm a godmother, that's a great thing to be, a godmother. She calls me god for short, that's cute, I taught her that. - Ellen DeGeneres
8. It is dangerous to be right when the government is wrong. - Voltaire
9. A drunk is in front of a judge. The judge says, 'You've been brought here for drinking.' The drunk says, 'Okay, let's get started.' - Henny Youngman
10. You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen, it said "Parking Fine". - Tommy Cooper.

# Quotes!

Source: [www.suncoastbridge.com.au](http://www.suncoastbridge.com.au) Counting the Hands By Reg Busch

To understand: to be a competent bridge player, you don't need to know a lot about exotic squeeze situations that turn up often in books but rarely at the table. But you do have to be able to count the hands i.e. be aware of the distribution of suits and HCP in the unseen hands, continually refining your assessment as the hand proceeds. There are some general principles that you as declarer may use. (Remember that there are no absolutes in bridge and that 'always' means 'nearly always' and 'never means 'hardly ever') You are South as declarer with West to make the opening lead.

If West has bid and he leads his own suit, he will lead from touching honors if he has them i.e. K from KQ, Q from QJ etc. In the absence of support from partner, if he doesn't lead his suit, then he probably does not have touching honors – he may have some sort of tenace combination e.g. AQxxx or KJ10xx. If West has made a pre-emptive bid or a two-suited bid and doesn't lead his suit, he may be leading a singleton.

If West has not bid, but takes some time to decide his lead, then he has no obvious lead e.g. no singleton against a suit contract, no touching honors in a suit of his own.. You decide this at your own risk of course – perhaps West is just a ditherer. The corollary is that, if you don't hold the top Ace and King in a side suit and West doesn't lead one of them, then East has both or the two are divided between East and West. This may be useful info later.

Let's take this fairly simple example, quoted by Mike Lawrence in his excellent book *How to Read Your Opponents' Cards* (highly recommended). How would your analysis go in this situation? West deals and opens 1♠.

W	N	E	S
1♠	P	2♠	3♥
P	4♥	All pass	

♠J764
♥AK10
♦Q104
♣765
♠10
♥J98765
♦K85
♣AKJ

*(continued on page 13)*

West leads the ♠5, East wins the ♠A and returns the ♣10.

Your thoughts:

- East won with the ♠A. He doesn't hold the ♠K or he would have won with the ♠K, not the ♠A. So West holds the ♠K

- If West also held the ♠Q, he would have led the ♠K from his touching honors, instead of the ♠5. So he doesn't hold the ♠Q.
- So East holds the ♠A and the ♠Q, i.e. at least he has 6 HCP. I can see 22 HCP in our two hands, which leaves 12 HCP for West.
- For West's opening bid, he must have all the remaining HCP.
- Plan: the club finesse probably won't work, but the heart finesse will. Win the ♣A, finesse the ♥10 and draw trumps. Cash the ♣K, and if the ♣Q doesn't drop, then play diamonds by finessing the ♦10.

The full hand:

	♠J764	
	♥AK10	
	♦Q104	
	♣765	
♠K9852		♠AQ3
♥Q42		♥3
♦AJ3		♦9762
♣Q4		♣109832
	♠10	
	♥J98765	
	♦K85	
	♣AKJ	

Note that, if the ♣Q hadn't dropped i.e. West held 3 clubs, then his diamond holding would have had to be Ace doubleton, so you play up to the ♦Q and duck back to the Ace. Or, if West had opened light and East held the ♣Q, then finessing the ♦10 will bring home the contract. Another example:

♠A5
♥K109
♦AJ63
♣9742
♠K87
♥AQJ843
♦K109
♣J

(continued from page 13)

You are in 6♥, with no opposition bidding. West leads the ♣6 to the ♣A with the ♣5 returned which you ruff. There are 11 tricks easily available. The twelfth will depend on the diamond finesse. You could just take an immediate finesse right now and hope. But perhaps you can find out more about the hand before making your decision. So you play ♥3 to the ♥9, ruff a club, ♥4 to the ♥10 (East discards ♠3), ruff another club (with West's ♣K falling). Now you know that East has a singleton heart and 5 clubs to the Ace. But wait. EW are not fools. You have not yet claimed so they know you have some work to do, and they are not about to be helpful. Could they be false carding? Could the club distribution in the two hands be ♣KQ106 – A853 with West false carding with ♣K on trick 3? No. To lead the ♣6 from the KQ106 against a slam would be crazy. So West was honest and held three clubs

So you now play on spades: A, K, and ruff, with West's ♠Q falling on trick 3. Could West have started with QJ102? And false carding with the ♠Q at trick 3? Possible, but unlikely. Holding the ♠QJ102 an opening lead of the ♠Q would be much more attractive than the ♣6 lead against the slam.

So West's ♠Q play was probably honest. So we can safely assume that the suit distribution for East is 5-1-2-5 and West is 3-3-4-3. West holds four diamonds as against East's two, making him twice as likely to hold the ♦Q. So you ruff a club back to hand, draw the last trump, and successfully play West for the ♦Q.

If you had played on diamonds earlier, you may have thought that East, having a singleton heart, would be more likely to have diamond length and wrongly played him for the ♦Q. By seeking more information at no cost, you have much improved your chances of success. The full hand:

	♠ A5	
	♥ K109	
	♦ AJ63	
	♣ 9742	
♠ Q102		♠ J9643
♥ 762		♥ 5
♦ Q854		♦ 72
♣ K106		♣ AQ853
	♠ K87	
	♥ AQJ843	
	♦ K109	
	♣ J	

WEDNESDAY PC OPEN PAIRS SECOND SESSION									
			NORTH-SOUTH	SECTIONS	G	F	EAST-WEST		
A	B	C					A	B	C
4.38	1		Kerry Smith, Milwaukee WI;		4.38	1	Sharon Fellars, Delray Beach FL;		
			Dick Bruno, Des	59.26%			Ron Smith, Chicago IL	64.60%	
3.07	2	1	Philip Moss, Wilmette IL;		3.07	2	Barbara Saben, Northbrook IL;		
			David Moss, New	57.73%			Toddy Leavitt,	59.59%	
2.19	3	2	Steve Oshen, Glen Ellyn IL; Fred Clayton, Carol		2.52	3/4	1	Genio Staranczak, Schaumburg IL;	
			Mark Friedlander, Deerfield IL;	57.63%			Jack Martin,	56.75%	
1.53	4	3	Mark Weisman,	55.66%	1.86	3/4		Marlene Konik - Jim Humphrey, Highland Park IL	56.75%
1.40	5	4	1 Caryl Brown - Audrey Rubinstein,	55.23%	0.88	5		Rosanne Schabinger, Mount Prospect IL;	53.49%
0.73	6		Larry Cohen - Adrienne Cohen, Elmhurst IL	54.68%	1.76	6	2	John Vincent, Arlington Hgts IL; Simon	53.27%
0.63	7		Oren Kriegel, Chicago IL; Brian Platnick, Evanston IL	54.14%	1.26	7	3	Earle Davis, Glenview IL;	
			Robert Maxson, River Forest IL;	53.59%	0.88	8	4	Charles Nudelman, Susan Eggebrecht - Paul Hamper, Chicago IL	52.18%
0.98	6	2	Janet Hickerson, Chicago IL;	53.05%	0.50		5	Kenneth Wolf, Libertyville IL;	
			Michael Airdo,		1.40		1	Robert Kruger - Janet Brandt, Elgin IL	48.04%
					0.98		2	Fred Johnston - Dolores Baumgart, Chicago IL	46.41%

WED PC GOLD RUSH PAIRS SECOND SESSION									
			NORTH-SOUTH	SECTIONS	H	I	EAST-WEST		
	B	C					7	B	C
2.83	1	1	Carol Gross, Naples FL;		2.83	1	1	Barbara Stroud, Chesterton IN;	
			Margaret	60.24%				June Reisinger, Rosemary McCarthy, Flossmoor IL;	63.77%
1.98	2		Janice Koerner, Huntley IL; Susan Powers, N	59.33%	1.98	2		Julie Decock - Susan Pappas, Evanston IL	60.14%
1.21	3/4	2/3	Jodi Smith, Long Grove IL; Jane McCaffrey,	57.43%	1.42	3		Doris Griffin, Palos Park IL;	58.70%
1.21	3/4	2/3	Anna Neumann, Downers Grove IL; Bonnie	57.43%	1.29	4	2	Bonnie White, Susan Lambe, Glenview IL;	58.51%
0.75	5		Patti Nahin, Highland Park IL;	56.97%	0.75	5		Marilyn Richards, Marla Engbloom - Mary Bolen, La Crosse WI	55.25%
0.67	6	4	Patricia Latkin, Chicago IL; Mary Reiss, Ixonia WI	56.43%	0.92	6	3	Shirley Rau, Western Springs IL; Deanna	54.08%
0.57	7	5	Lisa Heitman, Wilmette IL;	54.26%	0.64	7	4	Linda Abrahams, Northbrook IL; Jan Sax, Glenview IL	53.44%
0.52	8	6	Deborah Ross, Pam Lutsch, Hoffman Estates IL; Donna Grassi,	52.72%	0.99	8	5	1	Wilma Tunick, Highland Park IL;
0.82	9	7	1 Rene Ortman - Juliet (Jill) Bergner,	52.63%	0.47	9		Frieda Brown,	52.63%
0.57	10	8	2 Nancy House - Mary Stewart, East Lansing MI	52.54%	0.69	10	6	2	Cynthia Polayes - Carolyn Turek, Chicago IL
0.40	11		Patrice Princehorn, Homewood IL;	52.26%	0.40	11	7	Hope Reynolds - Susan Doyle, Winnetka IL	51.90%
					0.50		3	Tricia Fox, Chicago IL; Colleen Berk, San	50.09%

WEDNESDAY PC OPEN PAIRS 18.0 Tables / Based on 51 Tables

A	B	C		
26.69	1	1	Steve Oshen, Glen Ellyn IL; Fred Clayton, Carol Stream IL	60.40%
20.02	2		Kerry Smith, Milwaukee WI; Dick Bruno, Des Plaines IL	57.82%
15.01	3	2	Philip Moss, Wilmette IL; David Moss, New York NY	57.64%
11.26	4	3	Robert Maxson, River Forest IL; Wayne Eggers, Woodridge IL	57.40%

8.90	5			Sharon Fellars, Delray Beach FL; Ron Smith, Chicago IL	57.33%
7.63	6	4	1	Caryl Brown - Audrey Rubinstein, Highland Park IL	56.98%
6.67	7			Barbara Saben, Northbrook IL; Toddy Leavitt, Chicago IL	56.83%
5.93	8	5		Genio Staranczak, Schaumburg IL; Jack Martin, Arlington Hgts IL	56.59%
5.34	9			Marlene Konik - Jim Humphrey, Highland Park IL	56.29%
3.81		6		Mark Friedlander, Deerfield IL; Mark Weisman, Glenview IL	54.62%
4.11			2	James Phillips - Daniel Spindler, Park Ridge IL	52.94%
2.50			3	Donald Joseph, Glencoe IL; Charles Alexander, Northbrook IL	48.80%
1.94			4	Cory Perkers, Chicago IL; Bruce Perkers, Lincolnshire IL	48.75%

WEDNESDAY PC OPEN PAIRS THIRD SESSION  
NORTH-SOUTH SECTION GG EAST-WEST

	A	B	C		A	B	C	
3.21	1			John Russell, N Barrington IL; Norman Coombs, 62.00%	3.21	1	1	James Phillips - Daniel Spindler, Park Ridge IL 61.40%
2.25	2	1		Thomas Dressing, Buffalo Grove IL; Bob Fashingbauer, 56.90%	2.25	2	2	Arthur Khano, Skokie IL; Randall Roberts, 57.38%
1.61	3	2		Kenneth Wolf, Libertyville IL; Mark Ginsburg, 56.58%	1.61	3		Kerry Smith, Milwaukee WI; Dick Bruno, Des 56.19%
1.49	4	3	1	Mark Stein, Skokie IL; Martin Moltz, Chicago IL 53.52%	1.12	4	3	Mark Holle, Downers Grove IL; W Harris Jr, 54.00%
1.04	5	4	2	Cory Perkers, Chicago IL; Bruce Perkers, 51.63%	0.64	5		Oren Kriegel, Chicago IL; Brian Platnick, Evanston IL 53.00%
0.75			3	Donald Joseph, Glencoe IL; Charles 48.42%	0.77		4	Mary Warren, Wheaton IL; Roger Theis, Naperville IL 51.13%
					0.86		2	Fred Johnston - Dolores Baumgart, Chicago IL 48.56%

WED PC GOLD RUSH PAIRS 26.0 Tables / Based on 25 Tables

	7	B	C		
8.04	1			Rosemary McCarthy, Flossmoor IL; Carol Thorne, Burr Ridge IL	61.67%
6.03	2			Janice Koerner, Huntley IL; Susan Powers, N Barrington IL	61.25%
5.12	3	1		Patricia Latkin, Chicago IL; Mary Reiss, Ixonia WI	59.33%
3.84	4	2		Jodi Smith, Long Grove IL; Jane McCaffrey, Inverness IL	57.43%
3.06	5			Jim Jurik, Oak Forest IL; Ron Blouin, Blue Island IL	57.17%
3.29	6	3		Barbara Stroud, Chesterton IN; June Reisinger, Hobart IN	56.53%
2.17	7			Julie Decock - Susan Pappas, Evanston IL	56.04%
2.16	8	4		Sallie Hamm - Stewart Margolis, Mundelein IL	55.26%
1.75	9	5		Doris Griffin, Palos Park IL; Bonnie White, Palos Heights IL	55.03%
2.45	10	6	1	Greg Maccoubrey, Crystal Lake IL; Martha Adams, Barrington Hls IL	54.33%
1.77	11			Robert Judd, Algonquin IL; Timothy Kleimeyer, Sleepy Hollow IL	54.18%
1.37	12			Jan Sadoski, Sandusky OH; Marilyn McIntosh, Pompano Beach FL	53.82%
1.36	13	7		Donald Ferris, Mundelein IL; James Schultz, Sheboygan WI	53.80%
1.25			8	Sharon Jane Goggins, Oconomowoc WI; Barbara Swansby, Pewaukee WI	53.54%
1.84			2	Cynthia Polayes - Carolyn Turek, Chicago IL	50.73%
1.48			3	Linda Abrahams, Northbrook IL; Jan Sax, Glenview IL	50.12%

WEDNESDAY PC OPEN PAIRS MORNING SESSION  
NORTH-SOUTH SECTION G EAST-WEST

	A	B	C		A	B	C	
3.21	1	1		Robert Maxson, River Forest IL; Wayne Eggers, 61.69%	3.21	1	1	Steve Oshen, Glen Ellyn IL; Fred Clayton, Carol 63.52%
2.25	2	2		Genio Staranczak, Schaumburg IL; Jack Martin, 56.40%	2.25	2	1	Caryl Brown - Audrey Rubinstein, 58.94%



1.61	3		Marlene Konik - Jim Humphrey, Highland Park IL	55.77%	1.61	3		Robert Gardner, Glenview IL; L James Phillips,	58.83%	
1.12	4		Barbara Saben, Northbrook IL; Toddy Leavitt,	53.73%	1.12	4	3	Philip Moss, Wilmette IL; David Moss, New	57.54%	
0.64	5		Larry Cohen - Adrienne Cohen, Elmhurst IL	53.38%	0.64	5		John Vincent, Arlington Hgts IL; Simon	54.46%	
1.05		1	Eydie Shapiro, Northbrook IL; Leonard Dubin,	46.71%	0.86		2	Robert Young, Northfield IL; Philip McPeek,	40.00%	
WED PC GOLD RUSH PAIRS MORNING SESSION										
NORTH-SOUTH                      SECTIONS H I                      EAST-WEST										
	7	3	1			7	3	1		
2.60	1		Janice Koerner, Huntley IL; Susan Powers, N	63.45%	2.60	1		Jim Jurik, Oak Forest IL; Ron Blouin, Blue	66.23%	
1.82	2		Rosemary McCarthy, Flossmoor IL;	63.20%	1.82	2	1	Patricia Latkin, Chicago IL; Mary Reiss, Ixonia WI	62.22%	
1.30	3		Robert Judd, Algonquin IL; Timothy	61.66%	1.30	3	2	Woody Haynes - Thomas Walsh, Chicago IL	58.36%	
1.58	4	1	Sallie Hamm - Stewart Margolis, Mundelein IL	61.07%	0.91	4		Jan Sadoski, Sandusky OH; Marilyn McIntosh,	58.08%	
1.11	5	2	1	Greg Maccoubrey, Crystal Lake IL; Martha Adams,	58.84%	0.89	5	3	Donald Ferris, Mundelein IL; James Schultz,	57.51%
0.79	6	3		Sharon Jane Goggins, Oconomowoc WI;	56.45%	0.43	6		Vance Senecal - Lynne Bruehlman, Saint Joseph MI	56.22%
0.55	7	4		Barbara Flaxman - Leah Laurie, Chicago IL	54.74%	0.62	7	4	Marion Tuttle, Palatine IL; Sophia Hausen,	53.43%
0.33	8	5		Gabriel Peretz - Jona Peretz, Deerfield IL	53.69%	0.35	8	5	Judy Marcus - Simone Birndorf, Highland Park IL	53.10%
0.29	9			Julie Decock - Susan Pappas, Evanston IL	53.00%	0.30	9	6	Patrice Princehorn, Homewood IL;	52.06%
0.26	10	6		Jan Summers, Aurora IL; Jeanne Kowalski, Berwyn IL	52.26%	0.26	10	7	Kenneth East - Jamie Carroll, Chicago IL	51.96%
0.57		2		Cynthia Polayes - Carolyn Turek, Chicago IL	49.56%	0.82		1	Sheila Schlitter - Marcia Oley, Winnetka IL	50.87%
						0.57		2	James Nothnagel, Winnetka IL; Arlene	40.75%

**Congratulations**  
**New Life Master**  
**Jodi Smith**  
**from Long Grove, IL**