



bridge *Canada*

2016 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
FULL SCHEDULE ON PAGE 4

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Toronto, Ontario

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THE CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

The mission of the Canadian Bridge Federation is to promote bridge within Canada and protect and advance the national interests of Canadian bridge, including the selection and support of Canadian bridge teams and players for international bridge competition.



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REFLECTIONS OF THE EDITOR

by Neil Kimelman

2016 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS (CBCS) REGIONAL, MAY 21-29

Time to start thinking about incomes taxes, spring, and of course attending the premiere CBF Regional and Championships. This gala event will be held in Toronto this year. Speaking of galas, there will be a gala social affair on May 21st which should be fantastic! Join us!

THANK YOU

If you are like many people, you don't take the opportunity to recognize the important people in your lives. So I would like to formally thank Jude Goodwin, Francine and Denis Cimon. Together we work at bringing you the English and French versions of Bridge Canada. Merci beaucoup!

I would also like to show my appreciation to our regular contributors, Paul Thurston, Sylvia Caley and Michael Abbey, as well as others who supply articles intermittently.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As in other publications I would like to give readers the opportunities to provide feedback on Bridge Canada, or any issue related to the Canadian Bridge Federation. I will endeavor to publish these letters, and promise a response to all.

Neil Kimelman
Bridge Canada Managing Editor
Editor@cbf.ca

TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY

IMPs
Contract: 4♥
Lead: ♣4

♠ Q9754
♥ KJ4
♦ J52
♣ 53

♠ A
♥ Q109752
♦ 1083
♣ AK10

East plays the ♣Q at trick one.
Plan the play.
Answer on page 29



2016 Canadian Bridge Championships

May 21 – MAY 29, 2016

Delta Toronto East, 2035 Kennedy Road, Toronto

New! Opening Reception Friday May 20

CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS (CNTC) ⁽¹⁾⁽³⁾

FLIGHT A

May 21 – May 29, 4-day Round Robin: \$720 per team

FLIGHT B (<2500 MPs)

May 21 – May 24, 2-day Round Robin: \$360 per team

FLIGHT C (<1000 MPs)

May 21 – May 24, 2-day Round Robin: \$360 per team

Pre-Registration required by March 21st, 2016

CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS (CWTC) ⁽¹⁾

May 21 – May 24 (or 25th depending on number of teams)

2-day Round Robin: \$360 per team

Pre-Registration required by March 21st, 2016

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(all team members must be born 1956 or earlier)

May 25 – May 29, 3-day Round Robin: \$540 per team

Pre-Registration required by March 21st, 2016

CANADIAN IMP PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS (CIPC) ⁽¹⁾

Friday, May 27 – Entry \$80 per pair

Cash Prizes Per Pair

1st- \$400 / 2nd - \$250 / 3rd - \$150

CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS (COPC) ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾

Qualifying: Saturday, May 28 – Entry \$80 per pair

Final: Sunday, May 29 – Entry \$80 per pair

Cash Prizes per Pair

1st - \$1,500 / 2nd - \$750

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2016 Canadian Bridge Championships

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Knockout II – May 24 – 25

Knockout III – May 25 – 26

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May 26 & 27

B/C SWISS

May 28

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Sunday, May 29

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(2) Participants must have earned club qualification, or qualification can be purchased onsite for \$25.

(3) Each player must have earned a club qualification or have purchased one from the CBF office.

PRE-REGISTRATION

Registration is now closed, but we will accept one more team in the CNTC A since there is currently an odd number, please contact Ina for more information. ina@cbf.ca

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Oops!

WHAT WENT WRONG?

by Paul Thurston



Subject to which team you were cheering for (and they will remain anonymous as I have and want to continue to have friends on both teams!), here's a possibly instructive deal from a semi-final match of the Canadian Bridge Federation's Online Open Teams Championship.

Before the bridge, a special round of applause to CBF President Nader Hanna and Executive Secretary Ina Demme for this league – I was a bit sceptical it would work out but I think all involved would say it has been a rousing success.

Meanwhile, back at the table.
Dealer East. None Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
4 ♥	4 ♠	Pass	1 ♠
All Pass		5 ♥	5 ♠

Opening Lead: ♥ J

A slow start to the auction followed by a spirited series of calls at the four and five-level with neither side really knowing who could make what but, not uncommonly, the side holding the spades ended up declaring.

Since both sides seemed destined to go down at the five-level, East-West had done their job to push the opponents higher but there'd be no profit shown if they didn't take their three tricks. And they didn't!

West's lead of the ♥ J was covered in turn by the Queen and Ace to attract a ruff by declarer.

Ace and a second round of spades and West was back on lead. Reluctant to break diamonds and unable to see any harm in waiting for the suit to be led to him, West exited with a passive ten of hearts and soon found out that wasn't best.

Blessed with a hidden five-card club suit, declarer ran those to pitch one of dummy's small diamonds and, one diamond loser later, had his eleven tricks.

WHAT WENT WRONG?

It's easy to sympathize with West for not playing ace and a diamond after winning his spade trick but was there any way that East might have lent a helping hand?

While East didn't have an opportunity to make any discard as a signal to show diamond values, he did know something very valuable about the total layout.

WHAT WENT WRONG? ... Continued

When South cashed the ♠A, the next play was either going to be the ♠K or a low spade that would draw West's hypothetical ♠K and his own ♠Q at the same time. In other words, the ♠Q had no material value whatsoever – she was never going to take a trick in her own right. And thus might have been used for signalling purposes!

Certainly, East could not tell that a diamond play from his partner would be crucial but he could tell that he had nothing to support a club shift and that knowledge of diamond values opposite might be useful to his partner. By playing his spades in an “unnatural” order (Queen first), East would be using a suit preference signal of sorts to show values in the diamond suit and, this time, most assuredly get the follow-up of Ace and a diamond from a grateful partner.

So many times when defending with “useless” cards, we all miss the opportunity to help partner as much as possible and exploiting the opponents' trump suit as a vehicle to give a suit preference signal is definitely one of the most wasted opportunities. Try it, you'll like it!

WHAT WENT WRONG: DEAL 2

If you were North or South, their teammates or fans, you wouldn't much like the result of this action deal from another CBF Online Open Teams semi-final match:

Dealer East. Both Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1NT ¹
2♠ ²	3NT ³	Pass	Pass
Dbl ⁴	Rdbl ⁵	All Pass	

An auction bristling with scientific undertones despite its surface simplicity!

1. 1NT 12-14 High-card points
2. 2♠ Two-suited with spades and an unspecified minor.
3. 3NT A value raise to 3NT but without a ♠ stopper.
4. Dbl If diamonds run I've got them!
5. Rdbl The nefarious “DOUBT-SHOWING” redouble as in “I doubt we're in the right spot, what do you think?”

South's final pass meant he thought they were in the right spot. They weren't as the final tally of 1000 points (and 14 IMPs) to East-West attested!

WHAT WENT WRONG?

The early part of the auction by North was in line with Lebensohl principles so that 3NT showed the values likely to deliver 3NT for his side but without a spade stopper. With spades well-stopped, of course South was happy to play for nine tricks.

Enter West with his enterprising double that might not have worked out so well if either North or South had been dealt a diamond stopper. But they hadn't been and North hoped his doubt-showing redouble would transmit the message that a stopper in both minors might be needed for the game to survive. Whatever North's intentions, South didn't get the message and decided to fight it out in three notrump (gulp!) redoubled!

Two warning signs here: Whatever message North intended to send with his redouble, he was in the perfect position to know what West was basing his penalty double on: It couldn't be spades as he had the King, and his partner had promised at least one stopper in the suit for his pass of the purportedly stopperless

WHAT WENT WRONG? ... Continued

three notrump. So the basis for the double had to be West's minor and that minor most assuredly wasn't clubs!

Second warning sign: his own minor was so long and strong, could North count on his partner to be able to read what suit it was that the redouble showed "doubt" about?

Maybe, but maybe not but since he surely knew the source of the danger maybe it was incumbent on North to scamper out to the relative safety of 4 ♣ and let the chips fall where they might. There would have been far fewer of them for the post-match sweeper to clean up if the final contract had been 4 ♣!

WHAT WENT WRONG: DEAL 3

How about a matchpoint declarer play problem to wrap up this instalment?

Dealer North. N-S Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1♥
2♦	Dbl	3♦	3♠
5♦	5♠	Dbl	All Pass

Opening lead: ♦A

The bidding: North might have raised hearts but how many to bid was an issue that he hoped to

solve at a later juncture. When South showed spades, North thought the 4-4 fit, augmented by the diamond shortness, would be enough to violate the common injunction that the "five-level belongs to the opponents". Had he tried a delicate 5♥ instead of insisting on spades all would have been just fine but East's somewhat greedy double spelled likely trouble.

In the play, West cashed a high diamond and shifted to the ♣ Q. Declarer cashed the ♠ Q (gulp!) before playing ace and a heart to the Queen that East ruffed to return a club. With no way left to draw East's last trumps and cope with the remaining hearts in West's hand, there was no way home and down one for -200, and an abysmal bottom, was soon recorded.

WHAT WENT WRONG?

Aside from the dubious bidding decisions by North, his machinations and East's tattletale double had actually put North-South in a solid position to take all the matchpoints courtesy of East's double of a contract that as of the second trick could have been made!

First up: South should visualize what East had based her double on and that could only have been nasty length in spades as nothing else was out there.

Solution: don't be in a rush to draw trumps but do pay attention to getting your heart tricks with the possibility of East, holding diamond and spade length, being short in hearts.

Solution: instead of playing a high heart from hand, at trick three, lead low to dummy's Queen and a second round back towards the closed hand. IF East seizes the opportunity to ruff, she'd be ruffing a loser and the rest would be mere mopping up, as South could ruff her diamond loser in dummy and draw trumps with the aid of the finesse that would be revealed as soon as the ♠K was cashed.

And if East were to pitch on the second round of hearts from dummy? If the defender were to let go of a club,

WHAT WENT WRONG? ... Continued

declarer should cross to the club ace for a third round of hearts from dummy – same dilemma for East as ruffing or not ruffing would be to no avail.

If East were to pitch a diamond on the second heart lead, declarer would ruff her last diamond for an entry for the third round of hearts and if that survives, arrange to ruff clubs in her hand and one heart with dummy's trump King.

As an aside, the Deep Finesse analysis of the deal says that ten tricks is North-South's limit on the deal with spades as trump and that is true but only with a different start to the play: Two high diamonds from West at the outset to make South take the diamond ruff before it's of any use as an entry.

Had South found the route to eleven tricks, we might have been featuring the defense as the focus of WHAT WENT WRONG!



Paul Thurston (Photo: Michael Yuen)

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2015 IBPA Awards

John Carruthers, Chennai, India, October 3, 2015

Personality of the Year **Boye Brogeland, Norway**

Our Personality might well have been named previously for his achievements at the bridge table. This year other activities made him a Personality in the bridge world.

It is not IBPA's role to express an opinion on the allegations made in recent weeks, but we could not disregard the name that will no doubt be associated with bridge in 2015. A much tougher decision was how to handle this conclusion. Have our recipient's decisions and actions in the past few weeks all been correct? Most probably not. Were they brave? Yes. Has he forced many organisations, including IBPA, into difficult decisions? Certainly.

We are the International Bridge Press Association. It is not our job to judge innocence or guilt. We merely acknowledge the bridge personality who in the last year has made the greatest impact in the media. Our naming IS not, and MUST not be interpreted as a judgement on any of the ongoing processes. The accused are innocent until proven guilty. The IBPA Personality of 2015 is Boye Brogeland.

Master Point Press Book of the Year

Professional Slam Bidding, Parts 1 & 2
by Krzysztof Martens, Poland

The prolific (17 books in the past few years) Krzysztof Martens (under the banner of his Bridge University) has produced yet another classic and, with it, has won the Master Point Press Book of the Year award for the second time (joining Roy Hughes and Julian Pottage in doing so). Professional Slam Bidding is a look (in two parts) at slam auctions bid at the table in major World Championships by professional players. It contains over 150 deals in the slam zone bid by championship

pairs, with Martens' comments and proposed solutions, concepts, conventions, and agreements. A unique (and useful) idea is the counterpoint often suggested by Brian Senior. The paperback format of the book includes a CD-ROM with additional training material.

This book is for expert and aspiring-expert players. One could not help but improve one's judgement in the slam zone by dutiful assimilation of the material in these books (a quality inherent in all of Martens' works). Whether or not you always agree with him, Martens presents well-reasoned, logical alternatives if the players at the table were unsuccessful and examines why they were successful on those occasions that they were.

Continued on next page

2015 IBPA Awards

John Carruthers, Chennai, India, October 3, 2015

Here's an early example deal in which Martens' compatriots Adam Zmudzinski and Cezary Balicki went wrong in their semifinal match of the 2001 Bermuda Bowl in Paris.

Board 59. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sontag	Balicki	Weichsel	Zmudzinski
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♥	Pass	7♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Balicki's 5♠ response to Roman Key Card Blackwood showed two key cards and the queen of hearts. Playing five-card majors, his fifth heart guaranteed a good play for no losers opposite K x x x x or one loser opposite x x x x x.

Martens' says, "This is an example of the consequences of not having a bidding device that says, 'I need more information'. Balicki's semi-natural 3♣ bid only led to confusion and, after a rather unclear bidding sequence, the Polish pair got to a hopeless slam."

"Here is what the bidding would be with the agreements I proposed earlier."

2NT = Forcing

3NT = 2=6=(3-2)

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

"With this sequence, responder knows about the lack of spade shortness and the spade king, and thus, we know partner has no place to put his spade loser."

The other three pairs in the semifinals (Martel/Stansby, Helness/Helgemo and Bocchi/Duboin) reached six hearts without incident after using a Jacoby-2NT response to one heart and later denying shortness or the spade king.

Shortlist:

Big Deal – Augie Boehm

A Good Game of Modern Bridge - Ron Klinger

Bumblepuppy Days – Julian Laderman

Guard Squeezes - Anthony Moon & Tim Bourke

The Canterbury Bridge Tales – David Silver & Tim Bourke

Continued on next page

2015 IBPA Awards

John Carruthers, Chennai, India, October 3, 2015

Alan Truscott Memorial Award

The Investigators

The Alan Truscott Award is presented periodically to an individual or organisation that, in the opinion of the IBPA Executive, has done something in the world of bridge that Alan would have approved of and appreciated. Alan was an IBPA Executive member, serving as its president from 1981 to 1985 and was the long-time bridge editor of the New York Times. Alan was also a fine player: before leaving Great Britain for the United States, Alan represented Great Britain internationally, earning a first and second in the European Team Championships and a third in the Bermuda Bowl. Before such things were forbidden, he served as the NPC for Bermuda and Brazil in World Championships.

With all the allegations flying around, we have no doubt that Alan would have appreciated the work done unpaid by bridge players of a wide range of ability in assisting the investigations. We puzzled over who should receive the Award. Some of this work might help a prosecution, some a defence. But what Truscott would surely have wanted in Buenos Aires would have been videos with clear pictures of what was happening at the table. Without that many are still in doubt fifty years later about the findings. Let us hope today's videos will allow the accuracy of any theory to be tested with confidence. And so I am inviting Traian Chira, who initiated the videos, to come forward to collect it on behalf of the Investigators.

Keri Klinger Memorial Declarer Play of the Year

Espen Lindqvist (Norway)

Article : Letter from Norway

Journalist: (Norway)

Event: 2014 World Open Pairs, Sanya, China

Source: IBPA Bulletin 601, February, 2015, p. 2

LETTER FROM NORWAY

Knut Kjærnsrød, Tored, Norway

The Open World Championships in China were not a great success for Norway, but on this board from the World Open Pairs final, Espen Lindqvist performed with elegance:

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♥	2♦	Double	4♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Continued on next page

2015 IBPA Awards

John Carruthers, Chennai, India, October 3, 2015

West led the ten of spades, ducked all around. Lindqvist won the spade continuation with his ace, ruffed a spade, discarded a heart on the ace of clubs and ruffed a club with the ten of diamonds. When Lindqvist played his last spade and West followed, Lindqvist ruffed it with the queen of diamonds, then ran the nine of diamonds successfully. He ruffed another club, removing West's last exit card, and played his last two trumps to reach this position:

♠ —	♠ —	♠ —
♥ K J 8	♥ 10 6	♥ 4 2
♦ —	♦ —	♦ —
♣ —	♣ 6	♣ K
	♠ —	
	♥ A Q 9	
	♦ —	
	♣ —	

Lindqvist completed his brilliant performance by leading the queen of hearts and unblocking dummy's ten. When West won with his king, he had to lead into the ace-nine tenace to hand declarer the contract.

Other Shortlisted Candidates:

- **Marcelo Branco** (Brasil) in Brasileiro 2014 by Ana Roth & Fernando Lema (Argentina), 2014 Brazilian Open Teams Championship final, CHAGAS v d'ORSI, IBPA Bulletin 597.13
- **Peter Fredin** (Sweden) in 13th European Champions Cup by Jos Jacobs (Netherlands), LAVEC SMILE v HEIMDAL, IBPA Bulletin 599.6
- **Jason Hackett** (England) in 20th NEC Cup by Rich Colker (USA), HACKETT v JAPAN SENIOR, IBPA Bulletin 602.4
- **Geoff Hampson** (USA) in Tightening Up by Don Kersey (Canada), 2015 Vanderbilt, IBPA Bulletin 603.7

- **Vincent Demuy** (USA) in USA2 Open Trials by Suzi Subeck, FIREMAN v DIAMOND, IBPA Bulletin 605.21
- **Michel Bessis** (France) in 2013 Italian Team Championship by Jan van Cleeff, VINCI v LAVAZZA, IBPA Bulletin 606.8

Gidwani Family Trust Defence of the Year

Dennis Bilde & Chris Willenken (Denmark/USA)

Article: Defend with Your Life

Journalist: David Stern (Australia)

Event: 2015 Yeh Bros. Cup

Source: IBPA Bulletin 604, May 2014, p. 4

DEFEND WITH YOUR LIFE

David Stern, Sydney

The USA ISH team may not have been setting the tournament aflame, but Chris Willenken and Dennis Bilde worked some magic here against Japan:

Board 28. Dealer West. N-S Vul.

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

Continued on next page

2015 IBPA Awards

John Carruthers, Chennai, India, October 3, 2015

West	North	East	South
Tanaka	Bilde	Yokoi	Willenken
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Dennis Bilde's lead of the nine of diamonds went to the queen and ace. Declarer tested clubs to find the bad news, North pitching two hearts then a diamond on three rounds of the suit. In with the queen of clubs, Willenken shifted to a low spade to declarer's ace, then a heart was ducked to the jack and king. Willenken could see the endplay looming. To get out of his own way, he shifted to ten of spades. Declarer won in dummy with the queen, pitching a heart from hand, and had reached this ending:

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

Declarer led the seven of clubs from dummy, Willenken pitching a diamond, and West had to decide in which hand he wanted to win the fifth club. He chose to win the fourth with the nine in hand (best) and followed with the jack next, so Willenken could pitch the king of spades on the fifth club!

Declarer ducked a heart to South now, but squeezed dummy in the process. When he pitched a diamond from the dummy, Willenken could win and exit in diamonds to the now bare king. North could then take the last two tricks in spades.

Other Shortlisted Candidates:

- **Sylvie Willard/Bénédicte Cronier** (France) in Sparkling Defence by J.-P. Meyer (France), 2014 Monaco Cavendish, IBPA Bulletin 597.6
- **Fu Zhong/Li Jie** (China) in 20th NEC Cup by Rich Colker (USA), ZhiHaoLe v SACRUM, IBPA Bulletin 602.5
- **Shan Huang** (Canada) in Illusion by Brent Manley & Sylvia Shi (USA), Silodor Open Pairs at the 2015 Spring NABC, New Orleans, IBPA Bulletin 603.7
- **Justin & Jason Hackett** (England) in 20th NEC Cup by Barbara Hackett (England), England Plus v Japan, IBPA Bulletin 604.2

Continued on next page

BELOW: Krzysztof Martens, Bridge University. Winner of the Masterpoint Press Book of the Year.



2015 IBPA Awards

John Carruthers, Chennai, India, October 3, 2015

Yeh Bros. Best Bid Deal of the Year

Martin Kirr & Katie Thorpe (Canada)

Article: Hollywood Finish

Journalist: Fernando Lema (Argentina) & Katie Thorpe (Canada)

Event: 2015 Canadian Senior Teams Championship

Source: IBPA Bulletin 605, June 2015, p. 8

HOLLYWOOD FINISH

Fernando Lema, Buenos Aires, & Katie Thorpe, Kingsville, ON

Board 60. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Galand	Silver	McCully	Carruthers
—	—	1NT ¹	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
6NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

McCully claimed 12 tricks for plus 1440 as soon as the dummy appeared.

During the play of this deal at the other table, Michael Roche, who was sitting out, approached John Carruthers and Joey Silver, who had finished play. Roche had his iPad, on which he had been watching the match on BBO, with him. Roche's partner John Rayner had joined the gathering group to congratulate the opponents on their win.

"They've got one board to play and we're down 9 IMPs," Michael told his partner and teammates. (BBO had the score incorrect - the margin was 11 IMPs at that point.)

"Then we have no chance," JC replied, "they bid to six notrump at our table and had 12 tricks on top with no hope of a thirteenth except on a squeeze, which does not work because Joey has the ♥J to guard the suit."

"But they can make seven clubs," Michael pointed out. JC took a second look. "But there's no way to bid it," he responded.

Michael closed his iPad. "I can't watch," he said. Marty Kirr's visualization skills are second to none. This was the auction at the second table:

West	North	East	South
Kirr	Scholes	Thorpe	Herold
—	—	1♣	Pass
1♦ ¹	Pass	1♠ ²	Pass
2♥ ³	Pass	3♦ ⁴	Pass
3♥ ⁵	Pass	3♠ ⁶	Pass
4NT ⁷	Pass	5♣ ⁸	Pass
5♥ ⁹	Pass	6♣ ¹⁰	Pass
7♣ ¹¹	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. 14-16 HCP

Continued on next page

2015 IBPA Awards

John Carruthers, Chennai, India, October 3, 2015

1. Four-card suits up the line unless weak. With a one-bid hand, diamonds can be bypassed to bid a major.
2. Promises at least 4 clubs
3. 4th-suit forcing
4. Natural, usually 3-card support unless $4=1=4=4$ or $4=0=4=5$
5. Values in hearts
6. Spade concentration
7. RKCB for diamonds
8. 1 or 4 key cards
9. Queen ask
10. Queen of diamonds and king of clubs
11. Choice of grand slams

Kirr reasoned that Thorpe's three-spade bid, showing a concentration there, must contain the king-queen of the suit as, otherwise, she'd have bid three notrump after he'd shown values in hearts. Then when Thorpe showed the queen of diamonds, Kirr visualized a losing heart, if she had one (Thorpe could have been any of $4=2=3=4$; $4=1=3=5$; $4=1=4=4$; or $4=0=4=5$), being discarded on the fourth diamond. A spade ruff in Kirr's hand would provide the thirteenth trick if Thorpe had only four clubs. Thus seven clubs. Thorpe would have converted to seven diamonds with four diamonds. The whole auditorium was watching Katie Thorpe play. Exactly as Kirr had visualized, Thorpe arranged to ruff a spade in dummy and discard her losing heart on the fourth round of diamonds for plus 2140. That was 12 IMPs to CARRUTHERS and the team's tickets to India ... by only 1 IMP. A Hollywood finish! You may have noticed that an initial (but very improbable) diamond lead defeats the grand slam.

Other Shortlisted Candidates:

- **Dominik Filipowicz** (Poland) in The 2014 VV Cup by Marek Wojcicki (Poland), IBPA Bulletin 585.17
- **Dominik Filipowicz** (Poland) in An Oscar and Some Razzies by Slawek Latala, Polish Team Championship final, IBPA Bulletin 599.15

- **Geir Helgemo** (Norway) in The Bid of the Century? by Michael Akeroyd (England), 2014 Rosenblum Teams quarterfinal, IBPA Bulletin 601.11
- **Vincent Demuy/John Kranyak** (USA) in Mind over Matter by Mark Horton (England), 2014 SportAccord World Mind Games, Beijing, Monaco v USA, IBPA Bulletin 601.13
- **David Bakhshi/Andrew McIntosh** (England) in Virtue Rewarded by Andrew Robson (England), 2015 Camrose, England v Scotland, IBPA Bulletin 603.21

Richard Freeman Junior Deal of the Year

Ben Norton/Freddie Illingworth (England)

Article: Czech Corkers

Journalist: Michael Byrne (England)

Event: 15th International Championship of the Czech Republic of School and Junior Teams

Source: IBPA Bulletin 595, August 2014, p. 4

CZECH CORKERS

Michael Byrne, Manchester

The England Under-20 team, having spent four days in the Czech Republic, returned with several good deals in both the bidding and the play. The tournament was long and tiring (on one day, we played 96 boards!) As NPC, I had two pairs, Ben Norton/Freddie Illingworth and Chris Cooper/Andrew Murphy. Norton/Illingworth were slightly the more experienced pair, but Murphy has played for the Under 25s and Cooper has captained a University team in the Europeans.

Continued on next page

2015 IBPA Awards

John Carruthers, Chennai, India, October 3, 2015

Ben and Freddie produced a few corkers that made me smile.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

East was Illingworth, from Oxford, and West was Norton, from Loughborough. North/South were two of the Czech Girls team.

West	North	East	South
—	1♦	2♣	Pass
2♥ ¹	Pass	5♦ ²	Pass
6♣ ³	Pass	6♦ ⁴	Pass
7♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Forcing for one round
2. Exclusion Key Card Blackwood
3. Two key cards and the queen of hearts
4. Guarantees all the key cards and asks for a filler in clubs!

When North opened one diamond, East started slowly with two clubs, which allowed West to bid hearts at the two level, forcing for one round. East then leapt to five diamonds, EKCB, and the six-club response showed two key cards and the queen. Then came the critical bid from East, six diamonds, asking for a filler in clubs. On this auction, the bid was not needed as a queen-ask as it would have been after a five-heart or five-spade

response. West could see that his singleton club (whilst not as valuable as the king) would work well with the extra trump length, so he took the plunge and bid seven hearts.

On a spade lead, with the jack holding, declarer could claim after both opponents followed to a round of trumps, but even on the best lead of a diamond, the grand slam was still easy by ruffing out the clubs.

Other Shortlisted Candidates:

- **Ben Norton** (England) in Czech Corkers by Michael Byrne (England), 3NT in 2014 Czech Republic Schools Teams, IBPA Bulletin 601.10
- **Freddie Illingworth** (England) in Czech Corkers by Michael Byrne (England), 4♥ in 2014 Czech Republic Schools Teams, IBPA Bulletin 601.10
- **Sam Behrens** (England) in 25th European Youth Team Championships by Michael Byrne (England), England v Italy, IBPA Bulletin 608.14
- **Gal Gerstner** (Israel) and Simon Ekenberg (Sweden) in 25th European Youth Team Championships by Tom Gärd (Sweden), Sweden v Israel, IBPA Bulletin 608.15
- **Thomas Paske** (England) in 25th European Youth Team Championships by Patrick Jourdain (Wales), England v Finland, IBPA Bulletin 608.16



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NOW FEATURING GREAT ARTICLES

MICHAEL ROCHE & JOHN RAYNER

This article is intended as a lighthearted, but most fond celebration of our partnership and of our friendship.

Michael:

It is a wonder that John Rayner and I have played as bridge partners for more than 30 years. Our first game together was at a Chicago Nationals in the early 1980's. We had back to back 38% games. I was disappointed, mainly as I had felt that the second session was so much better. In any event we left things on a "Don't call me, I'll call you basis". But I did call and I'm glad I did.

I'm the funny one in our partnership, using humor to avoid criticism, not that John ever says a word. In March 1988 we provided a similar interview for the Unit 166 publication, *The Kibitzer*, and I was quoted as saying "John, I expect you to play perfectly. If there are any mistakes to be made, I'll make them". Nothing has changed over time. John still plays wonderfully, and I still make mistakes. However something has happened to the funny part. In light of all the controversy regarding cheating that has swept up the bridge world, John wanted to put the record straight. "Roche and Rayner don't cheat - and we have the results to prove it".

John:

Playing with me, Michael has learned to take the bad along with the good. One of the weaknesses of my game is my tendency to revoke. In Verona, with the funny club and spade cards to blame, I failed to follow suit when declarer led trump (spades). Michael won that trick with the Ace and that was the only trick we took. One trick was transferred back to declarer due to my revoke. Ever since, Michael has lamented, "I think I am the only player in the history of the World Championships to have not taken a trick with the Ace of trumps."



2015 CSTC GOLD: John Carruthers - Michael Roche - John Rayner - Joey Silver - Katie Thorpe - Martin Kirr

In Winnipeg, playing in the Canadian IMP Pairs, I revoked again. This time I was in an easy three no trump with ten top tricks. However, as I was running Michael's long diamond suit, I once more allowed myself to revoke. I did make a great recovery, however. Realizing just in the nick of time that I had revoked and knowing that two tricks were going to go back to the defenders, I now took heroic action to make 11 tricks. Taking an otherwise unnecessary finesse and executing some sort of squeeze, I salvaged the necessary eleven tricks - to end with 9 tricks. Remember, this was IMP pairs, and so I had lost only 1 IMP to the field. I felt at the time that I should submit this hand to the International Bridge Press Association for consideration as "Best Played Hand of the Year". Michael suggested otherwise and my hand went unpublished.

MICHAEL ROCHE & JOHN RAYNER

Michael:

When I was younger and before I gained full-time employment, I used to play a lot of Rubber Bridge – with mixed results. I still remember the hand that caused me to finally quit playing for money. Partner was in 3NT Redoubled and the key suit was AKxxxxxx opposite a singleton. On a good day the suit splits 2-2 and you have 8 tricks. On a bad day the suit doesn't split and you have only 2 tricks. This was the worst day in the history of Rubber Bridge. My partner played the suit only once. Down 4 Redoubled instead of making 2 overtricks.

One aspect of Rubber Bridge that really helped my game was the ability to bring out my partner's best game. I take all the blame for partnership mistakes. When I say "we" made a mistake – I clarify it to be "me". I still find it surprising the number of top-level players who are unable to be supportive of their partners.

John and I have been fortunate to have understanding spouses and a flexible work environment which allowed us to travel frequently. It is important to test your abilities outside of your local environment, and we have been able to attend many NABCs and World Championships together. We also make a point of playing in the Canadian Bridge Championships as often as possible. We are both winding down a little as we approach retirement. John recently moved on from his successful bridge club to concentrate on teaching, and I am nearing the end of a 40+ year career in the Property/Casualty Insurance industry.

A rarity among long-time partnerships, we play relatively simple methods. I do have a couple of favorite treatments which include transfers after 1M X and transfers after we overcall. I play once or twice a month at the local club – mainly mentoring a couple



TOP: 2011 CNTC Gold Medalists

of enthusiastic new players. Having said that, I do have something to do with bridge just about every day. I often re-read old Bridge World magazines – using our current methods, just to see how my thoughts about bidding have changed over the years.

Barb and I moved from Toronto to Victoria in 2007, so John and I don't play together as much as we used to, other than at NABCs and the odd Regional. I do play a little locally with Karen Cumpstone of Nanaimo BC as well as Tim Ayers and Mike Hargreaves, of Victoria. Karen and I have had a couple of NABC wins in the Freeman Mixed Board a Match – thanks to how well our partners played – Joan Eaton and Nader Hanna. The driving force for me at Bridge has always been the problem-solving aspect and the competitiveness. Striving to improve one's game is paramount. I remember back in high school, racing to the back of my math book to see if I had the right answer. Nothing has changed – I still seek that satisfaction. If there is one thing in my view that has changed for the worse over the years, it is the fighting of events. You must play against better players in order to learn. I was lucky to often be able to play against two of Legends of Canadian Bridge - Murray and Kehela.

Fighting through throngs of kibitzers as well as clouds of cigar smoke - only to get killed again and again. Ahhh – those were the good old days.



By Michael Abbey

I am definitely not anywhere close to being able to give a lot of advice on how to play bridge, since I have been playing duplicate for less than 18 months. With that said, I am at the point where I follow some fundamental techniques verbatim as much as I can. As I incorporate new material into my repertoire, I am comfortable writing about it for my peers.

This month, we will discuss two items that have fascinated me since the start of my career. I am in no way an expert in both, but my prowess increases the more I play:

- High card from the short side first – a mixture of transportation and common sense
- Information from the bidding – understanding more about my partner's holding by what he bids

Which Honour First

First things first. Picture the following spade holding between West and East:

by Michael Abbey THE NEW PLAYER Spot

♠ A 10 ♠ K Q 9 8 3

Suppose we are in a notrump contract and the partnership wants to develop spades. East leads the ♠ K and West plays the ♠ 10. The holdings now change to the following:

♠ A ♠ Q 9 8 3

The ♠ A and the ♠ Q are winners, and the ♠ 9, ♠ 8, and ♠ 3 would-be winners if the ♠ J were played by the opponents. Let's assume it has. Thus the partnership still has three winners in spades. East leads the ♠ 3 knowing it will be won by West's ♠ A, leaving the spade holdings as follows:

♠ ♠ Q 9 8

Oh no! West is out of spades and cannot lead them back to East to capture the remaining three tricks. The solution here is the gist of this discussion – high card from the short side first. Let's play the spades using this theory.

♠ A 10 ♠ K Q 9 8 3

On lead, East plays the ♠ 3 to his partner's ♠ A, at which point the hands become:

♠ 10 ♠ K Q 9 8

With West on lead, he plays the ♠ 10, and the trick is won by the ♠ K in the East. The course of the next few tricks is as follows, with West discarding a non-spade each time:

♠ ♠ Q 9 8

♠ ♠ 9 8

♠ ♠ 8

End result is five spade tricks rather than two doing it the other way. A common adage at the bridge table

is remember the fundamentals. I continually remind myself of this as I play this fabulous game, and find myself repeating these six words in my head often as I play. Keep in mind that there are always exceptions to a rule and there are indeed some to this approach. I am puzzled when a suit splits as follows, naturally there being no short side:

♠ A 9 3 ♠ K Q 8

This can be done both ways with the same results. In this case, it depends where you want to end up when done. If East is where you want to be, make sure the third trick is won by the ♠ K or ♠ Q. If West is the desired location, play the cards such that the ♠ A takes the last trick. Once in a while I look skyward before playing to a trick, and repeat these words again to myself. Lesson to be learned here is be careful from where you play your highest card when capturing a trick.

Do you hear what I hear?

As a beginner, I did my best to hear what my partner said after I opened the bidding. Suppose the bidding proceeded as follows, I am sitting West and open 1 ♦:

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Pass	2 ♦	All pass

NEW PLAYER SPOT: Michael Abbey ... continued

My partner's 2♦ bid denies having a four card major. If he had 4 spades or 4 hearts, he would not have supported my diamond bid. Sometimes what your partner does not say is as important as what he does say.

	Bid	Said	Not said
Resp	2♦	I like diamonds	I have no 4-card major

Sometimes the message can be more intriguing as per the next example. North has opened 1NT.

Board 21. Dealer North. N-S Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
-	1NT	Pass	2♣ ¹
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	All pass	

1. Stayman

	Bid	Said	Not said
S	2♣	I have one or both 4 card majors	I have 8+ HCP
N	2♥	I have four hearts	I may also have four spades
S	3NT	I do not have four hearts	I have 10+ HCP I have four spades
N	4♠	I have four spades and enough for game	

The responder's 2♣ Stayman bid showed one or both four card majors. When responder bid after opener showed four hearts, he was denying having four hearts, and showing 10-15 HCPs. He must have four spades if he does not have four hearts. As it turned out, opener had four spades as well, and N-S ended up in the spade game.

For the beginner, the lesson to be learned here is when your partner bids, figure out what he is denying having as well as what his bid means he does have.

Visit Michael's website
for beginners at
beginnerbridge.net.





Neil's three bidding judgement books (His 3rd book, *The Right Bid at the Right Time*, just came out)) target advanced and expert issues. In this series, Neil shifts his to intermediate level bidding issues, hoping to facilitate learning for more players.

THE INTERMEDIATE SERIES

LESSON 3

WHEN PARTNER HAS TWO SUITS

By Neil Kimelman

There are many times that partner will show two suits. The two most common:

1 Opening the bidding in one suit and rebidding in another. *This was discussed in our last issue.*

2 Showing two suits after the opponents have opened the bidding. *This will be discussed here.*

by Neil Kimelman THE INTERMEDIATE *Spot*

Half the time the opponents open the bidding. The side that opens has a distinct advantage:

- They are starting the bidding at the one level.
- They are ahead in the race to describe their hands to each other.
- If you enter the auction you may be doubled for penalties.
- Bids by you and your partner are less well defined, thus harder to gauge how high you should bid.

The term often used when your partnership bids after the opponents have opened is called Defensive Bidding.

To make up for this disadvantage, defensive bidding conventions were developed to help describe certain hands. The two most common are:

1. Michaels after the opponents open in one of a suit, and
2. Landy, DON'T and a myriad of other conventions when the opponents open 1NT.

This article will focus on the former.

Michaels

Michaels is when you bid the opponents suit at the two level. This defensive bid shows two suits, usually 5-5. If the opponents open a major the cuebid shows the other major and an undefined minor. The way to ask for the minor is by bidding the minimum notrump, usually 2NT. If the opponents open a minor a cuebid shows both majors. Here is a common auction:

West	Partner	East	You
1♥	2♥	Pass	?

Partner has shown five spades and five cards in a minor. How many points?

Good question. My recommendation is that it should show either less than an opening bid or a strong hand. Otherwise the advancer is just guessing how high to compete/bid. With a hand in the middle range, around an opening bid, it is best to overcall in the major.

Depending on how the auction develops you may have a chance to show your minor later.

A weak hand could be something like ♠ Q J 10 x x ♥ x ♦ K Q 10 x x ♣ x x.

While a strong hand will look like ♠ A K J 10 x x ♥ x ♦ K Q 10 x x ♣ A x (or better).

With a minimum opening bid, such as

♠ A J 10 x x ♥ x ♦ Q J x x x ♣ K x

I suggest starting with an overcall of 1♠.

I have introduced one new term, *defensive bidding*. The 2nd term which may be new to you is *advancer*. This is simply the name to designate the responder of the overcaller. So in the above example, West is the opener, partner (North) the overcaller, East the responder and you (South) are the advancer.

Warning

As discussed in my first book, be prudent when you consider bidding Michaels or any other convention that shows two suits. The reason is, if the opponents end up declaring, you have given them a lot of information and the play of the hand becomes almost double dummy for a competent declarer. For example if partner is a passed hand, and you are vulnerable against not, there is no advantage in showing your two suits and a weak hand. You will not declare the hand (unless you are doubled and go for a number), and you have made declarer's life very easy.

Klinger

Michaels has long been the way to go to describe two suits. A method that my partners and I have gravitated to is called Klinger, developed by the Australian expert Ron Klinger. The big advantage to playing this instead of Michaels is that you know right away which two suits partner has in his hand. The identity of the suits is based on the normal suit ranking order.

1. Cue Bid shows next two ranking suits above opener's suit.

2. Jump in the suit one above theirs shows 2nd and 3rd ranking suits above opener's suit.

3. 2NT shows the two suits not described by either (1) or (2) above

EXAMPLE

If the opponents open 1♦:

2♦ = hearts and spades (cue bid)

2♥ = spades and clubs (jump in the suit above one of theirs)

2NT = hearts and clubs

Sacrifices

Generally speaking, Michael's is primarily used as a way to find a good fit, on the way to a profitable sacrifice against the opponent contracts. Ideally this will happen at favourable vulnerability.

An important principle is that the advancer makes all the partnership decisions as how high to bid. The only exceptions is when the Michaels's bidder is very strong or very distributional:

- ♠ A K J 10 x ♥ A x ♦ x ♣ A J 10 x x
- ♠ J 10 9 x x x ♥ x ♦ - ♣ K Q J x x x

The way to show the two suits and at least 17 points (a guide) is to double at your next turn to show the two suits and at least 17 points.

EXAMPLE 1:

As an example you are playing matchpoints, not vulnerable against vulnerable opponents. The bidding starts:

West	Partner	East	You
1♥	2♥*	Pass	?

* Michaels shows Spades and a minor

More often than not, the Michaels bidder has a weak hand. The partnership can make life difficult for the opponents when they have a good fit. They may even have a good sacrifice. Important points to consider:

1. As we saw in my Intermediate Spot, Lesson 1, there is a huge difference in trick-taking potential based on degree of fit.

- ♠ J 10 x ♥ J 10 x x ♦ x ♣ x x x x x. Here you have an 8 card fit and a very weak hand. Bid 2♠.
- ♠ J 10 x x ♥ J 10 x x ♦ x ♣ x x x x. Here you have a 9 card fit and a very weak hand. Bid 3♠.
- ♠ J 10 x x x ♥ J 10 x x ♦ x ♣ x x x. Here you have a 10 card fit and a very weak hand. Bid 4♠.

2. Don't get too excited with a moderate fit for one of partner's suit when you do not fit his 2nd suit.

EXAMPLE 2:

West	Partner	East	You
1♦	2♦	Pass	?

You hold ♠ J x x ♥ x ♦ x x x x ♣ K Q x x x. If partner has a weak hand, such as ♠ 10 9 x x x ♥ A J x x x ♦ Q x ♣ x, after a trump lead, in the contract of two spades doubled, you are down at least four on a trump lead! You lose 3 spades, 3 hearts, 2 diamonds and one club.

3. Don't sacrifice when you have defensive values.

Change the advancer hand a bit to ♠ J x x ♥ x ♦ x x x x ♣ K Q x x x. Here we can likely make a spade part-score, and maybe game. But your defence is likely to scuttle most contracts above the three level. The key is partner rates to have short clubs (singleton or void) and you are likely able to take the first three tricks.

NEXT COLUMN – LESSON 4

Defensive Bidding when the opponents open 1NT.



by Sylvia Summers

THE INTERMEDIATE Spot

SMART SLAMMING

by Sylvia Summers

Every player as they progress will ultimately focus on their favorite aspects of the game. Fairly early on I came to the conclusion that,

"Bridge is an easier game if you are always in the right contract."

One of the places that I have always applied this rule is careful slam bidding. At any form of the game, good slam bidding pays huge dividends.

In a Major suit

This hand comes from the first day of the Bobby Nail Pairs at the 2015 Denver NABCs. Sitting North as Dealer white vs. red you hold:

♠ A K 10 5 4 2
♥ 7
♦ 3
♣ A K Q 8 6

This is how the auction began:

West	North	East	South
-	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	?		

What do you think partner holds? Could partner hold seven running hearts? Could partner be lacking a diamond control?

Most of the time cue bids at the five level should show first round control but I think that this hand is an exception. In this case a 5♦ bid should show 1st or 2nd round control. Here I think that a 5♦ bid is clearly called for. Over 5♦, partner will jump to 6♥. This was the entire hand:

Scoring MPs. Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

Lead: ♦A

If you thought of the 5♦ bid, well done. Bidding this slam was worth more than 75% of the matchpoints.

In A Minor Suit

This hand comes from one of the Internet matches in the current Canadian Online Women's Team Championship.

Sitting South White vs. Red you pick up:

♠	Q J 7 5 3
♥	6
♦	A J 10 8 6 5
♣	A

Partner opens a 15-17 notrump and the auction proceeds:

West	North	East	South
-	1NT	Pass	2♥ ¹
Pass	2♠ ²	Pass	3♦ ³
Pass	3NT ⁴	Pass	?

1. Transfer.
2. Tends to deny four spades.
3. Natural.
4. Most likely two spades.

Grant Baze is credited with the advice, "6-5 come alive". Certainly if partner has two Aces and the ♦ K, 6 ♦ is going to have some play. Clearly it's time to bid 4♦. After a 4♦ bid your partnership should have no trouble reaching 6♦.

The entire hand was:

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

Six diamonds will most often make if diamonds are 2-2. If you have a diamond loser you'll have to play for the King of spades onside. Two low spades can be discarded on two of the high hearts.

When the hand was actually played no one bid the slam. This was an opportunity missed by both teams.



SYLVIA SUMMERS

To Slam or Not To Slam

This hand also came up during a match in the current Canadian Online Women's Team Championship.

In second seat, both Vulnerable, you pick up:

♠ A K 8 6 5 3
♥ Q 4
♦ A K Q
♣ 9 7

The auction proceeds:

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	?

What is the right bid here? Your hand is clearly worth a slam try but you don't have a fit for either of partner's suits. You could bid 3♠ and then make a five level slam try over partner's response. If you bid 3♠ the auction will probably continue:*

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

***Editor's Note:** A 3♠ bid here usually shows a minimum with nothing else to say. Here it works because South plans on taking control. A better bid in my view is 3♦. This bid is often natural, but shows high cards in diamonds. Its main value is twofold: It implies a non-minimum; and Allows partner to describe their hand further at the lowest level possible. Here North can bid 3NT (no extra values), 4NT 5-4 in its suits and slam invite, raise spades, or rebid his suits to show extra length. None of these rebids by North are as easy over 3♠.

The actual deal:

♠ J 7
♥ A 9 6 3 2
♦ J
♣ K Q J 4 3

♠ Q 10
♥ K
♦ 10 8 7 6 5 3
♣ A 10 5 2

♠ 9 4 2
♥ J 10 8 7 5
♦ 9 4 2
♣ 8 6

♠ A K 8 6 5 3
♥ Q 4
♦ A K Q
♣ 9 7

As the cards lie 5♠ will make but it is a precarious contract, as you could potentially lose 2 spades, 1 heart and 1 club. How can you avoid the five level on this type of hand? Here is a suggestion:

A Very Old Convention: Quantitative 4NT

Most of us already play that a 4NT bid is a quantitative raise when notrump has already been bid. Some play that 4NT is quantitative in complex minor suit auctions, after a number of cue bids have been made. This bid may also be played as quantitative directly after a Reverse, a Strong Jump Shift or a new minor at the three level.

After: 1♣ 1♥
2♦ 2♥, 3♣ and 3♦ are all natural and forcing, and 4NT is Quantitative.

After: 1♣ 1♥
2♠ 3♣, 3♥ and 3♠ are all natural and forcing, and 4NT is Quantitative.

After: 1♠ 2♥
2♠ 3♣, 3♥, 3♠ and 4♣ are all natural and forcing, and 4NT is Quantitative.

Solutions

TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY

Problem on page 3

As is the norm on these problems, things do not look good. You have four inescapable losers. There are a couple of very low chances available to you:

- Cash the ♠A, and then try to drop the ♠Kx or ♠Kxx, depending on whether the defence gives you a third entry to dummy. (You have two guaranteed: a club ruff and one high heart).
- Start with line #1 and try to strip the hand, hoping the defenders will either block diamonds or crash two honours on one trick.

There is a much better line, if you can put yourself in the defenders' heads. Lead the ♣10 at trick two! West is marked with the ♣J, but 'knows' from your play that partner has the King. If West has the ♠K or ♠J and a diamond tenace, he will duck hoping partner will lead a pointed suit card. After winning the 2nd trick it is just a matter of cashing the ♣K to pitch one diamond, and then hope to be able to ruff a diamond in dummy. (Either hearts are 2-2, or if 3-1, the defence is unable to play three rounds of hearts). The full deal:

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

The idea is to set trump in these auctions if you want 4NT to ask for keycards. The hand given is worth some thought. Slams most often require some kind of fit.

You may choose to play some sort of minor suit keycard. If you do this I would suggest that you apply some clear and simple rules. What follows is one possibility:

1) A re-raise of a minor is Keycard.

1♠	2♣	or	1♣	3♣
3♣	4♣		4♣	

2) A jump raise of a minor is Keycard.

1♠	2♣	or	1♥	1♠
4♣			2♣	4♣

3) When the minor raise first occurs at the 4 level, four of the lowest unbid suit is Keycard.

1♠	2♥
3♣	4♣
4♦	

As always you can play any type of Keycard, Roman Keycard or Minorwood that you like. Just be sure that your partner is playing it the same way.

In closing, winning bridge is seldom perfect bridge. If your opponents are perfect you're not going to win. Winning bridge requires getting a few things right that the field is missing. I hope your partnerships will spend some time discussing the theories that you are adopting in slam auctions.



FOLLOWING SUIT *from* HONOUR SEQUENCES

by Ed Zaluski

On page six of the December 2015 Bridge Canada, a problem asked the readers how South as declarer, should play 6♥ after East had opened the bidding with a weak 2♠. Here is the same hand, but presented as a defensive problem for West to solve.

♠ K 3
♥ 10 8 7 5
♦ K 5 4
♣ K 10 8 2

♠ 7 2
♥ Q J 9
♦ 10 8 7 6 2
♣ 9 7 6

After an opening lead of the ♠7 to East's 10, declarer won the Ace in hand, played the A and K of trump with partner following only once, then played three rounds of diamonds ruffing in hand, cashed dummy's ♠K, and then exited with a trump to West's Queen.

by Ed Zaluski
THE EXPERT
Spot

The remaining cards with West on lead were as follows:

♠ -
♥ 10
♦ -
♣ K 10 8 2

♠ -
♥ -
♦ 10 8
♣ 9 7 6

Declarer has played as though the dummy and declarer both have one trump and four clubs remaining. If this is the case, West can easily conclude that a ruff and sluff provided by a diamond continuation will not help declarer in avoiding a potential loser in clubs if East holds the ♣ Q.

The questions are:

- Has East opened 2♠ with seven cards?
- Does declarer really have four clubs?
- Can you tell from the evidence provided so far?
- If you sat in West's seat in this situation, would you return a diamond or a club?

If West was deceived and returned a diamond, it would be ruffed in dummy while declarer discarded a losing club, thereby succeeding in a contract that should have been defeated. The actual hands were:

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

BUT, sufficient evidence was provided at trick one for West to make the correct decision, that evidence being

partner's play of the spade ten!

EXPERT THEORY

When holding two or more honours in sequence, such as K Q J x, K Q x x, Q J 10 x or Q J x x, a partnership should use the defensive method of ALWAYS playing the SECOND HIGHEST HONOUR when playing third in hand.

This means that one plays the Queen from a suit topped with either the K Q or K Q J, and the Jack from a suit topped with either the Q J or Q J 10. Later, on obtaining the lead, the Jack is returned from an original holding that was topped by the K Q J and the 10 from an original holding that was topped by the Q J 10, in both cases informing partner that the highest card of the original three-card sequence has been retained.

Therefore, in the given problem, East's play of the ♠ 10 would deny the Q J 10, thereby immediately informing West that declarer holds both the ♠ A and Q. This means that, in the end game shown, declarer has only three clubs and is still retaining the deceptively hidden spade Queen.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE

West leads a low card and, with only low cards in dummy, East plays the Jack and declarer wins the Ace. By playing the Jack, East may hold a suit topped by the QJ but definitely not the KQJ. This method of play immediately informs West that declarer holds both the Ace and King (or possibly even the Ace, King and Queen when East holds only the Jack without the 10). Such knowledge, on any given hand, will provide West with useful information about placing the location of other high cards between the two unseen hands

Examples demonstrating these methods are shown in the following hands, all having been taken from my yet-to-be published book on the methods that I use and recommend.

THIRD-HAND PLAY FROM HONOUR SEQUENCES

Example 1:

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

At match points against 4♠ played by South, West leads the three of hearts to East's Jack and declarer's Ace. Knowing that East would play the Queen from a suit topped by either the KQ or the KQJ, West is not misled about the location of the King. Therefore, when winning the ♠K and seeing the "running" club suit in dummy, West has no difficulty in switching to diamonds to hold declarer to his contract. This example clearly demonstrates the advantage of following suit, in third position, with the second highest card from two or more touching honours in an attempt to help partner judge the location of defensive high-card resources.

Example 2:

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

The bidding with neither vulnerable:

West	North	East	South
-	-	2♥ ¹	3♦
4♠	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dbl	All Pass		

1. Flannery

In the example above, the question marks in the East and South hands mean that East has one black Ace while South has the other.

Although 4♠ by West fails if the opponents cash their four tricks, it nevertheless behoves East-West to extract the maximum penalty, if they can.

West leads the singleton three of hearts to East's Ace. Now, to obtain the maximum set and a good match point score, East must select the heart honour that will identify for West which black Ace East holds. After winning an Ace, the suit-preference rule for returning honours in the same suit is as follows:

With holdings of AQJ, AQ109, AJ10, or A109, leading the Queen or Ten asks for the return of the higher-ranking non-trump suit while leading the Jack or nine asks for the return of the lower-ranking non-trump suit.

If holding the spade Ace in the given example, East would return the ♥ Q. But if holding the club Ace, East would return the ♥ J. Regardless of which card is returned, be it the Queen or the Jack, all place the ♥ K in declarer's hand.

If East returns the ♥ Q to show preference for a spade return, West, upon ruffing declarer's King (assuming it is played), would return a high, non-honour spade (the 9) to suggest a non-spade return. With strong clubs in dummy, this obviously suggests another heart. Upon a heart return, the ♦ Q is promoted into a fourth defensive trick. This defence nets a two-trick defeat and a score of +300. Failure to find this defence allows South to gain entry and pull trump, thereby suffering only a one trick defeat and only -100.

SECOND-HAND PLAY FROM HONOUR SEQUENCES

These defensive methods also extend to honours played in second position, when declarer leads a low card and second hand deliberately plays an honour that cannot be a singleton. In this case, any faced honour played from a suit containing three or more cards should be either the lower one from two touching honours (i.e., splitting honours, say the Queen from KQx) or the highest one from three or more cards in sequence (e.g., the Queen from QJ10x). This method helps the defence tremendously in judging the high-card resources available to the defence.

As a defender, what card would you play from QJ10 when declarer leads toward Kxx in dummy? And what card would you play from KQJ10 if declarer leads toward Axx in dummy? If you said the Ten, then you are following an old traditional method that is not only defensively inefficient but also quite defensively misleading when considered from partner's point of view.

Example 3:

♠ K Q 10 4
♥ Q 10 3
♦ A Q 7 6
♣ 10 4

♠ J 9 6 5
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 10 4
♣ A 6 3

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6NT

You, as West, lead the ♥ 8. Declarer studies the hand for a while, then wins dummy's Queen, partner following with the six. Declarer then calls for dummy's four of clubs, to which partner follows with the eight, and declarer plays the King. Do you win? If so, what do you return? The full deal:

♠ K Q 10 4
♥ Q 10 3
♦ A Q 7 6
♣ 10 4

♠ J 9 6 5
♥ 8 7 5 2
♦ 10 4
♣ A 6 3

♠ 8 3 2
♥ 9 6
♦ 8 5 3 2
♣ Q J 9 8

♠ A 7
♥ A K J 4
♦ K J 9
♣ K 7 5 2

Declarer, confronted with the problem of finding his twelfth trick, decided to try clubs, hoping the Ace was with East. There was also the possibility that, even if the play lost, West would not find a club return, thereby giving declarer one more chance in spades.

In actual play, West ducked the ♣ K, hoping that declarer, having opened the bidding with 1♣, had something like KQ9xx in clubs and would try another lead toward his supposedly held Queen. Unfortunately for West, clubs were never played again, and declarer chalked up the slam.

WHY DID WEST HAVE THIS PROBLEM?

Let us return to declarer's club lead from dummy but, this time, let East play the Queen using the following rule:

When it is deemed necessary to stop declarer from either taking a "deep finesse" or cheaply ducking a trick to partner, an honour played voluntarily by second-hand is an "informative" play that shows either the bottom card of a two-card sequence, or the top card of a three-card (or equivalent) sequence.

In the case under discussion, East should have played the Queen on dummy's ♣ 4, showing either the ♣ KQ(x) (not possible here) or ♣ QJ10 (or its equivalent of the ♣ QJ9 when the Ten is visible in dummy). With this understanding, East's play of the Queen makes the situation much simpler to understand. Just win the Ace and return the suit to East's known Jack! Result: Down three, just what declarer deserves for trying such subterfuge!

Example 4:

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

Against South's 4♠, West led the ♦ 7 to dummy's Jack, East's Queen and declarer's Ace. Declarer then led a low club to West's nine and dummy's Ace. When a club was returned, East played the King (being afraid declarer held the Queen), and returned a trump. South won in hand, ruffed out west's ♣ Q and, after cashing dummy's Ace of trump to confirm a 3-2 trump break, claimed ten tricks.

As second hand, when a partnership consistently plays low from two-card and high from three-card sequences, East can confidently interpret West's nine as being either from the T9 or QT9, but not from the JT9. In either case, the played nine places the Jack in Declarer's hand. But if declarer's known Jack was supported by the Queen, surely declarer would have finessed West for the King. Therefore, East's play of the King to the second club trick was quite inappropriate.

Had East played low, West would win and continue with either a trump or another diamond. If declarer now tries to ruff two clubs in dummy by returning to hand with heart ruffs, East can, on the third round of that suit, upper cut declarer's King with the spade ten to create an extra trump trick for West. In the end, declarer scores only nine tricks, down one!



ED ZALUSKI (Photo: Jonathan Steinberg)

Meet ... **MARY PAUL**



CBF HALL OF FAME 2016

Editor's Note: *Here is a quick insight into Mary Paul, one of the two CBF Hall of Fame Inductees for 2016. Additional information will be shared after the Canadian Bridge Championships.*

What are your significant accomplishments as a player?

I represented Canada in the Bridge Olympiad Women's Series in 1968, 1972, 1980, 1984, 1988, 1992 and the Venice cup in 1989, 1991, 1995, 1997. In the Open Canadian team championship my team was the winner of the very first Canadian CNTC in 1976 and also was on the winning team in 1993. I represented Canada in the World Open Team Championships in 1978, 1982, 1986 and 1994, winning two bronze medals. I was also stunned by the fact that I am on the list of ACBL famous bridge players.

What is your assessment of the game of bridge?

My assessment of the game of bridge that I played for the past 60 years is as follows:

'Fascinating, and to be a good bridge player you have to be able to concentrate on the game 100% and also try to figure out the best percentage line of play or defense.'

Can you share an example of what this looks like?

A perfect example of which I am still proud of was in Perth Australia. There were four top women's teams and four top open teams on vugraph. At all eight tables the contract was 3NT and the lead was a spade which declarer won. At my table declarer took a finesse which I won and I went into the tank. I figured out that we would not be able to defeat the contract if I returned a spade because my partner will be squeezed or end played so I returned a heart which defeated the

contract. At all the other table the player in my seat returned a spade. I got a lot of congratulations but this is what thinking while playing the game is all about.

Are there other examples where your play or defence was recognized?

Four times hands I played were written up in the NY times by Alan Truscott. Once my cousin in Australia called me to say there was a hand played by me in the newspaper and she was going to the bridge club to tell everybody she was my cousin. (LOL)

Who did you play with and what system did you use?

Over the 20 years I played with my husband and teacher Maurice. We tried every convention and system and finally came to realize that 2 over 1 was the best, as you can describe your shape and values below game level.

An important part of playing bridge is to have a partner you discuss on details your bidding and that is why I wrote a book (Partnership Bidding, a Workbook).

Anything else you wish to share?

I also have other accomplishments like ethics committees at Nationals and Regionals. I also helped my husband set up the team-of-four league in Montreal. To my knowledge, this was the first such event in North America. The proceeds from the clubs were donated the CBF Olympiad Fund.

We also started a Vugraph show for the first time in Canada to help beginners and intermediates learn how the experts played the difficult hands.

Meet ... *Katie Thorpe*



CBF HALL OF FAME 2016

Editor's Note: Katie is the other Hall of Fame inductee honoured in 2016.

What drew you to start playing bridge and when did that happen?

I started playing bridge at university (McMaster) after kibitzing a few games in our residence lounge. At least, it was a game that resembled bridge. I was drafted one day when they were a player short, and soon after I bought a book – Schenken – at the bookstore. However it took a few more years to discover duplicate. When I moved to Toronto to attend law school, Michael Schoenborn was in my class. In fact, it is a wonder I graduated.

Once you found duplicate, what encouraged you to compete so seriously?

My first clubs were Hart House (the student game at University of Toronto) where pretty much anything and everything went system-wise, and Kate Buckman's club in Toronto. In those days many good players hung out at Kate's and played in the games; after the game we'd all go around the corner to Fran's, get burgers and beers, and go over every hand. I learned so much, and the more I learned the more fun it was. I started playing with better players, and it just continued from there. It helped that Kate kicked me out of the novice game, at the time 0-20 MPs, when I only had 4.

Since 1974, my husband, John Carruthers, has provided encouragement, mentoring, support and love – it is certainly a big help to have a life mate with the same passion.

What is your most memorable bridge memory?

That's a tough one, there have been so many. Winning a silver medal in the 2000 Olympiad (as it was then)

perhaps, although I think I was more excited when we won the bronze in the 1989 Venice Cup. There was a big element of disappointment in 2000. Winning the 1990 COPC with John is very much up there too.

You mentioned McMaster and U of T. What did you study?

At McMaster I studied history with a vague notion of becoming a history teacher. By the time I was in my final year, no one needed more history teachers, so on a whim I wrote the LSAT and applied to a couple of law schools, choosing U of T when I was accepted there. I managed to graduate (despite my new passion for bridge) and practiced for a couple of years before realizing it wasn't for me.

Thanks to Andy Altay, I was interviewed for a computer programmer trainee position, and despite their reservations about my odd qualifications, I was hired. Turns out I loved it – it is after all just another problem solving exercise – and remained in IT technical support until I retired four years ago.

What do you like to do besides bridge?

I spend a lot of time researching my family history, as well as John's – thank goodness more and more is on the internet all the time. I read a lot, mostly mysteries/police novels, fantasy and historical fiction. And I love to garden although once we retired and moved to small town southwestern Ontario, I may have bitten off more than I can chew with that!

What is your favorite bridge book?

Well I don't think there is really only one, but Victor Mollo's Bridge in the Menagerie would likely win. I loved The Bridge Bum (Alan Sontag), and still re-read the Terence Reese and Hugh Kelsey books.

MEET KATIE THORPE ... CONTINUED

Do you have an embarrassing moment in the bridge world to relate?

I'm sure there have been many, but one stand out was opening 1NT – on vugraph at the 2000 Olympiad – with something like AKx Jxxxxxx -- AQJ! Needless to say, I had mis-sorted my hand! I remember that we somehow landed on our feet, although I do not recall anything more about it.

Cats or dogs?

Cats – over the years we've had many – currently Scully (yes, Dana Scully from X-Files) and Mrs. Emma Peel (remember The Avengers with Diana Rigg?). But maybe a dog in the not too distant future.

What advice would you give a player wanting to improve?

Read. There are so many good books and magazines. Don't ignore the older classics.

Learn the basic principles of bidding, and concentrate on play and defence as well. Do not worry about a lot of conventions.

Find a friendly better player at your club or in the local area who is willing to help with questions and suggestions.

Watch! There is a huge supply of events to kibitz on BBO and many of the very good pairs do not play complex systems – Levin-Weinstein and Helgemo-Helness come to mind as examples. Lead and card play technique hints are there regardless of system too.

Trump Alzheimer's

Canadian clubs, teachers and members!
Join in on the first ever Trump Alzheimers
Contré fundraiser.

New in 2016, the ACBL has worked with the Canadian Bridge Federation and the Alzheimer Society of Canada to create a special event just for our Canadian members. Trump Alzheimers will be held on Monday, June 20, 2016 and offers all the benefits the ACBL provides their annual The Longest Day. The main difference is that the Alzheimer Society of Canada will insure that all funds donated will stay in your Province!

Registration for Trump Alzheimer's opens April 2016.

For questions regarding this event contact

darbi.padbury@acbl.org

or Canadian team leader, **Kathie Macnab Halliday** at kmacnab@eastlink.ca



OZ BRIDGE

by Ron Klinger, Northbridge, NSW Australia

ronklingerbridge.com

Sixty-four teams qualified from clubs around Australia to contest the finals of the 30th Grand National Open Teams. The knockout format consisted of one 14-board match, followed by three 28-board matches and a 42-board match to qualify two teams for the semi-finals. Losers dropped into a Swiss Teams. At the end of the Swiss, the two leading teams played against the two losers in the Round of Four to produce the other semi-finalists.

The two KO teams for the finals were Adelaide 1 and Sydney 2. In the Repêchage (over 20 boards) to select the other two teams for the semi-finals, Sydney 1 beat Canberra 1 by 33-26 and Sydney 3 beat Perth 1 by 33-31. In the semi-finals, Adelaide 1 beat Sydney 3 by 139-66 and were undefeated. Sydney 1 beat Sydney 2 by 109-27.

In the 64-board final, Sydney 1 (David Beauchamp/Kim Morrison, Terry Brown/Peter Buchen, Avinash Kanetkar/Ron Klinger) defeated Adelaide 1 (Phil Markey/Justin Williams, Russell Harms/Jeff Travis) by 170-90.

Board 47. Dealer East. E-W Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
Williams	Morrison	Markey	Beauchamp
—	—	Pass	1♦
Double	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

THE IBPA FILES

West led the king of hearts, ducked, and the queen of hearts. South won and played off the diamonds. West let the five of spades go so South ducked a spade. West cashed jack and eight of hearts, South ditching two clubs. Declarer had the rest, plus 400.

West	North	East	South
Kanetkar	Harms	Klinger	Travis
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West led the king of hearts, ducked, and the queen of hearts. South took the ace of hearts and played the ace of spades, king of spades, ace of diamonds, jack of diamonds, queen of diamonds, heart ruff, ace of clubs, heart ruff. South had nine tricks and when he played the king of diamonds, he was assured of one more trick, no matter what West did, scoring a trump en passant for his tenth trick.

The following deal featured superlative play by Peter Gill in the 2015 Reisinger final, won by Boguslaw Gierulski/Jerzy Skrzyzpczak, Woitek Olanski/Vytautas Vainikonis, Ron Pachtmann/Pawel Zatorski. Gill's team (Sartaj Hans, Bart Bramley/Greg Hinze, Ross Grabel/Howard Weinstein) came fifth.

Final Session 1. Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Cayne	Grabel	Seamon
—	—	3♣	Double
3♥	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East ignored West's lead-directing three hearts and led the jack of diamonds. Declarer won, drew trumps, cashed the diamonds and eventually played a heart to the jack, one down, East/West plus 100.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Hans	Lauria	Gill
—	—	Pass	1♣ ¹
1♦	1♠ ²	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠ ³	Pass	4NT ⁴
Pass	5♣ ⁵	Pass	6♠
Double	Pass	Pass	6NT!
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Strong, artificial, forcing
2. 8+ HCP, 5+ spades, game forcing
3. Slam interest
4. Roman Key Card Blackwood
5. 1 or 4 key cards

It is not often that one can get the better of a world champion, let alone illustrious stars like Alfredo Versace and Lorenzo Lauria, but Peter Gill did. Had Versace passed six spades, the board would almost certainly have been tied. As the cards lie, North has nowhere to dispose of the heart losers. West's double asked for a heart lead and so Gill did the wise thing and ran to six notrump.

Declarer has eleven tricks on top. Where can South find the extra trick? Gill made his contract, but I am confident you cannot guess which card was his twelfth trick at trick 13.

West led the ten of clubs. South won with his ace and played the three top spades, ending in the dummy. West discarded the three of hearts (encouraging) and the two of diamonds. Then came the rest of the spades. South discarded three hearts, West the eight of hearts and his two remaining clubs, East the three of clubs, the four of hearts – a fatal pitch – and the five of clubs. East could easily have afforded to let three clubs go. These cards remained:

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

Declarer continued with the king of clubs, ditching the jack of hearts. West had to keep four diamonds to stop the run of the suit, so threw the queen of hearts. South played a diamond to the ace and cashed the king. Then came the king of hearts: ace – two – nine. West had to play a diamond to dummy's queen. The six of hearts won trick 13 and was the twelfth trick for declarer.

Try these problems:

1. Dealer West. E-W Vulnerable.

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

South opens two notrump and North raises to three notrump. West leads the six of hearts: five – eight – jack. What do you do now?

2. With only East/West vulnerable, your partner South deals and opens two hearts (weak, five hearts, four-plus of either minor). The next player passes. What would you do as North with the following hand?

♠ 10 7 3 2
♥ J 10 2
♦ A 2
♣ A 8 5 3

These deals are from the semi-finals of the 2015 Bermuda Bowl. This was from Sweden vs USA1:

Board 5. Dealer West. E-W Vulnerable.

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

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

The actual auction was longer, but it boiled down to two notrump – three notrump. On the six of hearts lead, low from dummy, East did well to play the eight to retain transportation with West. After winning trick one with the jack of hearts, John Kranyak, South, played . . . the heart three(!): king – nine – two. Probably placing South with four or five hearts headed by the ace-jack, West switched to the seven of clubs: two – jack – king. South now played the ace, king and a third spades. East discarded the four of clubs. South's deception worked when West switched to the four of diamonds. South

had three spades, one heart, two diamonds and three clubs, plus 400. You could consider what East should have played to try to alert West to South's subterfuge.

At the other table, North/South for Sweden bid to four spades and lost the obvious four tricks for plus 50 to East/West and 10 IMPs to USA1.

The second hand was from England vs Poland.
Board 41. Dealer South. E-W Vulnerable.

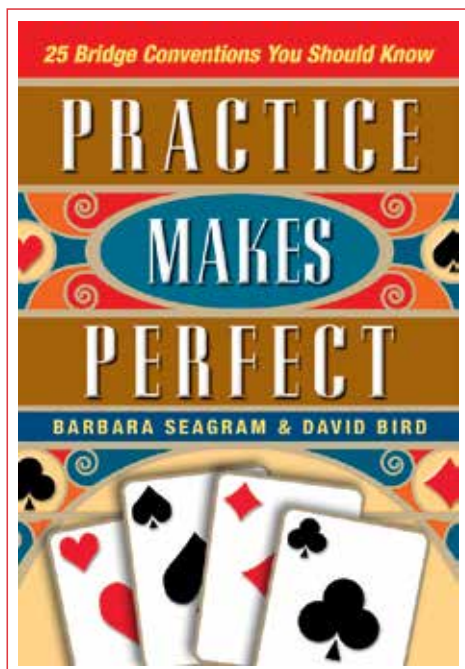
♠ 10 7 4 2	♠ A J 8 4
♥ J 10 2	♥ K
♦ A 2	♦ J 7 4
♣ A 8 5 3	♣ K Q 7 6 2

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

Both Souths opened two hearts (weak, five hearts and four or more of either minor). Poland's North bid three, not encouraging. East doubled for takeout and West bid three notrump. North led the heart jack: king – nine – five. The defenders had five diamond tricks available, but neither was aware of that. Andrew Robson, West, played the king of clubs: nine – four – three, the four of spades to his king and the ten of clubs. When North played second-hand-low on that, declarer had nine tricks, plus 600.

At the other table, David Bakhshi bluffed East/West out of bidding game. He 'invited' game in hearts via three diamonds in his methods. Others might psyche a two-notrump response, an inquiry bid showing a strong hand. South signed off in three hearts. That went three down, minus 150, and that was worth 10 IMPs, thanks to Bakhshi's clever psyche and Robson's clever play.

New from Barbara Seagram and Master Point Press

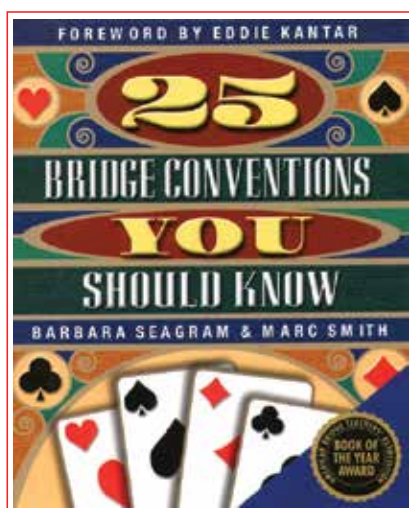


25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know: Practice Makes Perfect

Barbara Seagram and David Bird

25 Conventions You Should Know has sold more than 250,000 copies since it was first published, and continues to top the bridge bestseller lists. Readers have suggested it would be an even better book if it offered some way to practice what they had learned. Well, here it is: a brief summary of each of those 25 conventions, together with example hands that can be dealt out and used to apply your new knowledge.

More from Barbara Seagram



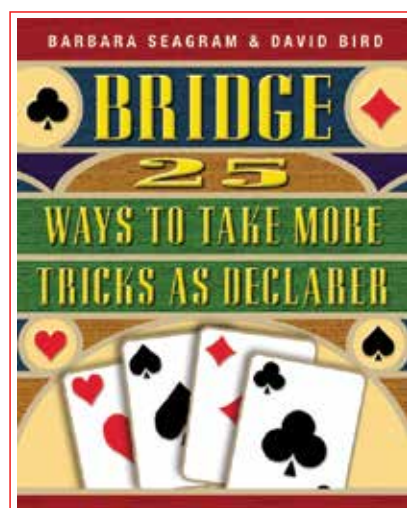
25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know

Barbara Seagram
and Marc Smith



25 More Bridge Conventions You Should Know

Barbara Seagram
and David Bird



25 Ways to Take More Tricks as Declarer

Barbara Seagram
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EVENTS & DEADLINES

Canadian Bridge Federation Calendar of Events as of March 2016. For more information see our website www.cbf.ca

2016

APRIL

Charity Month

ACBL wide Charity Game
Thursday Morning, April 14

Helen Shields Rookie Master Game
Thursday April 21

CBF Regional
April 6-10 Montreal Sheraton Dorval

MAY

Grass Roots FUNd Games

Canadian Bridge Championships
May 21-29 - Toronto

JUNE

Canada Wide Olympiad Fund Game
Tuesday afternoon June 14
Trump Alzheimer's Contré
June 20th (see page 37)

JULY

ACBL Wide International Fund Game #2
Thursday afternoon July 14

AUGUST

2016 World Youth Teams Championships
August 3 - 13

SEPTEMBER

2016 World Bridge Games
September 3-17, Wroclaw, Poland

NOVEMBER

Orlando Fall NABC
November 24 - December 4



Important Dates

- 2016 CBF International Fund Regional | Montreal Sheraton Dorval | 6-10 April
- 2016 CBF Canadian Bridge Championships | Toronto ON | 21-29 May
- 2016 The 16th World Youth Teams Championship | Salsomaggiore Terme | 3 - 13 August
- 2016 World Bridge Games | Wroclaw, Poland | 3 - 17 September