

bridge *Canada*

**2017 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS
& REGIONAL – SCHEDULE PAGE 5**

THE QUIZ ISSUE – ARE YOU READY FOR THE CBC?



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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1. Be sure to include CBF dues with your ACBL dues.
2. Visit cbf.ca and click **Join The CBF**
3. Email info@cbf.ca for more information

NOTE: Membership dues are waived for Canadian players under 25 years of age. Junior players can join the CBF by sending their information to info@cbf.ca.

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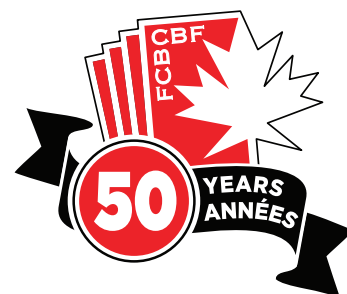
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REFLECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT

by Neil Kimelman

Winnipeg CBC Regional, May 1-7

It is less than a month to our premiere Bridge Event, to choose our representatives for the World Championships occurring this August in France. Although it is too late to register for the main events, there are still Regional events open to all. Plus the Canadian IMP Pairs and the Canadian Open Pairs with cash prizes will be held later in the week. See page 5 for this year's schedule. For more information please contact Ina Demme at ina@cbf.ca

DENIS CIMON 1951-2017

One of our French Bridge Canada translators/co-editors, Denis Cimon recently passed away. Denis and Francine, a member of the CBF Hall of Fame, have formed a formidable husband and wife team taking care of the French version of Bridge Canada. Our thoughts and prayers are with Francine during this difficult time.

Neil Kimelman

CBF President and Bridge Canada Managing Editor
President@cbf.ca

TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY

IMPs
Contract: 4 ♠

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

♠ A Q 8 7 4
 ♥ K 3
 ♦ 9 2
 ♣ A K J 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1NT	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Lead ♠10. Plan the play
and be like Billy Eisenberg!
Answer on page 12



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WELCOME

Great hospitality and great bridge.

TOURING WINNIPEG

The local organizers have arranged tours visiting some local attractions. Anyone interested can register for these tours on the CBF website.

FREE CASINO NIGHTS

Sunday April 30th and Thursday May 4th

MUSEUM OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Tuesday May 2nd. Fee \$25

CBF HALL OF FAME

Be sure to attend our annual Hall of Fame ceremony, Wednesday evening, May 3rd.

Registration has closed for our Championship Team events, but you can still come out and play in the Canadian IMP Pairs Championships or Canadian Open Pairs Championships.

CANADIAN IMP PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS (CIPC) ⁽¹⁾

Friday, May 05 – Entry \$80 per pair

Cash Prizes Per Pair 1st- \$400 / 2nd - \$250 / 3rd - \$150

CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS (COPC) ^{(1) (2)}

Qualifying: Saturday, May 06 – Entry \$80 per pair

Final: Sunday, May 07 – Entry \$80 per pair

Cash Prizes per Pair 1st - \$1,500 / 2nd - \$750

2017 Canadian Bridge Championships

Regionally Rated Events

OPEN TO ALL • 10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Monday May 1	Open Pairs A/X (2 Sess) Gold Rush Pairs 0-750 (2 Sess)
Tuesday May 2	Compact bracketed KO (2 Sess) 199er Pairs (2 Single Sess) Stratified Swiss @ 2:30 (1 Sess)
Wednesday May 3	Stratified IMP pairs (2 Sess) Gold Rush Pairs 0-750 (2 Sess)
Thursday May 4	Strata-Flighted Swiss Teams A/X/B/C (2 Sess)
Friday May 5	Compact Bracketed KO 199er Pairs (2 Single Sess) Stratified Swiss @ 2:30 (1 Sess)
Saturday May 6	Stratified Pairs B/C (2 Sess) Gold Rush Pairs 0-750 (2 Sess)
Sunday May 7	International Fund Stratified Swiss Teams (2 Sess) Gold Rush Teams 0-750 (2 Sess)

DETAILS

REGARDING CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS REGISTRATION

(1) Participants (except in Regional Events) must be paid up CBF members. If you are not a CBF member you can join on www.cbf.ca

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

PRE-REGISTRATION NOW CLOSED

Contact ina@cbf.ca for more information

www.cbf.ca | Email: ina@cbf.ca



Eat healthy, play smart

Tips for Tournament Travelers

By Jude Goodwin

So, you're headed to your next bridge tournament. You hit your hotel where you will be staying for the next ten days, and remember that to keep your expenses down, you didn't opt for the full kitchen room but instead have the mini fridge and coffee maker combo. And you're hungry. What do you do for dinner and did you remember to pack snacks?

Eating healthy while traveling can be challenging, especially if you have other things on your mind, like that doubled game you made or the unlucky slam your partner played last night. Here are a few tips to help keep you sharp and healthy at your next regional.

AT THE RESTAURANT

Of course, bridge tournaments equal many restaurant meals. Try to go for the healthiest restaurant you can find (read: not fast food), or if your choices are limited choose the healthiest thing on the menu. Let's start with some quick restaurant tips:

1. Read the menu carefully

Many restaurants these days, due to popular demand, are adding healthy options to their menus, including

smaller serving sizes (ask if they have a half order), whole grains and more veggies. When reading the menu, look for words like grilled, steamed, and baked instead of pan-fried, crispy, scalloped or dipped (foods which would be high in the wrong kind of fats, sodium and calories). And note: the fancier the restaurant, the less food you'll get on your plate. But this is good for you!

Many restaurants now have the actual caloric intake on their menus and website (sometimes sodium and fat as well). This can be a useful tool to avoid calorie-

Eat healthy, play smart

Tips for Tournament Travelers

rich choices. And speaking of website, check the menu before going to the restaurant if possible. This way you can select your meal choice in advance, thus being able to use all your pre-meal time to discuss the hands from the last session.

2. Split the entree

One of my partners and I will often split an entree. You'll be surprised to find you're still full at the end of the meal.

3. Double the appetizers

Often appetizers are smaller, and have more fresh content such as seafood or vegetables. Ordering two appetizers instead of one big entrée will often be your best choice.

4. Order salad first

Studies have shown that eating a big vegetable-based salad will reduce the amount you need/want in an entree. It's bulky and filling.

5. Skip the dessert

Need we say more?

6. Know your fats

Counter to the 'low fat' fad of the 90s, fats are not bad for us, in fact they are essential to bodily functions, like storing and using energy, transporting vitamins in the blood, cell growth and development, maintaining healthy skin and proper functioning of the nerves and the brain.

However we want to be eating more of the unsaturated fats (from fish, vegetables and nuts), less of the saturated fats (meat and dairy products) and little to no artificial trans fats, "used extensively in frying, baked goods, cookies, icings, crackers, packaged snack foods, microwave popcorn, and some margarines." (WebMD)

So, choose full fat options! Avoid those 'non-fat' yogurts at the breakfast buffet – your body needs that stuff! But think of it as a topping for your fruit salad rather than

a whole bowl. Also skip the full serving of bacon and grab the eggs and whole grain toast instead. Top it up with a green salad.

7. Meatless Mondays

Getting bored with the same old? Mix it up with a vegetarian meal once per week with veggies and beans for protein. Can you say Mexican? Fill your boots with avocado guacamole (packed with unsaturated fats) but hey, avoid the deep fried tortilla chips!

8. Eat fish

When in doubt, choose the fish instead of the cow. Fish is full of Omega3s, the kind of fat our bodies need the most. A healthy diet includes a serving of fish a few times per week.

9. Avoid sugar (and brain fog)

It's hard to eat out and avoid additives and highly processed food like sugar, white flour and salt. According to [Livestrong.com](https://www.livestrong.com): "The key (to healthy eating) is to eat foods that are as close to their natural state as possible." Natural sugars in fruit are good for us in moderate amounts, especially when eaten with the fruit (so eat an orange rather than a glass of orange juice), but: "refined white flour and refined white sugar cause rapid blood sugar increases and add empty calories to processed foods." In other words, making you feel full but providing very little nutrients. A sure fire way to burn out fast.

Experiencing brain fog? Research out of the University of California, Los Angeles, suggests that sugar forms free radicals in the brain's membrane and compromises nerve cells' ability to communicate. This could have repercussions in how well we remember instructions, process ideas, and handle our moods, says Fernando Gómez-Pinilla, Ph.D., author of the UCLA study.

Eat healthy, play smart

Tips for Tournament Travelers

IN THE HOTEL ROOM

Even with that tiny fridge you can do a bit of shopping for your “post mortem snacks” at the end of a long day of play. Instead of stocking up on potato chips, baked goods, high calorie junk foods and processed foods, head towards the produce section of the local supermarket.

Snacking on veggies and fruit will keep you in good spirits and good health.

Try humus as dip instead of high calorie chip dips. Need something salty? Choose trail mix or baked tortilla chips and salsa. Avoid snack foods like crackers and cookies and stay away from soda.

Doctors recommend eating a healthy diet full of good fats from veggies, fish and nuts, low in sugar and in saturated fats from meats and dairy and high in vitamins and minerals from veggies, fruit and whole grains. Brain food lists also include oily fish, blueberries, tomatoes and nuts. If you keep this on your mind while

ordering food from the menu or stocking up on snacks for your room, you can be sure to be eating right – and smart!

Don't forget to move around and take a 30 minute walk each day of the tournament. Our next article in this series will discuss how to counteract the affects of sitting at the bridge table for long periods of time.

Jude Goodwin is a journalist and poet living on the west coast of BC. Find more of her articles on greatbridgelinks.com and judegoodwin.com



TEST YOUR PLAY

Tim Bourke, Canberra

THE IBPA FILES



Editor's note: Our partnership with the IBPA allows us to share interesting hands from around the world. This issue is no exception. However, I decided that the hands were conducive to a Test Your Play Quiz. Good luck! The actual article, with the answers, can be found later in this issue of Bridge Canada.

1. Dealer West. EW Vul. IMPs.

♠ A J 9 5
♥ 8 3 2
♦ A Q
♣ Q 10 5 4

♠ K Q 10 8 7
♥ 9 5
♦ K J
♣ A 8 7 2

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

West starts off with the ace, king and queen of hearts. Trumps are 2-2. Plan the play.

2. IMPs; Both Vul. Contract 4♥.

♠ 8 6 2
♥ 9 2
♦ A Q J 5
♣ 8 7 4 2

♠ 9 3
♥ A K Q 10 5
♦ K 8 4
♣ A K 5

West began with the ace, king and queen of spades. Plan the play.

3. IMPs; NS Vul.

♠ 10 9 2
♥ A K 9 5 3
♦ 6 3
♣ A J 2

♠ A Q J 8 3
♥ 2
♦ A K Q
♣ K 7 5 3

West led the ♦J against your 6♠ contract. What is the best line?

4. Dealer North, IMPs. East overcalls North's 1♣ opener with 1♥. N-S then bids, interference-free, to 7♠. West leads the ♠7, East follows.

♠ Q J 9 2
♥ Q 7
♦ A 5
♣ K 9 8 7 3

♠ A K 10 8 6 4
♥ A 8 5
♦ K Q 9 6
♣ —

What do you play at trick two. What is your plan?

ANSWERS P.24

Meet ... JEFF SMITH

INTERNATIONAL AND CANADIAN BRIDGE

Editor's Note: Jeff Smith, has won three Canadian team championships (2007, 2013, and 2015) with three different partners (David Sabourin, Paul Thurston and Danny Miles) and picked up two second place finishes (John Zaluski and Paul Thurston). He does not play much bridge outside of Canadian National Team Championships and the odd North American Bridge Championships so you probably won't see him at the local Ottawa club very often.

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

I began playing in early 1996 when my grandmother asked me to be a 4th in the game at her retirement residence. At the time, I worked full time at McDonalds and went to school at Algonquin College, but every Friday after payday, there was a card game set up where me and three friends played Auction 45, Hearts and occasionally Euchre...at the end of the night, one of us usually walked out with all four paychecks.

One of the ladies in the game, Sal Cocksedge had played duplicate a couple of times and knew about things like Blackwood and Stayman. This got me thinking there was more to this game than met the eye. Sal told me there was an excellent book out there written by a Canadian called the Joy of Bridge (Audrey Grant) and if I wanted to learn more about the game, I should get it.

My grandmother immediately bought it for me. I read it cover to cover and then took it to the card game the next Friday night and taught everyone else how to play. Whoever was the dummy would read the book. We improved pretty quickly and attended our first

duplicate a few weeks later.

What was your first duplicate like?

My first duplicate I played with my best friend Chris Pedersen. We knew literally nothing about duplicate bridge, all bridge for that matter. But we knew how to declare and a little bit about defending. It was a Saturday and a STAC, so we sat down pretty excitedly to play our first ever duplicate. On the first board out of the rack, we were on our way to a very foolish 4♥ when our opponents saved in 5♣. I doubled because I had points and assumed partner had points. The idea of quick tricks and ruffing out high card points was a few months away. The 2NT bidders hand came down and was 5-4 in the minors and we took declarer for +1700.

Chris and I looked at each other and thought two things:

1) Wow! Based on this plus score that was higher than we had ever seen, we were pretty sure we had won the entire event (we had no idea what matchpoints were)!

2) That this 2NT convention was amazing, we were immediately adding it to our convention card, with the



caveat that you could be 4-4 in the minors if you felt like it. At table 2, our opponents were playing Flannery so we added that was well, but could be 4-4 in the majors of course and then at table 6, we removed Flannery to add Mini-Roman.

We ended the day at a touch over 65% and just about quit bridge because it was too easy. We came back for the Sunday game the next day to give one last beating to these noobs...only to play 41%...we were hooked!

What do you think the biggest differences are between then and now?

The greats of the game are missing. In Ottawa, when I started playing, we had played like Jim Reigle, Doug Heron, Dave Curry and Pierre Treuil to guide and shape the young up and coming players. When they spoke, young players listened. After most games, there was a meeting at a local bar where you went over every hand card by card and the lessons you learned from those after session. Get togethers were more valuable than the experience of playing was.

What is your most memorable bridge moment?

One sticks out for sure, it was making the top eight of the 2013 Bermuda Bowl. Canada was not a favourite to make the quarterfinals, but our team KNEW if we could hang around till the last day that we had what it took to make it. Sure enough, after the last match, where my partner and I thought we had had a pretty good set, we came running out of the vu-graph room...Dan Korbel asked Paul Thurston and I what our result was on the final board, when we told him +420, he said "we qualified"...I was so excited I picked up our NPC, put her in a bear hug and very nearly killed her.

The goal is to someday replace that memory with a better one...but it's going to be tough.

What about life away from the bridge table?

I live with my partner Samantha (I am trying to teach her bridge, but it's been tough sledding, almost entirely

because of the teacher!) in downtown Ottawa. We do a fair bit of travelling with Newfoundland, Vancouver, Italy last year alone and have plans to hit South America in 2017.

What do you like to do besides bridge?

I don't have any real hobbies. I am a diehard NFL fan, specifically the Washington Redskins, and have been for 35 years. I have a career I am passionate about working in Regulatory Law with TELUS and it meets my only real working environment criteria of, if you are the smartest guy in room, you are in the wrong room. It's funny how that applies to bridge as well...I am always happiest when on bridge teams where I am the weakest player on it, nothing improves your game as much as having teammates you are confident in. It allows you to play your best bridge.

What is your favourite bridge book?

At the Table, by Bob Hamman. If you want to learn how the high level game is played, it's all right there.

Cats or dogs?

Either is fine so long as they are cooked medium rare.

What advice would you give to a new player who wants to improve?

Don't do what I did...don't learn conventions, don't learn complicated leading systems, just learn basic 2/1 with no gadgets and PLAY PLAY PLAY...when I started I played 5+ times a week...and would play twice on Sunday.

An old mentor of mine (Wayne Perrin) once told me, you should always have three partners: one who is better than you to teach you, one who is the same level as you to play with at tournaments and one who is not as strong as you are, so you can pay back to the game for the mentoring you are receiving.

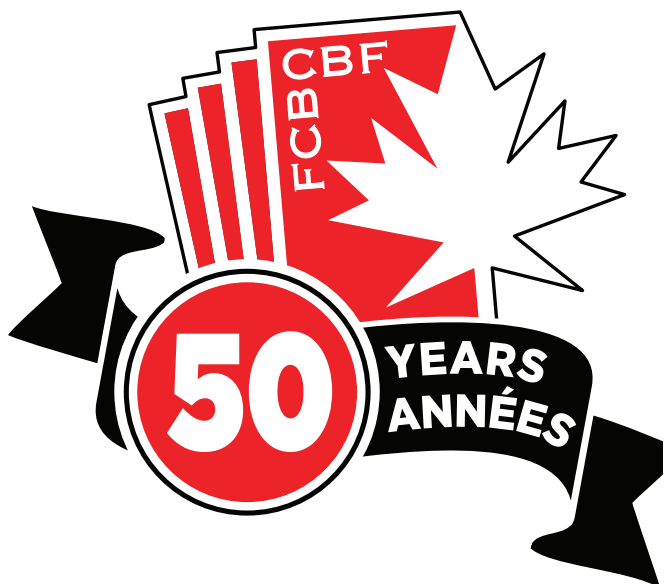
Finally, pressure at the bridge table should be non-

MEET JEFF SMITH

existent. Being unable to pay your rent, having an ill family member or losing your job...those situations should create pressure. Bridge is just a card game and even at the highest level, you are playing for the love of the game...so enjoy it, so make the best play you can, follow your gut even if its anti-percentage, if it works, great, if it fails, it's not a big deal. There will be another tournament.

Can you share any amusing stories with us?

About 3 weeks after I started playing, my partner and I (the same one from above who learned a new convention at every table) were getting crushed on opening lead at every table where we sat down. We could declare, we could bid, but for the life of us we could not lead. Mostly because we refused to listen the auction. So we developed a leading system we called "Spartan Leads", it worked like this...you led the second highest card, in the suit below you longest and strongest suit. Often time, you would hit partner's best suit, sometimes, he would pop an ace in the suit led and he would know exactly which suit to return. We stopped playing it after a month or two once we began to understand the game a bit better. In practice, it was totally random, but at least at match points (we had not yet had the pleasure to play IMPs) it had its moments. The biggest hardship of playing the system of course had to explain to our completely confused opponents how Spartan leads worked.



Test Your Deceptive Play Solution

BE LIKE BILLY EISENBERG

Question on page 3:

You are missing 19 HCPs. West did not lead a diamond honour (top of a sequence) so you know that East has a at least one. Therefore the ♥A is offside. The best bet is to lead the ♣J at trick two, and pitch a heart if it is not covered!

The full deal:

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

This is exactly what the great Billy Eisenberg did at a NYC high stakes rubber bridge match. He then cashed the ♣AK, throwing two more hearts, gave up a heart and eventually ruffed one in dummy – making four!

If the ♣J is covered, ruff in dummy and play a diamond. If East never gets in, or fails to shift to a heart you can set up your long diamond for a heart discard.



COUNTING *Your Winners*

By Michael Abbey

This month's discussion is part two of what we covered in the February issue. This time, we are looking at a notrump contract and counting your winners. Besides this change, counting winning or losing tricks differs between notrump and suit contract in the following way as well:

1 In a notrump contract, the maximum number of winners equals the suit length of the longer hand between the declarer and the dummy.

2 In a suit contract, the maximum number of losers equals the suit length of the shorter hand between the declarer and the dummy.

For the purposes of the following discussions, we define a winner as a card that can take a trick without having to give up the lead. For example, when holding the ♠K, ♠Q, and ♠J, without the ♠A, these three high cards are not winners. Who's to say you will ever get a chance cash them once you lose the lead?

by Michael Abbey
THE NEW PLAYER
Spot

NEW PLAYER SPOT: Michael Abbey ... continued

The contract is set, the opening lead has been made, and it's your job as the declarer to make a 3NT contract sitting West. You immediately recollect that you need to take nine tricks.

♠ 10 4
♥ J 10 8
♦ K Q 5 2
♣ 10 7 6 3

♠ A K 6 3
♥ A Q 9
♦ A J 10 9
♣ Q J

Let's have a look at your holding and walk through counting winners in this contract (hand at right):

Suit	Winners	Missing
Spades	2	♠ Q J
Hearts	1	♥ K
Diamonds	4	-
Clubs	0	♣ A K

We have a total of seven winners in this 3NT contract, meaning we need to promote some of our cards by driving out the opponent's high cards. During the play of the hand, the ♥K is played, the ♥J is promoted to a winner. If the opponent's cash the ♣A K, then the ♣10 is promoted to a winner. Let's look at a few examples in notrump then present a handful of quiz questions. We are counting winners in each suit as presented next:

1	Declarer				Dummy			
♠	A	Q	2		K	J	9	7

The maximum number of winners is four, the suit length of the dummy's hand in spades. Declarer has four winners in spades, holding the top four cards.

2	Declarer				Dummy			
♦	10	7	5	3		A	4	

The maximum number of winners is four, the suit length of the declarer's hand in diamonds. Declarer has one winner in diamonds, as he missing the ♦KQJ.

3	Declarer				Dummy			
♣	A	Q	10		K	J		

The maximum number of winners is three, the suit length of the declarer's hand in clubs. Declarer has three winners in clubs, holding the top three cards.

4	Declarer				Dummy			
♥	J	8	7		A	Q	10	9

The maximum number of winners is six, the suit length of the dummy's hand in hearts. Declarer has one winner in hearts, missing the ♥K. Depending on how the opponents' hearts split, this length could be golden. It's all about developing tricks in one's longest suit(s).

5	Declarer				Dummy			
♥	K	J			A	Q		

The maximum number of winners is two, the suit length of the both hands in hearts. Declarer has two winners in hearts, holding the four top honours. In this case, it's such a shame to waste these high cards due to the way the suit splits across the two players.

NEW PLAYER SPOT: Michael Abbey ... continued

Contract: 2NT	Contract: 5NT	Contract: 1NT	Contract: 3NT	Contract: 3NT	Contract: 2NT
1. Dummy	2. Dummy	3. Dummy	4. Dummy	5. Dummy	6. Dummy
♠ 6 3	♠ A 8 7 5	♠ J 10 4	♠ K J 10 5 2	♠ J 10 4	♠ K J 10 5 2
♥ K 6 3	♥ J 10 5 2	♥ A J 8 4 3	♥ 5 4	♥ A J 8 4 3	♥ 5 4
♦ 8 7 2 4	♦ K 10 3 2	♦ Q 9 6 3	♦ 10 8 4	♦ Q 9 6 3	♦ 10 8 4
♣ K Q J 10 6	♣ 10	♣ 5	♣ A 6 3	♣ 5	♣ A 6 3
Declarer	Declarer	Declarer	Declarer	Declarer	Declarer
♠ 10 9 7 2	♠ K Q 4	♠ Q 8	♠ A 10 2	♠ 4	♠ A Q 9 4
♥ A J 10 2	♥ A K Q 9 8 6 4	♥ K 10 5 2	♥ K Q 6 4	♥ A Q J 6	♥ K J 7
♦ K 6 5	♦ 4	♦ A J 10 4	♦ 9 4 3	♦ A 6 5	♦ A 9 7 6 3
♣ A 3	♣ A 7	♣ A Q 3	♣ K 7 4	♣ K J 8 4 2	♣ 9

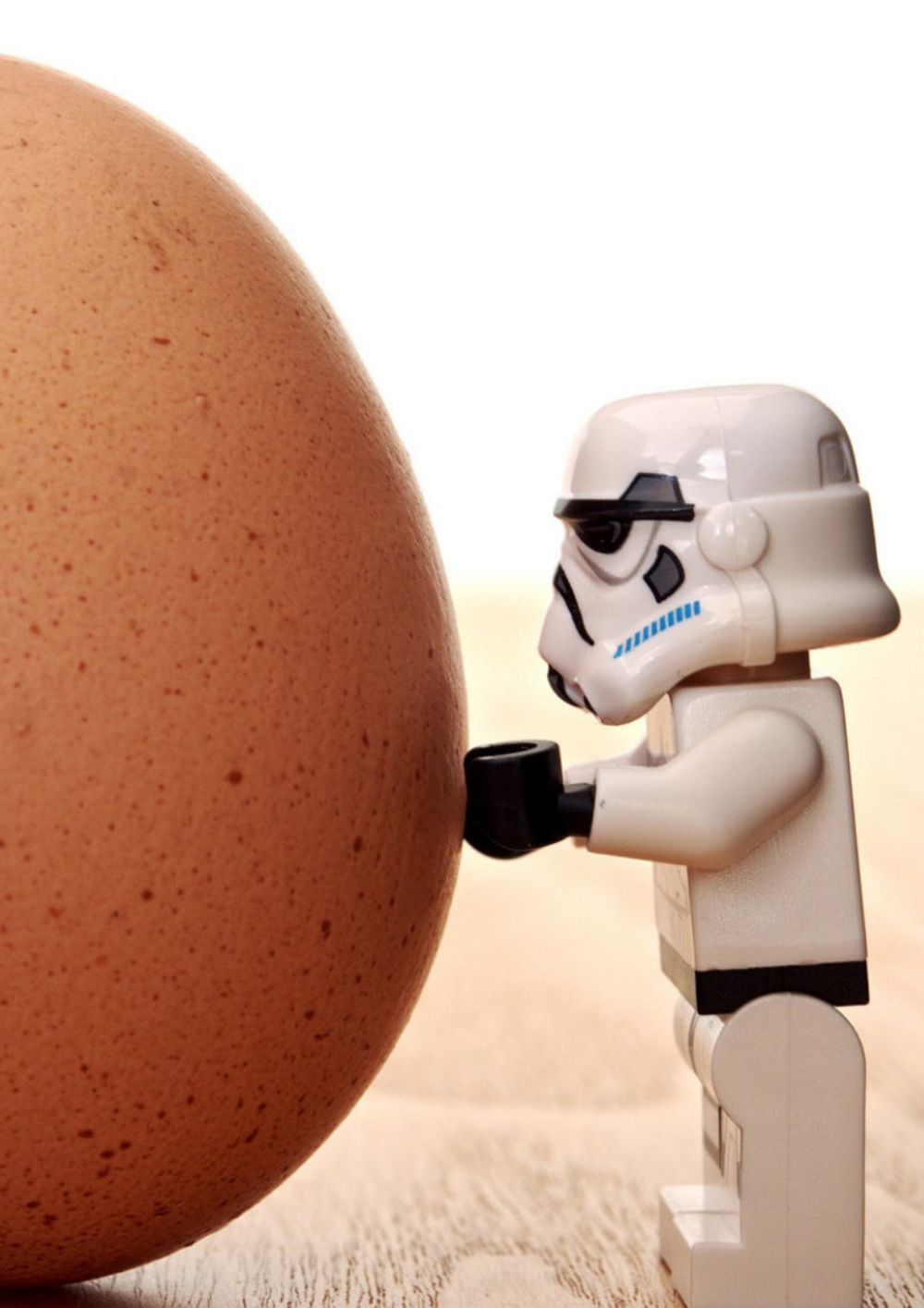
Let's see how you did.

Hand	♠	♥	♦	♣	Winners
1	0	2	0	5	4
2	3	7	0	1	5
3	0	2	1	1	3
4	1	3	0	2	2
5	0	4	3	0	5
6	5	0	1	1	3

This wraps up a series on counting losers and winners as you make your plan as the declarer. Remember ... this material and that presented in the February issue are for the new players. As you gain more experience at the table, the nuances and additional theory involved will propel your playing further as you discover and master additional theory. Proceed at a reasonable pace and don't rush the planning phase after the dummy goes down. The time between the facing of the opening lead and your calling for a card from the dummy is yours as the declarer. This is when you make your initial plan, formulating your trick taking capabilities out-of-the-gate as well as through traditional techniques such as promotion and more.

Visit Michael's website
for beginners at
beginnerbridge.net





THE INTERMEDIATE SERIES

DEFENCE

3. DEFENSIVE SIGNALS

Quiz #1

Ok, we quickly covered theory on the basic three signals used on defence. Here is a quiz to help reinforce this learning and rate your understanding of this subject. Before the quiz there are three points that are worth mentioning and remembering –

1 This series is meant as an introduction to signaling, not an end all, be all, on this subject.

2 There are some conflicting views on this subject. The main point is to understand the theory, and then have your partnerships decide on its agreements.

3 The other application of this knowledge is the insight you can glean from the defenders when you are declaring.

by Neil Kimelman
THE INTERMEDIATE
Spot

Signaling Quiz*

*Assume standard signaling, 4th best and A from AKx (x...)

1. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠7 4 3 ♥Q J 9 8 5 4 2 ♦A 4 3 ♣ void

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	3♥
Dbl	4♥	4♠	All Pass

What do you lead?

2. Both vul, IMPs. You hold:

♠9 5 2 ♥A ♦Q 4 3 2 ♣J 9 8 5 3.

The bidding goes:

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

Partner leads the ♦A. Dummy has:

♠K 10 7 3 ♥Q 10 3 ♦K J 9 7 5 ♣2.

What do you play?

3. Both vul, IMPs. You hold:

♠9 5 2 ♥J 8 3 ♦A Q 2 ♣9 8 5 3.

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

Partner leads the ♥A. Dummy has:

♠K 10 7 3 ♥Q 10 3 ♦K J 9 7 5 ♣2.

What do you play?

4. Both vul, Matchpoints, you hold as South:

♠7 5 3 ♥Q 10 7 5 ♦J 8 7 ♣8 5 4.

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Partner leads the ♠6. Dummy holds:

♠J 10 2 ♥K 7 6 ♦4 3 ♣K Q J 9 7.

Declarer plays the ten. And you?

5. Both vul, you hold as South:

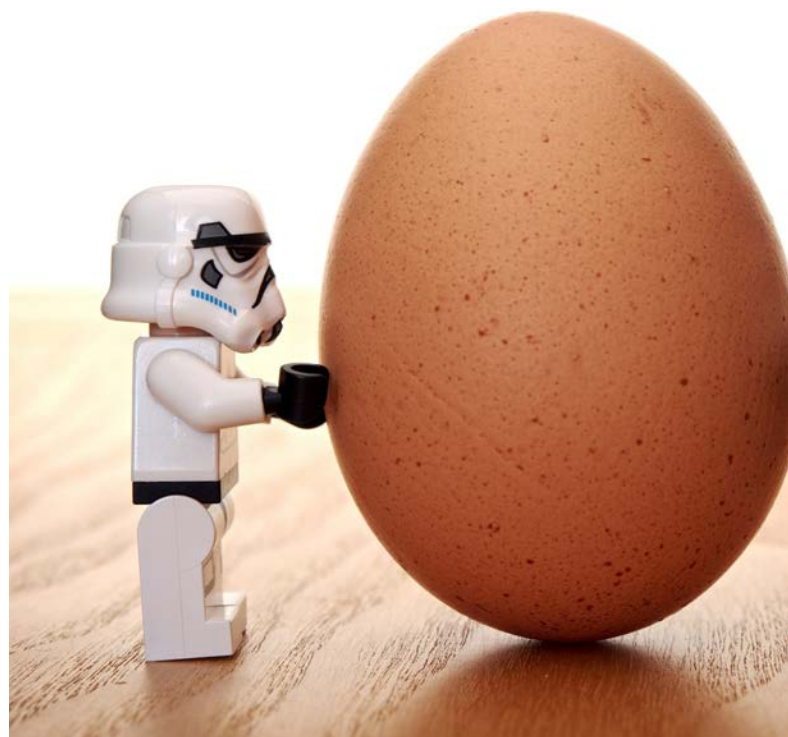
♠J 5 3 ♥Q 10 7 5 ♦J 8 7 ♣Q 5 4

West	North	East	South
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Partner leads the ♠2. Dummy holds:

♠Q 10 ♥9 7 6 ♦4 3 ♣A K J 9 8.

Declarer plays the ten. Declarer wins your Jack with the ♠K. He then leads the ♣10, partner contributes the ♣3, and dummy plays the ♣8. Plan your defence?



Signaling Quiz Solution

ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON PAGE 17

1. WHAT DO YOU LEAD?

LEAD THE ♥2. Your strategy is to get a club ruff (or two), if possible. Here is a case where partner knows the two cannot be normal fourth best. It must be suit preference.

The full deal:

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

2. WHAT DO YOU PLAY?

ANSWER: Partner is leading from shortness, likely a singleton. If so, you have great defensive prospects. Partner will lead a heart to your ace, you will give him a diamond ruff, heart ruff, diamond ruff. So this is (best) treated as a suit preference situation. So we want a heart shift, so should play a high diamond. The four is ok, but the ♦Q is better! The full deal:

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

What if he has a doubleton diamond? First your ♦Q is useless anyways, as declarer will simply take a ruffing finesse after he pulls trumps. But more importantly, you probably aren't beating the contract if that is the case!

3. WHAT DO YOU PLAY?

ANSWER: ♥3. This is a straight attitude signal. Play the ♥3, and hope partner shifts to a diamond. If you thought the ♥J was correct, suit preference, think again. Here partner does not know how many hearts you have, so suit preference does not apply.

Interestingly, this is not true if playing upside down! If that was your partnership agreement the ♥J is the right play. Partner knows that either your ♥J is singleton, or from three plus, and likely a suit preference or you would have played a lower heart. This is a major reason upside down signals are commonly used by most experts.

4. WHAT DO YOU PLAY?

ANSWER: ♠3. When you cannot beat dummy's played card, the signal is count. You have three spades, so show that by playing small. This is critical as the full deal is:

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

Partner can now confidently play the ♠A, knowing the King will fall.

Signaling Quiz Solution

ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON PAGE 17

5. WHAT DO YOU PLAY?

ANSWER: A good defender starts analyzing the dummy as soon as possible, so as to plan the defence. If you were thinking only about the promising spade lead*, you weren't thinking enough! Dummy has average high cards for his raise, but a good source of tricks. Once he knocks out your Queen, he has four club tricks. Your goal is to stop this from happening. Assuming partner has at least one high spade honour, dummy has no entry besides the club suit. You hope partner has three clubs, so if you smoothly duck the first club lead, declarer will repeat the 'proven' finesse, and go down. So you are hoping partner plays the ♣2 on the first round of clubs. But he plays the ♣3. Does it matter? No. The only holding where he holds two clubs is ♣32 doubleton.

In order to smoothly duck, you need to think of this by the time declarer plays the ♠10 from dummy. While covering, you should be committing yourself to the duck.

The full deal:

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

Editor's Note: This comment belongs in the Expert section, but is worth noting:

The only spade holding by partner where you can cash three spade winners is ♠A 9 8 2. However an expert declarer can foil this combination (assuming North started with exactly four spades) by playing the ♠Q at trick one.

Next Column: Signaling Quiz 2

CBF Canada-Wide STAC TOP 20 MP WINNERS

Total attendance: 2938 tables

- 1 39.55 Jeremy Smee, St Catharines ON
- 2 36.11 Greg Coles, Victoria Harbor ON
- 3 29.46 William Koski, King City ON
- 4 29.05 Brian Macartney, Vineland ON
- 5 28.52 George Knight, Victoria Harbor ON
- 6 24.76 Virginia Giza, Timberlea NS
- 7 24.52 John Coone, Vernon BC

- 8 23.75 Francois Boucher, Laval QC
- 9 23.24 Marcia Shaw, Halifax NS
- 10 22.42 Jim Wilson, Woodlawn ON
- 11 22.29 Rob Avery, Barrie ON
- 12 22.16 Michel Beauchamp, Laval QC
- 13 21.03 Bryan Monkhouse, Basseterre
- 14 20.63 Sharon Boyd, Cambridge ON
- 15 20.16 Ted Boyd, Cambridge ON
- 16 19.83 William Hanes, Ottawa ON
- 17 19.60 Serge Saint-Laurent, Montreal QC
- 18 19.40 Glora Wilson, Woodlawn ON
- 19 18.91 Harvey Clark, Gatineau QC
- 20 18.71 Jacques Giroux, Sainte-Julie QC



by Paul Thurston
THE EXPERT
Spot

What. WENT. WRONG?

by Paul Thurston

THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

Beauty may well be in the eyes of the beholder but the holders of some hands see more beauty than might objectively be there.

Opener

♠ K Q
♥ 8 6
♦ K 7 3
♣ A K 10 9 8 4

Responder

♠ 2
♥ K Q 10 5 4 2
♦ A J 10 6
♣ Q 6

1♣
3♣
3 NT
4♦
4♠
5♥

1♥
3♦
4♣
4♥
4 NT
Pass

Sadly for the bidders, their adventure at the five level turned out badly when Responder's LHO had been dealt the ♥ A J 7 for the loss of two trump tricks and the ♠ A. And when 3NT, 4♥ and 5♣ were all unassailable, it really was a self-inflicted wound of the very painful sort to wind up at the five level so **WHAT WENT WRONG?**

As with most unsuccessful auctions, the groundwork for failure was laid early (and, some might say, often!) with opener's assessment of his hand as worth a jump rebid of 3♣. Yes, his suit was decent for that action but he had fully one-third of his high-card points tied up in a short-suit doubleton and his hand had no redeeming distributional feature. When a hand has two (or more) flaws for a particular course of bidding, it might be better to, as the GPS mavens say, "Recalculate". And despite what some bidders would have you believe, there's

absolutely nothing wrong with having maximum values for any action and two clubs by opener would have added a stable foundation to the bidding.

But, of course, the debacle didn't end with 3♣: there was more overbidding to come. But not really by Responder who, energized a bit by his partial fit for opener's clubs, showed diamonds and then his club fit before suggesting play in four hearts (or did opener think his side was in cue-bidding mode with clubs agreed as trumps?). Whatever route opener thought his partnership was on, his 4♠ was a decided overbid – if he thought responder wanted to play in hearts, pass was surely in order. And if he thought clubs was the agreed strain, signing off in game would have been a far better assessment. In a nutshell, Opener committed a fundamental error in bidding: he overbid early (3♣) and then overbid the same marginal values a second time (4♠).

As for the early groundwork, there's a lot to be said for the camp (I'm usually included) that would open the 2-2-3-6 fifteen-count with one notrump. That would get the hand's strength across in one round of bidding, reassure responder of at least a playable heart fit and allow for a below-game slam try and subsequent play at a safe (and plus-producing) level. How about this auction?

Opener	Responder
1NT	2♦
2♥	3♦
3NT	4♥
Pass	

Responder transfers to hearts and rebids diamonds to set up a game force. Opener denies real heart support (three notrump) and Responder shows his sixth card and some slam aspirations (by having reached game slowly) with four hearts. End! And if Responder is the type of partner who objects to opening one notrump

with a semi-balanced hand containing a six-card minor, plead failing eyesight and a club in with your spades.

WHO TO BELIEVE?

The tale of the next deal is actually quite humorous as West, a multiple World Champion, committed an extremely rare defensive gaffe to let South scamper home with an apparently doomed slam. Let's see **WHAT WENT WRONG?**

DEALER: South VULNERABLE: E-W

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1♣
Pass	1♦	1♥	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

Lead: ♥5

The Play: South won the low heart lead with the ace to take his best shot at making the contract by leading and passing the ♣Q for a finesse through the vulnerable overcaller.

No luck there as West produced the ♣K but, time out,

he paused for serious thought before exiting with a ♠ and, gasp, South claimed.

WHAT WENT WRONG?

When North cue-bid 2♥ to set up a force and South rebid 2♠, it put the thoughts of his holding five spades in at least two minds: North's and West's! Opening 1♣ with a minimum hand and 5-5 in the black suits was an agreed part of North-South's system (as West found out when he asked the relevant question!) so South's third call (instead of a more natural and accurate 3♦) was actually a system violation. So when West won his trump trick, he shifted to a spade to give his partner the ruff that South holding five spades would have indicated was there for the taking. As for the heart trick that "got away", on dummy's ♥A at trick one, East had played the King in the context of his partnership using "standard" signals so possession of the Queen and Jack, and likely, a positive signal.

For no heart tricks to be available East's overcall would have had to have been made on a seven-card suit but at adverse vulnerability, that might have been possible. Note that, from North's perspective, if South really had the 5-5 black-suit shape he was seemingly advertising to go with three keycards for clubs (four clubs had been intended as setting trumps), then six clubs had to be cold – barring a spade ruff! At least West and North concurred!

Do you think South "earned" his double-digit IMP swing by the repetitive spade calls?

THIEF VS SCIENTIST?

DLR: South VUL: E-W

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	5♣	all pass	3♣

Opening Lead: ♣J

In the bidding, South's opening was artificial and forcing and North's response was artificial and (usually) negative in the 0-7 HCP range. In that context, South's jump rebid was highly encouraging but not totally forcing. Holding some real trump support and an ace, North was encouraged enough to punt game and it was on to the play. West hit on what he hoped was a safe trump lead. South won in hand to cash a second high club before leading his smallest trump to dummy for a heart play towards the closed hand. South's plan: maybe the ace of hearts would be on his right and if East was a total subscriber to Second Hand Low, declarer hoped to steal a trick (and the contract as well!) with the lone ♥K.

Well, yes and no! The Heart ace was indeed onside but East smelled enough of a rat to grab his ace and continue the suit when the King appeared. So when diamonds proved intractable and a trick had to be lost there and one more in spades, a contract that North had high hopes for went south. Here the question is



What (if anything) Went Wrong? Or was 5♣ simply too much of a stretch? For sure, five clubs wasn't a great spot as it effectively depended on declarer being able to avoid losing a diamond trick. A doubleton ♦QJ was one possibility as was either honour singleton with West to make the other honour finessable after one honour was cashed in the South hand.

But a scientific analyst will tell you that declarer's best chance to avoid a diamond loser is to take two finesses through the East hand, in effect playing the defender on declarer's right to have started with both the Queen and Jack.



Unfortunately for the larceny-minded actual declarer, taking the best play in diamonds needs two dummy entries. And those entries were available in the form of one club spot and the spade ace but only if one of them hadn't been squandered in an ill-fated attempt to take a heart trick. Of course, the card gods had arranged to reward a scientist and punish a thief by dealing East those crucial diamond honours!

Author Paul Thurston, of Wellington ON, is a 2X Gold Medalist in the CBF Canadian National Team Championships, has represented Canada in World Championships, sits at 103 on the Canadian Top MP Holders with 7,808 MPs and is the author of Twenty-Five Steps to Learning 2/1. Paul writes a regular column in Bridge Canada titled What Went Wrong.



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TEST YOUR PLAY

Tim Bourke, Canberra

ANSWERS FROM PAGE 09



1. Dealer West. EW Vul. IMPs.

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

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

The auction was the same at both tables in a team game. Each West began with the king, ace and queen of hearts. Both declarers ruffed the third heart, then cashed the ace and king of trumps. Thereafter their paths diverged.

This first declarer correctly placed the king of clubs with West, so he played the ace and another club. After West followed with the three and nine of clubs, this declarer played dummy's queen because this would make the contract whenever clubs were 3-2. Alas, East threw a diamond and so West made two club tricks to defeat the contract.

At the other table, the declarer found the 100% line to make his contract as long as West, as expected, held the king of clubs. After drawing trumps, declarer led a low club from hand. When West followed with the three, he played dummy's queen of clubs. He continued by cashing the ace of diamonds and returning to hand with the king of diamonds to lead a second low club. West played his jack of clubs but was now endplayed, forced either to concede a ruff-and-discard or to lead away from his king of clubs. No matter which option West chose, declarer would have made ten tricks.

2. IMPs; Both Vul. Contract 4♥

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♥
1♠	Double	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West began with the ace, king and queen of spades. Declarer counted ten tricks: four in trumps, four in diamonds and two clubs. He saw that the main danger was West having two diamonds and four hearts to the jack. If that were the case, and declarer played three top trumps, West would ruff the third diamond and the contract would go down, declarer being left with a club loser and no way to get rid of it.

Declarer's initial idea to cater for that possibility was to lead the ten of trumps. After a moment's further thought he decided to keep the prospect of an overtrick alive by crossing to the dummy with a diamond to the jack and then leading the two of trumps to his ten. If the ten had held he would have made an overtrick as long as the trumps were divided no worse than 4-2. On this layout, however, West took the ten of hearts with the jack and played a hopeful fourth round of spades. Declarer ruffed this on table with the nine of trumps, discarding the five of clubs from hand. After crossing back to hand with a club to his ace, declarer drew the outstanding trumps and claimed ten tricks.

TEST YOUR PLAY

Tim Bourke, Canberra

ANSWERS FROM PAGE 09

3. IMPs; NS Vul. Contract: 6♠.

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

West led the jack of diamonds. Declarer took this with the ace and crossed to dummy with a heart to the ace, then ran the ten of trumps. After it held, he continued with the two of trumps from dummy, East following suit with the six of trumps. Declarer was not tempted to finesse for a second time in trumps, for that would rely on the king of trumps being on his right, still only a 50% chance. Instead he rose with the ace of trumps because he saw that he could guarantee the contract if the trumps were 3-2 (a 68% chance) and that he would have quite promising residual chances if East did have four trumps to the king.

After West followed for a second time in trumps, declarer cashed the king-queen of diamonds and discarded the two of clubs from dummy. Next, he crossed to dummy with a club to the ace then discarded a club on dummy's the king of hearts. All that remained was to cross to his king of clubs and ruff his remaining club with dummy's nine of trumps. All he lost was one trick to the king of spades.

Note that a second trump finesse would have seen the contract fail as West would have won the trick with the king of trumps and returned his last trump. Declarer would then have been reduced to relying on the failing club finesse.



THE IBPA FILES

4. Dealer North. West overcalls North's 1♣ opener with 1♥. N-S then bid interference-free to 7♠. West leads the ♠7.

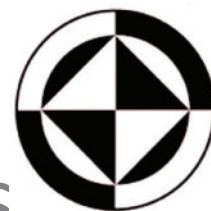
♠ Q J 9 2	♠ 5 3
♥ Q 7	♥ K J 10 9 3
♦ A 5	♦ 8 2
♣ K 9 8 7 3	♣ A Q 6 2
♠ 7	♠ A K 10 8 6 4
♥ 6 4 2	♥ A 8 5
♦ J 10 7 4 3	♦ K Q 9 6
♣ J 10 5 4	♣ —

West led the seven of trumps and, after dummy appeared, declarer could count ten top tricks. Declarer saw that his plan would likely depend on whether trumps were 2-1 or 3-0. So he played the queen of trumps from dummy and was pleased to see that East followed. This made trying to establish a trick in clubs far more attractive than trying to ruff three red cards in dummy.

As he had only four more entries to establish and enjoy a club winner when the suit was 4-4, declarer ruffed a club at trick two. A low trump to dummy's jack provided a second entry to ruff another club. A diamond to the ace saw a third club ruffed. Next he cashed the king and queen of diamonds and discarded a heart from dummy. He was pleased to see that East had started with two trumps and two diamonds, as this meant that the ruffing plan would have failed, and that East's likely original shape was 2=5=2=4.

Declarer ruffed his remaining diamond, then ruffed a fourth club, felling the remaining clubs. All that remained for him was to cash the ace of hearts and ruff a heart in dummy. Dummy's king of clubs was his thirteenth trick. He made six trumps, two ruffs in dummy, a heart, three diamonds and a club.

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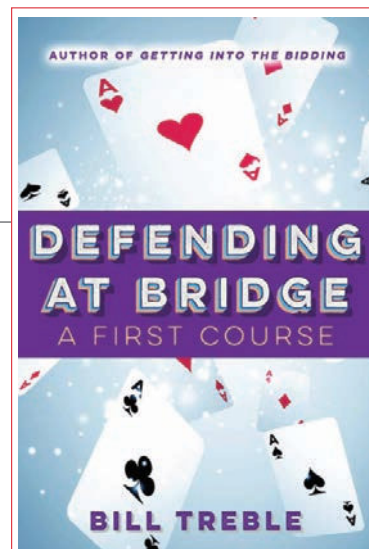
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EVENTS & DEADLINES

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For more information see our website www.cbf.ca

APRIL

All month, Charity Club Championship Games

Helen Shields Rookie-Master Game
17 April

ACBL-Wide Charity Game
27 April, Morning

Canadian Bridge Championships
29 April - 07 May

MAY

Better Bridge Workshop, St. John's Nfld
12-13 May

JUNE

Worldwide Bridge Contest
02 June, Evening 03 June, Afternoon

Olympiad Fund Game, Canada-Wide
14 June, Afternoon

Longest Day of Bridge Alzheimer Charity Event
21 June

JULY

ACBL Wide International Fund Game
11 July, morning

NABC Toronto, 20-30 July

AUGUST

World Team Championship
12-26 August Lyon, France

World Youth Championship
15-24 August Lyon, France

SEPTEMBER

COPC and CNTC
club games begin
September through
December



Very Important Dates !

- 2017 Canadian Bridge Championships, Winnipeg | 29 April - 7 May
- 2017 Toronto NABC | 20-30 July
- 2017 World Team Championships | 12-26 August | France
- 2017 World Youth Championships | 15-24 August | France

