

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE CBF | JUNE 2016

bridge *Canada*

**HAPPY CANADA DAY
AND HAPPY 45TH BIRTHDAY BRIDGE CANADA!**

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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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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REFLECTIONS OF THE EDITOR

by Neil Kimelman

2016 Canadian Bridge Championships (CBCs) and Regional, May 21-29

By the time you get this the Championships will be done. Full coverage of all events will start in the August issue.

CBF Website

Finalment, le Website du CBF est maintenant disponible en Francaise!

Membership Has its Privileges

By the time you read this, the CBF will have unveiled the perks we have negotiated on behalf of our members. Stay tuned!

Cheating at Bridge

As reported in the April IBPA Editorial, The Italian Bridge Federation has banned Fantunes and Nunes for three years, and from playing together for life. The Editorial goes on to question whether conforming to Olympic guidelines is too light.

Three years for a sprinter or swimmer can be effectively career-ending. In bridge, where players can effectively compete at world levels for 50 years or more, it is a question as to whether this type of penalty for cheating is too lenient.

Neil Kimelman

Bridge Canada Managing Editor
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TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY

IMPs

Contract: 4 ♥

Lead: ♣5

♠ K 8 7 6
♥ 10 9 6 2
♦ 10 9 2
♣ A Q

♠ A Q 2
♥ K Q J 8 7
♦ 8 7 5 3
♣ 2

Plan the play.

Answer on page 25



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Schools and Bridge in Nova Scotia



By Yves Chartrand

I am writing this in response to an earlier article where Nick L'Écuyer described his efforts to introduce bridge to schools. While it was not easy I did manage to get in with some schools and it is well worth it.

HOW I GOT THERE

I teach bridge to elementary students in South West Nova Scotia. It all started with my wife wanting to move back home to be closer to her mom. So in 2011 we packed up from Victoria BC and moved to Yarmouth NS. I had great retirement plans but those went out the door when my wife found a great job she could not turn down. Needing something to do, I went and checked out the local Bridge Club. We had played for a year or so in Victoria, but we stopped because I was not a nice player.

I have mended my ways and enjoy playing bridge with different partners, including my wife, when she can find the time out of her busy work schedule. One article in the Bridge Bulletin caught my eye a few years ago. It was about an 8 years old from Dartmouth NS who just spent 10 days in Las Vegas playing bridge, during his summer holiday. 'Wow that was great!' I thought. But what could

I do so that our kids here could get the chance to join in the fun? And would keep me busy.

I qualified as Director in 2013 and took the instructor clinic in Montreal that summer. In April 2015 I left the Maritimes on my Spyder, literally between two snow banks, to head to Gatlinburg for the regional and the special clinic on how to teach bridge to kids.

Back in Nova Scotia I tried to get in with several local schools and it took quite a while before one Principal in Pubnico decided to give it a try. It was really good, with lessons during 30 or 60 minutes, once a week, with up to 20 kids. It was a great start. The kids enjoyed it, and we all had fun and learned a lot.

THE PRESENT

This year I tried to get in with more schools and now I teach in Pubnico, Wedgeport and Belleville, all elementary schools, once a week. I even did a couple of weekly blitzes with the local Acadian High School, teaching one math class for grades 7 through 10. That was great but it seems that the elementary schools are more interested in regular lessons.

Schools and Bridge in Nova Scotia

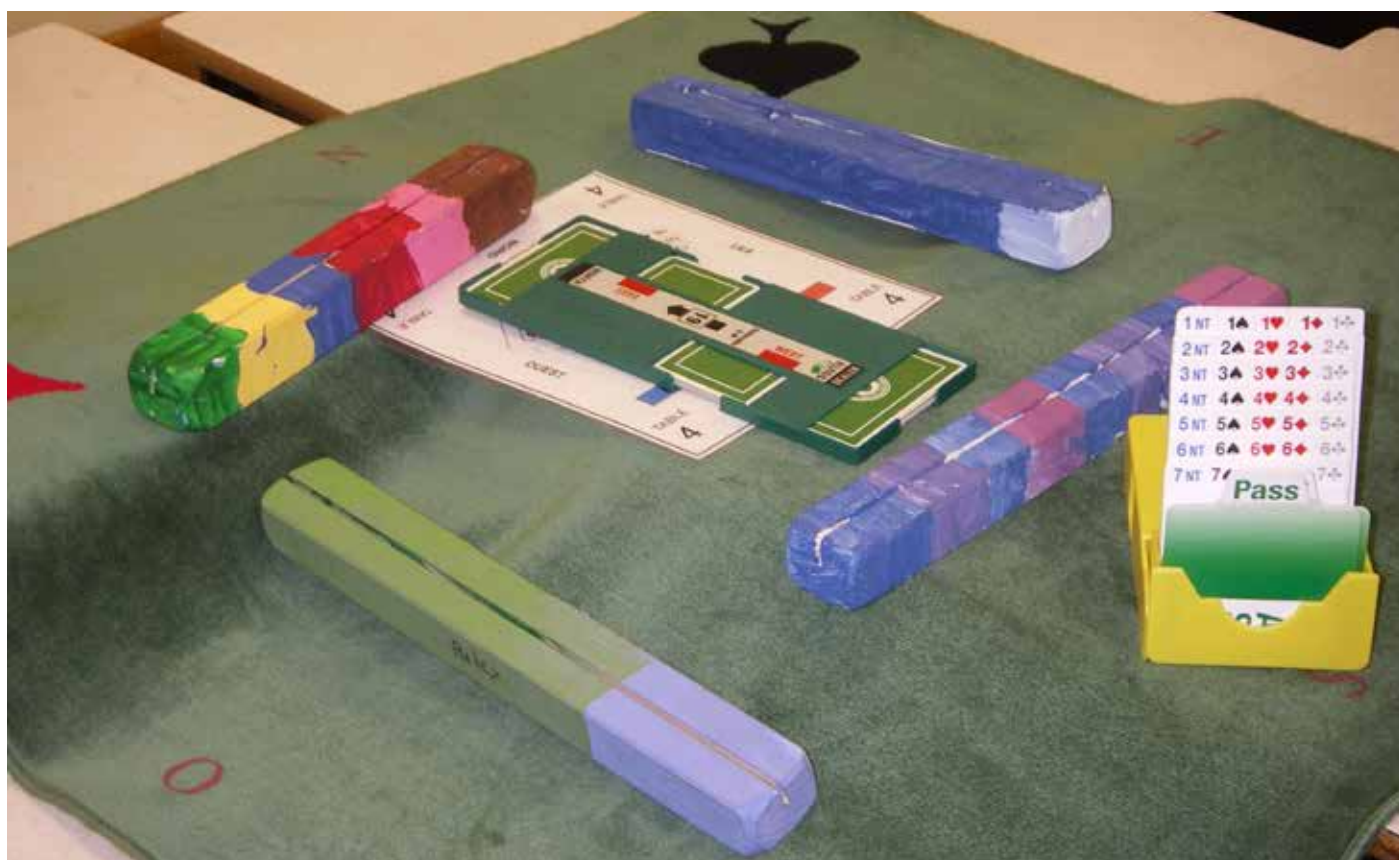
The three programs are all different. In Pubnico I get them for one hour after their lunch. They lose 30 minutes of class, but it works a lot better than the 30 minutes I used to get. In Wedgeport I teach them for one hour after school on Wednesdays, and in Belleville I have two classes once per week where I teach them bridge instead of their regular class. That program is supported by ACBL and it is great! We have a total of 46 students in two classes, and I am hoping it goes well.

The interesting aspect of my program is that only schools that are part of the Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial (CSAP) have shown any interest. The Tri-County school board for the English schools did not even reply to my inquiries. Maybe that will change if the program at CSAP is successful.

According to material we covered in Gatlinburg, Bridge can help students improve their grades by 10 to 35% in Math, Sciences, Reading, Languages and Social Sciences. With the program being offered totally free of charge, there really is no risk and so much to gain. I do not expect any of these kids to join the local bridge clubs any time soon, but who knows. If it helps them in school and they enjoy it, then why not?

South West Nova Scotia is home to a large group of Acadian villages. Pubnico is even the only village in Nova Scotia that was always Acadian. It was far away from other communities and very rocky so it was not appealing for settlement at the time of 'The Grand Dérangement'. Today Pubnico is a prosperous fishing village with a thriving Acadian flare.

The area around Yarmouth is called the French Shore and consist of 'Par-en-Bas' and 'Par-en-Haut' respectively for Up and Down the shore. It is a great place to visit, with fantastic beaches, wonderful seafood and especially delicious lobsters that each area prepares differently. And the bridge is good, with some very good players. And hopefully, soon to be, aspiring great young players!



2016 VANDERBILT

FINAL: LAVAZZA VS. CAYNE

by Maurizio Di Sacco, Pisa

The six players who were crowned World Champions in Bali (2013 Bermuda Bowl) played in this match, but they were evenly divided between the two teams: Bocchi, Duboin and Madala playing for LAVAZZA, and Lauria, Sementa and Versace playing for CAYNE.

Bianchedi/Madala and Brenner/Bocchi play the highly-artificial (after a mostly natural start) homemade system "Big Bang", based on transfer responses over one club, an unbalanced one diamond opening, and several artificial features. Duboin/Zia on one side, and Cayne/Seamon on the other, play a basic two-over-one system, with a few special arrangements. Finally, Lauria/Versace and Tokay/Sementa play a five-card major, four-card diamond approach, but then using many artificial features.

Board 4. Dealer West. Vulnerable Both.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Brenner</i>	<i>Cayne</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Seamon</i>
2NT	Pass	3♥ ¹	Pass
3NT ²	Pass	4♣ ³	Pass
4♦ ⁴	Pass	4♥ ⁴	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

1. Spades
2. Not three spades
3. Shortage
4. Unclear

THE IBPA FILES

Bocchi/Brenner had a bidding misunderstanding, and landed in four spades. Cayne led a diamond, dooming the defence, since declarer could set up the suit, but any other lead (with the exception of the ace of clubs) would have beaten the contract eventually (with some care required by the defenders).

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Madala</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Bianchedi</i>
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣ ¹	Pass	4♥	All Pass

1. Very strong game try

Lauria/Versace's style does not include opening two notrump with West's cards, and ending in four hearts was inevitable.

Double dummy, four hearts is unbeatable, but Versace couldn't peek at his opponent's cards. He got the deadly lead of a trump, which he won in hand to advance the queen of clubs. North won with the ace and persisted with another trump. Versace won, cashed king and queen of spades, ruffed a club and led the ace of spades. Madala ruffed that and the contract was down one, for 13 IMP to LAVAZZA.

Versace's line needed 3-3 spades or the spade length with the last trump, very reasonable on the defence he received. However, South's club holding would have allowed West to produce a winning ending, if he had decided to play for it.

Once he won the second trump, declarer could have ruffed a low club without cashing the king and queen of spades, then got back to hand with a spade to run the trump suit, reaching (see next page):

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

Having taken six tricks, when West tables the last trump, throwing a diamond from dummy, South's goose is cooked: a spade would allow declarer to make two tricks in the suit, while a club or a diamond would allow West to set up an extra trick in the suit South discards.

Other interesting variations occur if North allows South to win the first club.

Board 21. Dealer North. Vulnerable NS.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Tokay</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

When Tokay, East, passed in first seat, East/West allowed Zia to declare one notrump, a contract with no hope. South made one heart trick, three diamonds and one club for minus 200. At the other table, however, East did open...

West	North	East	South
<i>Brenner</i>	<i>Cayne</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Seamon</i>
	Pass	1♣ ¹	1NT
Dble	Redble ²	Pass	2♣
Dble	All Pass		

1. Could be two-card suit if balanced outside the 1NT opening range

2. Forces two clubs; various hand types

Two clubs proved to be unbeatable, with three of either major on for East/West. CAYNE recorded plus 9 IMP. The only other major swing of the quarter was:

Board 23. Dealer South. Vulnerable Both.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Brenner</i>	<i>Cayne</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Seamon</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	2♣	3♥	All Pass

After Cayne's decision to go conservative and not to open with North's cards, East/West managed to stop in three hearts. There, Brenner suffered a diamond ruff, after taking the heart finesse, to go one off for minus 100. That result paled in comparison to the action in the other room...

West	North	East	South
<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Tokay</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♦	1♠
2♦	2♥	Double	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Dble
All Pass			

Tokay overbid and was heavily punished by Zia's double and the very unfriendly layout. Duboin led a high club and shifted to a spade. Zia won with his ace and returned his other club. North ran his clubs, then led a heart to dummy's by-then-bare ace. When Sementa led a spade to his hand, Zia was squeezed in the red suits for down only three. LAVAZZA had collected plus 800 for a gain of 12 IMP.

Board 34. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Tokay</i>	<i>Madala</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Bianchedi</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Zia</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Versace</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	Dble	All Pass	

Double dummy, five diamonds is unbeatable if declarer gets the trump suit right, and Lauria's double "on the auction" could have talked Zia into the winning line. Both declarers started the same way after the same lead, the six of spades. They ducked in dummy, winning South's queen with the ace, then played a heart to dummy's ace and the jack of hearts, ruffing out South's king. A spade to dummy's king followed. Here, the declarers' paths diverged (they needed to play on trumps, guessing the queen, to make the contract).

Tokay ruffed a low heart, cashed ace and king of trumps and ruffed another heart, then trumped a spade and presented the last heart, finishing down one when he lost two club tricks.

Zia did better, running the ten of hearts, but even this line should have led to defeat. However, when Lauria won the ten of hearts with his queen, he led the ace and another club to West's king. Zia guessed diamonds to make 11 tricks and plus 750, winning 12 IMPs.

Even after Lauria took the ace of clubs, leading his fourth heart would have promoted a trump trick for Versace.

Board 37. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Zia	Lauria	Duboin	Versace
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	3♦1	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

1. Five spades/four hearts, invitational

Three notrump looks to be a better contract, but four spades was hard to avoid. West led the king of clubs, won in hand. Versace immediately played back a club and Zia won, then found the effective switch of the jack of hearts, ducked. Declarer won the heart continuation, and to make the contract, had to either finesse the jack of diamonds immediately, or to finesse after a spade to the king and another to the jack. When he played the king and ace of spades instead, he went one down.



West	North	East	South
Tokay	Madala	Sementa	Bianchedi
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣1	Pass	3♦2
Pass	3NT3	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

1. A low doubleton in a minor
2. I am interested in a contract other than 3NT
3. Five spades/four hearts

Bianchedi also received the king of clubs lead. He won with the ace and played on spades, cashing the king and finessing the jack on the way back. He gave up a club, won the club return with his ten, discarding a heart from dummy, then finessed the jack of diamonds. A spade to the ace and the king of diamonds ensured 10 tricks and 12 IMPs for LAVAZZA.

LAVAZZA won handily 164-111 after a big third set and three close ones.

PHOTOS: Bottom Left: ACBL President Ken Monzingo presents the Vanderbilt Trophy to the winners: Alejandro Bianchedi, Diego Brenner, Giorgio Duboin, Zia Mahmood and Agustin Madala. Not pictured: Norberto Bocchi. Bottom Right: Second in the Vanderbilt went to Antonio Sementa, Lorenzo Lauria, Alfredo Versace and Mustafa Cem Tokay. Not pictured are team captain James Cayne and Michael Seamon. Photos: ACBL Daily Bulletin



do YOU remember?

The Kibitzer Early History

The Ontario Kibitzer



The first issue of Ontario Kibitzer was published in September, 1959. It was produced on a typewriter and then copied. Bill Crissey was the first editor. The mailing list in 1960 comprised of 1600 players. Top ranking masterpoint winners were listed then just as they are now: For the entire year of 1960, the following were the top masterpoint winners with their totals:

1. S. Kehela (109.6)
2. E.R. Murray (101)
3. D. DaCosta (99)

Professionally printed issues were published from 1961 to November 1968, edited by Sammy Kehela.

A quote from Sam Kehela, December, 1962:

"A certain amount of discontent has been voiced in some quarters with respect to the heavy concentration of Toronto news in the Kibitzer. In so far as this is meant to be a Unit undertaking, the criticism is certainly valid. However, and with due respect to the bridge players in the smaller areas, it should be observed that Toronto contains by far the largest and most active bridge population in the province, including some of the most colourful personalities in the game, and that they win roughly 80% of the major events in Ontario tournaments. Apart from the occasional solicited article, I have received only the odd piece, purportedly

amusing, that was more in keeping with a high school rag. Though space is limited I will be happy to publish any contribution containing technical merit."

After 44 issues and eight years, Sammy retired from editing the Kibitzer. Doug Drew, and then Al Lando took over. The publication grew to issues comprising 28-40 pages in length and included photos, articles and tournament news. The July 1971 issue notes that the mailing list for the issue comprises 3,500 members.

The District 2 Kibitzer

THE DISTRICT 2 KIBITZER

VOL. I FEBRUARY 1973 No.1

Beginning in February, 1973 the publication became the "District 2 Kibitzer" to cover play in all units of the newly formed District 2 (Ontario and Manitoba). Ray and Linda Lee assisted Al Lando with the editing for a while. Some Units opposed the district format and did not contribute to the publication. However the general membership in Southern Ontario strongly supported The District 2 Kibitzer.

Suddenly in August, 1976 publication was suspended. The reason given: *"The cost of printing and distributing the Kibitzer has outrun available revenues."*

The Kibitzer ~ Early History

The District 2 officials decided that emphasis should be placed on supporting The Digest*, a new newsletter published by the Canadian Bridge Federation.

***Editor's Note:** Now Bridge Canada which you are reading 😊

VOLUME 1, Number 1, *The Kibitzer*



The first issue of The Kibitzer, as we know it today, was published in August 1976 comprising 20 pages of tournament reports, ads, a note from the President of the Unit, a report by John Carruthers from the World Team Olympiad at Monte Carlo, and a Tournament Trail. Robin Wigdor was the Editor and John Howes looked after advertising. Both the Kate Buckman Bridge Studio and the Regal Bridge Studio/St. Clair Bridge Club placed ads.

The August 1977 issue included an insert, named "The Dorbitzer" edited by Ray Lee, which purported to act as junior partner to The Kibitzer. The Kibitzer would confine itself to publishing items about the tournament scene and The Dorbitzer would concentrate on events and people in the Unit. It seems that a "kibitzer" is a senior member of a group of spectators and a "dorbitzer" is any other member of the group. The latter may only speak to players after asking and receiving permission to do so from the kibitzer (p. 9). After five issues John Carruthers took over editing the Dorbitzer part of the publication. Nancy Hart succeeded Robin Wigdor as Kibitzer editor briefly in 1980-81. Beginning in September, 1981 John Carruthers assumed editorship of the Kibitzer and rolled the Dorbitzer part into the main publication.

John Carruthers, another leading player-editor, wrote editorials and attracted excellent, funny and insightful articles from top players of the day. Many were colourful characters with nicknames like The Shoe, The Moo, The Hat, Bungalow, The Owl, Piglet, and Shorty. John also instituted the Kibitzer/Dorbitzer "interviews". The first was, appropriately, with Canada's greatest player, Eric Murray, followed shortly by one with Sam Kehela.

The Fall issue of the 2001 Kibitzer marked the official 25th anniversary of the publication in its current form. A Kibitzer Committee on the Board of Directors was formed in 1985 to determine policy on editorials, advertising, dates of publication and proof reading. The thunderous, insightful editorials and acerbic wit of Sam Kehela and John Carruthers were never to be repeated again.

The Kibitzer has had many editors and continues to provide quality bridge information to its readers. One was John Armstrong who edited for a few years then moved on to become Associate Editor of the CBF Bridge Digest in 1986. Today's editor of the Kibitzer is Andy Stark.



Photos L to R: John Carruthers, Ray Lee, Sam Kehela, Linda Lee, John Armstrong, Andy Stark.

Photo Source: the internet

Oops!

WHAT WENT WRONG?

by Paul Thurston



With baseball season in full swing, power hitters are being paid millions for getting one hit for every three at bats while shortstops and others necessary for their defense make do with one out of three.

A comparable pay scale for slam bidders would leave this feature's participants needing to find a bread line somewhere as you'll see them go zero for four. Maybe finding out WHAT WENT WRONG will help you and your favourite partner hit for a higher average when you next encounter slam-possible deals!

DEAL ONE

Dealer North. Both Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	6 ♦	All Pass	

Now slams missing two cashable aces are notoriously difficult to make and this one proved to be no

exception when West started with the trump ace to have a look at dummy and shifted smartly to a low spade to set the slam in significantly less time than taken by the auction.

WHAT WENT WRONG?

While it wouldn't have been a cure-all for what ailed North (blind optimism?), he might well have opened the bidding. Yes, the major-suit Quacks might prove totally useless but twelve high-card points is, after all, twelve points and there is a definite premium in the modern game for getting the bidding started first.

After an opening bid by North, there are many paths the auction might take but aware that his opening-bid values were meagre, North might get the auction stopped at the makeable game in diamonds or, maybe, notrump. (More about that possible contract later). As it went, North's response to his partner's strong (15-17 HCP) notrump opening showed a raise to three notrump but with spade shortness (0-1 cards) and fewer than four hearts.

That convinced South to seek pastures greener than the nine-trick game by introducing diamonds but, perhaps guiltily conscious that he might have more than his partner would ever expect for responder's passed-hand status, North went all in with a direct leap to the six-level. Note that with a club or heart opening lead, North would have won his gamble but that was scant comfort to declarer who had to share in the non-fruits of North's exuberance.

Was there a way to avoid slam after North's pass in first seat and the subsequent auction up to four diamonds?

WHAT WENT WRONG? ... Continued

Regular Blackwood over four diamonds would have worked just fine as would a truly scientific refinement known as "Kickback" or, for some, "Redwood" in which four hearts over four diamonds would have been a form of Keycard Blackwood with the answer showing two keycards plus the diamond Queen being low enough for the pair to subside in five diamonds.

There's also the "Don't Guess at Slams" approach by virtue of which North might have realized he was unlikely to find his partner with everything necessary for slam to succeed to leave him happy enough to have found the great diamond fit and take the game bonus.

But how about the KISS approach in which a North wanting to give some value to his singleton spade honour would raise straight to three notrump. Try to beat it! Assuming a spade lead to the ace and a spade back, South's nine would force the King and the Jack would be driven out but the suit would be blocked for more than one additional trick to East-West. South would go after diamonds as his only source of enough tricks to give the defenders one last chance to prevail: West could duck the first diamond and win the second to give East the opportunity to pitch the blocking spade. But, wheels within wheels, after winning one diamond, South might hit on the winning line of finessing through East for the club Jack to end with nine tricks anyway.

Now that would have been a tussle far more worthy of an audience than the play in six diamonds!

DEAL 2: "NO" means "NO"!

Dealer South. Both Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	Dbl	All Pass

East's double was contributed as a "Lightner Double" asking partner to find an unusual lead from length so that a possible diamond ruff would get the job done.

West decided to lead his own shortness instead: ♥6 to the ♥J and ♥Q for a return of the ♥5. I'm not sure what South was hoping for (a mistake having been made by East?) when he pitched one of his small clubs but West's ruff and diamond return meant a fast down two.

There had been a ghost of a chance for this contract to succeed had South ruffed the second heart, dropped the ♠Q, set up a heart for a club discard, all while arranging for West to cooperate by pitching a diamond but it truly was a lousy slam so what went wrong?

WHAT WENT WRONG? ... Continued

WHAT WENT WRONG?

The auction started in classical 2/1 style with North's natural response establishing a game force and his second call showing (usually) three-card spade support while issuing at least a mild slam try.

South's first rebid didn't promise more than the five spades shown by the opening bid as the more natural-seeming three diamond call would have shown extra values in the partnership's style. And South's game bid at his third turn was a clear warning: "NO more bidding please, I have a bad hand for slam in the context of what has already been bid". A warning North failed to heed as he brushed aside his partner's signs of weakness to drag South to the six-level.

This is so very often a trait of bad slam auctions: the partner with the big hand gets carried away without paying enough attention to the pleas for less exuberance from the holder of the weaker hand. Just remember all the times you held South's hand or a facsimile thereof the next time you're in North's position and want to keep on bidding!

DEAL 3

Dealer East. Vulnerable E-W.

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

West	North	East	South
		1♣	Pass
3♣	Dbf	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

No double, no trouble is often the rallying cry of pairs who try to console themselves for having landed in a hopeless slam but down one when cold for game in either major suit is not a result you're happy to share with teammates during a comparison. Here the play was trivial as there was no real way to avoid losing two trump tricks so it was all about the bidding –

WHAT WENT WRONG?

Rather than any clear technical errors, this ill-fated auction was a matter of poor judgments being made at critical junctures – either partner might have saved the day with a different choice so let's examine their calls.

DOUBLE: seems right even though the spade holding looks a lot better than the heart suit but how many spades would you bid? Three seems grossly inadequate and four a bit much so it's very likely North was planning a two-step auction of doubling first and introducing spades over the expected three of a red suit answer from South.

FOUR HEARTS: almost certainly not what North was expecting but South had an in-between hand. If his partner was willing to force an answer at the three-level, South believed three hearts wouldn't do his hand justice even though the leap to four seemed a tad aggressive. One extra factor South's bid had going for it: not vulnerable, he had failed to overcall at the one-level on the first round of the auction so how much could he have?

FIVE CLUBS: assuming North warranted his hand worth a slam try, this cuebid seems like the best choice but this is where North might have saved the day: taking into account South's inaction as mentioned above, could he really have enough in the way of high hearts and the diamond ace to make slam playable?

WHAT WENT WRONG? ... Continued

FIVE DIAMONDS: in for a penny, etc. thought South as he showed his diamond ace and maybe he was compelled to in his partnership's style. Better: if you think you might not have as much as you've already shown (or as much as partner seems to be hoping for), good partnerships allow for a refusal to cuebid, the five diamond call in this sequence not only showing the ace but also a good enough hand to cooperate in a slam adventure. This was South's last chance to bail out – and he didn't!

If this unsuccessful auction was submitted for an "Assess the Blame" adjudication, I think I'd give North 65 % and South 35% - what do you think?

DEAL 4

For our final exhibit, the wild-eyed optimist of the North-South pair will be in the South seat – but maybe you'll see him get some help before taking his fatal plunge.

Dealer South. Vulnerable Both.

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

West	North	East	South
			2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

In the auction, South's first two calls showed a very strong hand with five or more spades.

North's initial artificial response was defined by the partnership as "waiting" but it did promise positive values: at least an Ace or King or 4+ HCPs in secondary honours so that a game force was established. With lesser values, responder would have answered 2♥: artificial and showing no Ace or King and less than 4 HCPs in Queens and Jacks.

Subsequent to North's show of spade support, South launched Blackwood, Keycard variety, to get news of one ace (5♣) opposite, but no spade Queen (5♠). Presumably South had been intending to bid a grand slam if North had the trump Queen, a position that's hard to understand with holes in both hearts and clubs. Less experienced players (they haven't gone down often enough!) frequently arrive in when they discover all the aces are present and accounted for. WHAT WENT WRONG? In this auction.

Aside from South's unbridled enthusiasm for his hand, the real fly in this particular messy ointment was North's 3♠ call. Having a dead minimum for his stated positive hand, the weaker hand should do what he can to slow down his partner by jumping to 4♠. Not exactly a sign-off but a way of saying: "I have nothing extra beyond a modicum of spade support and one prime card – proceed cautiously, if at all!"

Whether that limitation of the North hand would have been enough to keep South from self-immolation, we'll never know and the actual player probably doesn't care a whole lot as he made six spades!

West, perhaps the recipient of a bribe or someone adverse to leading solid sequences, chose the perfectly wrong time to get creative with his opening lead: a small heart! Declarer scooped up the ♥J, crossed to the ♦A to lead the club jack to the King and ace, drew two rounds of trumps, ruffed a club and split out the hearts to land his slam.

But using our baseball model, South would still be batting .000 as the official scorer would give West an error for sure!



by Michael Abbey
THE NEW PLAYER
Spot

By Michael Abbey

This month I will discuss a few items that I have learned over my torrid career at the duplicate bridge table. Torrid comes to mind as I play 4-5 times a week almost every week. To the seasoned player, these items may seem elementary. To the beginner, they make us better players. The two I will discuss in this column are:

1 LDD – a lead directing double

2 Discards – using caution when discarding to allow leading back to winners in partner's hand

LEAD DIRECTING DOUBLES

In it's simplest form, an LDD is made over an opponent's artificial bid, used to instruct one's partner what suit to lead. Picture the following holdings at the table (see next page):

Board 19. Dealer South. Vulnerable E-W.

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

West	North	East	South
	1NT	Pass	2♣ ¹
Dbl	2♠	pass	3♠
All Pass			

1. Stayman

Notice the double made by West*. South's previous bid was artificial. This is an example of the lead directing double. West is telling East that, if North becomes declarer, he should lead a club. West will more than likely capture this first trick in clubs. Let's look at two more examples of this item:

West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	3♦ ¹	Dbl
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

1. Bergen

The three diamonds bid by East is artificial, showing West he has four card support for his spades, and 10-11 HCP. This is referred to as a Bergen raise (at least one form of this raise). South has instructed North to lead diamonds. The double will not end up being part of the contract as it follows an artificial bid, which is forcing for one round.

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

1. Jacoby transfer

North transfers to spades with his two hearts bid, then East does the lead directing double asking his partner to lead hearts.

***Editor's Note:** The first step is to understand LDDs, as Michael explains. The next is learning when to apply a LDD. Expert wisdom is to limit these doubles to when you have length and strength in a suit. Examples would be KQ108x or AKxx.

DISCARDS

Let's now have a quick look at the idea of cautiously deciding what to discard during the play of the hand. Suppose South is in a four spades contract, with East/West on defence. The following is the hearts holding for the East/West pair:

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

The partnership has no losers in hearts, though the opposition obviously holds ♥K. Suppose North leads the ♥5 at trick two, and East plays the ♥10, South the ♥K, and West decides to capture the trick with ♥A. The East/West holding now changes to:

	♥ 4 2	
♥ 3		♥ Q J 9
	♥ 8 7 6	

As you can see, with the two top honours gone, East's hearts holding is made up of two winners (East can cash the ♥Q and ♥J, but the ♥9 will be ruffed by North). Suppose we are now on trick #7, and North leads the ♦10. East follows suit as does South, and West is void but has no spades to ruff. West would be wise not to discard the ♥3.

NEW PLAYER SPOT: Michael Abbey ... continued

If West were to discard the ♥3, his hearts holding would change to:

♥ 4 2
♥ void ♥ Q J 9
♥ 8 7 6

Later in the hand, if West wins a trick, a heart lead may allow East to enjoy these two sure winners in hearts. However, after discarding the ♥3, West has nothing left to lead to East's beautiful hearts. The lesson to learned here can be summed up as follows:

It may be wise to hold on to a seemingly useless card in your hand if it could be used to lead back to sure winners in your partner's hand.

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



Trump Alzheimer's

Canadian clubs, teachers and members are invited to join in on the first ever Trump Alzheimers Contré fundraiser during the ACBL's Longest Day on June 20, 2016.

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



THE LONGEST DAY What is it all about?

Read article on Great Bridge Links

greatbridgelinks.com



*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 4

BIDDING OVER A 1NT OPENER

By Neil Kimelman

In a recent article I talked about how the side that does not open the bidding is at a decided disadvantage in entering the auction and competing accurately. Hands with two suiters have more safety. Now we look at competing against a 1NT opener. First let's concentrate on 15-17 notrumps, and look at weaker ones later.

by Neil Kimelman
THE INTERMEDIATE
Spot

Before we start

It is right to be respectful of bidding over 1NT. We enter the auction at the two level, and put ourselves at some risk. However we still need to play bridge. A couple of points to consider:

1 The primary purpose of interfering is to get in the way of the opponent's notrump machinery and conventions that accurately describe various holdings. But sometimes you will discover it is your hand (see below).

2 1NT side has an Achilles heel – they don't know the suit(s) in which the strong hand has length. So it is often difficult to penalize interference, at least initially. It is sometimes helpful to know whether the opponents play penalty or negative at the two and three levels.

3 Vulnerability – we can take advantage of favourable vulnerability and bid with lesser values. The notrump side will usually prefer to play a vulnerable 3NT than double a two-level contract.

4 Suit length and strength – if single suited, the expected minimum length is six cards.

5 Solid suits – If right hand opponent opens 1NT I usually pass with a long solid suit! Experience has shown me that often the opponents will play in 1NT or 3NT, and collecting my plus is the best score. By bidding your suit the opponents will often compete in their fits, and with no wasted strength in your suit, make lots. But they can only do this if you tell them about your suit!

6 14-16 1NT should be treated the same as 15-17. In the real world players often bid 1NT with the former, when the convention card says the latter.

What conventions to play?

There are many choices: Cappelletti, DONT, Hello, Landy, etc... You have to decide with which one you are most comfortable. I have been playing Hello but

have recently switched to a system being used by many expert and world class players:

Dbl	Four card major and long minor
2♣	Majors
2♦	One long major
2♥/♠	Five card major, 4+ card minor
2NT	Clubs or diamonds. Advancer is forced to bid 3♣. Overcaller will pass when his suit is clubs, or convert to 3♦.
3♣	Minors

Over a weak notrump opener

I like to play a double shows at least 14 HCPs, whether the opener shows 13-15, 12-14 or 10-12. I also strongly recommend that a balancing double show 11+ high card points. In this way you don't get shut out when potentially holding 23+ HCPs.

Guidelines for bidding over 1NT

Are there Maximum or Minimums to Bidding over 1NT? Let's assume you are playing Capelletti. Logic dictates minimums. You don't want to get doubled and go for more than the opponents can get for bidding game. So I would overcall 2♣ with ♠A J 10 x x x ♥x ♦x x x x ♣x x, not vul vs vul, but not at other vulnerabilities. If two suited, I recommend good intermediates if you have less HCPs. Again I would overcall 2♠ with ♠A J 10 9 x ♥x ♦J 10 9 x ♣x x x, at favourable vulnerability.

With more than an opening bid there are two ways to go. Over a 15-17 notrump double only when you have excess points or good suits. Partner is expected to pass. They would only bid with a long suit in a weak hand.

I would double a 15-17 1NT with

1. ♠A K Q 10 9 ♥x ♦A J 10 9 ♣K x x, or
2. ♠K J 10 x ♥AK ♦Q J 10 9 ♣K Q J, but not with
3. ♠A 10 x x ♥Qxx ♦K J x x ♣A Q

The first hand is too strong to overcall 2♠. This bid should be limited to 14 or less. The last hand is good enough to double a 12-14 1NT.

One advantage of Capelletti or Hello is that double is penalties. That is important to be able to double showing values, especially when the opponents open a weak notrump. So with ♠A K 10 x x ♥K x ♦K 10 9 x ♣A x I would double showing equal or strong values. Or a strong hand: ♠A K J 10 x ♥x ♦K Q 10 x x ♣A x. With a minimum opening bid, such as ♠A J 10 x x ♥x ♦Q J x x ♣K x, I suggest starting with an overcall of 2♠.

Advancer

Advancer's job is quite simple. Take a preference, over two suits, double the opponents for penalty, or compete. Once in a while the advancer will have a good hand without a good fit for partner. Usually an opening bid. The bid I use to describe this hand is 2NT. Overcaller can sign off in a suit, pass or bid some game. If partner doubles in direct seat, and the opponents run, your partnership should know what bids by advancer mean. I like:

1 Double by advancer says it is our hand (5+HCPs against a strong notrump and 7+ versus a weak variety) and all subsequent doubles are penalty. The opponents cannot pass the hand undoubled.

2 A suit bid shows a five card suit or longer, with a weak hand.

3 Pass is a weak hand with no long suit.

Doubling a transfer or Stayman

This is a way for the fourth hand to show his hand when the opponents open 1NT. Some tips to help you decide whether to interfere:

1 Have length. Usually at least five. I would consider with a very good four card suit, such as AKJ9. I have seen people double on AKx or KQx. My partnerships have been able to redouble with length, making, sometimes with overtricks!

2 Have values for an overcall. Again, the opponents may choose to redouble with most of the high card points. I have seen the notrump opener side play in 2♣ doubled and redoubled on a 3-2 fit, make 3 for a top!

3 Besides suggesting a lead, this bid is an invitation for partner to compete with a fit and appropriate values.

4 Make this bid wisely. If you have a moderate suit with scattered values, you might be better off with partner making his normal lead. For example, I would pass 2♣ with ♠A J x ♥K x ♦Q x x ♣Q 9 x x x. If you have points and shortness in responders major, pass the transfer and then double if they rest in two of the major.

NEXT COLUMN – LESSON 5: Quiz Time.

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by Sylvia Summers

THE INTERMEDIATE Spot

AFTER THE OPENING

SUITED AUCTIONS FIRST ROUND

by Sylvia Summers

My friend Bob Hamman once said that players spend too much time discussing the third round follow-ups to Roman Keycard Blackwood and not enough time discussing the everyday auctions such as the follow-ups to an auction that begins with 1♦ Pass 2♣.

Most of us are reasonably clear on opening bids, responses and opener's rebid. Sometimes we get tied up farther along in the auction. Simply as a convenient place to begin a discussion on AFTER THE OPENING, I'm going to start with,

Responder's first bid

Always be aware of the range of your response. Are you looking at:

1. A one bid hand,
2. A game invitational hand,
3. Or a game forcing hand?

If partner opens 1♣ here is a sample set of agreements that you might adopt:

- » A one bid hand always shows a four card major (may bypass diamonds).
- » With two 4 card majors we bid up the line (hearts first).
- » With two 5 card majors we bid

the higher one first (spades first).

- » 1♣ - (Pass) - 1NT shows 8-10 points. Bid 1♦ with a balanced 6-7 and no 4 card major.
- » Have a plan to show a forcing club raise.
- » If the opponents overcall 1♦ a negative double shows both majors while a bid of one of a major may be only a four card suit.
- » A hand that is game invitational or better always respond with their longest suit first.

The opening bid of 1♥ is a special case. Your partnership should decide:

- » Does 1♠ shows a five card suit? A number of players who use 2♦ (Flannery) to show four spades and five hearts will insist that 1♠ shows a five card suit. This author would prefer not to be that rigid.
- » What is your forcing major suit raise?
- » How to respond when holding a game forcing hand with both black suits.

Particularly when you have a hand with slam interest you do not want to spend the better part of eternity creating a forcing auction before you can show both your suits. Take a look at these two auctions:

1♥	1♠	1♥	2♣
3♥	4♣	3♥	3♠

If you bid spades first you may not be able to show clubs naturally before you arrive at the four level. If you bid clubs first you will most often be able to bid your spades at the two or three level. Considering that clubs is the one higher suit that touches spades, this is simply an extension of the idea of bidding the higher suit first. I once saw Stasha Cohen, a top player from the US, put this theory into practice. Her partner opened 1♥ and Stasha held a slam interest hand with ♠ J x x x and ♣ A K x x. She bid 2♣ bypassing the spade suit and ended up in an excellent 6♣ contract with a trump suit of A K x x opposite Q J x. This was a win for her team at Board-a-Match scoring, and I believe that hers was the only team in the

room who bid this slam.

Your partnership should also establish what your minimum values are in and out of competition.

- | | | | |
|----|----|--------|---|
| a. | 1♣ | (Pass) | ? |
| b. | 1♣ | (1♦) | ? |
| c. | 1♣ | (1♠) | ? |

My feeling is that you should stretch to respond in a., have 6+ HCPs and a reason to bid in b. and have 8+ HCPs (c.) if you are tending to force partner to the two level.

Advancer's first response

Another one level situation can occur when partner overcalls or makes a takeout double and you are in the advancer's seat. The advancer is the partner of the player who overcalled or made a takeout double.

		Partner		You
d.	(1♣)	1♦	(P)	?
e.	(1♣)	1♦	(1♥)	?
f.	(1♣)	1♠	(P)	?
g.	(1♣)	1♠	(1NT)	?
h.	(1♣)	DbI	(P)	?
i.	(1♣)	DbI	(1♠)	?
j.	(1♣)	DbI	(Rdbl)	?
k.	(1♥)	DbI	(Rdbl)	?

In d. my feeling is that you should feel free to bid one of a major but have solid values to bid 1NT. In e. it's time to use some good old fashion common sense. You don't want to make a frivolous call when you are bidding between two bidding opponents. Whenever I use a phrase such as 'old fashion common sense' it makes me think of my dear old dad. Dad said that he had a system to take on those Culbertson players. Dad called his system 'Old Horse Sense Bridge'.

I should return to the subject. Auction f. is similar to auction d. but if you introduce a new suit you are introducing it at the two level. In auction g. you are not only at the two level but you are also bidding between

Solutions

TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY

Problem on page 3

In 4♥ you have four losers and only eight guaranteed tricks. If spades split 3-3 that is nine. A successful club finesse makes ten. The best line is to finesse the ♣Q, cash the ♣A and pitch a spade. Now knock out the ♥A. With a little luck West will have the ♥A and make the 'safe' spade return. The full deal:

♠	K 8 7 6	♠	J 4 3
♥	10 9 6 2	♥	5 4
♦	10 9 6	♦	A Q
♣	A Q	♣	10 09 7 6 4 3
♠	10 9 5	♠	A Q 2
♥	A 3	♥	K Q J 8 7
♦	K J 4 2	♦	8 7 5 3
♣	K J 8 5	♣	2

two bidding opponents. It's getting to be time to truly have your values.

The next group of bids are auctions that occur after partner makes a takeout double. In auction h. you can bid one of a suit with nothing. Your partner has asked you to bid 1♦, 1♥ or 1♠. If you bid anything else, including 1NT, you are adding to what partner told you to bid. It's very easy to bid too quickly in this auction, so be sure to think it over. There is a big difference between a one level and a two level response. Neither one of a new suit nor two of a new suit is forcing so, if you want to force, it's probably time to cue bid.

In i. the opponent has taken you off the hook and you do not need to take a bid unless you have values. Auctions j. and k. are slightly different. In k. the opener generally has at least a five card suit while in j. opener will often have a three card suit. If the opponents play a forcing club system, their 1D opening can even be with as little as one diamond, or even none! In k. I would play that pass means that I have nothing to say. In j. I prefer to play that pass is an option to play, meaning that from my seat I can't see a better contract. In a recent online team match my partner and I had this auction playing against a forcing club pair:

Opp.	Partner	Opp.	Sylvia Fay
1♦	Dbl	Rdbl	All Pass

The player who opened 1♦ thought that the redouble was to play and the responder thought that it was a value showing bid. The opener had one diamond and the responder had two. My pass showed a willingness to have 1♦ doubled and redoubled be the final contract. Partner and I were +1000 when the opponents were cold for 4♥.

These are all excellent things to think about and, of course, you'll want to discuss these issues with your partner. Good Luck and Have Fun!

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by Keith Balcombe

THE **EXPERT**
Spot

KEITH'S KORNER

by Keith Balcombe, Whitby ON

"Continuous effort - not strength or intelligence – is the key to unlocking our potential."

Sir Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

"It's not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren't enough of them. It's the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones."

S. J. Simon, British fiction writer and bridge player

Keith's Karding

Since the first Keith's Korner column, I have been asked about carding – do I like Upside Down Count & Attitude (UDCA) or Standard? Odd-Even and/or Lavinthal signals?

There is no doubt that Upside Down attitude has a theoretical edge. Why signal with your high cards that you might need later? The other methods have some merit, but not much theoretical edge. Here is my approach: try some or all of these methods (especially Upside Down Attitude)

and try to stick within your comfort zone. If you do not agree with your partner, then somebody has to change, as it is hard to find some middle ground.

Recently, I have played Upside Down Attitude and Standard Count. I find that Standard Count works very well with 3rd & 5th best leads; in essence, you are giving count generally the first time that a suit is played.

A couple of key points:

1 Give count only for your partner's benefit – do not help declarer. For example, if declarer is playing an obviously solid suit, or if declarer is 'looking' to find a queen, then there is not much point to give count.

2 Remember that **remainder count** is important. If you led the Ten from 10932, play the 2 next to indicate an odd number remaining (if using Standard Remainder Count). If the 10 was led from 1092, then discard or play the 9 next to show an even number left (playing standard count).

Best theoretical bid or best practical bid?

In a Saturday Oshawa pairs game, I picked up a moderate nine HCP hand:

♠ Q J 9 8
♥ 7 4
♦ J 8 6 3
♣ A J 4

The bidding proceeded with me as dealer:

West	Dianne North	East	Me South
-	-	-	Pass
1♦	Dbl	1♠	?

The theoretically correct bid over 1♠ is double to show spades, in case our partnership has a 4-4 fit. However,

Dianne and I have not played much in the last three years, but we have discussed responsive (takeout) doubles. So Dianne might consider double to show hearts and clubs instead of penalty. OK, then double was out. What about 1NT? Nope, my diamond stopper is almost non-existent so that is not likely the right spot. Therefore, I will Pass and then Double or bid 2♠. Dianne and I have discussed in the past that type of auction (bidding the opponents' suit on the second round) as natural. The bidding continues:

West	Dianne North	East	Me South
-	-	-	Pass
1♦	Dbl	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	Pass	?

Now I have two choices: double or 2♠. If I double, two bad things might happen:

» Dianne could pass with a light (10-11 HCP) double and the contract makes (very bad score) or down one for +100 (score hard to predict). Against 1NT, Di is in the dark about the lead; she is at best 50-50 to lead a Spade.

» Dianne pulls my Double, probably to 2♣. Should I then pass or continue with 2♠? Will 2♠ be considered a cue bid?

All in all, I prefer to use my good spade spots on offense and bid 2♠, a bid that Di will probably interpret as natural. Dianne thought only very briefly before passing and each opponent gave my 2♠ bid a long look before shrugging their shoulders and passing.



Here is the hand and bidding:

Board 11. Dealer South. Vulnerable None.

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

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1 ♦	Dbl	1 ♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	Pass	2 ♠
All Pass			

The result was made 2, +110. My LHO led a high diamond and correctly shifted to a trump, which I ran to my hand and I then crossruffed for 6 trump tricks and 2 aces. Our opponents are probably down one in 1NT. We could make 1NT but maybe not with any overtricks. Frankly, I was pleased that not only was my analysis reasonably accurate, but this was a stress free hand for our partnership, maybe worth a few points in future hands.

Key Points from this hand:

- 1 It is usually best to choose the bid that your partnership has defined.
- 2 If a bidding or defense situation, always make a bid or play that your partner will understand.
- 3 Think strategically – in other words try to think one or more moves ahead.

Feedback about Keith's Korner and suggestions of topics or hands for future articles are always welcome. My email address is keithbalcombe@rogers.com.

OUR MAGAZINE

2016 marks the 45th anniversary of the Canadian Bridge Federation's publication. Initiated in 1971 it was called at that time the Bridge Digest. There are still people to this day who refer to our little magazine at 'the Digest' although the name was changed to Canadian Bridge Canadien in 1990. Printed and mailed for many years, the magazine is now distributed to members in PDF form via the CBF website. Below is a historic listing of editors and name changes.

BRIDGE DIGEST

1971 - 1973	Sam Maltin, Montreal
1974 - 1978	Bob Brooks, North Vancouver

CANADIAN BRIDGE DIGEST

1979 - 1986	Ron Bass & Jill Savage, Red Deer
1986 - 1990	Editor - Allan Simon, Calgary Assoc Editor John Armstrong, Toronto

CANADIAN BRIDGE CANADIEN

1990	Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver
1992 - 1993	Don Kersey, Kingston
1993 - 1998	Jude Goodwin, Vancouver

BRIDGE CANADA

1998 - 2013	Jude Goodwin, Vancouver
2013 -	Neil Kimelman, Winnipeg Assoc Editor Jude Goodwin, Vancouver

FRENCH EDITORS

1994 - 2000	Bernard Marcoux, Montreal
2000 - 2010	Martine Lacroix, Montreal
2010 -	Francine Cimon, Montreal

THE 2016 LEDERER *Memorial*

by Andrew Robson, London



THE IBPA FILES

The Lederer Trophy is now settled in its grand new venue at The Royal Automobile Club in Pall Mall. The event is sponsored by Simon Gillis and hosted by the London Metropolitan Bridge Association. Due to a crowded fall schedule, the event has been moved to early in the year, this time the last weekend in February.

In addition to the 'usual suspects' from Great Britain, this edition featured a handful of Norwegians, a couple of Swedes, a Dane, the usual Irish, an Italian and even an Australian, as well as our resident Anglo-American Pakistani.

Ten teams played a complete round robin of 10-board matches, with hybrid scoring – part IMPs and part point-a-board, with a total of 50 VPs available per match. The results were:

1. England Open293
2. Ireland254
3. Chairman's Choice249

England Open won all of their nine matches, albeit three by 26-24 and one by 27-23. They were represented by Alexander Allfrey, David Bakhshi, Tony Forrester, David Gold and Andrew Robson. Here was one that got away from the victorious team.

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sinclair</i>	<i>Robson</i>	<i>Crouch</i>	<i>Allfrey</i>
—	1♥	1♠	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♠ ¹	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1.Splinter

South might have played for penalties of the one-spade overcall, but decided to go in search of bigger things. Although two diamonds was not forcing to game, North's three-club rebid was game-forcing.

West led the eight of spades to the knave and ace. Declarer adopted a simple and very reasonable approach. He ruffed a spade, cashed the ace of diamonds (East following with an ominous knave) and ruffed a low heart. He cashed the king-queen of diamonds (winning when the 4-1 split was revealed) and gave West her trump trick. West switched to a club and, with a sinking feeling, declarer had to try the finesse. East won with the king and that was down one.

You cannot really fault declarer's line, which essentially boils down to either diamonds three-two or the club finesse. However, the king of clubs is likely to be with the vulnerable bidder and if (as you might) you lead to the ace of diamonds at trick two and see East's knave fall, you might (treating the knave as singleton) try an alternative approach.

That approach would entail leading a diamond to the ace, then the ace of hearts, discarding a club, then the ace of clubs and would mean that you've played your four aces to the first four tricks like a rank beginner. Now you show you're not. You lead the queen of clubs for a ruffing finesse, intending to discard a spade if East plays low. Say East covers. You ruff, ruff a low spade with dummy's remaining low diamond, then lead the promoted ten

THE IBPA FILES 2: THE LEDERER MEMORIAL

of clubs, discarding a spade. The 3-3 club split revealed, you now lead a winning fourth club and discard your last low spade. West ruffs, but you ruff his heart return, draw his trumps and cash the king of spades. Slam made.

Look at the club suit on our second Lederer deal.

Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

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

- 1.Game-forcing heart raise
- 2.Lead-directing (but at what cost?)
- 3.Not the worst hand
- 4.Control-showing

Declarer won the knave of diamonds lead with the ace and drew trumps in three rounds, East turning up with a singleton. The key suit was clubs, where declarer needed a fourth trick for a diamond discard. The normal play is to cash the clubs from the top, but declarer looked deeper and saw a chance to win the board (remember the scoring method).

East, a passed hand, had made an adverse vulnerability

three-level overcall. He had to have shape – likely six diamonds and four spades. That left him with two clubs to West's four. Declarer therefore cashed the king of clubs, then led and passed the ten (had West had covered with the knave, South would have won with the queen, crossed to the ace of spades and led a club to the eight). The ten was not covered, however, and held the trick. A club to the ace-queen enabled declarer to discard a diamond, losing just one spade, for 12 tricks, winning only 1 IMP but, more importantly, winning the board.

Here is a fabulous bid-and-made slam by my teammates David Gold and Tony Forrester in our match against the Gillis team.

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Gillis	Forester	Erichsen	Gold
—	—	1♥	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

Forrester did well not to blast three notrumps immediately, realising that he could always have bid three notrumps at his next turn if all Gold could have done had been to rebid clubs. North loved the news that South had four diamonds, five or six clubs and extra

THE IBPA FILES 2: THE LEDERER MEMORIAL

values. Forrester also guessed his partner had some heart length, given that hearts were neither supported nor rebid, and so concluded that there was not more than one spade opposite. Perfect.

Gold received the eight of hearts lead, annoyingly through dummy's ace (yes, six diamonds would have played better by North). Declarer rose with dummy's ace and started on clubs (normal practice to broach the side-suit before drawing trumps). The king and a second club saw East's queen delightfully appear.

Declarer drew trumps in three rounds, then cashed the knave-ten-seven of clubs, discarding two hearts and a spade from dummy. Confident from his opening bid that East held both top spades plus the king of hearts, at trick ten declarer exited with the queen of spades. East won with the king but was endplayed. If he had led a second spade (whether low or the ace), dummy's knave would have been promoted. If East had led a heart, declarer's queen would have been promoted. In practice, East led the king of hearts. Declarer ruffed in dummy, ruffed a spade back to hand and cashed the queen of hearts for his twelfth trick.

The West international was disappointed not to have found the correct defence on our final Lederer deal.

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Townsend	Robson	Sandqvist	Allfrey
—	1♠	Pass	2♥
2NT ¹	Pass	3♦	3♥
Pass	4♥	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

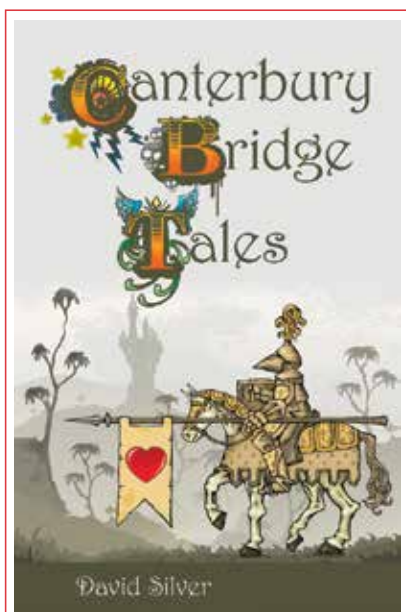
1.5+/5+ in the minors

West led the ace of clubs and, after much huffing and puffing, switched at trick two to the king of diamonds. Declarer won with the ace, crossed to the king of hearts and ran the knave, the finesse being a high-on-certainty given West's two-notrump bid, East's double and West's failure to lead or shift to a spade. The knave held and declarer played the ace of spades, ruffed a spade, cashed the ace of hearts, felling East's queen, then led up a second club. West could win with his king and cash the queen of diamonds, but that was all. Ten tricks were made for plus 790.

It is no better for West to cash the king of clubs, then give his partner a ruff, for declarer would have played dummy's ten on the third round. In that case, declarer could have won East's diamond return with the ace, drawn trumps, then crossed to the ace of spades to cash the queen of clubs to shed his diamond loser. The winning defence is for West to lead a low club at trick two. East would have ruffed and returned a diamond, but dummy does would not have had a club winner to discard South's second diamond and declarer would thus have lost four tricks.

East was left muttering to himself.

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The Canterbury Bridge Tales

David Silver and Tim Bourke

A disparate group of travellers meets by chance at a motel while on the way to the Nationals in Canterbury, Florida, and naturally they begin swapping stories. Sound familiar? Professor Silver returns in a new collection of short stories, in which literary parody is interwoven with Tim Bourke's brilliant bridge hands. Murder, mystery, sex and the supernatural – and that's just in the first three tales.



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Out of Hand... And Off the Fairway

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Bill Buttle

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EVENTS & DEADLINES

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

2016

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

Club Qualifying games for CNTC and COPC
2016 World Bridge Games
September 3-17, Wroclaw, Poland

OCTOBER

Club Qualifying games for CNTC and COPC

NOVEMBER

Club Qualifying games for CNTC and COPC
Orlando Fall NABC
November 24 - December 4



Important Dates

- 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