



# bridge

## *Canada*



## 2016 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

STORIES AND PHOTOS

### 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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## MEMBERSHIP

Bridge Canada is available to members only.

If you know of anyone who wishes to become a member of the Canadian Bridge Federation please share with them these options:

1. Be sure to include CBF dues with your ACBL dues.
2. Visit [cbf.ca](http://cbf.ca) and click **Join The CBF**
3. Email [info@cbf.ca](mailto: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](mailto:info@cbf.ca).



# REFLECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT

by Neil Kimelman

## **NEW CBF PRESIDENT**

I have recently taken over the duties as the CBF President. As such I will share with members new CBF initiatives. We will continue to work on improving service to our members.

## **A COMMITTEE OF ...???**

The CBF gratefully appreciates all suggestions and comments. We have changed and grown over the last 10 years, mostly under Nader Hanna's leadership. We have added an Online Championship, Mini-Richmond awards, an enhanced Junior Program, changed our website, and added a Regional to our Canadian Championships, expanding it to include B and C events in 2016. We have an active Hall of Fame committee and have introduced Lifetime Achievement Awards to individuals who have tirelessly served Canadian Bridge over the years

The CBF has made significant changes to our website and its management (and we will do so again in the near future), added a membership database and many other initiatives and changes.

The challenge for the CBF is that we only have one full time employee to manage our activities. The CBF has six dedicated members of the Board of Directors to lead and support the organization. We are volunteers with separate lives outside the CBF. Please keep this in mind when providing your feedback. In our enthusiasm to improve Canadian bridge we are fully utilizing the above resources!

We are always looking for other volunteers. We are especially looking for assistance from members with expertise that would assist supporting our website and its content.

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## REFLECTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT (cont)

### 2016 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to all the winners at this year's Championships. Sigh. In this issue you can find the results of events, as well as articles on the key championships. The CBF expanded the type and number of Regional events held in conjunction with the CBCs. We have received a lot of feedback on ways to improve the CBCs (see Eric Kokish's article in this issue). The board has listened to all feedback, and will try to make changes that make the most sense for the needs of the majority of participants. Stay tuned!

### WEBSITE

We recognize that there are opportunities for improvements to the website and reporting of all events. We will be addressing these issues over the upcoming year, and taking steps to improve this primary CBF portal for its members.

### CBF - AUDREY GRANT PARTNERSHIP

A part of the CBF mission is to support the development of bridge in Canada. We are looking for ways to introduce our game to more Canadians. We want to encourage a Canadian version of the game that emphasizes the social aspect of the game while providing a friendlier, competitive environment for players of all levels.

To this end, the CBF has undertaken an exciting new partnership with Audrey Grant. Starting in 2016, the CBF will be sponsoring a Canada wide tour. Each location where there are sufficient numbers will hold a two day affair. This includes:

- 1/2 day train the teachers,
- 1/2 day for newer players,
- 1/2 day for all player levels,
- Reception with a one on one with Audrey.

For more information please contact your CBF Zone Director.

### Neil Kimelman

CBF President and Bridge Canada Managing Editor  
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# TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY

IMPs

Contract: 6 ♥

Lead: ♠4

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

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

Plan the play.

Answer on page 25



Photo: Audrey Grant

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# WOULD YOU LIKE VODKA WITH YOUR KIELBASA?

by Judith and Nicholas Gartaganis

In September 2016 the World Bridge Series, previously known as the Bridge Olympiad, is scheduled to be held in Wroclaw, Poland. Every World Bridge Federation (WBF) member nation is entitled to field a team in the Open, Seniors, Women's and Mixed categories. In May the Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) held its annual championship in Toronto to determine a representative in each of the first three categories. Canada may send a Mixed team, but due to funding constraints the CBF is unable to provide any financial assistance.

For centuries Poland has been at the crossroads of history. It has been fought over, occupied, used as a highway to another target by foreign armies and was even at one time (in 1492) the largest territory in Europe, as part of the PolandLithuania Commonwealth.

Polish cuisine has been heavily influenced by its history as well as Slavic and central European cuisines. Popular meals include bigos (a stew of finely chopped meat and sauerkraut), kielbasa (various types of sausage), and pierogi. A meal is never complete without a shot of Poland's most popular drink -- vodka.

Wroclaw (pronounced VRAHTS-wahv) itself is rich in history and was named Europe's 2016 cultural capital. The city is spanned by more than 100 bridges, most fitting for the site of a bridge championship.

Thus past and aspiring CNTC winners had plenty of reasons to throw their hats into the ring, hoping to earn the privilege of representing Canada at the coming world championship.



2016 CNTC GOLD MEDALISTS : Zygmunt Marcinski, Frederic Pollack, Kamel Fergani, Nick L'Ecuyer, Judith Gartaganis, Nicolas Gartaganis.

Most of the 17 teams in the Open event had legitimate hopes to win the prize, but everyone's betting favourite had to be the formidable Miles squad (Danny Miles, Eric Kokish, Fred Gitelman, Darren Wolpert, Daniel Korbel, and Les Amoils).

## CNTC A ROUND ROBIN

A complete round robin of 12board matches was played over four days to decide eight qualifiers for the quarter-finals. The WBF 20 Victory Point (VP) scale was in use. It awards fractional VPs for each IMP won. For 12-board matches, 52 IMPs were required to score a blitz, and every IMP counted for some fraction of the 20 VP total.

At the end of Day 2, after nine rounds, the leader board looked like this (VP totals rounded):

- 121 - LITVACK (Irving Litvack, Doug Baxter, David Lindop, Vince Oddy, Ian Findlay, Roy Dalton)
- 111 - KUJIRAI (Eiji Kujirai, Martin Hunter, John Duquette, Ron Bishop, Fred Lerner, Michael Schoenborn)
- 110 - L'ECUYER (Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Zygmunt Marcinski, Kamel Fergani, Fred Pollack, Judith Gartaganis, Nicholas Gartaganis)
- 110 - MILES (Danny Miles, Eric Kokish, Fred Gitelman, Darren Wolpert, Daniel Korbel, Les Amoils)
- 108 - STEINBERG (Jonathan Steinberg, Michael Kenny, David Colbert, Michael Cafferata, Bryan Maksymetz, Gray McMullin)
- 99 - MARTINEAU (Charles Martineau, André Chartrand, Kevin Paul Gregoire, Jacques Cloutier, Robert Morin, Serge Hamelin)
- 98 - JOTCHAM (Ray Jotcham, Stephen Mackay, Morrie Kleinplatz, Stephen Cooper, Andy Altay, James Priebe)
- 93 - CHAN (Richard Chan, Jeffrey Smith, Shan Huang, David Sabourin, John Zaluski)

The 12th place team was less than 6.5 VPs behind 8th place. On Day 4, with one round to complete, there were only five teams without a mathematical chance to qualify. Four teams (MILES, L'ECUYER, LITVACK and KUJIRAI) had locked up qualifying spots, but it was a

## EIGHT QUALIFIERS

### 2016 CNTC ROUND ROBIN

- 1<sup>220</sup> **L'ECUYER** (Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Zygmunt Marcinski, Kamel Fergani, Fred Pollack, Judith Gartaganis, Nicholas Gartaganis)
- 2<sup>203</sup> **MILES** (Danny Miles, Eric Kokish, Fred Gitelman, Darren Wolpert, Daniel Korbel, Les Amoils)
- 3<sup>197</sup> **LITVACK** (Irving Litvack, Doug Baxter, David Lindop, Vince Oddy, Ian Findlay, Roy Dalton)
- 4<sup>196</sup> **KUJIRAI** (Eiji Kujirai, Martin Hunter, John Duquette, Ron Bishop, Fred Lerner, Michael Schoenborn)
- 5<sup>185</sup> **TODD** (Bob Todd, Douglas Fisher, Paul Thurston, Keith Balcombe, Brad Bart, Neil Kimelman)
- 6<sup>183</sup> **JOTCHAM** (Ray Jotcham, Stephen Mackay, Morrie Kleinplatz, Stephen Cooper, Andy Altay, James Priebe)
- 7<sup>179</sup> **MARTINEAU** (Charles Martineau, André Chartrand, Kevin Paul Gregoire, Jacques Cloutier, Robert Morin, Serge Hamelin)
- 8<sup>179</sup> **WILLIS** (David Willis, Marc-André Fourcaudot, Ronald Carrière, Jeffrey Blond, Waldemar Frukacz, Ranald Davidson)



free-for-all to determine the remaining play-off bound teams. At the end, after several recounts and an appeal, the eight qualifiers were as you can see in the blue sidebar.

The qualifying pace was just over 10.5 VPs per match out of a possible 20 – not a particularly arduous undertaking. Only once in the past ten years has the qualifying mark been lower.

During the round robin there are always lucky and unlucky hands, and sometimes you just know it's going to be your day.

### RR1 – BOARD 7

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

This was our first board of the tournament. East interfered over our strong club auction and we propelled ourselves to 7♥, an overly ambitious contract (interpretation: dreadful). Trumps were 3-2 and the ♣K was tripleton onside ... what's the problem? The opponents reached 4♥ so we gained 14 IMPs on the way to a 42-IMP win in our first match.

In the third match versus TODD, L'Ecuyer-Marcinski arrived in 6♠ on this layout:

### RR3 – BOARD 34

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

Few pairs were able to reach slam, but the cards were friendly. There was no surprise distribution in diamonds and no possibility that the fourth diamond winner could be ruffed away. That continued our team's slam luck and produced an 11IMP gain.

In a critical match against WILLIS Fergani-Pollack showed that they too could be on the right side of slams, reaching 6♣ by East here:

### RR10 – BOARD 12

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

North had a singleton ♦10 and would happily have taken a ruff at trick two, but South wasn't sufficiently prescient to lead his Ace. The upshot was an 11-IMP gain en route to an important 33-IMP win.

Finishing first in the round robin should not be underrated. It gives a team the opportunity to control its destiny somewhat, by virtue of being able to choose opponents at the quarter and semi-final stages. With one round remaining our team had secured first place. However, in the final 12 boards, there was considerable scope for teams still gunning for a playoff spot, including this interesting grand slam.

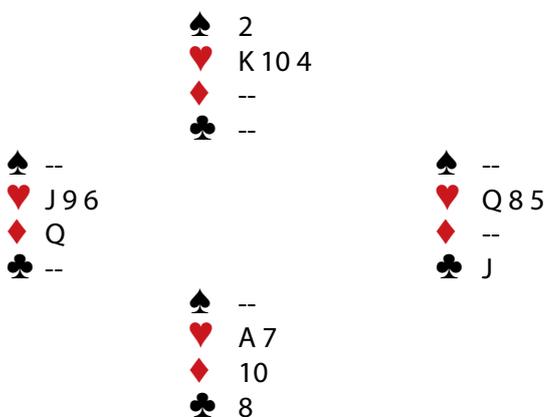
### RR17 – BOARD 15

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

We reached 7♠ by North on an uninformative auction. East led the ♣Q and, with the opponents in 6♠ at the other table, the outcome of the grand slam would determine whether or not YAN (Rock Shi Yan, Edward

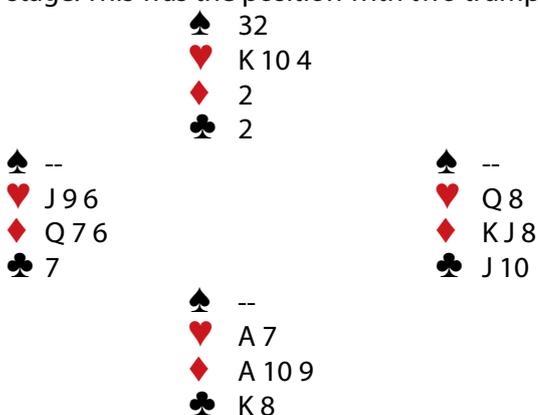
Xu, Yan Wang, Jianfeng Luo, Peter Wong, Yuandong Ren) ended up in a qualifying spot. Of course all hands during the round robin have equal importance, but the ones at the end of the competition always seem to be of greater significance.

There are several lines which will land the grand. The first one that comes to mind is to ruff two diamonds using trump entries (in case the ♦KQJ are tripleton), cash the ♣K along the way, and hope a double squeeze develops. In this case the end position will be:



North leads the last trump and East must discard a low heart. Declarer pitches the ♣8 and West is under the gun to guard diamonds. No one except declarer can keep three hearts and they will all score.

Nicholas opted for something a little fancier. Poor East had a terrible hand with which to defend and on the run of spades discarded the ♣9 and two hearts at an early stage. This was the position with two trumps to go:



On the next-to-last trump, East must discard the ♥8. Note that if East throws a diamond, the double squeeze

described earlier materializes, as declarer can play ♦A and ruff a diamond. After East's heart discard, the ♣8 has done its job and can hit the showers. Over to West who has been taken out of play. Discarding the ♣7 only prolongs the inevitable, since his three hearts are just not good enough. Having executed a relatively rare guard squeeze, Nicholas ended up hooking the ♥10 to make 12 tricks.

## CNTC A QUARTER-FINALS

The quarter-final matchups were:

|          |        |           |
|----------|--------|-----------|
| L'ECUYER | versus | MARTINEAU |
| MILES    | versus | JOTCHAM   |
| LITVACK  | versus | WILLIS    |
| KUJIRAI  | versus | TODD      |

This year the CBF decided to increase the quarter-final and semi-final rounds from 60 and 72 boards respectively to 90 boards for each stage, effectively extending the competition from seven days to eight. Early on it became apparent that the teams in the bottom half of the qualifiers didn't realize that they were supposed to be underdogs. After 54 of 90 boards in the quarter-finals the scores were:

|          |     |           |       |
|----------|-----|-----------|-------|
| L'ECUYER | 137 | MARTINEAU | 115   |
| MILES    | 66  | JOTCHAM   | 144   |
| LITVACK  | 140 | WILLIS    | 102.6 |
| KUJIRAI  | 83  | TODD      | 159   |

Both MILES and KUJIRAI were in serious trouble while L'ECUYER and LITVACK had useful leads, but not large enough for comfort. Heading into the last segment MILES and KUJIRAI were more than 60 IMPs behind and no miracle happened for either team. WILLIS had a lead of 14.6 IMPS, 12 of which were relinquished in the final set, but the team still held on for the win. After being down 67 IMPS early in the match, MARTINEAU had clawed back to within 7 IMPS of L'ECUYER only to suffer an unfortunate last set, losing the match by 65.

MARTINEAU's best segment was the third one where 45 IMPs were gained primarily through superior bidding judgement. MARTINEAU avoided a bad slam that needed a winning finesse into opener's hand (Gartaganis-Gartaganis did not), bid an aggressive vulnerable 4♥ that made (Gartaganis-Gartaganis did not) and then Nicholas' rose-coloured glasses led to -1100 versus a vulnerable game, giving up another 10 IMPs. Being of a merciful mind, the team captain did not bench our pair permanently.

L'ECUYER, the only one of the top four seeds to survive, chose JOTCHAM as its semifinal opponent leaving WILLIS to face TODD in the other match.

## CNTC A SEMI-FINALS

The semi-finals were expected to be close matches since the winners of the quarter-finals appeared to be in good form and were getting stronger as the competition progressed. The drama did not materialize. Somewhat unexpectedly, by the midpoint of the 90-board semi-final, WILLIS led TODD by 85 IMPs and eventually TODD withdrew with a segment to go, down 114 IMPs. The other match progressed similarly with L'ECUYER up 132 IMPs at the halfway point. JOTCHAM withdrew at the end of the 4th segment down by 168 IMPs.

The following hand was indicative of why L'ECUYER seemed to have an easy match:

SF3 – Board 15 Dealer: South Vulnerable: N/S

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

| West       | North  | East     | South   |
|------------|--------|----------|---------|
| Nicholas G | Mackay | Judith G | Jotcham |
| 3♠         | 3NT    | 4♠       | 4NT     |
| Pass       | Pass   | 5♠       | Dbl     |
| All Pass   |        |          |         |

Mackay led the ♦ K allowing Nicholas to ruff three diamonds and eventually play North for the ♣ A to bring home the contract. At the other table, after identical first-round bidding, Marcinski made a value-showing double of 4♠ and L'Ecuyer as North removed to 4NT. That made it more appealing for Judith's counterpart to pass 4NT leading to a double game swing worth 15 IMPs for L'ECUYER. Move the position of a couple of cards and both contracts would have failed.

TODD and JOTCHAM seemed to be victims of poor luck and perhaps lack of concentration. The margin of difference in the two semi-final matches was not indicative of the relative strengths of the teams, both losers being perennial contenders at the CNTC. On another day it would not have been surprising to see TODD and JOTCHAM advance to the finals.

## CNTC A FINALS

Both WILLIS and L'ECUYER were well-rested and ready to play, having cruised into the final in a relatively relaxed manner. On paper L'ECUYER had a slight edge because its players had more experience handling the pressure of a final.

The two-day final involved eight segments of 15 boards. During the first two segments L'ECUYER managed a modest lead of 12 IMPs. By the end of the first day L'ECUYER's lead had extended to 65 IMPs -- certainly not overwhelming, but WILLIS desperately needed to make inroads into that difference. To that point in the match, WILLIS had failed to win any segments. The second day was no better. By the end of the 6th segment the L'ECUYER lead was up to 118 and the WILLIS team withdrew.

The first segment finished tied at 37. Almost half of the IMPs gained by WILLIS came on this hand:

F1 – Board 4 Dealer: West Vulnerable: Both

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

| West           | North             | East          | South           |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Frukacz</i> | <i>Nicholas G</i> | <i>Willis</i> | <i>Judith G</i> |
| 1♦             | Pass              | Pass!         | Dbf             |
| 2♣             | 3♣                | 3♦            | 3♠              |
| 4♣             | 4♠                | 5♦            | Dbf             |
| All Pass       |                   |               |                 |

David Willis made a diabolical pass of his partner's opening bid and the auction unfolded perfectly for him. He was able to judge that all his values were working and he made the excellent decision to bid 5♦, got doubled and scored +750. Meanwhile Fourcaudot Carrière played in 4♠ making at the other table for a cool 16-IMP pickup. WILLIS immediately followed up with another 12 IMPs when Fourcaudot-Carrière made +790 in 4♠ doubled (on a combined 17 count) while Gartaganis-Gartaganis were in 3♠, just in.

Some of those IMPs came back when L'Ecuyer-Marcinski bid 6♣ with:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| ♠ 8 4<br>♥ J 10 9 4<br>♦ 6 4<br>♣ A K 8 7 6 | ♠ A K Q 9 6<br>♥ K 6 5<br>♦ A J<br>♣ Q J 3 |
|---|--|

Spades went 4-2 but both heart honours were outside so declarer couldn't fail.

## OVERALLS

### 2016 CNTC FLIGHT A

**GOLD** Nicolas L'Ecuyer - Kamel Fergani  
- Zygmunt Marcinski - Judith Gartaganis -  
Nicholas Gartaganis - Frederic Pollack

**SILVER** David Willis - Marc-Andre  
Fourcaudot - Ranald Davidson - Jeffrey Blond  
- Ronald Carriere - Waldemar Frukacz

**BRONZE** Ray Jotcham - Stephen Mackay -  
Morrie Kleinplatz - Stephen Cooper - Andy  
Altay - James Priebe

**BRONZE** Bob Todd - Neil Kimelman -  
Douglas Fisher - Brad Bart - Paul Thurston -  
Keith Balcombe

In the following segments there were a number of hands that could have swung either way. Getting the hand right translated to a double-digit gain while getting the hand wrong meant an equivalent loss. The outcomes consistently favoured L'ECUYER.

WILLIS suffered a fate similar to TODD and JOTCHAM, withdrawing early. The WILLIS team did not play up to its potential while L'ECUYER, drawing on its more extensive experience, was for the most part, more consistent and made fewer mistakes.

Both Nicolas L'Ecuyer and Kamel Fergani were notching up their 6th CNTC victory. Zygmunt Marcinski was winning his 2nd CNTC while Fred Pollack was winning his first. Marc-André Fourcaudot has agreed to be our non-playing captain.

As Kamel was quick to point out, high on the team's to-do list is to find out how to say "Where's the nearest bar?", in Polish!

# SMALL BUT FIERCE

by Joan Eaton

The 2016 CWTC was held in Toronto as part of the Canadian Bridge Championships in May. While the field was very small (only 3 teams entered), it was very strong. Any one of the three entrants could win the event - and all three teams knew it.



2016 CNTC GOLD MEDALISTS : Joan Eaton - Lesley Thomson - Katie Thorpe - Sondra Blank - Ina Demme - Karen Cumpstone

While all the players are fierce competitors, the tone of the event was friendly. Those of us who played this year hope that more Canadian women will participate in future years.

In fact, at the Hall of Fame Ceremony, several of the Junior girls made it known that they will be taking home the trophy in a year or two (well, I think they said NEXT year)! Given the rate at which these young ladies are mastering the game, I see no reason to doubt them.

But I digress.

After two days of round robin, the St. Amant team (Charlotte St. Amant, Lyn Stevens, Wendy Krause, Margaret Baykal, Shona Donovan and Debbie Bennett) was eliminated in a nail-biting finish. Pay attention because this was a harbinger of things to come.

The teams of Joan Eaton, Karen Cumpstone, Sondra Blank, Lesley Thomson, Ina Demme and Katie Thorpe (who was inducted into the CBF Hall of Fame this year) faced off against Pamela Nisbet, Brenda Bryant, Hazel Wolpert, Linda Wynston, Barbara Saltsman and Sylvia Summers in a 120 board, two day final.

The final result had the Eaton team winning by ONE IMP! Heartbreaking for the Summers team. It was no coincidence that both the round robin result and the final were close - please see paragraph one.

Also worth noting is that it is the second time in as many years that our new Hall of Fame Member has won by 1 IMP. Last year's Seniors' event was also won by Katie's team by 1 - pulled out of the fire by an amazing Grand Slam bid and made on the last board - by Katie and her partner Marty Kirr. Katie assures us she hopes this is not a new normal for her.

While the number of double digit swings during the two day period were perhaps a bit too numerous, I will offer a couple of hands that may be of interest.

E/W VUL. North dealer.

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

At both tables, the bidding started:

|             |              |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>West</b> | <b>North</b> | <b>East</b> | <b>South</b> |
| -           | 1♠           | 2♦          | 3♠           |
| Dbl         |              |             |              |

At one table Sondra Blank bid 4♠ with the North hand as a sacrifice and found herself making the contract after a defensive hiccup. At the other table, North passed the double of 3♠ and East (Ina Demme) bid 4NT. Ina knew Katie was short in spades and wanted her to choose a minor, therefore showing tolerance for clubs. West (Katie) bid 5♣ which was easily made, for a nice 14 imp swing. Note that even had E-W defeated Sondra's 4♠ contract, we would still have won 11 IMPs on this board.

It is always nice when your system helps you get to a nice slam. This is board 14 of the first set of the finals, vulnerable, with no opposition bidding:

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

|             |                 |             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <b>West</b> | <b>North</b>    | <b>East</b> | <b>South</b>    |
|             | <i>Joan</i>     |             | <i>Karen</i>    |
|             | Pass            | Pass        | 1♦              |
| Pass        | 2♦ <sup>1</sup> | Pass        | 2♥ <sup>2</sup> |
| Pass        | 3♣ <sup>3</sup> | Pass        | 4♦ <sup>4</sup> |
| Pass        | 4♥ <sup>5</sup> | Pass        | 4♠ <sup>6</sup> |
| Pass        | 5♣ <sup>7</sup> | Pass        | 6♦              |

- 1 Inverted showing a limit raise
- 2 Artificial game force
- 3 Concentration
- 4 Minorwood
- 5 1 or 4 Key cards
- 6 Queen ask
- 7 Queen of trumps plus Club King

Once North showed a limit raise in diamonds, which we play is still on by a passed hand, South had interest in a slam. There were two bids available in our system: game force splinter in spades or an artificial 2♥ showing any game forcing hand. Often it is better for the stronger hand to ask, rather than show (splinter). After North showed a concentration of values in clubs, South had an easy bid of 4♦ Minorwood to check on keycards, and the excellent slam was reached. At the other table the contract was played in 5♦ for an 11 IMP gain for the Eaton team.

On a personal note, it meant a great deal to me to win the event in the first year that we were playing for the Ruth Gold Memorial Trophy. Ruthie was one of the first bridge players I met when I moved to Toronto, and she was very kind to the new girl in town. And so we became friends. Ruthie had good friends on all three teams that played in this event.

# LONG AWAITED WIN

By Kenny Scholes and Peter Herold

It was a long-awaited win for Peter & I in this year's COPCs. Peter had finished 2nd four times in the event, twice with me. It didn't seem very likely this year as Peter was playing with a collapsed lung and shooting pains in his hip, which necessitated our having a stationary N-S throughout. After starting with two zeroes, we had a big 2nd session which put us in 4th place after the 1st day. I didn't think we had enough in the 4th session to win, but we had a big finish and eked out the victory. There were several memorable hands but two passed hand four club bids stood out:

## HAND 1

♠ K 10 x x x  
 ♥ A J x x  
 ♦ x x x  
 ♣ K

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

I held the North cards and passed as dealer. The auction proceeded:

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| -    | Pass  | Pass | 1♦    |
| Pass | 1♠    | Pass | 2♥    |
| Pass | 4♣    | Pass | 4NT   |
| Pass | 5♣    | Pass | 7♥    |

My 4♣ bid was a splinter and since we play 4♠ as RKC for hearts, Peter's 4NT was Exclusion RKC (excluding Spade Ace). 5♣ showed 1.



## 2016 COPC OVERALL WINNERS

**GOLD:** Ken Scholes - Peter Herold

**SILVER:** Morrie Kleinplatz - Stephen Cooper

**BRONZE:** Allan Smith - Bill Kertes

## HAND 2

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

♠ A  
 ♥ 10 x x  
 ♦ x x x  
 ♣ K Q 10 x x x

Peter passed the South hand as dealer. The auction proceeded

| West | North    | East | South |
|------|----------|------|-------|
| -    | -        | -    | Pass  |
| 1♠   | 3♥       | 3♠   | 4♣    |
| 4♠   | 5♥       | Pass | Pass  |
| Dbl  | All Pass |      |       |

I figured Peter's 4♣ bid showed good clubs and a heart fit, so 5♥ seemed likely to be a good save, down two at most. When Peter came down with the stiff ♠A, we chalked up +850.

## **CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS CNTC A**

**GOLD:** Nicolas L'Ecuyer - Kamel Fergani - Zygmunt Marcinski - Judith Gartaganis - Nicholas Gartaganis - Frederic Pollack

**SILVER:** David Willis - Marc-Andre Fourcaudot - Randal Davidson - Jeffrey Blond - Ronald Carriere - Waldemar Frukacz

**BRONZE:** Ray Jotcham - Stephen Mackay - Morrie Kleinplatz - Stephen Cooper - Andy Altay - James Priebe

**BRONZE:** Bob Todd - Neil Kimelman - Douglas Fisher - Brad Bart - Paul Thurston - Keith Balcombe

## **CNTC B**

**GOLD:** John McWhinnie - Doug Barnes - Peter Deluca - Mike Fernane

**SILVER:** Stephane Turcotte - Benoit Lessard - Marc Boisvert - Zoltan Lazar

**BRONZE:** Li Zhang Yang - Gene Li - Qian Ren - Zhenghui Hu

**BRONZE:** Howard Binsky - Frank Welland - Mehdi Sadeghi - Ronald Wilson - Steven Mehta

## **CNTC C**

**GOLD:** Denis Ouellette - Gilles Benoit - Danielle Tremblay - Denise Roy-Letourneau

**SILVER:** John Hindle - Jeff Gosman - Brian Macri - Dave West

**BRONZE:** Maureen Murphy - Cheryl MacIntosh - John Burgoin - Howard Huynh

**BRONZE:** Hellar Nakonechny - Paulette Desaulniers - Freddie Mykytyshyn - Kevin Tomanek

## **CANADIAN WOMEN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS CWTC**

**GOLD:** Joan Eaton - Lesley Thomson - Karen Cumpstone - Katie Thorpe - Sondra Blank - Ina Demme

**SILVER:** Sylvia Summers - Barbara Saltsman - Pamela Nisbet - Brenda Bryant - Hazel Wolpert - Linda Wynston

## **CANADIAN SENIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS CSTC**

**GOLD:** John Carruthers - Joseph Silver - George Mittelman - Robert Lebi - Pierre Daigneault - Boris Baran

**SILVER:** Ron Zambonini - Nader Hanna - John Rayner - Michael Roche - Jurek Czyzowicz - Dan Jacob

**BRONZE:** George Holland - Bill Bowman - David Greenough - John Bowman

**BRONZE:** Robert Bambrick - Layne Noble - Tim Edwards-Davies - Deborah Harper - Keith Heckley - Roland Laframboise

## **CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS COPC**

**GOLD:** Ken Scholes - Peter Herold

**SILVER:** Morrie Kleinplatz - Stephen Cooper

**BRONZE:** Allan Smith - Bill Kertes

## **CANADIAN IMP PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**GOLD:** Naveed Ather - Howard Binsky

**SILVER:** Bryan Maksymetz - Gray McMullin

**BRONZE:** Terrence Rego - Lino D'Souza

## **HENRY CUKOFF SWISS TEAMS**

**GOLD:** Pat Lang - Kaz Walewski - Gray McMullin - Bryan Maksymetz

**SILVER:** Rock Shi Yan - Shan Huang - Edward Xu - Richard Chan

**BRONZE:** Ray Jotcham - Stephen Mackay - James Priebe - Andy Altay

*Where are the results?*

CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

You can find the tournament pages here  
<http://cbf.ca/BWeek/16files/index.shtml>

And the ACBL results page here  
<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2016/05/1605153.htm>



CSTC GOLD



CNTC C GOLD



CNTC B GOLD



CWTC SILVER



CSTC SILVER



CNTC C SILVER



CNTC A SILVER

2016 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS PHOTOS



# LOOK MA: NO HANDS

by Eric Kokish, Toronto

**I'd be lying if I didn't tell you up front that I was hoping to be playing in the 2016 CNTC for ten days in May rather than six. The Jotcham team had something to say about that, however, and losing in the quarterfinals was a big disappointment.**

The result notwithstanding, it was a treat for me to play in a serious partnership on a competitive team in an event that offered an opportunity to represent Canada in an open World Championship. Some of my friends had been after me for years to play in the CSTC, but I had always resisted because winning an open trials still seemed a realistic goal. I'd like to think that attitude will keep me out of the Seniors forever, but I concede that I might be kidding myself.

## THAT WAS THEN...VP SCALE

The last time I played, the CNTCs was a great event in many ways, not the least of which was a VP scale that treated every imp equally through the pre-determined blitz level. With everyone playing the same boards (more on this later) in the round robin the idea that the teams earning the most net imps most deserved to qualify seemed completely reasonable.

## THIS IS NOW...VP SCALE

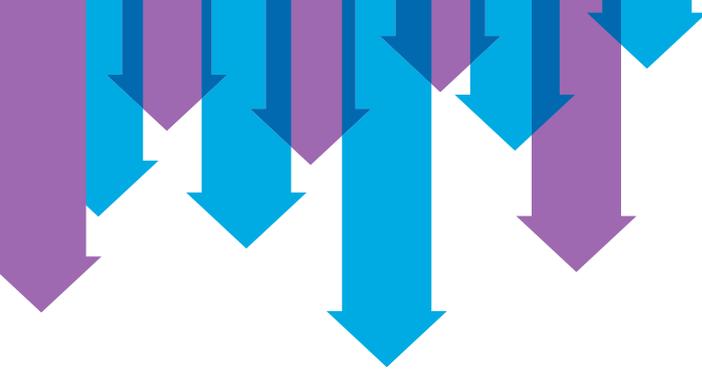
But over the years CBF followed the format adopted by both the ACBL and WBF which involved first a 30 VP scale and then a 20 VP scale, with not all imps created equal (lower margins of victory would be rewarded disproportionately higher VPs, with fractions of VPs becoming the norm). That sort of scale makes sense for Swiss events where winning a short match by any margin is a major goal, but the idea in a round robin is to win more imps than the other teams over the course of the qualifying stage, so if you beat me by 20 IMPs

the VP scale should leave you 20 imps better off than me, whether each team starts with a certain number of pre-determined VPs or not. The case for following ACBL/WBF policy amounts to preparing our teams for what lies ahead for them in international events.

The jury is still out on that but I am not especially optimistic about re-instituting our excellent Canadian VP scale, ensuring that everyone plays all the boards or the possibility of adding 6-8 minutes of playing time for a 12-board match and a first-offence warning for slow play.

## SLOW PLAY

The same argument has been made for strictly enforcing time constraints for each session. I have been told by CBF officials that this is done to ensure that our teams will not be surprised to find that there are slow play penalties at the World Championships; as if our NPCs and coaches would ever be remiss in ensuring that our teams know the regulations.



## WHAT THE CBF CAN DO BETTER

Other Improvements I would like to see:

- New screens and bidding trays.
- Having more sets of boards in play.
- Improving security (more or less non-existent in Toronto).
- Having more extensive and proper BBO coverage of our premier event.
- A more realistic playing schedule (a 72-board day and two 9 am starts in a traffic-plagued metropolis were brutal for local players).
- Leaving final rulings in the hands of the TD staff (as in ACBL/WBF) or ensuring that appeals committees be comprised of members with no possible appearance of conflict of interest.

Whether interest in the CWTC can be rejuvenated remains to be seen, but at the moment it's consistently poorly attended and not always played in the best spirit of the game.

## THIS IS NOW... WHAT WENT WELL

Excellent things in Toronto's Bridge Week:

- The Hall of Fame ceremony.
- Good playing space.
- The participation of a team of ambitious (very) young men and women who will represent Canada in the Kids series in the upcoming World Youth Team Championships
- Hospitality.
- The TD staff (which included Canada's Matt Smith, who served the same role at the US Trials that ended a week before the Toronto events).
- Worthy winners who should do well in the World Bridge Games in Wroclaw, Poland in September.



The most important "fairness" issue for a round robin qualifying format is that all the teams play all the boards, so a condition of contest that involves removing a board from play if the match runs a few/ several minutes over time is simply wrong, regardless of whether a VP penalty is assigned. Yet the CNTC Conditions allow for both punitive measures to be applied for the same offence. There seems to be neither a first-instance warning for slow play nor a proviso for determining whether one side or the other was more to blame unless someone asked for a time monitor earlier in the match. Inevitably, despite a generally positive attitude by the players and a generally considerate approach by the directors, the regulations had to be applied.

In a Swiss format finishing promptly is important because the draw for the next round can be delayed to the detriment of the smooth running of the event, but in a round robin the draw is known in advance and the only harm in allowing a match to finish late (within reason) is to the teams that take the extra time, as they will lose out on the opportunity to rest before the next match. In Toronto the allotted time per match was roughly six minutes less than in the recently completely US Trials, in part because the objective was to try to finish play early each day whenever possible. This despite the fact that a set of boards was shared between multiple tables and the out-of-date screens and bidding trays could easily lead to bidding cards being knocked off the trays.

## ETHICS & STANDARD OF PLAY

I found the standard of play quite high and the ethics and behaviour of virtually all our opponents exemplary, and when discussions with a number of players reinforced my opinion that the event would be even more enjoyable with a more relaxed approach and a players-first attitude from CBF I was hopeful that an overture to the organizing body might be fruitful.



# SCORE!

By Michael Abbey

This month I am going to present a primer on scoring at bridge. How many times have you been at a table, and the opponents make a 4♠ contract when not vulnerable. One of the opponents murmurs +420 as he fetches his score card. A bit later, you take the opponents down two tricks when vulnerable. Your partner says +200 as he fetches his card. "How do they do that?" you think to yourself.

There are four parts to scoring a bridge hand

- 1 Points for the number of tricks you take over the book, where the book is the first six tricks.
- 2 Bonus points for making your contract.
- 3 Bonus points for making a game, slam or grand slam.
- 4 Points (for your opponents) when you are down one or more tricks on a contract (called undertricks).

## by Michael Abbey

# THE NEW PLAYER

# Spot

## NEW PLAYER SPOT: Michael Abbey ... continued

Points are earned for tricks over the book. For example when one makes a 4♠ contract, that means the book (first 6 tricks) + 4 = 10 tricks total. As well, 2NT means the book + 2 = 8. The following table summarizes all we are going to discuss in this article:

| Tricks      | Contract in        | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Others |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------|
|             | Notrump            | 40              | 30     |
|             | Spades and Hearts  | 30              | 30     |
|             | Diamonds and Clubs | 20              | 20     |
|             |                    |                 |        |
| Bonus       | Partscore          | Game            |        |
|             | 50                 | 300             |        |
|             |                    | 500             |        |
|             |                    |                 |        |
| Undertricks | non-VUL            | VUL             |        |
|             | 50                 | 100             |        |

Let's put this together to show how a few contracts would be scored, with vulnerable in red:

|    | Contract | Made | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Additional # | Pts. | Bonus | Undertricks # | Pts. | Total |
|----|----------|------|-----------------|--------------|------|-------|---------------|------|-------|
| 1  | 4♠       | 4    | 30              | 3            | 90   | 300   | -             | -    | 420   |
| 2  | 3♠       | 6    | 30              | 5            | 150  | 50    | -             | -    | 230   |
| 3  | 3NT      | 2    | -               | -            | -    | -     | 1             | 100  | -100  |
| 4  | 2♥       | 4    | 30              | 3            | 90   | 50    | -             | -    | 170   |
| 5  | 4NT      | 4    | 40              | 3            | 90   | 500   | -             | -    | 630   |
| 6  | 6♠       | 4    | -               | -            | -    | -     | 2             | 100  | -100  |
| 7  | 2♦       | 3    | 20              | 2            | 40   | 50    |               |      | 110   |
| 8  | 5♣       | 2    | -               | -            | -    | -     | 3             | 300  | -300  |
| 9  | 1♥       | 0    | -               | -            | -    | -     | 1             | 50   | -50   |
| 10 | 5♦       | 5    | 20              | 4            | 80   | 300   | -             | -    | 400   |

Let's pick apart a few of these before moving on:

Example 2: This is a situation where one bid three spades and made six. The partscore bonus is in effect since the partnership did not bid four. Had they bid four and made six, they would have got the game bonus.

Example 1: 30 pts. for the first trick and 90 pts. for tricks 2-4. Add 300 bonus points for making a game contract (non-VUL); 30+90+300=420 pts.

Example 4: 30 pts. for the first trick and 90 pts. for tricks 2-4. Add 50 bonus points for making a partscore contract; 30+90+50=170 pts.

Example 8: -300 for 3 undertricks (VUL); -300 pts.

Now let's test your understanding of what we discussed so far, again with vulnerable in red.

## NEW PLAYER SPOT: Michael Abbey ... continued



What would the score be for the following eight contracts?

|   | Contract | Made |
|---|----------|------|
| 1 | 4♦       | 4    |
| 2 | 4NT      | 2    |
| 3 | 4♥       | 4    |
| 4 | 3♠       | 3    |
| 5 | 1NT      | 2    |
| 6 | 4♠       | 7    |
| 7 | 3♣       | 2    |
| 8 | 3NT      | 5    |

Now for the answers:

|   | Contract | Made | Points for tricks | Bonus | Total |
|---|----------|------|-------------------|-------|-------|
| 1 | 4♦       | 4    | 80                | 50    | 130   |
| 2 | 4NT      | 2    | -                 | -     | -100  |
| 3 | 4♥       | 4    | 120               | 300   | 420   |
| 4 | 3♠       | 3    | 90                | 50    | 140   |
| 5 | 1NT      | 2    | 70                | 50    | 120   |
| 6 | 4♠       | 7    | 210               | 500   | 710   |
| 7 | 3♣       | 2    | -                 | -     | -100  |
| 8 | 3NT      | 5    | 160               | 300   | 460   |

Contracts not made only show a negative total. There are some additional complexities when one is doubled or redoubled which we are not covering here. Many seasoned players still rely on the Bridgmate or other players at the table for scores when making slams and when contracts are doubled or redoubled. One's vulnerable status only affects points won or lost for:

- Making a game contract
- Undertricks
- Bonus awarded for slams

Additional tips worth mentioning:

1. If you are on opening lead, make the lead before marking the details of the contract on your scorecard.
2. If you are the dummy, do not go to your scorecard until you put the dummy down.

3. When scoring a notrump contract that was made, do exactly the same as a major, then add 10 to the total.

The first two suggestions help keep the game moving along, something players do more and more as they gain experience.

When I started playing Roman Keycard (RKC) last year, I found it ironic that six spades or six hearts bid and made when vulnerable yields 1,430 points. For those who play RKC, we often call it 1430!

Interesting ... score on MacDuff.

Visit Michael's website for beginners at [beginnerbridge.net](http://beginnerbridge.net).

by Neil Kimelman

# THE INTERMEDIATE Spot



## DEFENSIVE BIDDING QUIZ

Time to test your defensive bidding when the opponents open one of a suit.

### PROBLEMS 1-7, DO YOU BID MICHAELS?

1. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠Q 10 5 4 3 ♥KQ 6 4 3 ♦6 ♣6 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

2. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠J 9 7 5 3 ♥KQJ 6 3 ♦6 ♣6 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

3. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠8 7 6 5 3 ♥AKQ 6 3 ♦6 ♣6 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

4. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠Q 10 5 4 3 ♥KQ 6 4 3 ♦6 ♣A 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

5. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠A K 10 5 3 ♥KQJ 6 3 ♦A K 6 ♣-

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

6. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠K Q 10 5 4 3 ♥Q J 10 x ♦6 5 ♣5

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

7. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠A K 10 5 4 3 ♥K J 6 4 3 ♦9 6 ♣-

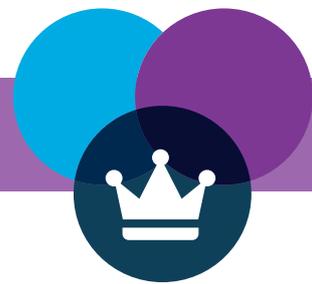
|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

**PLAYING BROZEL** (Dbl = penalties; 2♣ = single suiter; 2♦ = both majors; 2M = major and minor, at least 5-4, respectively) what do you bid:

8. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠K Q 10 5 3 ♥K Q J 6 3 ♦A K 6 ♣-

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |



9. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠KQ 10 5 4 3 ♥A 3 ♦9 8 7 6 ♣2

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

10. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠AKQ 5 3 ♥A 6 3 2 ♦KQ 6 ♣6

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

11. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠10 5 3 ♥KQJ 6 3 ♦KJ 9 6 ♣2

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

12. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠10 9 7 5 3 ♥Q ♦AK ♣J 9 8 5 4

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

13. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠5 3 ♥AQ 3 ♦QJ 9 8 7 6 ♣5 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

14. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠AKQ 10 5 3 ♥6 3 ♦6 ♣9 7 5 2

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

## SOLUTIONS : Defensive Bidding Quiz

### PROBLEMS 1-7, DO YOU BID MICHAELS?

1. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠Q 10 5 4 3 ♥KQ 6 4 3 ♦6 ♣6 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

Solution 1: Bid 2♣. It's not pretty, but this hand qualifies as a Michaels cue bid. I would bid 2♣ at teams and pairs, except vul versus not at teams.

2. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠J 9 7 5 3 ♥KQJ 6 3 ♦6 ♣6 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

Solution 2: Not much has changed, and our bidding should also be as #1. It is tempting to bid 1♥, but on balance, more is to be gained by bidding 2♣. The only difference is where I would pass #1 at unfavourable vulnerability playing IMPs, with this hand I would overcall 1♥.

3. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠8 7 6 5 3 ♥AKQ 6 3 ♦6 ♣6 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

Solution 3: Now the difference in suit quality makes 1♥ my only choice. Yes we will almost for sure lose the spade suit, but life is not perfect.

4. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠Q 10 5 4 3 ♥KQ 6 4 3 ♦6 ♣A 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

Solution 4: Bid 1♠. With about opening bid values bid your higher ranking major (or if you are 5-5 in a major – minor, bid your major). Otherwise if you Michaels, partner will not know what to do, and will have to guess if you are weak or strong, when you are neither!

# SOLUTIONS : Defensive Bidding Quiz



5. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠A K 10 5 3 ♥K Q J 6 3 ♦A K 6 ♣-

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

Solution 5: Yes, this is an example of a strong Michaels. The normal way to show a strong variety is to double at your next turn. Partner can make an intelligent decision, either convert to penalties or choose one of your suits at the appropriate level.

When 3-0 in the short suits, a reasonable alternative to double is to bid your three card suit. This shows exactly 5-5-3-0, and brings diamonds into play as the trump suit when partner has length there. The only downside is that you lose the chance to penalize the opponents.

6. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠K Q 10 5 4 3 ♥Q J 10 x ♦6 5 ♣5

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

Solution 6: No. This is a simple 1♠ overcall. Do not bid Michaels with 6-4 or 4-6 shape.

7. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠A K 10 5 4 3 ♥K J 6 4 3 ♦9 6 ♣-

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| -    | -     | 1♣   | ?     |

Solution 7: No. Bid 1♠, and then bid hearts. By keeping the bidding lower, you get to hear the 'normal' bids from the other three players, after an overcall. If the bidding stays at the two or three level, no problem. However, if I have to bid 4♥ I will think twice, but likely do it anyways.

**PLAYING BROZEL** (Dbl = penalties; 2♣ = single suiter; 2♦ = both majors; 2M = major and minor, at least 5-4, respectively) what do you bid:

8. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠K Q 10 5 3 ♥K Q J 6 3 ♦A K 6 ♣-

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

Solution 8: Bid 2♦ for the majors. Although you have the points to double, the opponents may be able to make 1NT and you four of a major. Consider this layout:

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

9. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠K Q 10 5 4 3 ♥A 3 ♦9 8 7 6 ♣2

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

Solution 9: This is a perfect 2♣ bid, showing a single suiter (partner must bid 2♦ to ask for your suit). It is misguided to show spades and a minor with 6-4, even if your diamonds were better quality than above.

10. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠A K Q 5 3 ♥A 6 3 2 ♦K Q 6 ♣6

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

Solution 10: This is close, but I would double. Pass at matchpoints is reasonable, taking -160 off the table, but still having a chance at +200 the hard way. If spades don't run they make make, but if partner has the ♦J you have a potential +500.



11. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠10 5 3 ♥K Q J 6 3 ♦K J 9 6 ♣2

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

Solution 11: Bid 2♥, hearts and a minor. Pass, while conservative, is also reasonable. Although you may go for a number occasionally, you have a pure hand (all your high card points in your suits), and two level overcalls are notorious difficult to penalize after a 1NT opener.

12. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠10 9 7 5 3 ♥Q ♦A K ♣J 9 8 5 4

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

Solution 12: Pass. Although 5-5, most of your points are in your short suits, which is undesirable for offense, but good for defense.

13. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠5 3 ♥A Q 3 ♦Q J 9 8 7 6 ♣5 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

Solution 13: Again a perfect 2♣ bid showing a one suiter. The good spots in diamonds make this a no-brainer.

14. Both vul, you hold as South:

♠A K Q 10 5 3 ♥6 3 ♦6 ♣9 7 5 2

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| West | North | East | South |
| -    | -     | 1NT  | ?     |

Solution 14: Pass. If they transfer to hearts I will then bid spades. But I am hoping they will end up in notrump and I can run my undisclosed long suit.

## TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY

Problem on page 4

The slam legitimately makes if hearts are 3-2 with ♥A Q with West. However that holding has long odds. There is a way to make it when East has ♥Q x or ♥Q 10, is short in diamonds, and falls for your swindle.

Rise with the ♠A, setting the illusion that West has the ♠K. Now play three rounds of diamonds. From East's perspective he may think you have something like: ♠8 5 ♥A J 8 2 ♦K 7 ♣A K Q 5 3, and are trying for a fast pitch on diamonds. True you might have cashed two trumps first, but possibly not. If he falls for your gambit and ruffs small, overruff and play a heart. The full deal:

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

True West can rise with the xHxA and play a fourth diamond, but he will be more tempted to try and cash partner's hoped for ♠K.

# PLAN THE PLAY



The IBPA Files is a regular article in Bridge Canada and features articles from the IBPA monthly bulletin.

Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

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

West led the jack of hearts. East took the trick with the ace and returned a heart to declarer's now-bare king. Declarer saw that if the trumps were at worst 3-1 he could ruff his fourth club in dummy if required. So declarer cashed the ace of trumps at trick two. The revelation of the 4-0 break complicated things, making the idea of relying solely on the club suit for the extra trick unattractive.

Declarer saw that a safer plan was to play on diamonds, so he cashed the ace and king of diamonds and ruffed a diamond in hand. A trump to dummy's ten was followed by a second diamond ruff. Declarer then played the queen of trumps and overtook it with dummy's king. After drawing East's last trump with the jack, while throwing the three of clubs from hand, declarer claimed the last three tricks and his contract with the three top clubs.

Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| —    | 1♣    | Pass | 1♥    |
| Pass | 2♥    | Pass | 6♥    |
| Pass | Pass  | Pass |       |

West led the jack of spades after this agricultural auction. Declarer won the first trick with the ace of spades and then cashed the two top trumps. Next he took dummy's three club winners, discarding a diamond from hand. When the clubs were revealed to be 4-2, declarer ran the queen of diamonds next. When West produced the king of diamonds, declarer conceded down one.

"That was unlucky – my line had at least an 85% chance of succeeding," said declarer.

"It was a pity you didn't find a better plan," proffered dummy. "After everybody follows to the ace of trumps at trick two, you should cross to dummy with a club to lead a trump, planning to cover East's card if he follows. On this layout the jack would win and you would have had twelve certain tricks."

## THE IBPA FILES : PLAN THE PLAY

Dummy continued with, "Even if the jack of trumps lost to the doubleton queen you would still be still well placed. You could win the return and cash the three top clubs, claiming the rest if the suit proved to be 3-3. If the clubs turned out to be 4-2, you would ruff a club high and re-enter dummy by playing the four of trumps to dummy's six to cash the established club as your twelfth trick. Finally, if the clubs proved to be 5-1 or worse you would then fall back on the diamond finesse."

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| —    | 1♣    | Pass | 1♠    |
| Pass | 2♠    | Pass | 4♠    |
| Pass | Pass  | Pass |       |

This deal was played in a team match, with each table having identical auctions. The opening lead, the three of clubs, which both declarers assumed was a singleton, was also the same.

After winning the first trick with the queen of clubs, the first declarer decided to rely on trumps being 3-2. So he cashed the ace and king of trumps. Unfortunately, as the trumps were 4-1, this declarer could do no better than draw trumps and cash out for nine tricks.

At the other table, the opposing declarer also won the first trick in hand with the queen of clubs and then cashed the king of trumps. However, instead of playing a second trump at trick three, this declarer led the six of clubs toward the table. West saw that it would not profit him to ruff, so he discarded a diamond and dummy's king of clubs won the trick. East followed with the jack, indicating some values in hearts.

This declarer continued by ruffing a low club with a high trump, then played the four of trumps to dummy's jack. Next, he threw a low diamond on dummy's ace of clubs. West ruffed and, thanks to his partner's play in the club suit, shifted to a heart. East won the trick with the ace and switched to the queen of diamonds, hoping that his partner held the ace of diamonds. However, it was the declarer who took this trick with the ace.

Declarer then drew West's remaining trump with dummy's ace. All that remained at this point was to throw a diamond and a heart on dummy's two established club winners; declarer had made five trumps, a diamond and four clubs, for ten tricks in all.

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

## THE IBPA FILES : PLAN THE PLAY

| West | North | East | South            |
|------|-------|------|------------------|
| —    | 2♣    | Pass | 2NT <sup>1</sup> |
| Pass | 4NT   | Pass | 6NT              |
| Pass | Pass  | Pass |                  |

1. 8-10 HCP, balanced

West led the nine of diamonds and declarer played low, taking the jack of diamonds with the ace. At trick two, he led a club to the king. When East discarded a heart, declarer was in trouble. Regretfully, he saw that even if the spade finesse won, he would still only make eleven tricks. So, he played on clubs and made a safe eleven tricks.

"You didn't need to make four diamond tricks," said a disappointed dummy. "You needed five club tricks. If the clubs were at worst 3-1, then any normal play

in clubs would have produced five tricks. However, if the clubs were 4-0, as here, you could only have done something about it by winning the opening lead with the queen of diamonds and playing the king of clubs. West would have taken this with the ace of clubs and could have done no better than to play a heart to dummy's ace. You could then have entered hand by leading the eight of diamonds to your ace to lead the eight of clubs. West would have covered this with the nine and dummy's jack would have won."

"However, thanks to winning the first trick in dummy, you could then have re-entered your hand with the king of spades to lead your last club: dummy would have won the trick by covering West's card. As a result, you would have had twelve tricks: two spades, two hearts, three diamonds and five clubs."

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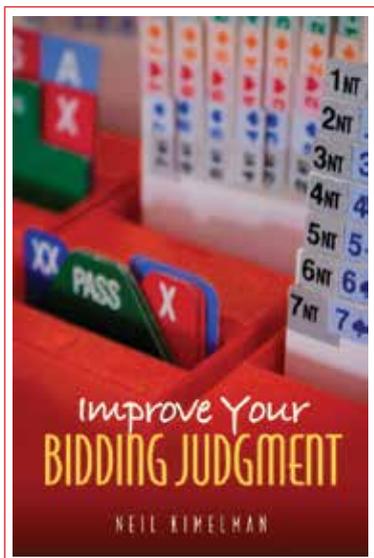
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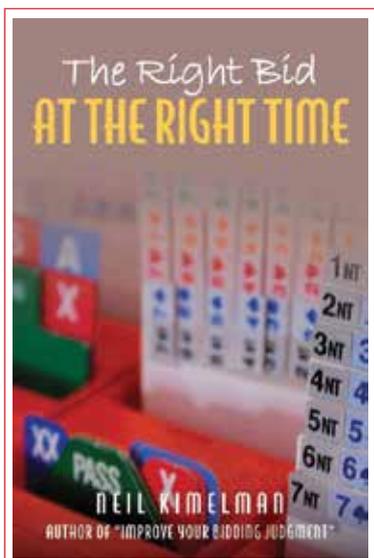
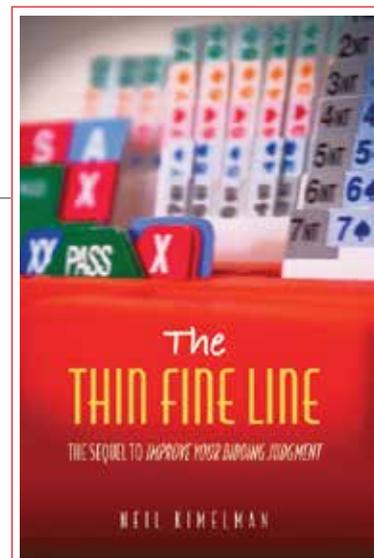
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# EVENTS & DEADLINES

Canadian Bridge Federation Calendar of Events as of AUGUST 1 2016. For more information see our website [www.cbf.ca](http://www.cbf.ca)

2016

## 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  
Jane Johnson Club Appreciation Month

Canada-wide Olympiad Fund Game  
October 3 (Monday evening)

ACBL-Wide Instant Matchpoint Game  
October 14 (Friday afternoon)

Errin Berry Rookie Master Game  
October 18

## NOVEMBER

Club Qualifying games for CNTC and COPC

ACBL-wide Charity Game  
November 22 (Tuesday evening)

Orlando Fall NABC  
November 24 - December 4

## DECEMBER

Club Qualifying games for CNTC and COPC

ACBL-wide INTERNATIONAL FUND GAME  
December 21 (Wednesday Evening)



## Important Dates

- 2016 The 16th World Youth Teams Championship | Salsomaggiore Terme | 3 - 13 August
- 2016 World Bridge Games | Wroclaw, Poland | 3 - 17 September
- 2016 Erin Berry Rookie Master Game | 18 October
- 2017 Toronto NABC | 20-30 July