

bridge *Canada*

In This Issue **2018 CBF CHAMPIONSHIPS : WINNERS & PHOTO GALLERY**



CNTC GOLD MEDALISTS: John Zaluski, Jeff Smith, Nicholas Gartaganis, Judith Gartaganis, Paul Thurston, Martin Caley. (Photo by Sam)

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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Editor's Message

NEIL KIMELMAN

Montreal CBC Coverage

The Canadian Bridge Championships (CBCs), which took place in Montreal, May 28 – June 3, 2018 overlapped the regular BC publishing day. (The first of every 2nd month). Therefore the June 1st issue release was delayed a few days so that we could list the winners from the major events. The August 1st issue will have comprehensive coverage of the main CBCs events, with all the winners writing about the hands that made the difference!

More Content for Intermediate Players

With a large number of CBF members having under 500 Masterpoints, I plan on having more articles targeting their learning. Please let me know if you have any specific ideas.

Neil Kimelman
Managing Editor, Bridge Canada

Photo Top: Neil with his Silver Medal CNTC A Team (l to r) Brad Bard, Neil Kimelman, Doug Fisher, Steve Mackay, Ray Hornby, Danny Miles, missing NPC Bob Todd. Photo: Michael Yuen.

TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY

Contract: 3NT

♠ 4 2
♥ A Q J
♦ J 7 4
♣ Q 9 7 5 4

♠ A K Q
♥ K 8 6 2
♦ K 10
♣ J 10 3 2

The Bidding

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Lead: ♦2 (4th best). East plays the ♦A

Plan the play. Answer on page 9.

KAPLANISM 5 *(Quotes attributed to Edgar Kaplan)*

Editor's note: This is the fifth in a series of quotes attributed to Edgar Kaplan, one of the game's greatest: He was a bridge writer, teacher, administrator, commentator, coach, journalist, player and lawmaker.

(Sidney Lazard, third to speak, favourable vulnerability, held ♠ 852 ♥ AK1075 ♦ J105 ♣ J7. It went pass, pass to him.)

'The effete, unimaginative two-heart opening did not appeal to Lazard, East at Table 3 – (instead) he chose the man's bid, one spade. Unfortunately, partner took him seriously, so East-West played in four spades on a deal in which one North-South pair played in five spades. Four spades doubled was not a triumph for machismo –down six, 1100.'

"The Houston Vanderbilt", TBW 6/78, p. 21



(L to R) Kathie Macnab, Marc Lachapelle, Cathy Walsh, Nader Hanna, Ina Demme, Neil Kimelman, Jerry Mamer, Angela Fenton

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President's Message



by Nader Hanna

We are all saddened to learn of the passing of the great Eric Murray. For decades Eric was one of the giants of the game in North America who battled the formidable Italian Blue Team for world bridge supremacy. In addition to being a great player, Murray was the visionary who founded the CBF more than 50 years ago. Rest in peace Eric, we shall all miss you.

On a happier note, it was great to see many of you at the 2018 Canadian Bridge Championships in Montreal, and congratulations to all the winners. Many thanks go to the Montreal Bridge League for its support, and to Jean Castonguay, Marc LaChapelle, Christine Bourbeau, Louise Mascolo and all the volunteers who helped organize the very successful championships.

Not only did we have 52 teams in the three flights of the Canadian Open Team Championships (CNTC A, B and C), but we also had 410 tables in the regional events held during the championships.

Next year the Canadian championships will be held May 4 - 12 in Burnaby, BC. I hope to see you all there.

2018 CBF Championships WINNERS GALLERY



2018 COPC

Gold: Marc Lachapelle, Xavier Combey

Silver: Terry Du, Kole Meng

Bronze: Fengming Chen, Chuan Hui Li

WINNERS LISTING

CNTC A

Gold: Gartaganis- Nicholas Gartaganis, Judith Gartaganis, Jeff Smith, Paul Thurston, John Zaluski, Martin Caley

Silver: Todd NPC – Neil Kimelman, Brad Bart, Ray Hornby, Doug Fisher, Steve Mackay, Brad Bart, Danny Miles

Bronze: D'Souza – Lino D'Souza, Kole Meng, Terrence Rego, Richard Chan, Ray Jotcham, Terry Du

Bronze: Litvack – Irving Litvack, Bob Kuz, Ganesan Sekhar, Ian Findlay, Jeff Blond, Dave Willis

CNTC B

Gold: Trudelle— Jean Trudelle, Philippe Champagne, Éric Reiher, Stéphane Reiher, Roger Martin, Danielle Boyer

Silver: Bellemarre – Jean Bellemarre, J-François Guillemette, Sébastien Noreau, Maxence Élie

Bronze: Sharpe – John Sharpe, Janet Sharpe, Helen Dillen, Gamil Tadros, Marc Maes, Chris Wuerscher

Bronze: Malone – Larry Malone, Pierre Gingras, Suzanne Viau, Pierre Dionne

CNTC C

Gold: Dong Y.— Yunjiang Dong, Ashot Harutyunyan, Shih-Chieh Fuh, Xiang Chen Zhu

Silver: Dong J. – John Dong, Martin Zhao, Cindy He, Max Cheng

Bronze: Picard – Jean-Marc Picard, Kevin Chu, Marc-Antoine Dufort-Boudreau, Jérôme Leclerc

Bronze: Mykytyshyn – Freddie Mykytyshyn, John Hindle, Kevin Tomanek, Jason Walpole

CSTC

Gold: Hanna – Nader Hanna, John Rayner, Michael Roche, John Carruthers, Joey Silver, Michael Hargreaves

Silver: Turner – David Turner, John Gowdy, Fred Lerner, Michael Schoenborn

Bronze: Bambrick NPC – Bill Bowman, Layne Noble, Deborah Harper, Tim Edwards-Davies

Bronze: McCully – Gerry McCully, David Smith, Doran Flock, Jym Galand

CIPC

Gold: George Mittelman, Ken Bercuson

Silver: Doug Baxter, David Lindop

Bronze: Sarko Kassabian, Maryse Hambrick

COPC

Gold: Marc Lachapelle, Xavier Combey

Silver: Terry Du, Kole Meng

Bronze: Fengming Chen, Chuan Hui Li

2018 CBF Championships WINNERS GALLERY



2018 CIPC

Gold: George Mittelman, Ken Bercuson

Silver: Doug Baxter, David Lindop

Bronze: Sarko Kassabian, Maryse Hambrick

2018 CBF Championships WINNERS GALLERY



CNTC A GOLD



CNTC A SILVER



CSTC GOLD



CSTC SILVER



CNTC B GOLD



CNTC B SILVER



CNTC C GOLD



CNTC C SILVER

Meet . . .

BRENDA DIANA BRYANT

CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPION

I was born and raised in Hamilton, Ontario. I moved to the U.S. in the late 80's to earn my Ph.D. in Ecological Community Psychology at Michigan State University. Now I work for Marygrove College (colleges are the same as universities in the U.S.) in Detroit, where I direct the Master of Arts in Social Justice Program.

I have entered seven CWTCs, with six top three finishes, including two wins.

What drew you to the game of bridge and when?

When I was a kid my grandfather would play crazy eights with me, and my Uncle Stanley (who was usually hiding out from the police ☺) taught me to play gin. Both encouraged me to remember the cards, and play with strategy. So I grew up loving cards. When I attended Sir Wilfred Laurier in Waterloo, I saw four people playing bridge. I went over, sat down, and learned the game while watching. I was hooked.

Tell us one or two of your favorite bridge stories?

After Apartheid fell in South Africa, Mark Molson and I were invited to South Africa to play in their national bridge event. The tournament was in Swaziland. One day I was walking to the "spa" to swim in a basin that was fed by a warm underground mountain



spring. I ran into one of the women hosting the bridge tournament. She was heading to the spa as well, but for a massage. When she found out I was headed to the warm spring to swim, she told me not to go because "the blacks" were in the water at that time of the day. I smiled calmly and told her that while I was Ukrainian (my mother's side), I was also black (my great great grandfather was a runaway enslaved man) and from the Oneida tribe (my grandmother's reserve). She

was clearly embarrassed. When we arrived – which was not a far walk – I changed and got into the water with "the blacks." To my amazement, she also changed and got into the water with "the blacks!" The look on her friends' faces was when they saw her in the water was quite amusing – they were simply dumbfounded. She just waved to them and told them that the water was beautiful and they should join us.

What is some advice you would give bridge players to improve their game?

I think bridge players have to be prepared. No matter if you are playing or defending a hand you must think ahead a few tricks. There are likely key moments in the hand where you do not want to hesitate when you are confronted with covering or not covering an honor

Meet ... BRENDA BRYANT

-- or playing your Ace when the singleton is led off the dummy -- or when to unblock your Kx, so you don't get end played. Conversely, declarer may have to play an Ace early in the hand, before the opponent recognizes the situation where he/she must unblock the K from Kx. Hesitations usually indicate a problem, giving information to opponents.

I think it is also very important to be a nice partner, one who brings out the best in the other -- especially after an error is made. Whining, criticizing, yelling, belittling brings out the worst in partners.

A couple of things people might now know about you?

I have a rescue dog Lange, who (on paper) is a lab-mix. She is quite the handful. Four or five years ago, renters left her and another dog tied up in a garage, in January, in Detroit, with no food and water. Detroit Dog Rescue and my friend, Amy Lange (from Fox 2 news) rescued the dogs. When Lange came up for adoption, Amy and other friends colluded behind my back. I got a call from Detroit Rescue confirming my overnight visit with Lange in hopes of adopting her. Lange never left.

Also, when I was at Sir Wilfred Laurier, I put myself through university singing in a band. We did weddings, banquets, lounges, things like that.

TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY SOLUTION

Contract: 3NT

♠ 4 2
♥ A Q J
♦ J 7 4
♣ Q 9 7 5 4

♠ 10 8 6 3
♥ 9 7 5
♦ Q 9 5 2
♣ A 6

♠ J 9 7 5
♥ 10 4 3
♦ A 8 6 3
♣ K 8

♠ A K Q
♥ K 8 6 2
♦ K 10
♣ J 10 3 2

The Bidding

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Lead: ♦2 (4th best). East plays the ♦A

Things are not looking good. You have a maximum of eight tricks outside of clubs. But if you attack clubs, the defence can score three diamonds and the ♣AK. You would LOVE for East to shift to spades at trick two (the likely shift looking at dummy). Is there anything you can do? Yes! Play the ♦K a trick one! Look at things from East's perspective. He knows that declarer has two (or three) diamonds. The most likely holding for declarer is ♦KQ. Why also would he play the King? Many East's would shift to, and continue spades.



THE CHOICE

By Michael Yuen

Here is a hand that came up recently, with a simple auction.

Playing IMPs, N-S vul, as North you hold:

♠ 5 3 ♥ K Q 8 3 2 ♦ A K 9 ♣ A 9 5.

The auction starts simply. Pass by East. 1♣ by partner, double on your right.

Your bid?

North has a choice of two bids. I polled a wide variety of players, many experts or world class, and I found the results interesting and educational. Thank you all for sharing your wisdoms and for being such good sports.

THE RESULTS

David Sabourin: "1♥, Is this a trick question?"

There were 29 votes for redouble, 69 for 1♥ and 2 spoiled votes. Let's start with the 2 spoiled votes.

Jan Jansma: "I often just bid 1♥, but Zia tells me I have to redouble. Ok this time I redouble."

Josee Hammill: "I was leaning toward redouble but Ron Bishop would bid 1♥....came up with all sorts of preemptive spade bids and I couldn't get my hearts in."

It's now or never.

Julie Smith: "Redouble, when has this happened in real life? Hope to figure out the rest of auction later."

Those that are going for a telephone number.

Fred Pollack, Don Domansky: "Redouble to set the battlefield."

Doesn't redouble say I have 10+ points and at least 4 cards in two of the other suits?

David Grainger: "Balanced hand, so I would redouble."

Some are mindful redouble may have a downside if met with a spade preempt.

Fred Lerner, along with **Doran Flock, Nick & Judy Garganis:** "Yes, it is going to be painful if it goes 4♠ back around to me. But I'm no better off if I bid 1♥. At least if I redouble, partner knows I have a good hand and he might have something to say over 4♠."

Neil Kimelman: 1♥ to show my suit. I will double any spade preempt or other bid to show invitational plus values. This is similar to overcall situations. I would overcall 1♥ over a 1♣ opening, and then double at my next turn to show hearts AND values. In this way partner can choose to defend or declare a heart (or other) contract, where it doesn't work the other way around.

Yet others chose redouble for technical reasons.

Jurek Czyzowicz, Pony, with Ernie Tredwell: "Redouble otherwise it may be hard to show the strength of the hand."

If you prefer redouble then you better have firm partnership agreements.

Trudy and John Hurdle: "Redouble is best if partner understands that a suit bid on the next round will show flexible game force values."

What if they raise? You are forced to double for takeout which doesn't rate to end well. Partner has opened the bidding. You have a five card suit plus 16 points — shouldn't you look for the best game or slam?

Andy Stark: "Good topic, redoubles are tricky. Guys like Robert Lebi have banned them....I bid 1♥... redouble auctions get convoluted."

Liam Milne, Doug Hansford with Robert Lebi: "A simple 1♥."

Taking time out from his house duties.

Haig Tchamitch (the Butler): "You could redouble, but you are not going to penalize anything till you've mentioned your heart suit. So what is the point?"

Bryan Maksymetz, Joan Eaton along with **Mark Horton:** "In general it works best to bid a five-card suit in this situation."

How about if you only have a four card suit?

Mike Dimich along with **Bill Treble:** "A major suit over a take out double is at least a chunky four card suit. Opener can raise on three to an honor."

Keeping up with the times, transfer over a club.

Allan Simon, Jordan Cohen, Paul Gipson, Guy Coutanche along with **Koach:** "1♦ if playing transfer over a club. I am not from the redouble school."

Others were concern how to show strength if the opponents don't bid over 1♥.

Mike Cassel: "1♥, if they don't bid, partner bid 1♠ or 1NT, I bid 2♦, game forcing. If Partner bid 2♣ I bid 2♦ NMF, over NMF if partner bid anything but 3♣, I bid 3♣ forcing."

Are the colours the meat of the problem?

Jeff Smith, Daniel Korbel, along with Martin

Henneberger: "1♥, redouble can be problematic.... Can we "punish" the opps at a low level in at least two strains?they may have a nine card fit in Spades or Diamonds. Redouble auctions can cause problems in "knowing" what constitutes a force or when the opps preemptive jump.... I will try to have an informative dialogue starting with 1♥."

Andy Anderson: "No interest in redouble.....ZERO interest at this colours...also if auction continues 2♠, P, P I will be sorry I didn't get my 1♥ in earlier."

Or is it because they have lots of spades?

Darren Wolpert, Marshall Lewis, along with Keith

Dowdall: "1♥. Even though we have lots of points they have lots of spades."

Drew Cannell, along with Colin Ward: "Beaver is a thought but when you ain't got spades bid quickly, especially when vulnerable. 1♥ for now and proceed as if you never heard the double."

Ross Taylor also mentioned it be less gruesome if he had bid 1♥ before 4♠ came back to him.

A page out of Mike Lawrence's book.

Steve Lawrence with John Gilbert: "1♥ forcing and unlimited."

David Turner: "I guess 75% vote for 1♥ (forcing) under the "ignore the interference- start describing your hand before they pre-empt" theory."

The last word goes to ...

Larry Hicks: "I'm trying to find a reason not to bid 1♥... but I can't."

The International Bridge Press Association (IBPA) is a world-wide bridge organization of more than 300 members in all corners of the world. Its main objective is to assist bridge journalists in their bridge related professional activities. The IBPA publishes a monthly online Bulletin, which consists of interesting deals involving some of the best players of the world, competing in key international tournaments.



DUEL OF THE MAESTROS

David Bird, Eastleigh, Harnps., UK



With three boards left in the 60-board quarter-finals of the European Winter Games in Monte Carlo, two of the world's top dummy players, Geir Helgemo and Boye Brogeland faced a tricky six-heart contract in their respective matches. How would you have fared?

First, we will see Helgemo, playing for Zimmermann against Lavazza:

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♠ ¹	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT ²
Pass	5♦ ³	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter
2. RKCB
3. 1 or 4 key cards

The CBF has purchased a membership in the IBPA, which gives us access to this Bulletin. Besides access, the CBF has the limited right to reproduce IBPA articles. Typically we feature one such article in each issue of Bridge Canada.

You can join the IBPA through a link on our website ibpa.com

THE IBPA FILES CONTINUED

Tor Helness's two clubs was game-forcing. At his second turn he might have bid three hearts, but opted for a splinter bid in spades. This suited Helgemo's hand and the slam was reached. How would you play it when Antonio Sementa leads the ace of diamonds and continues with the diamond five? (An unlikely singleton trump lead is the only sure way to defeat the slam.)

Deep Finesse assures us that declarer must continue with the queen of diamonds (or the eight of diamonds) now, even though East can ruff. Helgemo called for the queen of spades, covered by the king and ace. He ruffed a spade with the nine of hearts and did now play the queen of diamonds. Norberto Bocchi ruffed with the eight of hearts, overruffed with the king. After another spade ruff with the jack of hearts, the ace of clubs was played and the slam drifted one down. If declarer ruffed his last spade he would lose a trump trick.

Giorgio Duboin stopped in four hearts at the other table, making 11 tricks. Zimmermann lost 13 IMPs on the board but hung on to win by 107-98. With this match over, Roland Wald and I, voice commentators on Bridge Base Online, switched tables to watch the end of the quarter-final between Mahaffey and Netherlands Red. The Dutchmen led by 90-87 when the potential slam deal flashed up on our computer screens:

West	North	East	South
<i>Nab</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT ¹
Pass	5♣ ²	Pass	5♦ ³
Pass	6♦ ⁴	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. RKCB
2. 1 or 4 key cards
3. Queen ask
4. Queen of hearts and king of diamonds

Again two clubs was game-forcing. Espen Lindqvist preferred three hearts to a splinter bid, but the slam was reached nevertheless. At the other table of this match, Danny Molenaar had played in four hearts, making 11 tricks. It seemed that the match would be decided by the fate of six hearts.

Bart Nab led the two of clubs, won with the ace. Boye Brogeland ruffed a club immediately, a necessary move, and led a diamond towards dummy. Minutes ticked by as West considered what to do. Eventually, he rose with the ace, continuing with the jack of diamonds to dummy's king.

Leading the queen of spades or a trump next would be fatal, as the cards lie. Many further minutes passed before Brogeland called for dummy's queen of diamonds. Bas Drijver ruffed with the eight of hearts, overruffed with the king. Only now did Brogeland play the the ace of spades and ruff a spade with the nine of hearts. A club ruff and a second spade ruff with the jack of hearts were followed by a third club ruff. Declarer had reached this end position:

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

Brogeland took a third spade ruff and led the eight of diamonds to complete his performance with a trump coup. Mahaffey gained 13 IMPs and a few minutes later had won the match by 101 to 90. The play of the heart slam had taken a considerable time and the table was well over the prescribed time limit. Not one of the 3850 BBO kibitzers was complaining. They had rarely seen a better-played hand!

2ND EUROPEAN

Winter Games

Monte Carlo, Feb 17-23, 2018

Mark Horton, Sutton Benger, Wilts, UK

Seventy-eight teams competed for the Zimmermann Cup. There were 15 x 10-board matches over three days of Swiss qualification, followed by full-day knockouts for the top 16 qualifiers.

In the first round, I followed the fortunes of the holders (Monaco), who, following the traditions of other majors sporting contests, took centre stage on BBO. (There was the added spice of a father v. son element, although they sat at separate tables.) The match started quietly, but then burst into life.

SWISS QUALIFYING

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bakke	T. Helness	Rasmussen	Helgemo
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass	2♦ ²
Pass	2♠ ³	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass

1. Puppet to 2♦
2. Forced
3. Invitational

East led the queen of diamonds and West took the ace and returned the nine. Declarer won with the king,



THE IBPA FILES CONTINUED

played a heart to the queen and cashed the top clubs, discarding diamonds. Only now did declarer turn his attention to the trump suit and, having seen East's jack on the second round of the club suit, he started with the two. West's ace was a happy sight as it meant declarer could not lose more than two trumps; plus 420.

West	North	East	South
Versace	F. Helness	Lauria	Høyland
—	—	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the three of clubs and declarer took two rounds of the suit, pitching diamonds, crossed to dummy with the king of hearts and played a spade to the king and ace (in isolation this is the best line for five tricks at 42.95%, but ignores the evidence provided by the club suit). West played the queen of clubs and, when declarer ruffed with dummy's six of spades, East overruffed and switched to the queen of diamonds; one down, minus 50 and 10 IMPs for the holders.

In Round 3, there were a couple of deals that proved to be tough problems for declarer – whether they were in any way instructive I leave to your judgement.

Board 12. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Hoiland</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Stornes</i>
1♣1	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣2	Pass
2♦3	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 2+♣
2. Checkback
3. Neither 4 spades nor 3-card heart support

Would you overcall one heart with North's cards? Our vote is in the affirmative. North led the ten of hearts. Declarer won with the queen and played a diamond for the ten, jack and king. South switched to the jack of clubs, covered by the king and ace and North returned a club for the ten and queen. Declarer could knock out the ace of spades and cover the club return, claiming the balance for plus 400.

West	North	East	South
<i>Stabell</i>	<i>Kubac</i>	<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Zorlu</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Here, North led the five of spades. South won with the ace and switched to the jack of clubs, covered by the king and ace. North returned a club to the ten and queen and declarer played a diamond to the jack. When it held, he returned to hand with a spade and played the queen of diamonds, going up with the ace when North discarded a heart, and played a third diamond, South taking the king and returning a club. North won and exited with a club, but declarer could not go down from here, plus 400 and a flat board.

When Brogeland was in three notrump, Hoogenkamp, North, who had not overcalled, also led the five of spades, but South put in the ten and declarer won with the queen and played a diamond for the ten, jack and king. South returned the seven of hearts for the three, four and jack and now declarer had to guess where the missing aces were located. When he played a spade, expecting North to hold the ace South pounced with the ace and played a second heart, dooming declarer to a one trick defeat, minus 50.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ A Q 6 5 2
♥ K 7 5 3 2
♦ K 7 4
♣ —

♠ K 8
♥ 9 6 4
♦ J 10 3
♣ A J 8 6 4

♠ J 10 9 4 3
♥ 8
♦ Q 8 2
♣ K 10 5 2

♠ 7
♥ A Q J 10
♦ A 9 6 5
♣ Q 9 7 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Harris</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Root</i>	<i>Zia</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

That looks like a serious three notrump slam try. East led the five of clubs. Declarer ruffed West's ace, cashed the king of diamonds, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed a club, cashed the ace of spades, ruffed a spade, ruffed a club and exited with a diamond. East won and could now have ensured the defeat of the contract by exiting with a trump. When he obligingly returned a spade, declarer could ruff, ruff a club and cross-ruff the last three tricks for plus 1430. If declarer exits with a diamond instead of cashing the ace of spades, East wins and can exit with a trump, but now declarer can take the spade finesse and then cross-ruff his way home.



West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Hoogenkamp</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Helle</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2NT ¹
Pass	4♣ ²	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass

1. Heart support
2. Splinter

Here, East led the jack of spades. Declarer won with the queen, ruffed a spade, ruffed a club and continued the cross-ruff, cashing two diamonds along the way to flatten the board.

Meanwhile:

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Levin</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠ ¹	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass

1. Hearts

West led the jack of diamonds. Declarer won in hand, played a spade to the ace and ruffed a spade. His next, fatal, move was to cash the ace of hearts. He took a second round, crossed to the king of diamonds, ruffed a spade ruffed a club and drew the outstanding trump. There were only eleven tricks; minus 100.

West	North	East	South
<i>Lengy</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Bareket</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass

After a diamond lead, Multon won in hand, cashed the ace of spades, ruffed a spade, ruffed a club, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed a club, ruffed a spade and ruffed a club. These cards remained:

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

Multon ruffed another spade, but was careful to do so with the ace of hearts! The point behind this play was mentioned by Pierre Schmidt, commenting on BBO. When this spade is ruffed West can dispose of the ace of clubs. When declarer then plays a club from dummy, West ruffs with the nine of hearts! (exactly how Bénédicte Cronier brought about declarer's downfall in her match when he failed to see the danger and ruffed with the queen of hearts). If declarer overruffs, he is one down (East's heart eight will be the setting trick). So declarer must discard his diamond, but West plays a trump and declarer should realise his only chance is to win the trick with king of hearts. (See why it was necessary to ruff with the ace of hearts). The heart eight falls and the last two tricks are taken by the seven of hearts and the queen of spades. Beautiful, n'est-ce pas?

In Round 10, we were treated to a deal on which one of the best-known and most-popular players of modern times was given an opportunity to demonstrate his skills. We start with an excerpt from the match between Netherlands Juniors and No Name.
Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.



THE IBPA FILES CONTINUED

♠ Q J 9
♥ J 9 7
♦ A 8 7 6 4 2
♣ 6

♠ 7 5
♥ A Q 8 2
♦ J 10 9 5
♣ 10 8 2

♠ A 4
♥ K 10 6 5 3
♦ Q 3
♣ A J 7 4

♠ K 10 8 6 3 2
♥ 4
♦ K
♣ K Q 9 5 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Gundogdu</i>	<i>Kiljan</i>	<i>Imamoglu</i>	<i>Tijssen</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the jack of diamonds. Declarer won in hand with the king and played a spade to the queen, East winning with the ace and accurately switching to the three of hearts. West won with the queen and continued with the ace, declarer ruffing and playing the king of clubs. East won and returned a spade and declarer could manage only nine tricks; minus 50.

West	North	East	South
<i>Sprinkhuiz</i>	<i>Unal</i>	<i>M. de Leon</i>	<i>Sen</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♠	Double	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The play was almost card for card identical – the only differences being that East returned the five of hearts and declarer played the queen of clubs – no swing. However, from Mahaffey v. Coldea:

West	North	East	South
<i>Stegaroiu</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Ionita</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♠	3♥	3♠
4♥	4♠	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Once again, West led the jack of diamonds. Time stood still as declarer calculated – eventually, he put up dummy's ace of diamonds and played a club. East

found the fine play of ducking, but to no avail. Declarer won, ruffed a club with the queen of spades, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a club with the nine of spades, ruffed a diamond and ruffed a club, West pitching the eight of hearts. Declarer ruffed another diamond and played the king of spades. He could not be prevented from making an overtrick, plus 690.

Round of 16 – Mahaffey v. Indonesia Red & Ventin v. The Club Enthusiasts

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

♠ 6 4
♥ J 6 5 4
♦ K
♣ K Q 9 8 6 4

♠ 5
♥ K 8 2
♦ J 10 8 4
♣ J 10 7 5 2

♠ A J 8 7 3 2
♥ Q 9 3
♦ 7 3 2
♣ A

♠ K Q 10 9
♥ A 10 7
♦ A Q 9 6 5
♣ 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Karwur</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Bojoh</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	Pass	1♠	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the five of spades. When East put in the seven, declarer won with the ten and played a club for the king and ace. East cashed the ace of spades and exited with the three of hearts, West winning with the king and returning the eight. Declarer won with the ten and could count nine tricks for plus 400.



West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
—	Pass	1♠	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

The stakes were raised at this table. West led his spade and East took the ace and switched to the seven of diamonds. Declarer won with dummy's king, played a spade to the nine and a club for the king and ace. When East returned a diamond, declarer won with the ace and exited with a diamond. West won and calmly returned his last diamond, East discarding a spade. Declarer had nine tricks in view, but there was no way to reach the queen of clubs and he had to go one down, minus 100 and a fast 11-IMP start for Mahaffey.

I expect the reader will be ahead of me here when I explain how declarer could have made three notrump. When East exits with a second diamond after winning, declarer should simply continue with the master diamond and a diamond. West wins and is endplayed, either allowing declarer to enjoy the queen of clubs or having to open up the heart suit.

There is a winning defence, but it is not likely to be found at the table. West must lead a diamond, declarer winning, playing a spade to the nine, followed by a club to the king and ace. Now East exits with a heart and West wins and returns the jack of diamonds. Declarer plays three rounds of the suit to put West on lead, but a heart exit, East covering dummy's card will keep declarer off the table and eventually East will collect two spades.

Judge for yourselves what went wrong here – the outcome was a loss of 11 IMPs.



Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Karwur</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Bojoh</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT ¹	Pass
5♠ ²	Pass	6♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. RKCB
2. 2 key cards + queen of spades

North led ... drum roll please ... the two of diamonds. When declarer played dummy's four and South produced the queen East wished he had preferred six notrump.

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Lasut</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Manoppo</i>
—	—	—	Pass
4♦ ¹	Pass	4NT ²	Pass
5♠ ³	Pass	6NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 8-9 tricks with good spades (max. one loser),
2. RKCB
3. 2 key cards and the queen of spades



THE IBPA FILES CONTINUED

South led the jack of spades so that was plus 1020 and 14 IMPs for Mahaffey.

Bridge, like so many sporting contests, is frequently a battle between a top dog and an underdog – and sometimes the result is unexpected. In the match between the number 7 and 12 seeds it was hard to predict who might emerge as the winner.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Welland</i>
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

North led the four of spades and South took the ace and switched to the four of diamonds. That clarified the position in the suit and declarer was never taking more than nine tricks; plus 140.

West	North	East	South
<i>Gawel</i>	<i>Ventin</i>	<i>Jagniewski</i>	<i>Palma</i>
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

North led the king of hearts and continued with two more rounds of the suit. Declarer ruffed and played the queen of spades. South took the ace and tried for a promotion by returning the queen of hearts. Declarer ruffed high and played trumps, keeping the ace-ten-nine of diamonds and the jack-ten of clubs in dummy. South pitched the seven of clubs, followed

by the nine. If that promised an even number of clubs (no convention card!), South was now known to be 2=4=3=4. Declarer was already known to be 7-2 in the majors, thus could have only four minor-suit cards, so when declarer played his last spade, North, down to jack-fourth of diamonds, should have known it was safe to pitch a diamond. When he parted instead with the queen of clubs, declarer cashed the queen of diamonds, overtook the king with dummy's ace and ran the ten of clubs to bring off a pseudo guard squeeze that was worth 7 IMPs.

To be continued ...

PHOTOS: Meckstroth, Mahmood. Source: Winter Games Bulletin 08.





WHAT A TEAM!

This is my fifth year as Managing Editor of Bridge Canada. Since then we have made some big changes and improvements to this publication, and have received a lot of kudos for publishing a professional style magazine about Canadian Bridge. This outcome is the result of hard work by a number of individuals who collegially work together behind the scenes to ensure Bridge Canada is published bimonthly.



Ina Demme
CBF Coordinator

As the only full time employee of the CBF, Ina has many responsibilities. She coordinates CBF tournament and events, oversees membership management, facilitates Board Meetings and all communications to name a few. For Bridge Canada, Ina updates the calendar, ensures that all CBF-related material in the magazine is accurate and complete, and is one more set of eyes in proofreading prior to the publication of the final product.

Jude Goodwin
Publishing Editor



Jude started digitally publishing Bridge Canada in the 1980s when it was still known as the Canadian Bridge Digest and Aidan Ballantyne was editor. She went on to be editor herself for many years and now remains as publishing editor. Jude's job is to prepare the content supplied by editors Neil Kimelman and Francine Cimon. Her responsibilities comprise graphic design, desktop publishing and digital publishing.

“

Bridge Canada is the result of hard work by a number of individuals who collegially work together behind the scenes.

WHAT A TEAM!



Neil Kimelman

Managing Editor, Bridge Canada

I also have more than one role in publishing Bridge Canada. Firstly, I direct the content and direction of Bridge Canada. I am constantly soliciting ideas from CBF members to make this publication as meaningful to them as possible. I act a liaison with the CBF Board, and look for their feedback on future content and ratification of presented budgets. However, my primary role is to review all proposed content to ensure it is clear, grammatically correct, meeting the needs of the intended level of player, and has proper and complete bridge logic.



Francine Cimon

French Editor



Francine has a dual role. First she provides translation between the English and French Bridge Canada issues, as appropriate. In addition, she provides a second set of eyes, to ensure that articles are clear, complete and the any bridge analysis is sound. I am very happy that this Canadian Hall-of-famer is on the BC team!

Louise Mascolo

cbf.ca Webmaster

Along with a magazine, every good organizations needs a comprehensive website. Louise came on board as the new CBF.CA webmaster late last year and she's been busy this month fine tuning the CBF Championships website. Louise ensures each BC is posted to the website in a timely manner.



Cathy Walsh

CBF Finance Manager



Cathy was appointed as the CBF Accounting and Finance Manager in November, 2017. Cathy is responsible for the treasury and accounting functions for both the CBF and the CBF Charitable Foundation. As well, Cathy will act as a trustee of the Erin Berry trust fund.

Cathy can be reached at accounting@cbf.ca.

Cathy is a huge fan of teaching children how to play bridge and would like to see more Canadian juniors in bridge world. Her favourite bridge partner is her son Tom.

"I was fortunate that Tom agreed to take bridge lessons when he was 12, so that we could have an activity that we could do together. We have been able to spend many enjoyable hours together at the bridge table. I believe that summer vacations to bridge tournaments are the best type of holidays."



JACOBY TRANSFERS II

In Jacoby Transfers Part One (Bridge Canada April 2018), we discussed initiating a Transfer, as the responder, with any number of HCPs and a five card major. As a review:

1. Opener bids 1NT with a balanced hand and 15-17 HCPs .
2. Responder, with any number of HCPs, bids diamonds or hearts at the two level, one suit below the major in which he holds five cards.
3. The opener accepts the transfer by bidding two hearts or two spades, based on what suit the responder bid at the two level.
4. The responder shows his strength in HCPs:
 - a. 0-7, he passes
 - b. 8-9, he bids 2NT
 - c. 10-15, he bids 3NT

As we all know, the partnership is looking for a fit in a major. The responder promises at least five cards in the major and the opener, with a balanced hand, promises a minimum of two. Thus, the partnership knows they have a 7-card fit. Now the fun starts ... suppose the opener has three of the major or the responder has six. If this were the case, they have found an 8-card fit and could/should proceed in the major rather than notrump. Picture the following (see next page):

by Michael Abbey
THE NEW PLAYER
Spot

NEW PLAYER SPOT: Michael Abbey ... continued

Board 25. Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

Suppose the bidding proceeds as follows:

West	North	East	South
	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT

We are at the point where North knows that South has 10-15 HCPs and five hearts. South has just bid game in notrump. Armed with that information, North can take the contract back to hearts since he knows they have the magic eight card fit. North would finish off the bidding by going to game in hearts, then all would pass. The complete auction:

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

In summary, the opener's third bid is as follows:

- With two of the major, the opener leaves the contract in notrump; if the responder invited to game, the opener passes with 15 HCPs and considers going to three notrump with 16-17 HCPs.
- With three of the major, the opener takes the contract back to the major; if the responder invited to game, the opener signs off in the major with 15 HCPs and considers going to game in the major with 16-17 HCPs.

A similar situation comes up when the responder transfers with six cards in the major. His six plus the opener's two make the golden fit eight card fit. In this case the responder shows his strength in the major rather than in notrump. That tells the opener that he has six of the major. In other words:

With five of the major, the responder shows his strength in notrump.

With six of the major, the responder shows his strength in the major.

Picture the following:

Board 25. Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

The auction could proceed as follows:

West	North	East	South
	1NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠ ¹
Pass	Pass ²	Pass	

1. Telling opener he has 8-9 HCPs and six (rather than five) spades
2. They do not have enough for game, so passes.

NEW PLAYER SPOT: Michael Abbey ... continued

Let's summarize, then try of a few practice questions:

Bid #	Open	Responder
1	1NT	Transfer to ♥s or ♠s
2.	Accept transfer	With 0-7 HCPs , pass With five-card suit, show HCPs in NT* With six-card suit, show HCPs in major **
3.	With two-card support, pass or bid game in NT	

With three card support sign off in three of the major with a minimum, or bid four of the major with a maximum one notrump opener.

* With 8-9 HCPs , bid 2NT and with 10-15 HCPs , bid 3NT.

** With 8-9 HCPs , bid three of the major and with 10-15 HCPs bid game in the major.

Now for some practice ... bid the following hands to game or partscore, the first in each set belonging to the opener and the second to the responder:

1.	
♠ Q 7 3 2	♠ 9 8
♥ K Q 9	♥ J 10 8 6 2
♦ K Q J 2	♦ A 8 2
♣ A 8	♣ K 5 3

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

3.	
♠ Q 9	♠ 8 7 2
♥ A Q 10	♥ K 9 8 6 3 2
♦ K 9 3 2	♦ Q 7
♣ K Q 7 6	♣ 10 3

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

The envelope please ...

1.	
Opener	Responder
1NT	2♦
2♥	2NT
4♥	

2.	
Opener	Responder
1NT	2♥
2♠	4♠
Pass	

3.	
Opener	Responder
1NT	2♦
2♥	Pass

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

To quote a famous sow ... "That's all folks" ... (for now). As you may experience at the table, this could be the beginning of some more complex theory and bidding, based on your partnership agreement(s).

Visit Michael's website for beginners
at beginnerbridge.net



THE INTERMEDIATE SERIES **DEFENSIVE PLAY 10**

DEFENDING AFTER THE OPENING LEAD

By Neil Kimelman

We continue our study of defending, after the opening lead. In the last issue I stressed the importance of concentration and analysis during the bidding, when the final contract has been determined, and immediately after the laying down of dummy. The reasoning is that the first few tricks are usually critical, and often the difference between success and failure!!

You want to make your plays in a reasonable tempo if possible. Sometimes you need extra time because of the choices and defensive assets you may hold. It is perfectly okay to tell declarer, 'I need a minute to plan my defence.' Although telling declarer you have an issue, it doesn't tell them what it is. We also discussed the importance of contract levels and the type of scoring.

by Neil Kimelman
THE INTERMEDIATE
Spot

PLAYING TO TRICK ONE in suit contracts

Partner has led, declarer has called for a card from dummy, and now it is your turn. A couple of decisions you regularly face are:

DISCOURAGING AND ENCOURAGING

It is important to be clear what you are telling partner. *Encouraging* means one of the following:

- I like this suit as I have honours, and do not want a different shift. Ex 1: partner leads the king and you have the ace.
- I like this suit as I think I will get a ruff and do not want a different shift. Ex 2: you have a doubleton and partner has led the ace (you lead ace from AK), and dummy usually has three or four cards in the suit led.
- I do not want you to shift to anything else. This may simply mean you want partner to cash out, or you have no outside high cards, or you think a shift may give away a trick.

Discouraging simply means the opposite of the above, and you can stand a shift. When you discourage, a thinking partner will look at dummy and try to surmise what you have in mind. Often one suit stands out as the likely choice.

Be warned: if you think this is the case, and it is not what you want, you may be better off encouraging. Before looking at some examples of these principles, I need to address one other issue – shortness in dummy (suit contracts only). As I have written previously, I strongly prefer that the normal signaling regimen remain unchanged. An encouraging card means, ‘Continue partner if you stay on lead’, and ‘if you get in, I want you lead this suit again.’ Some prefer that the card 3rd hand plays is suit preference for the two other non-trump suits. The most important thing is for you and

partner to play the same way! Now for a short quiz.

Author’s note: Notice that I asked two questions after each quiz, what are you thinking and what do you play (or are planning). Unfortunately, many players deal with these questions in the wrong order. They play at trick one, and THEN start thinking. You will do better if you follow my order 😊.

QUIZ

1: You hold as East ♠ J 10 2 ♥ A 9 8 4 ♦ A 2 ♣ 9 8 5 4, and hear this auction:

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

♠ A K 9 4
♥ J
♦ 8 7 3
♣ K J 10 3 2

♠ J 10 2
♥ A 9 8 4
♦ A 2
♣ 9 8 5 4

Partner leads the ♦K. What are you thinking? What do you play to trick one?

2: With both vul, you hold as East ♠ K J 10 2 ♥ K 7 4 ♦ A 10 3 ♣ 9 5 4, and hear this auction:

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

♠ A Q 9 8
♥ 8 5
♦ 3
♣ A K J 10 2

♠ K J 10 2
♥ K 7 4
♦ A 10 3
♣ 9 5 4

Partner leads the ♦K. What are you thinking? What do you play to trick one?

Intermediate Spot : by Neil Kimelman ... Continued

3: You hold as East ♠10 9 2 ♥A 9 8 4 ♦Q 9 8 4 ♣5 4, and hear this auction:

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

♠ A K J 3
♥ 7 5 3
♦ 6 5 3
♣ J 10 6

♠ 10 9 2
♥ A 9 8 4
♦ Q 9 8 4
♣ 5 4

Partner leads the ♦J. What are you thinking? What do you play to trick one?

4: You hold as East ♠8 5 4 ♥K 9 8 4 ♦8 4 ♣8 7 5 4, and hear this auction:

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

♠ K 10 9 2
♥ 7 5
♦ 6 5
♣ K J 10 8 6

♠ 8 5 4
♥ K 9 8 4
♦ 8 4
♣ 8 7 5 4

Partner leads the ♦A. (A from AK) What are you thinking? What do you play to trick one?

5: You hold as East ♠9 ♥J 8 4 ♦9 8 2 ♣10 9 8 7 6 4, and hear this auction:

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	6♠!	All Pass	

♠ A K 10 3 2
♥ A K 7 5 3
♦ Q 10 3
♣ -

♠ 9
♥ J 8 4
♦ 9 8 2
♣ 10 9 8 7 6 4

Partner leads the ♦K. What do you play to trick one?

SOLUTIONS

Question 1:

It appears that partner has ♦KQx(x). Actually for partner to lead declarer's suit he should have an even better holding. Either KQJ(x) or KQ10x. The next thought should be about high cards. To give South an opening bid, he must hold all remaining high cards. Probably something like ♠Q x x x ♥K Q ♦J x x x ♣A Q. As a result you can count at least 10 tricks for declarer once he gets in: five spades and five clubs.

It looks like you are beating this hand! Two diamonds, one heart and a diamond ruff. So the first step is to overtake the ♦K and get your ruff, right? Wrong! Again if you take one more minute to project the play. Partner will win the 2nd diamond trick with his ten or Jack, cash the ♦Q, and then play his 4th diamond if he has it. This will promote a trump trick for you, so you are beating the contract two, right? If declarer ruffs high you pitch, and your ♠J10x is promoted to a trump trick (remember, if declarer ruffs the 4th diamond with the ace and leads a trump, play small!) Wrong! Declarer will simply throw his losing heart from dummy, keeping his trump holding intact.

So back to trick two. Instead of returning a diamond, cash your ♥A first. Now lead your diamond. Success, down two. One final note about this hand. If you considered playing the ♦2 at trick one, worried that partner has led from Kx (x...), this is losing bridge. Trust partner!

Question 2:

You can pretty well account for all the high cards, with declarer marked with ♥ A Q J x x x. You are not sure if any of your black suit honours will score, but you do know that declarer will finesse your ♥ K. If you discourage, declarer will likely win in dummy, finesse in hearts, cross to dummy with a 2nd honour, and finesse again. To make a long story short, you should encourage a diamond continuation by playing the ten, using standard signals. A good partner will trust you and lead a 2nd diamond forcing declarer to ruff. South actually held ♠ x ♥ A Q J 10 9 3 2 ♦ 7 6 ♣ Q 6 3, and you hold declarer to 10 tricks.

Question 3:

You know declarer has four spades and 16-17 HCPs. Partner has found a good lead, so you want to encourage, play the ♦ 9. Do not discourage with the ♦ 4, hoarding your high spots. It is not necessary when partner has indicated he has ♦ J 10 x(x). Also do not play a wish-washy eight! Declarer has work to do with limited dummy entries. Don't help him! This also means not rising with your heart ace on the 1st or 2nd round of the suit. Let declarer guess who has what? Declarer held ♠ Q 7 6 5 ♥ K J 9 ♦ A K 2 ♣ A 9 2. Despite having 26 HCPs, their 4-3-3-3 mirror distribution will likely result in down three! If you discourage at trick one, partner will likely shift to a heart, which will allow to declarer to save either one or two tricks.

Question 4:

You don't have a lot of information, but enough. Partner presumably has two diamond tricks. If you encourage he will play a 3rd diamond, hoping you can overruff dummy. You know you can't so discourage, and play the ♦ 4. The club suit is ominous, so partner will switch to the obvious suit, hearts.

Declarer held ♠ A Q J 7 6 5 ♥ A J ♦ Q 10 7 4 ♣ Q. Only a heart switch at trick two will defeat the contract.

Question 5:

There are two basic hands that South can have:

♠ Q J x x x ♥ x x x ♦ x ♣ A K Q x

♠ Q J x x x ♥ Q x x ♦ x x ♣ A K x

On hand two you want to cash your two diamonds, otherwise declarer can pitch them on his hearts. On board one this defence is disastrous, as declarer will ruff, and discard his third heart on the now established ♦ Q. The answer is easy, it just takes a partnership agreement of which I mentioned a couple of columns ago: At the five level or higher leading the ace asks for attitude, and the King asks for count. Even a nice alliteration reminder. So here you would play the ♦ 2, showing an odd number of diamonds, and partner will know what to do!



WHAT WENT WRONG

By Paul Thurston

One of the truly amazing things about making serious errors in the bidding is that those goofs won't always get the punishment purists might like. Case in point: this deal from an Online match in which the N-S pair on exhibit was part of the team rated to win the match going away – but actually weren't leading when this fateful deal turned the tide.

Hand 1: Dealer: North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3 NT
Pass	6NT	Pass	7 NT
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

The auction got rolling along as both players showed their hand's distribution without actually revealing any extra strength at least until North's eventual leap to the small slam and, (GULP!) South's re-raise to the grand, presumably based on his possession on one more diamond trick than he might have had. Of course that one diamond trick

by Paul Thurston
THE EXPERT
Spot

Expert Spot : What Went Wrong? ... Continued

wasn't going to be enough to stop the defense from scoring their ace – or was it?

Before trying to assess what went wrong with North-South's bidding, let's check in with East: "I've got an ace, they can't make seven notrump". Over to you West: what are you going to lead? "Before the double, I was probably going to lead the unbid suit but that double must be some form of Lightner Double asking for an unusual lead, often the lead of dummy's first-bid suit. But with so many spades in my hand, I can't believe partner would want a spade lead so I'll try the next most unusual lead."

The heart lead? Unusual, yes, successful, no as South rolled home with winners to spare: four spades, five hearts and seven diamonds for +1790 to North-South and 13 IMPs when the underdog team's N-S managed to stop in six notrump. A rather ugly result when a club lead would have given East-West +100 and 17 IMPs!

Should West have led a club after the double? Should East have expected a club lead anyway and not doubled to deflect his partner? I'd vote for the latter as the double really should be reserved to ask for a lead that wouldn't or couldn't be expected otherwise: whether that "unexpected" lead in this situation would have been a heart might be open to debate.

Back to the bidders and their "successful" (though perhaps a tad embarrassing) Grand Adventure: What Went Wrong? For my money, South violated one of the most basic premises of good partnership bidding: don't guess to bid a grand slam without a solid reason for doing so and the mere possession of an extra diamond wouldn't constitute a solid enough reason. Verdict: South got luckier than he deserved! This deal was somewhat reminiscent of another grand slam I witnessed this week on BBO when a pair of World Class experts (one a many-time World Champion) who should have known better apparently didn't!

Hand 2: Dealer: South. N-S Vul.

♠ A J 9 2
♥ K Q 6
♦ A K J
♣ Q 10 6

♠ K 8 4
♥ A J 4
♦ Q 6 3
♣ A J 9 4

(Note: East-West hands omitted until the grand reveal)

West	North	East	South
			1NT
	2♣		2♦
	4NT		5♠
	7NT		All Pass

A truly bizarre exchange as North rebid 4NT, a bid that the vast majority of expert players would intend as a delayed quantitative raise of notrump except that he had far too many points (after all, $20 + 15 = 35$) to invite a small slam and maybe just enough to consider inviting a notrump grand so why would he risk being passed in 4 NT? But nothing went wrong as the far more experienced North somehow intuited that his partner had erred and gave a Blackwood response, Roman Keycard for diamonds no less, as an answer to the ostensible quantitative raise of notrump! For some reason, that was enough for North to commit to the grand and now we might ask WHAT WENT WRONG?

Why, nothing at all as both the club King and spade Queen were onside and thirteen tricks rolled in! But what had gone wrong in essence was that North-South were winging it without either solid partnership understandings or a very effective system (or maybe both) in place and once again had found LADY LUCK on their side. In classical standard bidding, the auction might have gone:

West	North	East	South
			1NT
	2♣		2♦
	5 NT		6NT
	Pass		

Expert Spot : What Went Wrong? ... Continued

In this sequence, Responder's 5NT rebid forces to 6NT and invites seven with opener free to show an almost-acceptance and a five-card minor along the way just in case a suit slam might appear more attractive to responder. At least the odds-against grand would have been avoided! The deal also provides a great showcase for methods over one notrump that I advocate in my recent book: "Playing 2/1 The Rest of The Story".

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

2♦ = a game-forcing variety of Stayman.

2NT = no 4-card major, no 5-card minor

3♣ = tell me more

3NT = either 3-3-3-4 or 3-3-4-3 with a minimum

6NT = logical conclusion as there are insufficient HCP for a decent grand slam and, more importantly, with Responder and Opener both having only one four-card suit, there are only 2 suits that might provide a length trick to compensate for the missing HCP.

Lamenting the wave of artificiality infecting the expert game in the 1960's, the late great Edgar Kaplan wrote: "We've lost the club suit to artificiality and it seems diamonds will be next!" Absolutely correct as our next deal will illustrate!

Hand 3: Dealer: North. N-S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Dbf	Pass	Pass	1 NT
All Pass			

(NOTE: North-South were playing transfer responses to one club openings along with Walsh-style responses to one club in which diamonds are routinely bypassed in favour of showing a 4-card major (a diamond response is reserved for showing hearts!).)

So after one of those artificial sequences that Kaplan predicted, North-South's diamond fit was lost and they settled for eight tricks in one notrump after the defenders led and cashed hearts when all along, there was a vulnerable game bonus readily available in diamonds and even five clubs could be made. Note: it's extremely difficult to play in a strain that neither partner deigns to mention! WHAT WENT WRONG?

North may have belonged to that stubborn cult that believes all hands with 4-4 in the minors should be opened 1 ♣ even when there may be possible rebid problems looming (what was North going to rebid in an uncontested auction if South unsurprisingly showed spades?) and when not opening the more traditional 1 ♦ may result in the suit being lost? However, I have the nagging suspicion that pairs who play transfer responses over their club openings (but not over 1 ♦) are so enamoured with their toy that they strain to open 1 ♣ as often as possible. South's 1 ♥ response showed 4+ spades to allow West to double to show hearts (one spade by the Intervenor would have shown a takeout double with length in the red suits). North's pass over the double denied three or more spades as well as extreme length in clubs so very likely a fragment in hearts. To partially explain South's stopperless notrump rebid, he was simply trying to find some safe haven in the bidding storm and presumably two diamonds, the natural alternative, would have shown greater strength than he actually had.

But the bottom line was clear: no one bid diamonds and a game was easily makeable in that strain so to

Expert Spot : What Went Wrong? ... Continued

Edgar's delight, it's back to the drawing board for this partnership of transfer-devotees.

Most players prefer bidding to passing but without the best weaponry, the Tremeloes were right: "Silence Is Golden" (even with bidding boxes!).`

Hand 4: Dealer: West. Both Vul.

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

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

While it's true that South might have improved a trick or two in the play (he lost three trump tricks, one diamond and three clubs to turn over the dreaded sticks-and-circles – 1100 for E-W – the real question is how did N-S get so high with inadequate trumps and high cards – WHAT WENT WRONG?

As with many disastrous competitive auctions, the lion's share of the responsibility lies with the overcaller. When you lay a shaky foundation, bad things are almost certain to follow and 1NT was certainly shaky: no stopper in opener's suit and minimum point count to boot, two serious flaws that a more sober pass would have avoided. East's response was simply natural and non-forcing so the next call in question was South's decision to show hearts. He did have a decent six-card suit and he could reasonably expect that his club King would fit nicely with whatever club card(s) north might have as his stopper in Opener's suit. But the very serious fly in South's bidding ointment became clear

when north raised to game as he must have interpreted his partner's action as forcing to exhibit a serious lack of partnership understanding as well as a deficient armourer's cupboard.

The forcing versus non-forcing controversy focused on South's call is one the partnership should resolve as if it's going to be taken as forcing, South should pass and if it's merely competitive, North should be content to stay in three hearts- it looked like South voted "competitive" and his partner believed "forcing". But even better might be to go into the competitive bidding jungle with more than one way for south to show his heart length.

In this exact sequence, many expert partnerships have available a 2NT response by the overcaller's partner – sometimes called "Lebensohl" - as a way to show a purely competitive hand with a red suit. The two notrump call would command the 1NT bidder to rebid 3♣ over which an introduction of a red suit would be natural and competitive and overcaller would be expected to pass (although he might bid 4♥ with a fit and a tip-top maximum, certainly not with the actual seriously- flawed specimen!). That would leave 3♥ as natural and forcing and a jump to 4♦ as a Texas Transfer to 4♥ when Advancer had enough hearts and values to underwrite a game. And if the advancer wanted to make a simple natural raise of notrump, not available directly because of the artificial use of 2NT? Then he could make a responsive double of 2♠ to show about 7-9 HCP.

Best solution of all? Don't make imperfect overcalls of 1NT like this north did as it simply sets in motion many reactions that are going to prove unpalatable to the overcaller's side. Including being the subject to analysis in a WHAT WENT WRONG article?

New from Master Point Press



Hand of the Week

Joel Martineau

Perhaps the best way to improve your bridge is to watch an expert play, and try to understand the reasoning behind their bids and plays. Here, readers follow the bidding and play (or defense) of fifty-two deals – one a week for a year – and listen to the author's thinking as each hand develops. Understanding why the experts do what they do is the first step towards being able to do it yourself – at least some of the time!

Joel Martineau (Vancouver) was a finalist in the 2017 Canadian National Teams Championships. Since retiring from teaching literature at the University of British Columbia he has focused on teaching bridge.

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CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

JUNE

- 1&2 June Worldwide Bridge Contest
- 13 June Canada Wide Olympiad Game #1
Afternoon
- 17-24 June Day of Bridge Benefitting Alzheimers
Date selected by participating clubs

JULY

- 9 July ACBL wide Instant Matchpoint Game
- 25 July -5 Aug NABC Atlanta

AUGUST

- 8 -18 Aug World Youth Teams Championships,
China

COPC & CNTC Qualification Games

COPC Qualifcation- club level Sept - Dec
CNTC Qualifcation- club level Sept - Dec

SEPTEMBER

International Fund Month, clubs can hold any sanctioned game as an International Fund game to support Canada's international teams

- 4-9 Sept. CBF International Fund Regional
St. Catharines

- 13 Sept (Aft) ACBL-wide International
Fund Game

- 21 Sep - 6 Oct World Bridge Series
Orlando Florida

OCTOBER

- Oct 11 Canada wide Olympiad Fund Game #2
Afternoon
- Oct 25 Erin Berry Rookie Master Game



IMPORTANT DATES

- Aug 9-18 17th World Youth Team Championships Wu Jiang, China www.worldbridge.org
- Sep 22-Oct 6 11th World Bridge Series Orlando, FL www.worldbridge.org
- Oct 25-28 9th World University Championships Xuxhou, China www.worldbridge.org