

# bridge *Canada*



## **DOUBLE GOLD: DAVID CAPLAN - MARK CAPLAN**

**Winners of both the 2019 COPC and the 2019 CIPC**

SEE PAGE 5 FOR CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS WINNERS 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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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).

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Michael Yuen



## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

### BIDDING CONTEST, CANADIAN STYLE

**CASH PRIZES!** I am happy to announce The Great Canadian Bidding Contest! Starting in the October issue expert panelists will focus all their knowledge and skills in order to provide solutions to stumping bridge problems! You can play too! Around the first week of August, the five problems will appear on our website. All readers are invited to submit their answers, and the list of the top scores will be posted in the next Bridge Canada issue. The reader with the best combined score for the October and December Problems will receive a \$150 prize, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finisher going home with \$50!

### JUNE NEW PLAYER SPOT

**HOW TO PARTNER NEW PLAYERS.** I invite all Members to read this issue's instalment, as its target audience is the partners of new players.

### VANCOUVER CHAMPIONSHIPS

**VANCOUVER CHAMPIONSHIPS** - There was great bridge played early in May at the Canadian Bridge Championships. Congratulations to all the winners, who are listed elsewhere in this publication. Plus a short feature on a Vancouver great, Jim Donaldson. Articles on the main events by the winners can be found in this and the August issues of Bridge Canada.

#### NEIL KIMELMAN

Managing Editor, Bridge Canada

## KAPLANISM 11 *(Quotes attributed to Edgar Kaplan)*

Editor's note: *This is the eleventh 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.*

"And 7 imps when Lair-Wold guessed right to bring home a lucky game, while Wei-Meckstroth played a sound partial (it is astonishing how often the luck goes to the team playing better)..."

"...WOLD have been playing very well, although not quite so well as the figures ... would suggest. A few of their errors did not get into the totals, being duplicated at the other table. One example was that grand slam in the first quarter where the ace of trumps was unluckily located."

"Virginia Vanderbilt, II", *The Bridge World*, 6/79, p. 19 and 20.





(L to R) Ina Demme, Hugues Boisvert, Neil Kimelman, Angela Fenton  
Nader Hanna, Cathy Walsh, Wade Short, Jerry Mamer

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# 2019 CBF Championships WINNERS GALLERY



**CWTC GOLD**



**COPC / CIPC GOLD**



**CSTC GOLD**



**CNTC B GOLD**



**CNTC A GOLD**



**CNTC C GOLD**



**CMTC C GOLD**



**2019 HALL OF FAME  
Robert Lebi & Nader Hanna**

**WINNERS LISTING ON PAGE 6**  
PHOTO CREDITS: Michael Yuen

# WINNERS 2019 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

## *in Beautiful BC*

### CNTC - A

**Gold:** Nicolas L'Écuyer, Frédéric Pollack, Zygmunt Marcinski, Kamel Fergani, Marc-André Fourcaudot  
**Silver:** Judith Gartaganis, Nicholas Gartaganis, Keith Balcombe, Jeffrey Smith, Paul Thurston, John Zaluski  
**Bronze:** Bob Todd, Doug Fisher, Neil Kimelman, Brad Bart, Dave Willis, Jeff Blond,  
**Bronze:** Difan Wang, Jianfeng Luo, Mike (Xiaofang) Xue, Peter Wong, Yan Wang, Edward Xu

### CNTC - B

**Gold:** David Huang, David Hu, Diana Jing, Amy Gao, Yue Su, Barry Yamanouchi  
**Silver:** Sid Segal, Zoran Peca, John Anthony, Andrew Krywaniuk  
**Bronze:** Douglas Mann, Dinesh Agrawal, Raj Agrawal, Faiz Nadir  
**Bronze:** Robert Pratt, Kevin Strangway, Manju Singh, Kathy Phoenix

### CNTC - C

**Gold:** Jack Qi, Lucy Zhong, Morris Chen, Qiang Hua, Jack Qi Zhen, Cyril Tsou Vincent Yung  
**Silver:** Marc Furnemont, Jon Preston, Jon Gage, Bob Cheeseman  
**Bronze:** Jennifer Hong, Henry Yao, Flora Yan, Junukai Peng  
**Bronze:** Li Zhang Yang, Sheila (Xieyi) Xu, Yolanda Ling, Katherine Yang

### CWTC

**Gold:** Sondra Blank, Hazel Wolpert, Pamela Nisbet, Brenda Bryant  
**Silver:** Julie Smith, Judy Harris, Susan Peters, Susan Culham  
**Bronze:** Rhoda Tafler, Sheila Sache, Vicki Moffatt, Isabel Chernoff, Jean Groome, Ina Anderson  
**Bronze:** Monica Angus, Kathy Adachi, June Keith, Eurydice Nours

### CSTC

**Gold:** Nader Hanna, Martin Kirr, John Rayner, John Carruthers, Katie Thorpe  
**Silver:** Doug Andrews, Michael Dimich, Nick Stock, Stephen Vincent, Fred Lerner, Michael Schoenborn  
**Bronze:** Jerry Mamer, Len Raccette, Gary Johannsson, Dennis Nelson  
**Bronze:** Waldemar Frukacz, Jurek Czyzowicz, Piotr Klimowicz, Dan Jacob, Robert Lebi

### CMTC

**Gold:** Sandra Fraser, Douglas Fraser, Gerry McCully, Rhonda Foster, Jim McAvoy, Connie McAvoy  
**Silver:** Andy Anderson, Curely Anderson, Cindy Cossey, Glenn Cossey  
**Bronze:** Shelley Burns, Kelvin Raywood, Les Fouks, June Keith  
**Bronze:** Yue Su, Lawrence Pocock, Amy Gao, Baixiang Liu

### CIPC

**Gold:** David Caplan - Mark Caplan  
**Silver:** Daniel Bertrand - Abdul Fakhri  
**Bronze:** David Lindop - Doug Baxter

### COPC

**Gold:** David Caplan - Mark Caplan  
**Bronze:** Sheldon Spier - Michael Ainsley  
**Bronze:** Abdul Fakhri - Daniel Bertrand

### HENRY CUKOFF SWISS TEAMS

**1st:** Len Racette, Michael Gamble, K. Fung, Gary Johannsson  
**2nd:** Gary Harper, Donald Sache, Ron Ohmart, Doug Andrews  
**3rd:** Tao Feng, David Yu, Kai Zhou, Long Xie





## DECLARER PLAY 6

This is the sixth article in a new Bridge Canada series. Some of these concepts may be a review for you, but this series will also cover more advanced techniques and ideas.

### Declaring notrump contracts

In the first article of this series (Aug 18 BC) a Declarer Play Checklist was introduced as a methodology intended to improve your play of the hand. I included the full list in the February Bridge Canada article. I continue going down the list, focusing on item number 9:

#### 9. WHAT ARE THE OPPONENTS' SIGNALING METHODS?

In the last issue we started to address this issue by looking at notrump contracts. We discuss the inferences available by length leads, as well as learning if the opponents were using the Smith convention. It goes without saying that it is even more vital to know if their attitude signals are standard or upside down.

**Tip# 11:** *At the risk of repeating the tip from the last article in this series: As declarer check the defenders' convention cards to determine their length leads, their signaling methods, and any special conventions they use.*

A quick perusal of their Convention Card can also be an indicator of the level of the opponents. If you are unclear as to a method played by the opponents, ask! They have an obligation to fully explain their methods. Finally, most opponents are truthful, and their signaling methods are honest. They know that it is best to signal honestly, thus helping partner. Having said that, keep your radar up for the odd time when the opponents may be trying to deceive you. One common situation is when one opponent has all of the defensive assets, and knows a misleading signal will not adversely affect their partner's defence.

**10. WHAT DO DISCARDS AND SIGNALS MEAN?**

As we know, an encouraging signal is obvious – the opponents want their partner to lead that suit, as they have strength there. It is often the opposite message when a discouraging signal is made. Besides denying interest in the suit discarded, it often means high interest in another suit. Why didn't the defender then just signal encouragement in the suit they want led? The answer is usually because they can't afford to discard a card in that suit, or that a discard will be unclear.

**Example 1**

You are East and hold ♠AQ1032. You want partner to shift to a spade, you can afford to discard a spade, but the three does not look very encouraging, playing standard signals. Upside down signaling methods would have a similar problem with ♠AQ1098. Therefore it is better to discourage in another suit, preferably the one partner would most likely play, to get the message to them that you want a spade back.

**Example 2**

You are East and hold ♠964 ♥6432 ♦76 ♣AKJ10. The bidding is :

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
	♠ A K J ♥ 7 5 ♦ J 10 7 6 2 ♣ Q 7 6	♠ 9 6 4 ♥ 9 4 3 2 ♦ 9 3 ♣ A K J 10	

Partner leads the ♥Q. Declarer wins the ♥A, cashes the ♦AK, crosses to the ♠A and plays the ♦J.

What card do you:

Play at trick one?

Play at trick two?

Play at trick four?

The full hand:

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

You want to discourage a heart continuation. Normally holding a four card suit would be good, but here you KNOW what suit continuation will defeat 3NT. If playing standard signals, play the two. If playing upside down, play the ♥6 at trick one, your highest heart with the hope that partner can read it.

If playing the Smith Convention, your card at trick two confirms your interest in the suit partner led, in this case hearts. Playing standard Smith, follow with ♦3 at trick two, showing no interest in hearts. Playing upside Smith, the correct card is the ♦9.

Discard a discouraging spade at trick four. Partner already knows (or should know!) what you think of hearts. You cannot afford to discard an encouraging club, because that is the setting trick. So you discourage in the other suit. Had your hand been instead ♠Q1082 ♥6432 ♦76 ♣A102, you would discard a discouraging club at trick four, making it clear that a spade is the suit you want played at trick five.

**11. WHAT OTHER INFERENCES ARE AVAILABLE FROM A DISCARD?**

One of the more reliable inferences a declarer can draw from a discard is the length from which the defender is discarding. An important principle that is well known is not to discard from length in a suit, when there is length in dummy. So if dummy has ♠AKJ8 a defender will not



discard from a four card holding whether it is ♠Q1076 or ♠10765. A discard from either holding with likely cost the defence at least one trick. So, when a defender does discard a suit when looking at such a holding in dummy, you know that they either started with five plus cards in that suit, or fewer than four.

It is more difficult for the defenders to know what suit declarer has, and in which suit they need to hold. Declarer can use this to their advantage and try to mask their length in the key suit if possible. Look at this example:

### Example 3

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

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

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	2NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Your only chance is that clubs are 3-3. However if one opponent has at least 4-4 in the minors you may make him guess what suit to guard. Besides, there is no harm in ducking the first spade, winning the second, and then cashing four hearts. On the actual deal East has a nasty guess as to which four card to discard from, and may well go wrong. Notice that East would not have a guess had you won the first spade trick.

The full deal:

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

**Next issue:** We continue to examine the checklist and learn to use available information to our advantage

# QUIZ

MOLLO ON PLAY III

ANSWER PAGE 20

EDITOR'S NOTE: Victor Mollo treated us to some great characters such as the Hideous Hog and the Rueful Rabbit. In addition, he shared with us some great declarer play problems. In this limited feature, we present some of these gems.

CONTRACT: 6 ♥ AT IMPs  
LEAD: ♥ Q PLAN THE PLAY

♠ K 8 6 4 3 2  
♥ A K 3 2  
♦ -  
♣ 6 5 4

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

# Meet ... WADE SHORT



CBF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLAYER AND TEACHER

**Editor's note:** *Wade is the newest member of the CBF Board of Directors, replacing Kathie Macnab. Although he has big shoes to fill, the other Board members are looking forward to working together to improve Canadian Bridge.*

I was born in Outport, Newfoundland and spent most of my teenage years in Corner Brook. I was moulded by the Newfoundland environment before becoming an engineer. I have always tried to bring a certain amount of levity to all my work and personal activities. My personal belief is that whatever you do in life, must above all, be fun and enjoyable.

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

I was introduced to social Bridge while living in Riverview, NB and raising a young family in the 1980's. After moving to Montreal, New Jersey, New York, Scarborough and then returning to Halifax in 1998, my wife suggested that I take up a hobby to fill my spare time and provide some level of physical activity. I am quite certain that duplicate bridge was not one of the options, but one of the activities that I choose.

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

Results were tabulated using travellers with the usual stress being created for the director at the end of each game as the results were inputted into the computer and errors detected and corrected by that director. I remember our director who was normally quite calm during play time, would instantly turn into a ball of sweat

as she rushed to get all the results entered quickly while all those eyes were looking over her shoulder. Results now are automatically downloaded and most players do not even stay around after the end of playing to check their results unless they are in the winners section.

## **What is your most memorable bridge moment?**

Travelling to Dallas 2006 for the Spring NABC with my 83-year old bridge partner, Ellen Ayer, after winning the C division in our local NAOP competition (now called NAP's). The local competition was the only time that I had previously played with Ellen and I felt rather ambivalent about travelling to Dallas from Atlantic Canada for a 1-day competition. However, when I called her to enquire how she felt, she said that this may be her last chance to play in such a tournament, so we went to Dallas together. Ellen at age 97 now, I believe, is still playing bridge twice a week regularly at our local club and showing no signs of slowing down, physically or mentally.

## **What about life away from the bridge table?**

My professional career as a mechanical engineer was spent working in technical equipment sales and as a consulting engineer primarily servicing the mining and pulp and paper industrial process plants. My personal life was filled with three beautiful daughters and a beautiful and supportive wife. I like to think that we taught our daughters to be independent which led to their living in locations around the globe and Western Canada pursuing their own life paths in non-traditional careers.

I still enjoy part-time work importing heavy duty equipment to the Canadian mining industry and the occasional engineering consulting project.

## **What do you like to do besides bridge?**

I mostly enjoy physical hobbies from additions and fix-it projects at our retirement home on the beach in New Brunswick, to stained glass projects in my "special workshop" – ask me about it. My wife says that I am running out of windows but I think there is always room for more stained glass, so my challenge is to become more creative and build unique works of art to

replace the previous masterpieces.

I teach the occasional bridge course as well as facilitate classes on geology and science to our local senior's learning group called Tantramar Seniors College. Myers Briggs Personality analysis has proven useful to me in my career and I occasionally conduct MBTI workshops.

## **What is your favourite bridge book?**

My latest book was Eddie Kantar's Modern Bridge Defense given to me by a friend. As Eddie expresses it, you will be declarer 25% of the time; dummy 25% of the time; and on defense 50% of the time, so significant opportunity can often be realized if you can improve your defensive play.

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

Find a player on roughly the same skill level who enjoys to play without becoming obsessive about results. If there is one obstacle to advancement, it is playing with a partner who has an excessive number of conventions since you will continuously disappoint each other. On the other hand, you need to add conventions when you are both ready for that jump, and occasionally play against the "big guys" at tournaments. Club play can be enjoyable but the tournaments raise the experience to a higher level. Above all, enjoy the game and if you find it overly stressful, you have two choices: either improve your game or find another partner.

## **Can you share any amusing stories with us?**

Another Bill gates story here: playing in Las Vegas in their Sectional in 2003, Bill Gates was playing at the adjacent table. I introduced myself and had a short conversation before asking Bill if he would mind a selfie together. He agreed and I sent the photo to my wife who was taking a Yoga for Seniors Teacher Training in North Carolina at the time. In the vernacular of today's young adults, I simply labelled the pic "My new BFF...". She had no idea who the other guy was, and had to get help to identify him.





# by Michael Abbey THE NEW PLAYER *Spot*

## HOW TO PARTNER NEWER PLAYERS

In the big picture, I am very new at this game. The ink is still wet on my memories about what it was like at the beginning. Based on my experiences at the table, starting in November 2014, I have put together the top 10 guidelines for playing with new people.

As seasoned players in this game, each and every one of us is responsible for enriching the experience of new players. Please ingest the following and add what you see fit to this list.

**10** Most of the time, you are one of many people they play with; do not expect a short chat before the game will lead to their remembering much.

**9** The time to discuss “what you did not like” is not during the play. In most cases, the time to discuss what you may not have liked is when you have played with them many times and they ask to know.

**8** Smile all the time and, even if disappointed with something they do, smile.

**7** Unless you have a smile on your face, do not make eye contact with them immediately after a hand is played; body language can be more damaging than verbal.

**6** They may be in the midst of enjoying the game and it is your responsibility to not change that enthusiasm.

**5** Make no comment on what they could have or should have said during the auction, or done during the play of the hand. Only offer feedback after the game if asked, and keep it simple.

**4** Use no jargon while at the table - it alienates them and adds nothing to the outcome of the play.

**3** Politely play a role in their learning the accepted (and actually mandated via the laws) way to make the opening lead.

**2** Do not say anything to opponents about their beginner status unless asked to do so by the beginner player.

**1** You used to be them :).



by Neil Kimelman

THE **INTERMEDIATE**  
*Spot*

## THE INTERMEDIATE SERIES **DEFENSIVE PLAY 14**

### **DEFENSIVE STRATEGIES**

*By Neil Kimelman*

I continue looking at some general defensive strategies. This issue:

### **ANTICIPATING DECLARER'S PLAN.**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The general strategies employed by declarer can be lumped into some broad categories:

- Trumping losers.
- Setting up long suits.
- Getting the opponents to help you.
- Playing suit combinations in an odds-on way to maximize the number of tricks.

The trick, for a defender, is to as quickly as possible recognize declarer's plan, and look to see if there is any way to counter their plan. Although this defensive strategy can occur throughout the hand, the 'heavy lifting' thinking usually occurs before trick one, and continues on for the following several tricks. It is your job as a defender to play your cards in a way that maximizes your tricks, and makes it hard for declarer to realize the true holdings of the defenders.

## TRUMPING LOSERS

Leading trumps will reduce the number of tricks declarer can ruff. This can still be an effective strategy after the opening lead. Gauging when this is the best strategy is largely a matter of learning from experience. However there are other indicators that can be helpful. One is when you have 3-4 trumps and they are all small. Declarer is more likely to attempt a straight cross-ruff when their trumps are high.

Another indicator is when there is a second suit declarer wants to set up, and how well the suit is sitting for declarer.

### Example 1

As West you hold ♠ 43 ♥ 975 ♦ 75432 ♣ KJ10 and hear this auction:

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

The auction screams for a trump lead, but you know the diamonds are sitting well for declarer. They may need one ruff at most to set up the suit. I would lead the ♣J, hoping to find partner with one of the high honours. However if you instead held a hand with good diamonds, like ♠ 43 ♥ 975 ♦ Q10932 ♣ KJ10, I would lead a trump.

## SETTING UP LONG SUITS

You often get an inkling of what you can expect before dummy is tabled.

### Example 2

As East you hold ♠ 10743 ♥ Q103 ♦ AQ2 ♣ 874 and hear this auction:

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

There is a good chance that declarer will need to attack diamonds to come to nine tricks. Is there anything you can do to thwart declarer's intentions? Two strategies come to mind before seeing dummy:

- Winning the first diamond trick with the ace!
- Ducking the first round of diamonds.

The 2nd option is more likely, and is used to limit declarer's communication between their hand and dummy. Perhaps this is the layout:

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

On the ♠J lead, declarer will win the ♠K and lead a diamond to the jack. If you win the first round of diamonds declarer can always succeed. He wins the likely spade return with the ♠Q, and leads the ♦5 to dummy. East will eventually win his ace, and can continue spades. Declarer wins the ace, takes the



remaining diamonds, and leads the ♣Q, to set up the king, their ninth trick.

Conversely, they have no chance if play the ♦2 on the key trick two! Declarer will likely play a heart to their ace, and lead a 2nd diamond, thinking West has the queen. East wins the ♦Q, and continues spades. Declarer has only one sure entry to dummy, and the diamonds are not set up. With the ♥K behind the ♥Q, declarer will go down, scoring only one diamond trick!

### GETTING THE OPPONENTS TO HELP YOU

A good declarer will try and enlist your help to make their contracts. This can be done in several ways. One is to endplay one defender, often getting them to lead a key suit, or perhaps surrender a ruff and a sluff. Sometimes they will try and squeeze one or both defenders. Defending against these strategies is very difficult, and mastering them is the realm of the expert player. It still is wise to be aware of them, and start to learn and apply good defensive techniques and strategies to counteract them. For example, say declarer on your left is in a 4♥ contract. He has pulled trumps, and this is the ending:

♠ 9	♠ -	♠ 8 6 4
♥ -	♥ 4 2	♥ -
♦ -	♦ -	♦ -
♣ ??? 2	♣ Q 7 6	♣ J 5
	♠ -	
	♥ 5 3	
	♦ -	
	♣ ?? 3	

Declarer has lost two tricks, and on the first round of clubs being played, leads the 3, 2 from partner and Queen from dummy. And you?

The full end position:

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

If you woodenly play the five declarer will lead a 2nd round and duck your jack. You are then forced to give declarer a sluff and a ruff. But had you unblocked and played the ♣J on the first round, partner would be able to win two club tricks defeating the contract. What if declarer had the ♣10? Then you weren't beating the hand anyways, as declarer always has two club tricks once the ♣J appear.

However the best way a good declarer can enlist the defenders support is by putting off a key play until they have had a chance to gather as much information on the opponents hands as they can: distribution, high card points, discards, etc... Again, masking your hand can be difficult or impossible sometimes, so it is best to try and minimize the information declarer has at their disposal, before having to make the critical guess or play.

There are several ways to do this, most of which are very advanced techniques. However there is one all players can practice: Don't bid for bidding sake. I covered this subject in detail in my three books. One of the common mistakes less advanced players make is preempting all the time. Just because you have a six or seven card suit, this doesn't mean you have to bid! Especially when you are vulnerable, where you are much less likely to have a successful sacrifice available.

### PLAYING SUIT COMBINATIONS IN AN ODDS-ON WAY TO MAXIMIZE THE NUMBER OF TRICKS

Here are a few more suit combinations, where knowing advanced techniques can thwart declarer:

#### Example 3

	<b>Dummy</b>	
	♠ K Q 10 3	
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>
♠ J 8 6		♠ A 5 2
	<b>Declarer</b>	
	♠ 9 7 4	

Declarer needs two tricks from this holding. They will likely lead to the king. If you win the ace on the first round of the suit, declarer will have no choice but to finesse the ten. But if you play small smoothly, declarer will lead another card to dummy, but has to guess who has the ace and who has the jack.

For the same reason if this was the set up...

	<b>Dummy</b>	
	♠ K Q 10 3	
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>
♠ A 8 6		♠ J 5 2
	<b>Declarer</b>	
	♠ 9 7 4	

...West has to duck the first and the second round of the suit to give declarer a guess. Here is another common set-up:

#### Example 4

	<b>Dummy</b>	
	♠ K 10 7 3	
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>
♠ J 8		♠ A 5 2
	<b>Declarer</b>	
	♠ Q 9 6 4	

let's say spades are trump, and declarer leads a small card to the king. You can win the ace, and partner will likely score the jack later. But perhaps there is a reason you want partner to be on lead. Ducking the first round of the suit smoothly will accomplish this goal.

**Next issue:** I will continue to address Anticipating Declarer's Plan. Specifically:

- Undisciplined bidding, and the impact it can have on the defence.
- More ways to thwart declarer's information gathering efforts.



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# Growing Up With Bridge Lingo

by Katie Coopersmith

When Meckstroth doubles, the game becomes rich in overtricks.

"Two no trump."

"Pass."

"Hmmm...ace queen third."

Sound like bridge jargon to you? Well, it is. But for me, it was also – to a large extent – part of the soundtrack of my childhood.

My parents are both bridge players, you see. Actually, 'players' might be an understatement: they're bridge fanatics. They met at a bridge tournament (I know, adorable) in 1982, quickly became each other's partners both at the table and in life, and embarked upon a lifetime of reading *Bridge World* at the breakfast table, meeting with friends for dinner and cards, and yelling at each other from their respective upstairs and downstairs computers while playing an online match.

They took a break from the bridge world for several years after I was born (what can I say, I guess I'm just as stimulating as grand slams and the intricacies of bidding!), but they returned to the table when I was seven or eight years old. As a result, I was dragged along to many of the aforementioned dinner party-bridge game hybrids. Usually I'd just read my book, but sometimes I'd get to fill in for the dummy when a player was in the bathroom. This was my first foray into the vast and overwhelming world of bridge lingo. I loved getting to say (or rather, yell) "PASS!" each time it was my turn, and I soon learned to ape my parents' card jargon...sort of.

You see, I'd learned a seemingly never-ending list of bridge terms early on ("finesse," "double," "redouble," etc.), but, much to my parents' chagrin, I have absolutely no interest in learning the game itself. As a result, all I'm able to do is cobble together these bizarre terms into nonsensical sentences that my parents think are hilarious.





## Growing Up With Bridge Lingo

by Katie Coopersmith

One particular story that my mom likes to tell is the time when earnest 11-year-old me said, with a big smile and a deadpan tone, “When Meckstroth doubles, the game becomes rich in overtricks.” I’d been hearing my dad talk about dynamite American bridge duo Meckstroth and Rodwell, you see, and all I can assume is that I was basically a human sponge for all of the language I was hearing.

If bridge talk isn’t quite technically a language in and of itself, it’s a dialect at the very least. It has its own conventions, its own humour, and a never-ending supply of code words. Wikipedia’s “Glossary of contract bridge terms” contains a list of words and phrases that would take most people days to work through. It’s so impossible to understand for those who don’t play the game that I always kept a book around even into my adolescence and young adulthood so that I’d have a way to tune out when my parents inevitably began ‘talking bridge’ around me. They’d always apologize when they caught themselves doing it, and I definitely don’t fault them for it – I can tell just how much fun it is.

It’s certainly worth noting, however, that anyone dreaming of learning the game of bridge is going to be faced not just with the task of learning an intensely complicated card game, but also with learning a whole new language. What’s more, I would imagine that learning bridge lingo would likely bring with it some if not all of the benefits of bilingualism, which include faster stroke recovery, delayed onset of dementia, improved empathy, and increased grey matter.

As Charlemagne said, “to have another language is to possess a second soul” – so despite the work that it may take to learn how to ‘talk bridge,’ it’s probably worth it.



*Did You Know?*

## Jim Donaldson AKA Dr. Death

Jim Donaldson is the name of one of Canada’s all-time great players that you might not know. Jim lived from 1937-1982. He was a brilliant bridge technician and theoretician.

“Jim Donaldson was undoubtedly one of the top ten Canadian talents of all time.” ~ Allan Graves.

Jim primarily played bridge in the Vancouver area. He was not only a great player with many Regional wins to his credit during his short life, but was also considered a highly ethical player. However his greatest impact might have been as a great partner and mentor for developing players, such as Alan Graves, Joel Martineau and Lawrence Betts to name a few.

Gary Harper, in an article for the May 10 CBC Daily Bulletin, notes: “In an era of nicknames akin to professional wrestling, gentle-manly Jimmy was given the antithetical nickname of *Dr. Death*. Perhaps quite apt since many an opponent’s good round died at his table.”

His bridge prowess and contributions are recognized by the Jim Donaldson Trophy, going to the winners of the annual Canadian Open Pairs Championship.

# A Bittersweet Tale of 7♠

By Doug Andrews



The finals of the Canadian Senior Bridge Championships (CSTCs) held in beautiful Burnaby British Columbia pitted the defending champion Hanna team (Nader Hanna, John Rayner, John Carruthers, Marty Kirr) against the heavy underdog Andrews team. Andrews comprised local BC players Doug Andrews, Michael Dimich, Nick Stock, and Stephen Vincent who all played together until Andrews left BC in 1985, and was augmented to six by veteran players with multiple championships, Fred Lerner and Michael Schoenborn, known to all as the Shoe.

For those readers unfamiliar with the Shoe, his many victories and quick analysis are only surpassed by his non-stop talking 😊.

Through two quarters the Hanna team had raced out to an almost insurmountable lead, but Andrews had recovered slightly in the third quarter. With Shoe in his bed and VuGraph for Fred, Andrews sat down to try to overcome a 35 IMP deficit.

On this hand they cut the lead in half.

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

At one table, the auction proceeded:

West	North	East	South
	<i>Vincent</i>		<i>Stock</i>
3♣	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	7♠
All Pass			

# A Bittersweet Tale of 7♠

By Doug Andrews

Nick Stock intended 4♣ to ask about the majors. When Stephen Vincent showed spades, had two key cards and the ♠Q of spades, the ♣K and surely some other values for 3NT, Nick bid 7♠, which made.

At the other table, the auction was:

West	North	East	South
<i>Dimich</i>		<i>Andrews</i>	
Pass	1♠	Dbl	2NT
4♣	4♠	All Pass	

The random take-out double and Michael Dimich's barrage in clubs had the desired effect of both opponents underbidding their cards.

Next a reported cell-phone violation cut the lead in half again, adding new meaning to the expression "to go for a telephone number". Would the Andrews team be able to escape Zeno's Paradox? (Never being able to reach the desired destination because first you must get half way there and next you much get half way of the remainder, etc. and you eventually run out of boards.)

The likelihood of running out of boards increased on this deal. In first chair, with both vulnerable you hold: ♠ 3 ♥ A876532 ♦ Q105 ♣ K10. Do you pass, bid 1, 2, or 3 hearts? Elizabeth May would choose the green [pass] card, but not these Zoomers. With so much defence outside the heart suit and lacking key heart honours, I opened 1♥. The auction proceeded double, 1♠ by partner, pass, 2♥ by me, all pass, and we made nine tricks for +140. At the other table, opener started with 3♥ and the auction proceeded double, pass, 3♠, pass, pass, double, all pass, and partners made seven tricks for -500.

The full deal:

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

In fact we did run out of boards, the Hanna team emerged victorious by a small margin. Congratulations to Nader, Marty, and the two Johns, and best of luck representing Canada in China.

## WAY TO GO CBF!

Congratulations to the CBF on a fine choice of playing location and especially to CBF Director, Angela Fenton, who worked hard to hold the event in BC so local players could participate easily. The event was well-run and the food and hospitality were outstanding. The induction ceremony for the CBF Hall of Fame was a humorous affair thanks to the speeches of John Rayner and Paul Thurston, with timely interjections by John Carruthers. Both inductees, Nader Hanna and Robert Lebi, have made significant contributions to Canadian bridge and will continue to do so. It was announced that Nader will serve on the Executive of the World Bridge Federation and Robert has generously donated \$25,000 to support junior bridge in Canada.



# A Bittersweet Tale of 7♠

By Doug Andrews



CSTC GOLD: Marty Kirr, John Carruthers, John Rayner, Nader Hanna

Returning to the byline of this story, in the post-mortem it emerged that a critical hand was the following push, where each declarer (North) made 4♠.

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

The play at both tables started similarly. East led the singleton diamond won by the ace and declarer led a small club from his hand won by West's jack. Winning defence is to shift to the ♠Q, after which declarer eventually runs out of tricks. However, Michael Dimich shifted to a low spade. Now declarer can make the hand by playing the ♠J. If East wins the king declarer can make the 10 tricks when the spade queen falls.

But after East ducks the ♠J, then declarer can take the heart finesse (the defender must cover to avoid leaving declarer in hand to ruff a club), pitch a club on the remaining heart honour and lead a heart.

1. If West ruffs with the ♠Q, declarer overruffs with the ace. Declarer can succeed now by ruffing a club in dummy, leading a heart and pitching his last club – a Scissor's Coup - cutting the communication between East-West so they cannot score a diamond ruff.
2. If West pitches, declarer ruffs low, and then ruffs a club and leads a heart. If West now ruffs with the queen, declarer still pitches a club, and the defence can only score one more trump trick. If West does not ruff declarer ruffs and draws trump conceding a spade and

a club. Note that this line of play does not work if West had led the ♠Q rather than the small spade the first time.

However, at our table when partner led the small spade to trick three, declarer judged that the 8, 9, 10, J of spades were all equal and played a low spade. Holding ♠K72 of spades I failed to find the winning defence of playing the ♠7. Declarer could win the eight but he would be in dummy – the wrong place for both the heart finesse and a club ruff. If I had played the ♠7, our team would have been victorious.

## CSTC FINALS

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Hanna	47	55	15	1	118
Andrews	32	24	26	34	116

CSTC Semi-finals. Photo courtesy Michael Yuen.



## THE IBPA FILES

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.



*This series represents a collection of articles by the following authors: Ron Tacchi, Vaupillon, France; Barry Rigal, NYC; Brian Senior, Nottingham, UK; Mark Horton, Shrewsbury, Shrops., UK; Jos Jacobs, Maarn, Netherlands; Jerry Li, Beijing; David Bird, Eastleigh, Hants., UK; Ana Roth, Buenos Aires; Ron Klinger, Northbridge, NSW*



# The 15th World Bridge Series

## 11th Rosenblum Cup

**Editor's note:** *This is the final of a four-part series on the 11th Rosenblum Cup, held in Orlando last September.*

### Final Stanza 2 – LAVAZZA v ZIMMERMANN (Senior)

Two multi-national teams (four Poles, three Italians, two Argentines, one Dane, one Frenchman and one Swiss), met in the final of the 2018 Rosenblum. At the end of the first of six 16-board sets, ZIMMERMANN led by 41-22, and they added to that lead on the first deal of the second set.

Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Madala	Multon	Bianchedi	Zimmermann
—	3♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

For ZIMMERMANN, Franck Multon opened three spades and played there. Alejandro Bianchedi led the king of diamonds, then switched to the king of clubs. Agustin Madala overtook that with the ace and continued with the jack, after which Multon could get a club ruff in dummy for his tenth trick; plus 170.

## THE IBPA FILES CONTINUED

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
—	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

For LAVAZZA, Dennis Bilde opened a level higher, knowing that his partner would never play him for a suit of this power and quality if he opened a mere three spades. This too ended the auction and Piotr Gawrys' start was the same as Bianchedi's, with the king of diamonds, than the king of clubs. The difference here, however, was that when Michal Klukowski also overtook the club, he switched to a trump. Bilde won and, knowing that he would not be permitted a club ruff, played three rounds of hearts, ruffing, then two rounds of spades ending in dummy. When spades did not divide evenly he was a trick short; down one for minus 50 and 6 IMPs to ZIMMERMANN.

On the following deal, Duboin defeated a vulnerable game that was let through in the other room.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Bianchedi</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

North led the four of clubs to partner's king. Zimmermann returned his original fourth-best club, so Madala could duck and force Multon to win the trick. Dummy discarded a spade. Multon cashed the ace of spades, on which Madala unblocked the king to create an entry for a second diamond finesse, if needed, then exited with a heart. Madala could overtake the second heart and lead the nine of diamonds to the ten and queen, cross to the jack of spades, cash the hearts and lead a second diamond. He had ten tricks for plus 630.

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

At the other table, after the same first trick, Duboin returned the ten of clubs at trick two. Then, there was no escape for declarer and the defence took the first five tricks for down one and minus 100; 12 IMPs to LAVAZZA, who closed the gap to 34-48. "Thank you partner," said Bilde.

### Final Stanza 4 – LAVAZZA v ZIMMERMANN (Bird)

Half-way through this final, after three sets of 16 boards, ZIMMERMANN had a chunky lead of 111-76. Their opponents, LAVAZZA, would not regard this as an impossible mountain to climb, but they would want to take some steps into the foothills pretty quickly.

Board 59. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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





## QUIZ

### MOLLO ON PLAY III

### SOLUTION

Contract: 6♥ at IMPs.

Lead: ♥Q. Plan the play.

♠ K 8 6 4 3 2  
♥ A K 3 2  
♦ -  
♣ 6 5 4

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

♠ Q 10 9 7  
♥ -  
♦ A Q J 9 7 5 2  
♣ 10 8

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

If South wins the first trick, he will then play the ♠A K. If spades are 3-2, declarer has enough entries to set up spades, If West has four spades, declarer can ruff the third spade, and use his last trump entry to dummy, and lead a fourth round of spades, discarding a club and end-playing west. If East has four or five spades, or west has five spades, declarer can play to the club ace, cross back to the high trump in dummy, and lead a club towards the queen. Thus, the contract will be defeated only when spades are 5-0, or east has four spades, and the club king is offside. Chance of success: about 91%.

However, if south ducks the first trick, he can now make the contract any time spades don't break 5-0, about 96%.

Is the extra 5% chance for the contract worth the possible loss of an overtrick? Sure it is. And wouldn't it be fun to duck the first trick and thereby make the contract?

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Bianchedi</i>	<i>Klukowski</i>
—	—	—	2♦ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	4♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	4♥ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	4♠	4NT <sup>4</sup>	Double
5♣	Double	5♦	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Weak two in either major
2. Bid one under your major
3. Forced
4. Two-suiter

The three of clubs (low from a doubleton) was led went to the ten and ace. Declarer led the queen of diamonds, won by the king. Bianchedi, East, was subsequently able to establish the clubs, losing the setting trick to the ace of diamonds.

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

1. Two-suiter

Sementa led the five of clubs to the queen, king and ace. Helness led a second round of clubs, with an eye to setting up the suit. Bocchi won and switched to the ace of spades, ruffed by declarer. At this point, it seemed likely that declarer would lose two further tricks, to the ace and king of trumps. However, When the queen of diamonds was led, Sementa put on the ace. Gasps and exclamations came from some 3300 kibitzers around the world. They were familiar with this sort of thing happening at their local club, but not in a world championship final. Perhaps Sementa feared a later endplay, but it was difficult to visualize how this would arise. Helness discarded his heart losers on the clubs and picked up plus 550 for a gain of 12 IMP to ZIMMERMANN.

ZIMMERMANN went on to win fairly handily, 241-162, having led the match since Board 2, and never having been behind.



# New from Master Point Press



## PREEMPTS



## Preempts

Warren Watson

It has been many years since any bridge author attempted a comprehensive description of preemptive bidding, and much has changed in the interim. Modern players open the bidding on lighter values, and preempts, formerly based in at least a semblance of sanity, are now made on the flimsiest of excuses. This is a comprehensive treatment of preemptive bidding – not just when to open and with what, but the issues surrounding constructive and obstructive bidding in the subsequent auction.

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# CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

## JUNE

June 12 Canada Wide Olympiad Fund Game  
June 16-23 Select a day for Alzheimer Fund Games

## JULY

8 July ACBL wide Instant Matchpoint Game

## AUGUST

6 Aug ACBL-wide Junior Fund Game  
Open to all ages

## SEPTEMBER

12 Sept ACBL-wide International Fund Game

## OCTOBER

Oct 10 Canada Wide Olympiad Fund Game  
Oct 29 Erin Berry Rookie Master Game  
Oct 31 ACBL-wide Instant Matchpoint Game

## DECEMBER

16 Dec ACBL-wide International Fund Game

*Photos this page by Clint Bustrillos on Unsplash*



## IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL 2019 DATES

Jul 18-28	ACBL Summer NABC Las Vegas, NV <a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Jul 25-27	Youth NABC in Las Vegas
Aug 20-29	6th World Open Youth Championships Opatija, Croatia <a href="http://worldbridge.org">worldbridge.org</a>
Sep 14-28	44th World Bridge Team Championship. China <a href="http://worldbridge.org">worldbridge.org</a>
Nov 28-Dec 8	ACBL Fall NABC San Francisco, CA <a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>