

# I/N News ... especially for you!

Volume 3, Issue 3

Suzi Subeck, Editor  
 Tom Sucher, President  
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## BIDDING BOX PROCEDURES and SKIP BID WARNINGS by Jim O'Neil

### Bidding Box Procedures

A player is obligated to choose a call before touching any card in the box. Deliberation while touching the bidding box cards, removing bidding cards prior to the call being considered "made," etc., may subject the offending side to the adjustment provisions of Law 16. A call is considered made when a bidding card is removed from the bidding box and held touching or nearly touching the table or maintained in such a position to indicate that the call has been made. Until a call is considered made, the director will treat the situation as unauthorized information and apply Law 16. After a call is considered made, the director will apply Law 25.

A call, once made, may be changed without penalty under the provisions of Law 25 only if a player has inadvertently taken out the wrong bidding card, *and* the player corrects, or attempts to correct without pause for thought, *and* Partner has not taken action (picking up the bidding cards after the auction is over constitutes taking action).

Using bidding boxes, an Alert is made by tapping an Alert card on the table or by tapping the Alert strip on the side of the bid box. In addition, the Alerter must say "Alert." To "Announce" when Bid Boxes are being used, the Alert strip is tapped and the appropriate spoken statement is made.

The skip-bid warning is given using bidding boxes by displaying the stop card, making a call and then replacing the stop card in the bidding box. LHO is obligated to wait 10 seconds (while giving the appearance of studying his hand) before making a call.

### Skip Bid Warnings

#### HOW AND WHEN MADE

Players should protect their rights and the opponent's by announcing, prior to making any subsequent bid that skips one or more levels of bidding:

When bidding orally by saying, "I am about to make a skip bid. Please wait!"

When using bidding boxes, by placing the stop card so that LHO sees it (the skip bidder is responsible for gaining LHO's attention). The skip bid is made. The stop card is replaced in the bidding box.

#### SKIP BID

The skip bid warning may not be used to alert partner that a strength-showing bid is being made or not being made. *The warning should be used all the time.* The tournament director may assess a procedural penalty (Law 90) for failure to comply.

*(Continued on page 2)*

Count your cards as  
soon as you remove  
them from the board.  
It is hard to win if you  
are not playing with a  
full deck!



**Madison Sectional  
Eagle School  
5454 Gunflint Trail  
Madison WI  
Friday, 12/5/2003  
10:00 A.M.  
Stratified Swiss Teams -  
Playthru  
(A = 1500+; B = 750-  
1500; C = 0-750)  
1:30 P.M.  
Open Pairs - Stratified  
(0-500; 500-1500; 1500+)  
7:00 P.M.  
Open Pairs (strata as  
above)  
Saturday, 12/6/2003  
9:30 A.M.  
199er pairs Stratified  
0-20, 20-99, 100-199  
1:30 P.M.  
Open Pairs - Stratified  
(0-500; 500-1500; 1500+)  
ACBL members with 0-5  
pts play free  
7:00 P.M.  
Open Pairs (strata as  
above)  
Candy Bar Awards for  
Top Finishers on Sat.  
Sunday, 12/7/2003  
10:00 A.M.  
Stratified Swiss Teams -  
Playthru  
(0-500; 500-1500; 1500+)  
Cheese Awarded to Top  
Teams  
Chairman:  
Diane Vaughn  
(608) 238-0851  
Partnerships:  
Jacob Morgan  
(608) 271-6460**

(Bidding Box Procedures and Skip Bid Warnings, continued from page 1)

## OPPONENTS OF SKIP BIDDER

When RHO has announced a skip bid, the player following the skip bidder must wait for a suitable interval (about 10 seconds). In waiting the player's manner must be one that suggests he is an active participant in the auction (the hand should be studied during the pause). Any obvious display of disinterest is most improper.

## EXPERIENCED PLAYERS

Experienced players are expected to maintain proper tempo whether a skip bid is announced or not.

## QUESTIONING

After a skip bid, players may ask questions but must still pause an appropriate amount of time for study.

## FAILURE TO PAUSE

When a player acts with undue haste or hesitation, the tournament director may award an adjusted score (Law 16) and/or procedural penalty (Law 90).

## Practice Makes Perfect by Ellyn Batko (my friend Irma)

For years I've been promising myself  
Someday, I'm gonna get better.  
So now I'm going to sit right down  
And write myself a letter:

Dear Irma,  
You must get better; You can't get worse.  
Duplicate bridge is a terrible curse.  
I arrive at the game in a terrible fluster.  
It takes all the energy a person can muster.  
Now starting from scratch wasn't easy you know  
Considering that was a long time ago.  
I watched and I waited, hoping someone would say,  
"Hello, I'm Paul Soloway, would you like to play?"  
But alas and alack, the opponents would smile,  
"Why don't you stay and watch me for a while?"  
As soon as I learned to count to 13,  
There was so much more that playing could mean.  
There has to be more to life I always say,  
Than winning at bridge on a hot summer day.  
But try as I must and I'm sure you'll agree,  
It's a thrill to make five when your opponents make three!  
So I'll just keep going at the usual pace,  
"Practice makes perfect," I say to my face.  
I'm ending this letter for off I must race...  
I'm playing duplicate today at my favorite place!

*Ellyn Batko (my friend Irma)*

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# An Open Letter to District 13

## by Tom Sucher, District President

Twelve years ago when I returned to the game of Bridge after 35+ years of absence, little did I know what was ahead of me. What a welcome was given to me by players, club managers, club directors, tournament chairpersons, staff and directors. Since then there has been a treasure of friendships and memories.

To some of you it may not seem important to be involved with the game, other than playing, but for me volunteering for the different tasks necessary to make club games and tournaments successful is essential.

Appointment to the Unit 123 Board has been an honor. More of you should try it. Being able to chair tournaments has been one of my greatest pleasures. Working with other Unit Board Members has been an opportunity not afforded many people. The support they have given me was expressed by selecting me to serve on the District 13 Board of Directors for which I am thankful.

Thus it happened that after service at the District level the District Board of Directors elected me to the office of President. This is considered by me to be one of the highest honors ever bestowed upon me. I take this office with humility and gratitude and will strive to continue to contribute to this game. Thanks to all District Board Members for this opportunity. It has truly been a great pleasure to work with each of you and know that we can do so in the future.

To all my mentors, teachers and friends—thanks so very much to all of you. You have certainly contributed to who I am today. Your support and encouragement will never be forgotten. Special thanks to my wife for her continuing support in all my bridge endeavors.

To Marilyn Charlson, out-going President, and Sandy O'Brien, out-going Treasurer, my sincere thanks for the outstanding effort contributed by you to the success of District 13.

Let us all strive to make each Bridge experience pleasantly memorable for each and every person participating. Have respect for the game, the staff, your partner, your opponents. Enjoy!!!!!!

Again, thanks to all of you in my bridge community for your support and friendship. It really is important to me.

Sincerely,  
Thomas Sucher  
President, District 13

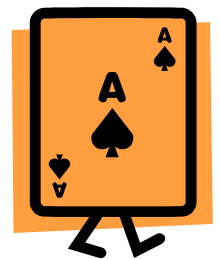
*There is a great article in the August 13, 2003, ACBL National Bulletin about Tom and his work for District 13 in particular and bridge in general. The article may be found on page 6 of the "Play Bridge" section.*

*Tom is the one we credit with the idea of serving "healthy snacks" at tournaments. He is the one who originally organized and arranged for the delicious fruit and veggies we share at our Regionals.*

*In his spare time, Tom runs a duplicate game on Wednesday nights in the Palatine area.*

*Tom and his lovely wife, Margaret, are wonderful people. Meeting folks like them is what makes bridge such a worthwhile social activity. Be sure to seek Tom out at any area tournament and introduce yourself. You will enjoy meeting him and he will enjoy meeting you too.*

*Reading bridge books  
and magazines is the  
best way to learn the  
game and keep up  
with recent laws and  
the newest conventions.*



Sometimes a duck is best, but don't let your aces get away from you!

**Fallfest  
Silver Point  
Sectional**

**Robert & Carl Lindner  
Conference Center  
660 E. Butterfield Rd.  
Lombard, IL  
630-705-8263**

**Friday, November 14**  
10:30 a.m.

Future Master Stratified  
Pairs

7:30 p.m.  
Future Master Pairs

**Saturday, November 15**  
1:30 p.m.

Future Master Stratified  
Pairs

7:30 p.m.  
Future Master Stratified  
Pairs

**Sunday, November 16**  
11:00 a.m.

299er Stratified Swiss  
Teams:  
0-100, 100-200, 200-300

**Stratification:**

All Future Masters: 0-  
20,20-50,50-100

**Great Playing Site**

**Free Parking**

**Great Hospitality**

**Tournament Chairman**

Jim Kolb:  
630-961-5750  
jakolb@att.net

## You Do the Honors ... part 1 ... by Stan Subeck

The most important cards in a deck of 52 are the honor cards. Yet many bridge players misplay these cards regularly. As a defender, a great deal of confusion can arise from playing one's honor cards in the wrong order and a great deal of information can be conveyed to one's partner by correct play of these cards. As an adjunct, a good declarer will play honor cards in a manner which not only doesn't help the defenders, but may actually lead them astray.

Honor play by the defenders can be divided into four categories: leading a suit, third hand play to a suit which partner has led, second hand play to a suit played by declarer, and fourth hand play to declarer's (or dummy's) lead. The proper plays in each of these positional categories are further subdivided by whether one's play will capture the trick. These plays are also influenced by whether the contract is no trump or suited.

**Leads:** Let's start with the simple stuff – "Leading Honor Cards". Every partnership must have a set of agreements regarding the leads of honors. Generally these agreements are the same for leads during the hand and for opening leads. Let's assume that your opening lead agreement is to lead the "highest of touching honors" in suit contracts. In no-trump contracts your agreement is to lead the highest of touching honors with the following variations: (1) The lead of a Queen asks partner to unblock (play) the Jack; (2) The lead of a King asks for an unblock of any honor card; and (3) The lead of an Ace asks for attitude (i.e. signal whether you like the lead of this suit?)

These agreements are long-tested, solidly thought-out agreements. They are used by experts as well as beginners. If you follow these agreements, you will be able to play easily with anyone.

Now you know which honor to lead. How do you decide when to lead an honor card? First, if you hold a sequence of four honor cards, it is almost always best to lead that suit. A sequence of three honors is almost as good to lead, especially against a suit contract, where tricks can go away. A three card honor sequence in a long suit is often better to lead than the same sequence in a short suit, where you might be leading declarer's (or dummy's) side suit.

Two card sequences are more dangerous to lead, but are often the best choice against suit contracts. The strongest two card sequence is Ace-King. Leading the Ace allows you to hold the trick and see dummy. Your partner's play should help you decide whether to continue the suit and with which card to continue. As a simple example, if dummy holds three small cards in the suit and your partner follows with an encouraging card, you would generally continue with the King and then lead a small card for your partner to win either with the Queen or a trump. If dummy or you have length in the suit led, you must be careful to avoid crashing your side's honors and losing a trick. If partner plays the Queen under your Ace, he is telling you that he can win the next trick in that suit (assuming you hold the King). He holds either the singleton Queen or a sequence containing at least the Queen-Jack. A special signaling situation also occurs when the Ace is led (presumably from Ace-King). If the Queen is in dummy, partner should give count so that the leader knows whether or not the King will cash.

Leading from a King-Queen combination establishes a trick quickly, even when declarer holds the Ace. Unfortunately, leading from this holding can cost a trick, when the declaring side holds both the Ace and the Jack. Leading from King-Queen in a long suit is less likely to cost a trick and also quickly establishes a trick in a suit which declarer might be able to discard given sufficient time. On the lead of a King, partner can encourage when he holds the Jack, since he presumes you hold the King-Queen. Conversely, he generally will not encourage you to continue the suit if you lead the Ace and he holds the Jack, since declarer probably holds the Queen.

The least desirable lead of the two card holdings is Queen-Jack. There are many positions that exist where the lead of the Queen costs a trick. On the other hand, if you hold a long suit headed by the Queen-Jack, the lead is less likely to cost a trick and often establishes tricks for your side. Once dummy appears, it becomes easier to analyze the value and risk associated with leading from a Queen-Jack holding. A good example of this is when declarer holds A9x and dummy holds KTx. If

*(Continued on page 11)*

*Size matters!*

*Always show length*

*before strength in the*

*bidding!*



I want to learn bridge but  
first I have to learn to  
count!

# Declarer Play: Playing the Odds and Improving Your Skills

Bridge is a game of percentages. When you are declarer, it is always helpful to know these simple odds combinations. It will give you the best chance to successfully make your contract. This knowledge will enable you to better figure out your best chance to take the maximum number of tricks in various situations.

Knowing the odds will also help you decide which overall line of play you should take to make your contract. For example, if you have to choose between playing for a 7-card side suit to break 3-3 or taking a successful finesse, you'll know that the finesse offers a higher percentage of success (50%) than the suit break (36%).

Here's a brief summary of how suits will break and how likely it is that a finesse will be successful.

## Odds of suit breaks:

*In general:*

- An **ODD** number of missing cards will tend to break **evenly** -- if you are missing 5 cards in a suit, they will divide 3-2 more often than 4-1.

- An **EVEN** number of missing cards will tend to break **unevenly** -- if you are missing 6 cards in a suit, they will divide 4-2 more often than 3-3.

## **If you have a combined fit of 7 cards in a suit (your opponents have 6 cards):**

- Odds of a 3-3 break = 36%
- 4-2 = 48%
- 5-1 = 15%
- 6-0 = 1%

## **You have 8, they have 5:**

- 3-2 = 68%
- 4-1 = 28%
- 5-0 = 4%

## **You have 9, they have 4:**

- 2-2 = 41%
- 3-1 = 50%
- 4-0 = 10%

## **You have 10, they have 3:**

- 2-1 = 78%
- 3-0 = 22%

## Finding honors:

Your expected percentage of success when you need:

- One finesse = 50%
- One of two finesses = 75%
- Two of two finesses = 25%
- At least two of three finesses = 50%

**The presence of spot cards** (10's and 9's) will often increase your odds of finding or dropping honors:

- **AKQ10** opposite **xxx** = 61% chance of four tricks (because even when the suit breaks 4-2 or 5-1, the jack may drop singleton or doubleton).

- **AJ98** opposite **xxx** = 38% chance of three tricks (by finessing the 9 first, you'll succeed when the K10, Q10 or KQ10 are onside).

Simply memorizing these odds will increase your game 100%!

## Improving Your Card Skills

### **Try memory exercises.**

Take 6 or 7 cards out of the deck and look at them for 5 seconds. Turn them over and try to remember as many as possible. As you improve, try dealing out more cards and looking at them for a shorter time. Another good memory exercise is the children's game of "Concentration".

### **Practice "double-dummy" play.**

Deal out a hand with the cards face-up. Bid each hand in turn and decide what the final contract and opening lead would be, and how you would play the hand if you were declarer. Then play out the hand trick-by-trick, putting yourself in each person's position. This will help you see various suit combinations more clearly. It will also make you appreciate how difficult it is to both declare and defend!

### **And last, but not least, Practice Daily!**

The more you work on your card skills, the better they will become. You will naturally see things you might have missed without practicing. In addition, your memory skills will improve from the repetitive behavior. Good luck!

## Chicago's Central States Regional

Grand Geneva Resort and Spa, Lake Geneva on Route 50, 1/2 mile East of Route 12.  
Room rate \$94 + \$10 resort fee, single or double.

Call 262-248-8811 or 800-558-3417 before October 7, 2003

Stratification:

0-5, 5-20, 20-50, 50-100, 100-200, 200-299

49er Pairs Stratified 0-5, 5-20, 20-50

All single session events — Partners



Guaranteed 0-5 ACBL Members Play Free Everyday

Monday at 7:30

Free Stratified 0-299er Pairs

Tuesday to Saturday Game Times:

10:00, 3:00 & 7:30

Students 20 and Under Play Free Saturday Afternoon

Special Game Saturday 7:30 Double Win Pair Game

Sunday at 11:00 am

0-299 Swiss Teams, 2-Sessions (more points)

Special Party and Registration Gift Just for the I/N Program

Tournament Chair: Ginny Schuett 847-940-7236

## Good Advice on How to Better Your Matchpoint Game

Experienced players will tell you that there are several things you can do to better your matchpoint game. Matchpoints are always tough since every trick matters. You must take the maximum number of tricks whether you are declarer or defender. Everyone goes into slumps and it can be a very frustrating time. Here are some ideas to bring you out of your slump:

First, play in the Open Game instead of the Intermediate/Novice Game. You will learn a great deal more from players with experience. You can ask your opponents after the hand what they would have done with your cards, and they will help you understand why what you did was right or wrong. In addition, you will not feel so bad when you don't win. After all, the competition is a lot tougher.

Take the information you learn to heart when you return to playing in the limited fields, and your score will naturally improve. You can share your new knowledge with the other players in the game and their games will improve too.

Second, get your matchpoints for each board off the recap sheet. These days most directors are able (through the use of computers) to simply print out your scores for you immediately after the session. This enables you and partner to have a cup of coffee and go over the results while the boards are still fresh in your minds. If you have a good result, you can simply go on to the next board. If you have a

bad result, you can see if there was anything you could have done to make it better.

Third, learn to balance. This is especially important when you are not vulnerable and the opponents have settled in a contract at the two level or below. Balancing will result in your pushing them up a level if they choose to compete, making it easier for you to defeat the contract. Or, it will find a place where your side can play the hand at a still-low level. The contract will often make, but even if it goes down, it is only 50 a trick!

Fourth, don't rebid (as responder) 2NT or 3NT over partner's major suit rebid to save him from a misfit. When he rebids a major, he is describing length in that suit and he is not looking for a fit. 2NT or 3NT are meant to improve the contract and should only be used when that is a likely result.

Fifth, never criticize your partner (or your opponents) at the table. Talk about the hands after the game. Refrain from discussion in the playing area. When you discuss boards at the table, others can hear and it makes the hands more difficult for them to play fairly.

In addition, criticizing partner is counterproductive to your side. It will get partner thinking about what happened on the previous hand instead of what is happening on the current one.

Have fun at the game!

Remember your manners when you are playing cards. It will add to everyone's good time!



## Turkey Bowl Sectional

Silver Points Every Event!

Prisco Community Center  
SE Corner of Rt. 31 and Illinois Avenue in Aurora, IL  
New, larger playing area with ample adjacent free parking

Friday, November 28

1:00 p.m.

Stratified Charity Pairs  
1st Session Compact KO with consolation  
7:00 p.m.

Stratified Open Pairs  
Last Session Compact KO  
99er Stratified Pairs

Saturday, November 29  
9:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

Handicapped KO Teams  
1:00 p.m.

Stratified Open Pairs  
Stratified 99er Pairs  
7:00 p.m.

Stratified Open Pairs  
Stratified 99er Pairs

Sunday, November 30  
11:00 a.m.

Brown Bag Stratified Swiss Teams  
(Bring your own lunch and save time and money!)

Special 99er Games  
Friday night, Saturday  
Win ACBL Bridge Bucks  
50-100, 20-50, 0-20

Partnerships:  
John Pree  
(630) 377-9116

Bob Pooley  
(30 minutes before game time please!!)



Always card carefully... partner is counting on it!

# The Gentle Art of Preempting by Suzi Subeck

# Bridge Humor from Sandy Singer

Opening preempts are a really effective, underused bidding tool. They put maximum pressure on the opponents when trying to describe their hands... and they give you a chance to get into the auction even when you hold less than a normal opening bid.

Let's say you, non-vulnerable against vulnerable, are in first seat holding:

♠KQ6543 ♥xx ♦Qxx ♣Jx

What would you open?

If you aren't playing weak twos, you would have to pass... however, if you are playing weak twos, you would open 2♠.

Now let's say that Lefty is looking at:

♠Axxx ♥KQx ♦AJx ♣xxx

He has a normal opening bid of 1♣, however, you have kept that from happening by opening 2♠ in front of him. He really does not have enough in values to force the bidding to the three level. His hand is balanced with minimum opening points. Therefore, he is forced to pass. If his partner is holding something like:

♠Jx ♥Axx ♦Kxxx ♣Axxx

your opening preempt may cause them to miss a cold three no-trump game... gaining you the lion's share of the matchpoints on the hand.

They might even let you play 2♠. You can go down a lot of tricks against their +600 for 3NT making.

As in the aforementioned example, preempts often cause the opponents to miss their games. In other instances, they can also cause them to get either too high or two low or to the wrong strain ... all because the auction is starting at a high level.

When you hold a seven card suit, you should preempt even higher, opening the bidding at the three level.

Say you hold:

♠KQ65432 ♥x ♦Qxx ♣Jx

This is a 3♠ opener. If Lefty and Righty are holding the same hands we gave them in the prior example, they are in an even worse position here. Since it is hard to for Righty to balance at this level, they will often miss their game and you will go home knowing you battled as hard as you could and were rewarded for your effort.

The reason preempts are so effective is that you force the opponents to describe their hands at a higher level. There is less room available for them to give each other the information they need.

Since they can only make a take-out double when they are short in your suit with the proper distribution in the other suits, they are hung out to dry in situations like the aforementioned. In addition to all this, bridge is just more fun when you can get into the bidding. Try it!

A cleaning woman was applying for a new position. When asked why had she left her previous employment, she replied, "Yes, sir, they paid good wages, but it was the most ridiculous place I ever worked. Last night they played a game called Bridge and a lot of folks were there.

As I was about to bring in the refreshments, I heard a man say, "Lay down and let's see what you've got."

Another man said, "I've got strength but no length."

Another man says to the lady, "Take your hand off my trick!"

"I pretty dropped dead just then, when the lady answered, "You jumped me twice when you didn't have the strength for one raise."

Another lady was talking about protecting her honor.

Another lady said, "Now it's time for me to play with your husband and you can play with mine."

"Well, I just got my hat and coat and as I was leaving, I hope to die if one of them didn't say, "Well, I guess we'll go home now. This is the last rubber."

*There is always room for humor in the game of bridge ...*

*Watch your partner's signals carefully. They will help you make the correct defensive plays throughout the hand!*



To unblock or not to unblock, that is the question

**Stars of Tomorrow  
299er Silver Point  
Sectional**

**American Legion Hall  
1435 Pfingsten Road  
Northbrook, IL**

**Saturday, October 11  
9:00**

**Bracketed KO Teams  
Teams are ranked by  
Masterpoints, then  
grouped into brackets  
1:30**

**Bracketed KO Teams  
Stratified 299er Pairs  
0-100, 100-200, 200-300  
Stratified 49er Pairs  
0-5, 5-20, 20-50**

**7:30  
Bracketed KO Teams  
"Win an Entry"  
Stratified 299er Pairs  
0-100, 100-200, 200-300  
"Win an Entry"  
Stratified 49er Pairs  
0-5, 5-20, 20-50**

**Winners receive a free 2  
-session entry to a  
CCBA tournament**

**Sunday, October 12  
11:00  
Stratified Swiss Teams  
0-100, 100-200, 200-300  
playthru**

**Partners guaranteed at  
all games except 9am  
on Saturday. Please be  
at the partnership desk  
30 minutes before game  
time.**

**Angie Clark  
847-272-1060**



My lead???

**Tournament Results...**

Minoqua-Lakeland Sectional  
Sunday Stratified Swiss B/C

- 1 Betty Vertovec - Sally Theiler, Savannah GA; Jim & Sandra O'Brien, Oconomowoc Flight C
- 1 Florence Bloukos - Marvin Zehnder - Loren Ameen - Elsie Gawry, Marquette MI
- 2) Cerona Stevens - Barbara Menzel, Marquette MI; James Sauer - Helen Sauer
- 3) Laurie Endsley, Lisa Rainen, Wausau; Linda Bie, Woodruff; Judith Gaarder

Saturday Afternoon Stratified Pairs B/C

- 1) 1 Lois Killinger, Eagle River WI; Joan Boville, Sauk City WI
- 2) 2 Barbara Stiff - Joanne Foster, Tomahawk WI
- 3 Dorothy Grandine - John Grandine, Hartford WI
- 4 3 Sally Back - James Kuehl, Milwaukee WI
- 5 Charleen Guinther, de Pere WI; Constance Peck, Neenah WI
- 6 Jim O'Brien - Sandra O'Brien, Oconomowoc WI
- 4 Barbara Menzel - Cerona Stevens, Marquette MI
- 5 Judith Gaarder - Dolores Cory, Minocqua WI
- 6 Timothy Luker, Green Bay WI; William Zimmerman, de Forest WI

Saturday AM Stratified Pairs B/C

- 1) 1 Jerry Edgar - Patricia Edgar, West Bend WI
- 2) 2 Robert Arzberger - Kay Arzberger, Davenport IA
- 3) 3 Timothy Luker, Green Bay WI; William Zimmerman, de Forest WI
- 4) 4 Sally Kemp, Eagle River WI; Donald Gardner, Three Lakes WI
- 5) 5 Marc Peters, Sun Prairie WI; Mark Frueh, Naperville IL
- 6) Stephanie Schwingel, Coloma WI; Nancy Ogreenc, Wautoma WI
- 6 Joan Masters, Chicago IL; Rita Willour, Marquette MI

Friday PM Stratified Pairs B/C

- 1) Steve Slinger - Christa Slinger, Randolph, WI
- 2) Lucy Hillestad, Woodruff WI; Caroline Pieper, Orlando FL
- 3) June Harrison, Hazelhurst WI; Mary Leonard, Rhinelander WI
- 4) Betty Issod, Boulder Junction WI; C Carlson, Wausau WI
- 5) Stephanie Schwingel, Coloma WI; Nancy Ogreenc, Wautoma WI
- 6) 1 Florence Bloukos - Elsie Gawry, Marquette MI
- 2 M Yelton - Ruth Brauneis, Minocqua WI
- 3 Judith Gaarder, Minocqua WI; Joyce Oppermann, Neenah WI
- 4 Jerry Edgar - Patricia Edgar, West Bend WI
- 5 Rita St Mary - Barbara Stiff, Tomahawk WI
- 6 Joan Boville, Sauk City WI; Rose Sword, Rhinelander WI

Friday Afternoon Stratified Pairs B/C

- 1) Audrey Hansman, Menasha, WI; Charlene Guinther, de Pere, WI
- 2) 1 Jerry & Patricia Edgar, West Bend, WI
- 3) 2 Kenneth Hilbrich, Chicago IL; Florence Erickson, Eau Claire WI
- 4) 3 Jennifer Enkro, Green Lake, WI; Jones Sharon, Oshkosh, WI
- 5) June Harrison, Hazelhurst, WI; Mary Leonard, Rhinelander, WI
- 6) Phyllis Schmitt, Jr., Shirley Dommers, Rockford, IL
- 4 Robert Arzberger - Kay Arzberger, Davenport IA
- 5 Marc & Debi Peters, Sun Prairie, WI
- 6 Rose Sword, Rhinelander WI; Joan Boville, Sauk City WI

2nd KO Lower Bracket

- 1) Sharon Basal, Green Bay WI; Helen Dietz, Fond Du Lac WI; Carolyn Kuske - Faye
- 2) Velguth, Appleton WI
- 2 Robert Peterman - Mary Ellen Peterman, Three Lakes WI; Marvin Zehnder - Loren Ameen, Marquette MI

Thursday Evening Stratified Pairs B/C

- 1) Yonsey Karasek, Hayward WI; Steve Schirmer, Minong WI
- 2) 1 Lila Fletcher - Betty Valkenaar, Eagle River WI
- 3) Gerald Greene, Chicago IL; Nancy Grimes, Marshall WI
- 4 Helen Dietz, Fond Du Lac WI; Carolyn Kuske, Appleton WI
- 5 Mary Leonard, Rhinelander WI; Kaye McCardle, Eagle River WI
- 6) Sharon Basal, Green Bay WI; Faye Velguth, Appleton WI
- 2 Judith Gaarder, Minocqua WI; Joyce Oppermann, Neenah WI
- 3 Upton Giles - Beth Giles, Wauwatosa WI
- 4 Marilyn Dunphy - Lois Killinger, Eagle River WI
- 5 Michael Schindler - Mary Schindler, Naples FL

Thursday Afternoon Stratified Pairs B/C

- 1) Gerald Greene, Chicago, IL; Nancy Grimes, Marshall, WI
- 2) 1 Duane Beschta, Lk Nebagamon WI; Ron Meilicke, Minong WI
- 3) 2 Tess Schirmer, Minong WI; Leona Amundson, Hayward WI
- 4) Caroline Pieper, Orlando FL; Jerry Boothe, Glen Ellyn IL
- 5 Kaye McCardle, Eagle River WI; Mary Leonard, Rhinelander WI
- 6 Betty Issod, Boulder Junction WI; C Carlson, Wausau WI
- 3 Barbara Stiff - Joanne Foster, Tomahawk WI
- 4 Lois Killinger - Marilyn Dunphy, Eagle River WI
- 5/6 Mary Lou Findley, Hartland WI; CeCe Boger, La Quinta California
- 5/6 Joyce Oppermann, Neenah WI; Judith Gaarder, Minocqua WI

Stratified Pairs B/C

- 1 Phyllis Schmitt Jr - Katherine Maggio, Rockford IL
- 2) 1 Ruth Brauneis - M Yelton, Minocqua WI
- 3) 2 Duane Beschta, Lk Nebagamon WI; Ron Meilicke, Minong WI
- 4) 3 James Sauer - Helen Sauer, Minocqua WI
- 5) 4 Arthur Gamroth, Brookfield WI; Myrna Hollander, Milwaukee WI

(Continued on page 9)



(Continued from page 8)

- 6) 5 Sally Kemp - Mary Ann McNeil, Eagle River WI  
1st KO Lower Bracket  
1) Jim & Sandra O'Brien, Oconomowoc WI; John & Dorothy Grandine, Hartford WI  
2) Sally Hamm, Neenah WI; Charleen Guinther, de Pere WI; Jeanne Greenwood, Kaukauna WI; Gloria Ott, Menasha WI

Oconomowoc Area Sectional

Friday Afternoon Open Pairs B/C

- 1) Steve Slinger - Christa Slinger, Randolph WI  
2) Jerry Edgar - Patricia Edgar, West Bend WI  
3) Mike Wilkinson - Nancy Wilkinson, Milwaukee WI  
4) 1 Brian Hartwig - Michael McQuistan, Madison WI  
5) 2 Mary Krein, Racine WI; Paul Thuma, Woodstock IL

Friday Afternoon 199er Pairs

- 1) Carol Herr, Greenfield WI; C Jean Bluemner, Franklin WI  
2) Laurie Hamachek, Elgin IL; Audrey Danocup, Beloit WI  
3) Le Ann Lehrer - Richard Gronquist, Waukesha WI  
4) Janice Johnson, Milwaukee WI; Pat Rutherford, Brookfield WI

Friday Morning 199er Pairs

- 1) Pat Rutherford, Brookfield WI; Janice Johnson, Milwaukee WI  
2) Harriette Myers, Mequon WI; Patricia Emch, Milwaukee WI  
3) Carol Herr, Greenfield WI; C Jean Bluemner, Franklin WI

Saturday Morning 199er Pairs A/B/C

- 1) Carol Herr, Greenfield WI; Patricia Reinartz, Milwaukee WI  
2) 1 Daniel Chamberlain - Kathryn Chamberlain, Rockford IL  
3/4 2 Mary Lou Findley, Hartland WI; Bonnie Elliott, Wauwatosa WI  
3/4 Roger Resek, Milwaukee WI; Ron Ramaker, Brown Deer WI  
5) Kathryn Peterson - Jack Peterson, Waukesha WI  
3 2 Beatrice Boyd - Phyllis Woods, Milwaukee WI  
4/5 3/4 Jane Kurth - Mary Ritonina, Hartland WI  
4/5 3/4 Jackie Mickelson, Menomonee Falls WI; Clara Zukrow, Brown Deer WI

Saturday Afternoon 199er Pairs A/B/C

- 1) 1 Ryan Daniels, Vernon Hills IL; Mark Maxwell, Ballwin MO  
2) 2 Phyllis Woods - Beatrice Boyd, Milwaukee WI  
3) Ron Ramaker, Brown Deer WI; Roger Resek, Milwaukee WI  
4) 3 2 Jay Eggener - Thomas Didelot, Hartford WI  
5) Carol Herr, Greenfield WI; Patricia Reinartz, Milwaukee WI  
4 3 Daniel Chamberlain - Kathryn Chamberlain, Rockford IL  
4 Kurt Litscher - Janet Litscher, Greendale WI

Stratified Swiss Teams B/C

- 1) Paul Hamper - Gerald Greene - Todd Fisher - Mark Krosky, Chicago IL  
2) Linda Davis, Palatine IL; Elaine Rose, Schaumburg IL; Joan Banholzer, Elm Grove WI; Harriette Myers, Mequon WI  
3) 1 Mary Eldridge, Elm Grove WI; Judy Wagner - Patricia Cosgrove, Waukesha WI; Audrey Gehrig, Janesville WI  
4) 2 Maxine Cohn - Ronald Cohn, Glendale WI; Jules Winn - Lois Winn, Oconomowoc WI  
5/6 Sandi Park - John Schutz, Madison WI; Marc Peters - Debi Peters, Sun Prairie WI  
5/6 Susan Puntillo, Columbus WI; Louise Keener - Lorraine Douglas - Lois Kiggins, Madison WI  
3/4 Mary Lou Findley - Susan Zlotocha - Susan Radichel, Hartland WI; Bill Heimlich, Waukesha WI  
3/4 Amy Utter - Jay Eggener - Douglas Utter, Hartford WI; Trudy Meyer, Oconomowoc WI

Summerfest Regional

Tuesday Afternoon Stratified 299er Pairs A/B/C

- 1) 1 Jay Wisenauer - James Wong, Wheaton IL  
2) 2 1 Jane Norman, Indianhead Park IL; Betty Ost, Indian Head Pk IL  
3) 3 2 Sharon Kaufman, Highland Park IL; Carol Benach, Lake Forest IL  
4) 4 Marlene Zielinski, Burr Ridge IL; Mary Primeau, Hinsdale IL  
5) 5 John Pruitt, Naperville IL; Keith Farral, Lisle IL  
6) 6 3 Shelly Costello, Barrington IL; Jane McCaffrey, Hoffman Estates IL  
4 Rose Ann Donzelli, Lombard IL; Lydia Wachal, Elmhurst IL  
5 Michele Raffel - Jane Kornblut, Highland Park IL

Tuesday Evening 299er Pairs A/B/C

- 1) 1 1 Mary Rose Smith, River Forest IL; Kate Gancer, Oak Park IL  
2) 2 2 M Lynn Ostergaard - John Resek, Oak Park IL  
3) 3 3 Bradley Shaps - Gail Shaps, Northbrook IL  
4) Jay Cone - Edward Soderstrom II, Chicago IL  
5) 4 Jean Adcock - Zoe Baxter Buchanan, Naperville IL  
6) 5 Don Wink, Wheeling IL; Betty Harre, Winnetka IL  
6 James Nuellen - Eleanor Nuellen, Hinsdale IL

Monday Evening 2-for-1 299er Pairs A/B/C

- 1) 1 Walt Werner, Arlington Hts IL; Daniel Cieslik, Chicago IL  
2/3 2 William Artz - Jeffery Smith, Chicago IL  
2/3 Joe Durlak, Evanston IL; Maurice Champagne, Mt Prospect IL  
4) Bruce Derylo, Plainfield IL; Donald Mason, Woodridge IL  
5) 3 1 Louis Larson, Darien IL; Ronald Zachary, Burr Ridge IL  
6) 4 2 Barbara Walczak, Munster IN; Frank Sells, Highland IN  
5 Colette Novich - David Kuchar, Chicago IL  
3 Louis Sharp, Libertyville IL; Patricia Sharp, Libertyville IL  
4 Walter Karbonik, Palantine IL; Joan Karbonik, Palantine IL

Wednesday Afternoon Stratified 199er Pairs A/B/C

- 1) Janet Sanborn, Chatfield MN; Catherine Streiff, Rochester MN  
2) 1 1 Suzann Patterson - Nance Booty, Naperville IL  
3) 2 2 John Anderson - Tec McHugh, Mt. Prospect IL  
4) 3 3 Joan Siavelis, Arlington Hts IL; Penny Carduff, Arlington Hgts IL



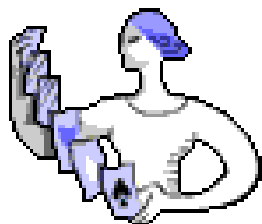
This is harder than counting sheep!

*Try to form a picture in your mind of each hand ... one at a time around the table. You will defend and declare better with a clearer picture of the hands!*

(Continued on page 10)

(Results, continued from page 9)

5)	4		Nicholas Horin - Grace Horin, Elmwood Park IL
6)	5		Michael Devine, Homewood IL; Joan Isenberg, Park Forest IL
		4	Walter Karbonik, Palantine IL; Joan Karbonik, Palatine IL
Thursday Afternoon 299er Pairs A/B/C			
1)			Janet Conway - Alice Ernster, Chatfield MN
2)	1	1	Walter Karbonik, Palantine IL; Joan Karbonik, Palatine IL
3/4	2/3	2	Gordon Leibert - Liz Leibert, Elgin IL
3/4	2/3		Jay Wisenauer - James Wong, Wheaton IL
5)	4		Mary Cieslik, Park Ridge IL; Frances Leavitt, Lincolnwood IL
6)	5	3	Celeste Jacklin - Ann Witt, Aurora IL
Wednesday Evening Stratified 199er Pairs A/B/C			
1	1	1	D Scofield, Skokie IL; Kerry Flom, Palatine IL
2			Jennifer Parello - Edward Soderstrom II, Chicago IL
3	1		Howard Cohen, Rosemont IL; Larry Cohen, Villa Park IL
4/5			Janet Conway - Alice Ernster, Chatfield MN
4/5	2		Nancy Bruick - John Bruick, Libertyville IL
6	3	1	Ellen Rubert, Evanston IL; Valerie Bennett, Chicago IL
	4	2	Thomas Hurt - Mary Hurt, Lombard IL
	5	3	Marilyn Brown, Wheeling Illinois; Mary Knoll, Palatine Illinois
Thursday 299er Pairs A/B/C			
1	1	1	Gordon Leibert - Liz Leibert, Elgin IL
2			Joe Durlak, Evanston IL; Maurice Champagne, Mt Prospect IL
3	2		Barbara Morgan, Park Ridge, IL; Fred Johnston, Chicago IL
4	3	2	Mary Dandurand - Fran Smith, Glen Ellyn IL
5			J.C. Symth, Gurnee IL; Scott Chupack, Farmington MI
6	4	3	Eleanor Nuellen - James Nuellen, Hinsdale IL
	5		Barbara Walczak, Munster IN; Frank Sells, Highland IN
		4	Bradley Shaps - Gail Shaps, Northbrook IL
Friday Afternoon Stratified 299er Pairs			
1	1	1	Fred Blaumueller, Glenview IL; Kathy Preziosi, Prospect Hts IL
2	2	2	Rose Ann Donzelli, Lombard IL; Eleanor Nuellen, Hinsdale IL
3			Paul French - Janet French, Elmhurst IL
4	3	3	Suzann Patterson - Nance Booty, Naperville IL
5	4	4	Barbara Walczak, Munster IN; Frank Sells, Highland IN
6	5		Nicholas Horin - Grace Horin, Elmwood Park IL
	6		Charles Johnson - Demaris Johnson, Aurora IL
		5	Celeste Jacklin - Ann Witt, Aurora IL
Saturday Afternoon Stratified 299er Pairs			
1			L Miller - K Miller, Arlington Hts IL
2			Michael Strong - Johanna Strong, Winfield IL
3	1	1	Joan Orth - Michael Orth, Clarendon Hills IL
4	2		Jack Sanders, Crystal Lake IL; Patrick Haverty, Woodstock IL
5	3	2	Celeste Jacklin - Ann Witt, Aurora IL
6			Boguslaw Humienik, Des Plaines IL; Stanislaw Kolesnik, Dekalb IL
4			Judy Cohen, Chicago IL; Debbie Zelinsky, Northfield Illinois
5			Daniel Cieslik - Joseph Filkins, Chicago IL
6			Jay Wisenauer - James Wong, Wheaton IL
		3/4	Rose Ann Donzelli, Lombard IL; Carl Cue, Montgomery IL
		3/4	Craig Wakefield, Des Plaines IL; Lynne Marley, Downers Grove IL
Saturday Evening Stratified 199er Pairs A/B/C			
1	1		Jack Sanders, Crystal Lake IL; Patrick Haverty, Woodstock IL
2			L Miller - K Miller, Arlington Hts IL
3	2	1	Nancy Bruick - John Bruick, Libertyville IL
4	3		Charles Johnson - Demaris Johnson, Aurora IL
5			Richard Edholm - Sue Edholm, Libertyville IL
6			Michael Strong - Johanna Strong, Winfield IL
	4	2	Ronald Niesing - Judy Niesing, Green Bay WI
	5/6	3/4	Steve Oshen - Julie Oshen, Glen Ellyn IL
	5/6	3/4	Marion Hunter - Reiko Hunter, Palatine IL
		5	Adam Liebman - Zack Nitzkin, Glenview Illinois
Sunday Afternoon 199er Swiss Teams			
1)	1		William Artz - David Kuchar - Colette Novich - Jeffery Smith, Chicago IL
2	2	1	Thomas Brandt - DR. K. F. Anderson, Park Ridge IL; Jim McIntyre, Chicago Illinois; Michael Hagerty, Arlington Hts IL
3			J Kallenbach, Downers Grove IL; Jeffrey Katz - Sheila Katz, Arlington Hts IL; Norene Mulligan, Lake Zurich IL
4			Paulette Swofford - Bonnie Franklin, Highland Park IL; Emily Williams - Susan O'Connor, Chicago IL
	3		Joyce Hooks - Vaughn Hooks, Hinsdale IL; Chris Hancock - Amy Richardson, Downers Grove IL
Sunday Morning 199er Swiss Teams			
1)	1	1	Thomas Brandt - DR. K. F. Anderson, Park Ridge IL; Jim McIntyre, Chicago Illinois; Michael Hagerty, Arlington Hts IL
2)	2	1	William Artz - David Kuchar - Colette Novich - Jeffery Smith, Chicago IL
3/4	3		Rose Ann Donzelli, Lombard IL; Sharon Trube, Wheaton IL; Eleanor Nuellen - James Nuellen, Hinsdale IL
3/4			Paulette Swofford - Bonnie Franklin, Highland Park IL; Emily Williams - Susan O'Connor, Chicago IL



I want to do a perfect shuffle!

Count, Count, Count

...

First, your winners,

then your losers ... In

the end, they must add

to 13!

*(Honors, Continued from page 4)*

you lead the Queen on opening lead, declarer will always play you to hold the Jack and will finesse you for that card. During the hand, declarer knows that you see the King-Ten in dummy and will have to guess whether you simply led the Queen from an empty holding, hoping to find partner with the Ace-Jack.

Against no-trump contracts is good to lead from long suits headed by honors. However, don't lead the honors unless you hold at least a three card sequence. Lead fourth best instead. A three card broken sequence such as QJ<sup>9</sup>xx is a better holding than just QJxxx, but it is still preferable to lead fourth best from these holdings against no-trump contracts.

The special honor leads against no-trump handle certain specific situations. With a holding like AKJT, you want partner to drop the Queen if he holds it. Therefore you lead the King asking for the "unblock." On the lead of the King, partner will normally unblock the Ace or the Queen and should otherwise give count so the leader can determine declarer's holding. The lead of the Ace asks for "attitude". This lead is made when the leader doesn't have an attractive suit to lead and believes partner might have length in the led suit. The risk of course is that the lead helps declarer establish his suit. The lead of the Ace from AKx is often a good attack when the defending side is known to hold few high cards and is going to need a lucky lie of the cards to beat the contract. If partner holds Qxxxx or even the Jack and length in the suit, this can be the killing lead. The lead of the Queen is made from holdings like KQT<sup>9</sup> and asks partner to unblock the Jack.

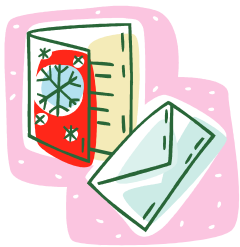
Against both suit and no-trump contracts, it is standard to lead the highest touching honor from interior sequences such as KJT<sup>9</sup>, QT<sup>98</sup> and AJT<sup>9</sup> (rarely led in suit contracts). In no-trump, it is usually right to lead a low card rather than an honor from interior sequences containing only two touching cards, such as KJTxx.

THIRD HAND PLAY: Assume partner has led a suit in which you hold touching honors. You should normally play the "lowest of the touching honors" in an effort to win the trick or force a higher card from the fourth hand. In many situations this will reveal to partner, that you hold the honors, he cannot see. For example, if partner has led low from the King and you hold the Queen-Jack, playing the Jack to force declarer's Ace will reveal to partner that you have the Queen, since declarer would otherwise have won the trick with that card.

Once you have played the lowest of your touching honors, you can play the highest of the remaining honors to reveal your complete holding in the suit. As an example, from QJT you would play the Ten on the first round of the suit and the Queen on the second round. If declarer captures your Ten with the Ace and your Queen with the King partner will know you also hold the Jack. If you play the Ten followed by the Jack, partner can infer that declarer has the Queen. The most common variance from the play of the lowest touching honor occurs when you hold a doubleton. You can play the higher honor, if you will either be holding the trick (e.g. AK doubleton) or will be obtaining the lead before partner, so that you can play back your lower honor and show the doubleton.

If no card in your hand can beat the cards played to the trick ahead of your hand (e.g. partner leads low and dummy plays the Ace), you can play the highest of your touching honors to reveal your holding to partner. This is only done with three or more touching cards, since it is too easy to blow a trick with this play. This can also be a useful play in a suit where you know your side can take only the next trick and partner may want to underlead an honor to leave you on lead after that trick. As an example, suppose you opened a weak-two bid on a holding of QJxxxx and partner has raised the suit and leads the deuce. If dummy has Ace doubleton in that suit and a weak holding, such as three small, in a side suit, you can drop the Queen under the Ace. Then partner can safely lead low to your hand if he started with Kxx so you can play the side suit up to his tenace. While partner might find this play anyway if you simply encourage the suit, the play of the Queen makes his life easy. Most importantly, if partner doesn't have the King, he will know declarer holds that card and that no tricks are available to the defense in the led suit. Third hand honor play can be summarized as: Win the trick as cheaply as possible. *(Part II will be in the next edition of the I/N News ... especially for you!)*

*Bridge is fun!  
You can play no  
matter what the  
weather ... Everyone  
can play ... There is  
no particular physical  
skill required!*



Swap hands with a friend.  
Sometimes they see  
something in them you  
don't.

### **Upcoming Tournaments**

Stars of Tomorrow Sectional, Northbrook, IL 10/11-12  
Central States Regional, Lake Geneva, WI 10/20-26  
Fallfest Sectional, Lombard, IL 11/14-16  
Turkey Bowl Sectional, Aurora, IL 11/28-30  
Madison Sectional, Madison, WI 12/5-7

## **There's More to Bridge Than High Cards ... The Mechanics of Hand Evaluation**

When it comes to hand evaluation, high cards are important, but distribution ... both length AND shortness ... is just as important. High Card Points (HCP) matter for opening the bidding. They are our gage by which we decide what hands are openers and what hands are not. We all know it takes a good twelve or thirteen points to open the bidding. When we count our points for the purpose of determining if we do or do not hold an opening hand, we also count our distribution: one for a doubleton and two for a singleton and three for a void. But, as the bidding progresses, hand evaluation changes and distribution comes clearly into play. If you and partner are bidding and responding, once you find a fit, shortness (think of it as ruffing value) becomes a major factor. If you are bidding towards a no-trump contract, length means a source of tricks.

Some hands get better and some hands get worse as the bidding unfolds ... even in competitive auctions. For example, you are looking at a reasonable hand with fourteen HCP including ♥KJ97 and ♣AK543. You have excellent distribution with two good suits. Lefty opens 1♠. You eagerly overcall 2♣. Now Righty negative doubles showing a four card heart holding and some values. Your hearts, which now appear to be “in the slot” under Righty’s hearts, just became less valuable. You must reconsider your hand evaluation. One of your good suits just went bad ... and with all the points that you, Righty and Lefty share, there is not much strength left for partner. In all likelihood, you have bid your max.

When do you count your length? At all times, length matters ... and in all strains (suits and no-trump). In no-trump length means a source of tricks. In suits, it suggests a trump holding.

When do you count your shortness? Only after finding a fit with partner. Shortness only matters in suit contracts when ruffing is viable. It is a liability in no-trump contracts where long suits take tricks.

Hand evaluation skills grow as you play more hands. The more table experience you get, the better you will become. After a relatively short time, you will find it is as much a matter of feel and common sense as it is a matter of hard, fast rules!



**Lesson: Play more and get better!  
Consider both your shortness and your  
length during the auction!**