

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

## Valuable Bridge Tips from Bridge 72...

When opponents have a fit and the balance of power, bids are primarily lead-directing.

When forced to make a choice, go for the right strain instead of guessing the right level.

Play in your fit!

When in doubt, run!

Don't hurry, take your time and bidding space to escape into your best fit.

In a forcing pass situation at game level, a pass followed by a bid over partner's double is a slam invite.

When something looks scary, but alternatives are worse, you just have to bite the bullet and do it!

With six-six you take a lot of tricks!

When you are in trouble, don't tell the opponents.

When you're fixed, stay fixed

When you are not sure, offer partner the choice.

Be practical; make a bid that comes close to its official requirements.

Bid 3NT when partner cannot...

When you hit a great fit, shape takes priority over points!

With a passed hand at favorable vulnerability, at a low enough level, never be shy about bidding to suggest a lead!

At favorable, don't be afraid to raise partner's preempt with three-card support!

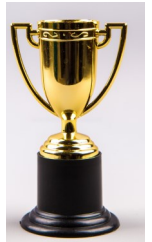
Don't wait for the perfect hand to preempt, just do it!

You can find more bidding tips in the 'mailbox' on the bid72 app. Any and all tips we published can be found in the 'bidding tips' section on the bid72 website.

# **Congratulations on your Rank Advancement!**

Nancy	Adeszko	Junior Master
Carole	Bernstein	Junior Master
Mary	Brennan	Junior Master
Daniele	Langer	Junior Master
Stephanie	McFall	Junior Master
Terry	Schnapp	Junior Master
Julie	Walor	Junior Master
Cynthia	Annibali	Club Master
Tom	Conaghan	Club Master
Christine	Green	Club Master
Harriett	Robinson	Club Master
Mark	Smuckler	Club Master
Elizabeth	Thomas	Club Master
James	Lacy	Sectional Master
Jack	Schuster	Sectional Master
Mary	Veeneman	Sectional Master
Elizabeth	Johnson	Regional Master
Kenneth	Latimer	Regional Master
David	Sujak	Regional Master
Barbara	Brown	NABC Master
Jill	Hurwitz	NABC Master
Helen	Ippel	NABC Master
Linda	Kuna	NABC Master
James	Lathrop	NABC Master
Donna	Neal	NABC Master
Barb	Pratzel	NABC Master
Marianne	Shilha	NABC Master
Patricia	Smith	NABC Master
Joy	Sweet	NABC Master
Linda	Tate Best	NABC Master
Robert	Breun	Adv NABC Master
Louis	Gaspardo	Adv NABC Master
Karen	Brucks	Life Master
Peter	Bush	Life Master
Judy	Marcus	Life Master
Rosede	Olson	Life Master
Bonnie	Rothenberg	Life Master

# **Congratulations To New Life Masters from the recent District 13 Regional in Madison, WI**



**James Sturtevant, Arlington Heights, IL**  
**Rosalie Sturtevant, Arlington Heights, IL**  
**LaVerne Swiggum, Madison, WI**  
**David Isrealstram, Madison, WI**

To read about the D13 Regional and see the results, go to: <http://acbl-district13.org/RegionalHandouts.htm>

The Daily Bulletins are published on the site... there are puzzles, games, information on the city site, hand write-ups and more...

The District is planning to continue to hold the Regional in Madison for the next few years and you might enjoy reading about the area and the events to plan your schedule accordingly.



Count your cards!  
 Count your tricks!  
 Bid one, two, three  
 Or four, five, six!

**Note: We are no longer snail mailing any issues of this newsletter. Snail mail has become cost prohibitive. The newsletters are available online only at the District 13 website.**

**To access the site and find the newsletters, go to:**  
**<http://acbl-district13.org/ArticlesAndNewsletters.htm>**  
**Newsletters at this address go back to 2001. You can read them, print them, and enjoy them from there.**

# What "COUNTS" by Karen Walker

Ever wonder why good bridge players seem to be able to see through the backs of your cards? Why they are so successful in finding the right lead, locating missing honors, guessing the distribution of their opponents' cards? The answer is that they are usually not guessing. Whether they're defending or declaring, good players are constantly gathering clues from the bidding and play and using them to make logical assumptions about the location of the unseen cards.

This exercise – some call it a talent — is often called **card reading**, and it's a skill that even beginners can develop. It involves determining the overall layout – the length and strength (honor holdings) of each suit in each of the two hidden hands. The first and most important step in card reading is **counting the hand**, which focuses on figuring out how many cards each player holds in each suit.

## Counting one suit

At its most basic level, counting involves keeping track of the cards your opponents play as you're leading one suit. If you're declaring a suit contract, you use this simple count when you're drawing trumps. If you're declaring a notrump contract, the first suit you count is the usually one that offers you the greatest number of potential tricks. This is probably your longest fit, and the suit you lead first. As declarer, there are two main techniques you can use to keep count of the cards remaining in a suit:

**(1) Count up** from the number of cards you and dummy hold in the suit. If you have a total of 8 cards in a suit in your hand and dummy, you would start your count at 8 and then mentally count up to 13 as the opponents play their cards in the suit. If both opponents follow to the first lead of the suit, you would count 9-10, then 11-12 on the next trick. Subtracting the last number from 13 will tell you how many cards the opponents still hold in the suit.

**(2) Count down** from the number of cards that are missing. With an 8-card fit, you would start your count at 5 and then mentally count down to 0. If both opponents follow to your first lead of the suit, you would count 5-4. The next number in the sequence is the number of cards the opponents still hold. Most players find #1 the easiest, but it doesn't really matter which approach you use. Anything you're comfortable with will work fine.

You can use the same counting technique as a defender, with only minor variations. Start your count with the number of cards you and dummy hold in the critical suit. In some cases, you'll already know how many cards partner holds in that suit (from his lead or from the bidding), so you'll have a full count on the suit before any cards are even played.

## Counting two or more suits

Once you master counting one suit, you'll want to move on to figuring the distribution of two or more suits. To do this successfully, you need:

- The ability to count to 13 at least twice (4 times, if possible).
- Memory skills, which can be developed with practice. (See Developing your Card Sense for tips on developing your bridge memory.)
- A basic knowledge of the meanings of bids, leads and defensive signals.
- Technical skills – knowing how to use "discovery plays" and other techniques that help you collect clues about each player's distribution.
- Concentration. You have to put some energy into counting. Pay attention to every trick and modify your picture of the unseen hands as you collect new clues.

**From the bidding:**

Whether you're defending or declaring, use what you know from the bidding to come up with an initial picture or one or both opponents' hands. You can start with very simple assumptions, such as the minimum length promised by an opening bid or response. If an opponent opens 1H, for example, you can «see» at least five of his 13 cards. If that opponent makes subsequent bids in the auction, you'll learn more about his other 8 cards and you can often build a fairly accurate — or sometimes perfect — picture of his hand pattern.

You can also use the bidding to determine what a player does **not** hold in a suit, which will lead you to conclusions about his length in other suits and, in some cases, his partner's length in a suit. For example:

- If an opponent opens 1D and then does not support his partner's major-suit response, it's guaranteed that opener has 4+ diamonds (because the only time he would open 1D with a 3-card diamond suit is when his distribution is exactly 4-4-3-2).
- If the opponents' auction goes 1H-1S-1NT, you'll be able to narrow down your picture of opener's hand to one of three patterns: 2-5-3-3 or 3-5-3-2 or 3-5-2-3. This conclusion is based on three logical assumptions:
  - (1) Opener showed a balanced hand with his 1NT rebid, but he did not raise his partner's 1S response (so he has exactly 2 or 3 spades);
  - (2) He did not rebid his heart suit (so he holds exactly 5 hearts); and
  - (3) He did not show a second 4+-card suit (so he has at most 3 cards in each minor).

Before you lead or make a critical play during the hand, try to process everything you know from the bidding. Count one hand at a time, and keep your focus on the number 13. Mentally repeat each fact you've learned about that hand and ask yourself what logical conclusion you can make from it. Then apply what you know to the other unseen hands. Your thought process may go something like: «Declarer opened 1♠ and then bid clubs twice, so he has 10 cards in those two suits. That gives him 3 cards in the red suits. If he's 2-1 in those suits, that means my partner has ... . If he's 3-0, then my partner has ...».

**From the opening lead:**

The opening lead will sometimes pinpoint the leader's exact length in the suit. If it's a notrump contract, for example, and your partner or an opponent leads the 2 of spades (or the lowest spot card), you'll know he has exactly 4 spades (assuming 4th-best leads). The opening lead can also tell you something about the leader's holding in other suits. A defender will usually choose his longer, stronger suit for an opening lead to a notrump contract, so if there are other unbid suits, you can figure that the leader's holdings in those suits are shorter (and/or weaker) than the suit he led.

**Other leads can suggest:**

**Shortness in a suit** — a high spot-card lead to a trump contract, for example.

**A specific honor holding** — the lead of a queen from a QJ holding.

**The lack of an honor combination** — a lead of a low card (especially to a suit contract) usually suggests that the leader does not hold touching honors (AK, KQ, QJ, J10).

**From the play:**

As each trick is played, look for evidence and clues that will help you refine your picture of the hand (or hands) you're counting. Many of these are obvious, such as when a player shows out of a suit. Others are more subtle and require you to make negative inferences — why declarer isn't leading hearts, why an opponent didn't return his partner's suit, why he's pitching clubs instead of spades.

Watch the defenders' count and attitude signals. They will be signaling each other about their length and honor holdings in specific suits, and you can use this information to count their hands.

### Discovery plays:

If you're declaring and you have an important guess to make in one suit, you may be able to collect extra information by using a discovery play before you attack the critical suit. A discovery play involves leading another suit (cashing its high cards or trumping its low cards) and keeping track of how many cards each opponent holds in that suit. This will help you complete your picture of the opponents' length in other suits and lead you to a more informed decision about how to play the problem suit. See «At the Table» below for an example of how to use a discovery play.

### General tips for counting:

- **Memorize the common patterns of the 13 cards in a suit** — 4432, 4333, 4441, 5332, 5431, 6322, 7321, etc. (Note that all the patterns of four numbers fall into one of two even-odd combinations: three even numbers and one odd, or three odds and one even.) Drill yourself on the patterns and become so familiar with them that you won't even have to think once you get a partial count. If you discover that each opponent has 4 cards in a suit and you hold 2 cards, you won't need to do any arithmetic to know that partner holds 3. The 4432 pattern will instantly pop into your head.
- **Concentrate on how the unseen cards divide.** Once you become adept at recognizing the common patterns, start thinking not just about the number of outstanding cards in a suit, but about how they might break. If your hand and dummy have 8 total cards in a suit, try to focus on the possible divisions of the 5 missing cards. With practice, it will become second nature for you to go beyond thinking «5» and start thinking «3-2, 4-1, 5-0».
- **Memorize the original layout.** Whether you're declaring or defending, study the dummy at trick one and create a mental picture of its distribution. Commit it to memory by repeating the pattern in your head (for example: 3-5-3-2, or 35-32). Do the same with your own hand. Later in the play, if you can't remember how many cards have been played in a suit, you can often reconstruct the play — and figure out how many times the suit has been led — by recalling your mental picture of the number of cards you and dummy originally held in the suit.
- **Mentally review the bidding** before you play to the first trick. If possible, come up with a picture of each player's general hand pattern and high-card strength. Consider not just what the hidden hands actually bid, but what they did *not* bid.
- **Focus your count on just one unseen hand.** The easiest hand to count will usually be the player who made the most bids during the auction, or who made the opening lead. Use what you know about that hand to figure the distribution of the other hidden hand.
- **Consider the skill of your opponents.** The more experienced they are, the more reliable their bidding and carding will be ... and the easier it will be for you to make accurate assumptions about their hands. Popular bridge author Eddie Kantar observed, «A madman's hand is particularly hard to count, but he's usually in the wrong contract, which evens things out.»
- **Practice, practice, practice.** It will take time and lots of practice before you can process all the information available and make the right conclusions. You can speed your progress by making a concentrated effort to count at least one or two suits on every deal you play, even on those where it appears you can't affect the result. The more hands you play and the more suits you count, the more adept your brain will become at remembering the cards.
- **But ... don't overload your neurons.** Early in the play, try to decide which suits are critical and concentrate on counting just those suits. If you're declarer, your count will usually be focused on your longer fits — the one or two suits where you and dummy have the most cards. If you're a defender, try to start your count with the suit you or partner led, then move on to figuring the distribution of one of the declaring side's longer fits.

**Tips for declarers:**

- **Study the opening lead.** Try to make some conclusions about the opening lead. Does the card led suggest length or shortness in the suit? Does it pinpoint the leader's exact length (and therefore his partner's length)? Does it show an honor combination or the lack of one? What does it tell you about the leader's possible length or honor holdings in other suits?
- **Play on one suit at a time.** Once you begin drawing trumps or establishing a suit, stick with that suit. If you have to lose a trick, resume leading and counting the critical suit as soon as you regain the lead. Resist the temptation to cash high cards in other suits unless you have a clear purpose in doing so (you need them for entries, for example). When you're done cashing tricks in the first suit you're counting, move on to the next suit and start a new count.
- **Watch the defenders' count and attitude signals.** Be aware, however, that you can't trust these implicitly. If an opponent thinks a signal will be of more help to you than to his partner, he may not give an accurate signal, especially late in the play.
- **If possible, delay your important decisions.** Collect all the information you can about the defenders' distributions before you decide how to attack a critical suit. Run your long suit or cash a few extra trumps (if you can do so safely) and see what you can learn from the opponents' discards. Use discovery plays to get a count on side suits. If you have tricks to lose, consider giving the defenders the lead to see if they'll provide you with a discovery play.
- **Play the odds.** If, for example, you have a two-way guess for the location of a queen, use your count in the suit to decide which way to finesse. If you determine from the bidding or play that one opponent is likely to have more length in the suit, finesse that opponent for the missing queen. (See «At the Table» below for an example of this situation.)

**Tips for defenders:**

- **Watch partner's signals.** They tell you about his length and possible high-card holdings in key suits.
- **Give partner good signals** so he can count out the hand, too. Use your judgment here, though. Some signals help declarer more than they help your partner, so it's sometimes right to withhold a count signal if you think it will tell declarer how to play a suit.
- **Find a time to add up what you know.** Think while declarer or partner is thinking or when it's your lead. If possible, avoid long thought when it's your turn to follow suit. Make your decisions early and be ready to follow smoothly when declarer or dummy leads.
- **Beware of falsecards** — especially those that won't fool declarer, but will fool partner. If you hold QJ2 of a suit and play the 2 and then the queen when declarer cashes the ace-king, you'll lead partner to believe that your original holding was Q2. If he's trying to count the hand, this clue will lead him astray.

**Tips for dummy (yes, dummy):**

Your stint as dummy is the perfect time to practice your counting skills. Even though you can see only your own hand, you can work on developing a mental picture of the distribution in the other three hands. Analyze the bidding and opening lead and add up what you know about each player's suit length. Then watch the played tricks and the defenders' signals and try counting the number of cards each player holds in each suit. This is great practice because there's no pressure; if you make any errors, they're «free», and no one will know.

*(continued on page 7)*

### At the Table

Here's an example of how to use a simple inferential count to make an intelligent guess:

**Dummy:** ♠K6 ♥J84 ♦K1084 ♣K653

**You:** ♠A643 ♥K7 ♦AJ93 ♣A42

**You      Partner**

1NT      3NT

**Lead:** ♥3

RHO wins the heart ace and returns the 9. You win the king and LHO follows with the heart 2.

Your only hope for 9 tricks is to score 4 diamonds, and that will require you to find the queen. You can finesse either opponent for that card. Is it a pure guess, or do you have a clue that will help you make the decision?

There's no discovery play available here, since cashing your other tricks first is unlikely to give you any helpful information. All you have to go on is your count in the heart suit, which you've already determined by watching the cards played to the first two tricks.

Here, LHO led the heart 3 and then followed with the 2, so he's shown that he holds 5 hearts (Qxx32). RHO therefore has 3 hearts (A9x).

When you're in doubt about the location of a specific card, the odds favor it being in the hand that has the most «room» to hold that card. Your count in the heart suit tells you there are 8 chances that LHO has the diamond queen (he had 5 hearts, so has 8 unknown cards) and 10 chances that RHO has the queen (he had 3 hearts, so has 10 unknown cards). So your best play is to cash the diamond king and lead the 10, planning to finesse RHO for the diamond queen.

Here's a defensive quiz where you can use the opening lead and the bidding to come up with the right play:

**Dummy (RHO):**

♠K9765

♥Q7

♦J95

♣J64

**You**

♠J1082

♥A65

♦A742

♣A3

**LHO**

1♦

1NT

**RHO**

1♠

Pass

**Lead:** ♣2

Declarer plays low from dummy and you win the club ace. Now is the time to add up all the evidence.

It's often right to return the suit partner led, but you'll change your mind if you stop to count out the hand. Try to answer these questions before you make your decision:

How many clubs does declarer hold?

How many diamonds?

How many hearts?

How many spades?

How many points does partner have?

Which card will you lead at trick two?

Focus your count on declarer's hand.

**How many clubs does he hold?** Exactly 4 (because the lead shows that partner holds exactly 4 clubs).

**How many diamonds?** At least 4 (because he didn't raise spades).

**How many hearts?** Exactly 4. Declarer didn't open 1H, so he has fewer than 5 hearts. It appears that partner also has fewer than 5 hearts, since he surely would have led a 5-card heart suit rather than a 4-card club suit. The 8 hearts that you can't see must therefore be divided 4-4 in partner's and declarer's hands. (Note that you also have a clue that partner doesn't hold a heart honor. Since partner is 4-4 in hearts and clubs and he chose clubs for his opening lead, his clubs are probably stronger than his hearts.)

**How many spades?** You've counted declarer's hand to be 4-4-4 in the other three suits, so that leaves him with one spade. That means partner has three spades with at least one honor.

Note that without a count, you probably wouldn't have expected opener to have a singleton for his 1NT rebid. Many players, however, prefer this approach when they have a 1-4-4-4 pattern. The alternative with this hand is to bid 2C (showing a minor two-suiter), which is also a distortion.

You can also add up the high-card points here. Declarer's minimum notrump rebid tells you he has 12 to 14 points. (If he had 15 pts., he would have opened a 15-17 1NT.) Add declarer's points to the 20 total points in your hand and dummy, and you can determine that partner holds from 6 to 8 high-card points. Did you find the killing shift? It's right to lead a low spade at trick two. Partner wins the spade ace and returns a spade for down one. Your side will eventually score seven tricks — three spades, the AK of clubs and the two red aces.

Declarer's hand was: ♠ Q ♥ KJ109 ♦ KQ106 ♣ Q1085

Partner's hand was: ♠ A43 ♥ 8432 ♦ 83 ♣ K972

Here's a deal where you can use a **discovery play** to collect extra information:

**Dummy:** ♠ AQ9 ♥ 765 ♦ A432 ♣ K102

**You:** ♠ K10865 ♥ 842 ♦ K7 ♣ AJ5

**RHO You LHO Partner**

1♥ 1♠ Pass 4♠

**Lead:** ♥ J

RHO overtakes the heart jack and cashes the AKQ. LHO pitches two small clubs on the second and third hearts. RHO exits with a spade and you cash the AKQ. RHO follows with the J74 of spades. LHO follows with the 32 and pitches a small club on the third spade.

Your contract depends on guessing the location of the club queen. With nothing else to go on, you might finesse RHO for the queen just because he opened the bidding and is therefore more likely to hold the missing high-card points. If you're counting the opponents' cards, though, you might come to a different conclusion. And if you use a simple discovery play, you may be able to guarantee three club winners.

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Continued from page 8

### Your thought process:

Focus your count on opener (RHO).

So far, you know 9 of his 13 cards — 6 hearts and 3 spades.

You've seen 10 of his high-card points — the AKQ of hearts and the jack of spades.

Did he need the club queen to open the bidding? No. He could hold the diamond queen or QJ, which would give him 12 or 13 points.

### Extra insurance — the discovery play:

Before you make the critical play in the club suit, play on diamonds to gather more information about RHO's distribution. Cash the king and ace and trump one of dummy's small diamonds. RHO will follow to all three diamonds, so you now have all the information you need to take three sure club tricks. You may also see more of RHO's high-card points on the diamond tricks, but the most important information here is his distribution.

You now know 12 of RHO's 13 cards — 3 spades, 6 hearts and at least 3 diamonds. That leaves him with a void or singleton in clubs, so you have a «marked» finesse. Cash the club ace, just in case RHO has the singleton queen. If the queen doesn't fall, finesse LHO for his known queen by leading a low club to dummy's 10.



Karen Walker is a National Champion who lives in Champaign, Illinois. She is the editor of the D8 newsletter and the chairman of the annual Champaign Regional. Karen serves on the ACBL Disciplinary Committee, writes a regular column for the ACBL monthly bulletin, and is a great volunteer in the organization.



## Milwaukee Summer Fun Regional

**August 23 – 28, 2022**

**FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON**

5311 S. Howell Ave. - Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**Directions:** I-94 to Airport Spur (WI-199)

East to Howell Ave. Exit – Go left on Howell

Go left at the first light to W. Grange Ave. Hotel is on the right

Follow signs to Convention Center and park in the West lot

Room rate is \$89+ tax if reservation is made by July 22, 2022

Phone: 414-481-2400 – Ask for the Milwaukee Bridge Association Rate

Gold Rush Pairs : August 23, 24, 26, 27 at 10 & 3

Gold Rush Teams: August 26 at 10 & 3

Tournament & Partnership Chair:

Yvette Neary 414-526-9035 Email: yneary@gmail.com

ACBL Members with 0-5 MasterPoints play free

ACBL and local government Covid protocols will be observed

## Waukesha Unit 222 Summerfest Sectional

July 27<sup>th</sup> – July 30<sup>th</sup>



Wed 7/27 9:30am Pair/Team & 299er Pair Games  
2:00 pm Pair/Team & 299er Pair Games  
Thur 7/28 9:30am Pair/Team & 299er Pair Games  
2:00 pm Pair/Team & 299er Pair Games  
Friday 7/29 9:30am Pair/Team & 299er Pair Games  
2:00 pm Pair/Team & 299er Pair Games  
Sat 7/30 9:30 am Stratified Swiss Team Game  
( 2 Session play through) Team Averaging

Paula Slesar 262.695.2585  
Tournament Chair

Hospitality Chair  
Judy Burzynski 262.391.0970

Partnership Chair  
Barb Keehn 414.861.0703

Strata for all pair/team games  
0-1000, 1000-3000, 3000+

Strata for all 299 Events  
0-50, 50-100, 100-300

Strats may be adjusted as attendance  
warrants

St John Neumann's Parish Hall  
2400 W State Road 59  
Waukesha WI  
(enter rear lower level)



We will follow ACBL and local regulations regarding Covid Protocols

# Give Me a Hand...

Dealer South. E-W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the jack of diamonds. When dummy went down declarer saw that there was a probable loser in each suit but, as long as trumps were not 4-0, there was a near-certain line to make ten tricks.

He took the first trick with the king of diamonds, keeping the ace as an entry to the heart suit. At trick two he played the king of trumps and then switched his attention to hearts, playing the ace followed by the nine of hearts. After taking his king of hearts, West continued with the ten of diamonds.

Declarer took this with dummy's diamond ace and led the jack of hearts. East played the queen of hearts and declarer avoided the main trap of the deal and discarded his remaining diamond. (If he had ruffed, West could overruff, cross to East's queen of diamonds and a fourth round of hearts would then allow West to make a second trump trick.) All the defence could do was to make one more trick with West's queen-jack of trumps; the established ten of hearts would take care of declarer's club loser.

The key to the hand was declarer realising that he had to make use of dummy's heart suit and to do so required using dummy's aces as timely entries.

Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1 ♦	2 ♥	2 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

After this explosive auction, declarer's attempt to make his contract was even briefer. He ruffed the opening heart lead and played the ace of spades. When the 4-0 trump break materialised, there was no longer any way to make twelve tricks.

Declarer should have discarded a club from dummy at trick one. East wins his ace of hearts and returns the jack of hearts (nothing else is any better). Declarer wins the king of hearts, throwing a diamond from diamond from dummy, and cashes the queen of trumps, getting the news of the bad trump break. Next, he plays a diamond to the ace and ruffs a diamond with the jack of trumps. Even when West discards on this trick, revealing the 4-1 break, there is no longer a problem.

A trump to the nine allows declarer to ruff a second diamond with the ten of trumps to establish the suit. Trumps are drawn with the ace and king and declarer claims his contract. He makes four trumps, a heart, four diamonds, two diamond ruffs in hand and the ace of clubs.

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

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**Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	1 ♦	1 ♥	1 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Declarer took West's lead of the ten of hearts with dummy's ace and tried to discard his heart loser on the diamonds. After cashing the ace and king of diamonds, he played the queen of diamonds from dummy. East thwarted the planned discard by ruffing in with the three of trumps. Declarer overruffed, crossed back to dummy with the ace of clubs and played the ten of diamonds. Again East spoiled the attempted discard by ruffing it with the seven of trumps.

Declarer overruffed again and then played his three top clubs, discarding hearts from dummy. Even though the suit broke 5-3, the fact that East had been reduced to a bare ace of trumps came to the rescue. That was the only trick the defenders made.

**Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led a fourth-highest four of spades to the eight, king and declarer's ace. Declarer began with the diamonds, playing the king and queen. After West

signalled that he held a doubleton diamond, East took his ace of diamonds, blocking the suit.

East continued his good work by shifting to hearts, hoping to knock out dummy's ace of hearts before the diamonds could be untangled. Declarer played the queen of hearts and West the king. Declarer saw that if he took his ace of hearts now, there would be no entry to dummy's long diamonds. He would score one spade, three hearts, two diamonds and two clubs for eight tricks, or one down. Instead, he allowed the king of hearts to hold the trick; this was safe because declarer knew from the Rule of Eleven that East began with only one card higher than West's four of spades and he had already seen it, the king. So, on any return declarer would be able to make one trick in spades, two in hearts, four in diamonds and two in clubs.

**Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

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

West led the nine of clubs and East took the ace and king before giving West a ruff. Declarer won the heart exit with the king and drew trumps, revealing that East began with nine cards in the black suits to West's three.

The success of the contract now depended upon picking up the queen of diamonds, so declarer set about getting a complete count on the hand. He played a heart to the ace, then ruffed dummy's third heart with his remaining trump. That little exercise revealed that East had three hearts to go along with his nine black cards. Thus it was a simple matter to play the ace of diamonds and claim with the diamond finesse when East followed small under the ace.

While getting a complete count on East's hand risks failing by two tricks when East has a doubleton queen of diamonds and only two hearts, the increased chances of making the contract with this line of play make it worthwhile.

# 2023 Chicago Summer NABC

Chicago IL, July 13–23, Sheraton Grand Chicago

We want next year's Chicago Summer NABC to be the best Chicago NABC yet! For that to happen, we need a slew of volunteers to chair or to work on various committees: Information, Registration, Prizes, Partnership, Volunteers, Hospitality, Parking & Transportation, Publicity, Program & Restaurant Guide, Youth NABC and more...

As one who has worked on NABCs since 1998 and chaired or co-chaired three of them (including this one), I can tell you definitively that you get out of your experience what you put into it. You make new friends and bond with other bridge players from all over the world at Nationals.

## What we have and what we need:

The following committees need volunteer workers: Partnership (Yvette Neary, chair), Information (Adrienne and Larry Cohen, chairs), Registration (Linda & Mike Saltzman, chairs), Prizes, Volunteers, Hospitality, Parking & Transportation, Tours (DeMaris & Chuck Johnson, chairs), Publicity, Program & Restaurant Guide, Youth NABC, Sponsorship and more...

If you wish to volunteer to serve on any of the committees above and/or if you are available to work two hour time slots intermittently at the actual tournament manning one or more of the following on different days: the information desk, the registration desk, the prize desk, etc. we want you!!! Our volunteer chair (TBD) will set up schedules for the onsite work for you and the others.

If interested in being part of the steering committee, you can contact me by email at [stansubeck@prodigy.net](mailto:stansubeck@prodigy.net) or by phone at 847-509-0311 and I will be happy to give you more information. Please include phone numbers for contact.

We will start having a year out meeting at the site in a couple of months.

Thanks everyone!

Suzi Subeck, 2023 Chicago NABC Chair

**2020 WUMBA Bridge Wausau Sectional, 9/15,16,17**  
**Covenant Community Presbyterian Church**  
**1806 Weston Avenue, Schofield, WI**

## 499er Pairs:

**Thurs at 1:30 and 6:30**

**Fri lat 9, 1:30 & 7**

**9.00/per session for ACBL members**

**4.00 additional for unpaid ACBL members**

TITLE	NAME	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
Co-Chairperson	Emalyn Nikstad	(715) 845-2012	emnikstad@gmail.com
Co-Chairperson	Terry Byrne	(608) 630-4280	jcbryne@gmail.com
Partnership	Bonnie Mealy	(561) 302-6403	bmealybug@charter.net
Refreshments	Jean Burgener	(715) 571-4914	

## Lodging Suggestions

Best Western Plus, 803 W. Industrial Park Avenue  
Rothschild, WI 54474 (715) 355-8900  
Special Bridge Rate \$89.00/room includes breakfast

## SUPERIORLAND BRIDGE CLUB Sectional Bridge Tournament

**Marquette Township Community Center**

**October 13-15, 2022**

**1000 Commerce Drive, Marquette, MI**

## 499er Pair Teams

**Thurs at 1:30 and 7pm**

**Fri at 9am, 1:30**

**499er Short match Swiss at 7pm**

**Stratified 499er Swiss**

**Sat at 9am**

## Chairpersons:

**Duane Fowler 906-225-1907**

**Paul Bonetti 906-485-4844**

## Partnerships

**Cerona Stevens 906-249-3529**

**906-361-1324**

## Schedule:

### Tuesday, August 2

10:00 am and 3:00 pm

2 Session Open Pair

2 Session Gold Rush Pair

### Wednesday, August 3

10:00am and 3:00pm

2 Session Open Pair

2 Session Gold Rush Pair

### Thursday, August 4

10:00am and 3:00pm

2 Session Open Swiss Teams

2 Session Gold Rush Swiss Teams

### Friday, August 5

10:00am and 3:00pm

2 Session Open Pair

2 Session Gold Rush Pair

### Saturday, August 6

10:00am and 3:00pm

2 Session Open Pair

2 Session Gold Rush Pair

### Sunday, August 7

10:00am Playthru events:

Open Swiss Teams

Gold Rush Swiss Teams

Stratification: A:3000+; B: 1500-3000; C:0-1500

Masterpoint averaging when permitted in all events.

In Gold Rush Pairs and Teams, no player may have more than 750 masterpoints.

Convenient parking across from playing site. Get discounted parking sticker at game desk.

Single Session Entries will be accepted in all Pair Events!



## Intermediate/Newcomer

Tuesday, Wednesday,

Friday, Saturday

Gold Rush Pairs

Stratification:

0-100; 100-300; 300-750

Thursday, Sunday

Gold Rush Swiss Teams

Stratification

Great Playing

Venue...

Near CTA Blue

Line!

ACBL and Local

Covid Protocols

Apply

Vaccinations

Required

## Tournament Committee:

Co-Chairs: Bob Young

847-280-1118

by8888@hotmail.com

Text or email preferred

Loring Knoblauch

312-280-6250

Loring.knoblauch@me.com

Partnership Chair: Guy Franklin

773-412-4882

guyfranklinchicago@gmail.com

For more information:

bridgeinchicago.com

Unit 123 Windy City Regional  
August 2-7, 2022  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
Student Center East, 750 S. Halsted St.

# Results from the D13 Regional in Madison in May: Team Events:

13

Thursday Open Swiss Teams - 18 Tables / Based on 41 Tables						
MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score	
17.85	1			Mark Kinzer - Doug Henry, New Berlin WI; Bob Marheine, Waukesha WI; Eric Mane, Milwaukee WI	102	
13.39	2	1		Jeroen Swinkels, Evanston IL; Charles Alexander - David Sales, Northbrook IL; Mark Stein, Skokie IL	83	
8.79	3/4			Suzi Subeck - Stanton Subeck, Glenview IL; George Jacobs, Hinsdale IL; Robert Maxson, River Forest IL	75	
8.79	3/4			Steven Watson, Schererville IN; Louis Nimnicht, Crown Point IN; Charles Fortney - Kathleen Fortney, Wheaton IL	75	
5.95	5			Thomas Smith - Rita Xistris, Madison WI; Ann Nordeng - Richard Nordeng, Waunakee WI	67	
4.46		2		Robert Webster, Ripon WI; Nancy Ogreenc, Wautoma WI; Vicky Lantz - Clyde Lantz, West Bend WI	66	
3.35		3		Gary Vanden Houten, Green Bay WI; Steve Slinger, Randolph WI; Matthew Dyer - Mark Pinkowski, Chicago IL	60	
2.73			1	Leah Creswell, Fitchburg WI; Maggie Dugan, Madison WI; Mary Ann Romberg, New London WI; Mary Bolen, La Crosse WI	48	
Thursday Gold Rush Swiss - 9 Tables / Based on 8 Tables						
MPs	D	E	F	Names	Score	
3.31	1			Maila Kuhn - Kenneth Kuhn, Tomah WI; Janet Munson - John Munson, Onalaska WI	99	
2.48	2			La Verne Swiggum - David Israelstam - Terry Burk - David Hill, Madison WI	80	
1.86	3			Kathleen Allen - Paula Slesar, Pewaukee WI; Carolee Robel, Fort Myers FL; Anne Kelley, Oconomowoc WI	74	
2.05		1		William Crise - Jane Crise, Milwaukee WI; Janice Duff - Cindy Novinska, Oconomowoc WI	50	
Sunday A/X/Y Swiss Teams - 15 Tables						
MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score	
8.75	1			Thomas Smith - Rita Xistris, Madison WI; Ann Nordeng - Richard Nordeng, Waunakee WI	82	
6.56	2	1		Cory Perkers - Mark Pinkowski - Matthew Dyer - Nic Hristea, Chicago IL	79	
4.92	3	2	1	Gregory Harding - Rob Gleason, Madison WI; Leah Creswell - Douglas Babcock, Fitchburg WI	75	
3.52	4/5	3		Wayne Peters - Eric McVickar, Appleton WI; Gregg Underheim, Oshkosh WI; Nancy Ogreenc, Wautoma WI	70	
3.31	4/5			Stan Fuhrmann, Middleton WI; Patrick Borman, Mazomanie WI; Diane Vaughan - Worth Vaughan, Madison WI	70	
2.64		4		Yvette Neary - Ronald Gould, Mequon WI; Aniko Szabo - Tamas Szabo, Oconomowoc WI	65	
2.07			2/3	Maggie Dugan - Rachel Hillman, Madison WI; Jan Cobb, Verona WI; Cindy Strohm, Fitchburg WI	61	
2.07			2/3	David Hill - La Verne Swiggum - William Omdahl, Madison WI; Gorm Heilskov, Mc Farland WI		

# Pair Event Results D13 Regional in May in Madison, WI

Tuesday Open Pairs					
21.44	1			Stan Fuhrmann, Middleton WI; Richard Dorfman, Oconomowoc WI	57.37%
16.08	2			Stanton Subeck - Suzi Subeck, Glenview IL	56.97%
12.06	3			Marie-France Benoit, Ottawa ON; Jacob Morgan, Madison WI	55.69%
9.05	4			Steven Watson, Schererville IN; Louis Nimnicht, Crown Point IN	54.25%
7.15	5			Eric McVickar, Appleton WI; Nancy Ogreenc, Wautoma WI	53.21%
6.13	6			Ann Nordeng - Richard Nordeng, Waunakee WI	53.04%
5.36	7			Patricia Bruden - Glenna Kay Shannahan, Madison WI	52.32%
7.42		1	1	Vicky Lantz - Clyde Lantz, West Bend WI	50.88%
5.57		2		Nancy Hegna, Madison WI; Martha Brusegar, Middleton WI	49.60%
3.65		3/4		Kathleen Wood - Robert Bodoh, Madison WI	47.92%
3.65		3/4		Donald Scholz, Grafton WI; Ronald Gould, Mequon WI	47.92%
2.56			2	David Suplinski - Leah Creswell, Fitchburg WI	47.36%

Wednesday Open Pairs - 13.0 Tables / Based on 39 Tables					
MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
21.44	1			Suzi Subeck - Stanton Subeck, Glenview IL	64.26%
16.08	2			Tony Ames, Minnetonka MN; George Bleskachek, Eau Claire WI	59.37%
12.06	3			Terry Goodykoontz, South Palm Bch FL; Leah Newell, Springfield IL	55.61%
9.05	4	1		Lois Short, Mc Farland WI; Ronald Grosh, Middleton WI	55.53%
7.15	5			Robert Webster, Ripon WI; Nancy Ogreenc, Wautoma WI	55.05%
6.13	6			Stan Fuhrmann, Middleton WI; Richard Dorfman, Oconomowoc WI	53.93%
5.36	7			Steven Watson, Schererville IN; Louis Nimnicht, Crown Point IN	52.64%
6.44		2		Paul Morgan - Marjorie Morgan, Madison WI	52.48%
4.83		3		William Higbee - Colleen McCabe, Madison WI	51.28%
3.96		4	1	Mark Stein, Skokie IL; David Sales, Northbrook IL	50.32%
2.86		5		Gary Vanden Houten, Green Bay WI; Steve Slinger, Randolph WI	49.84%
2.97			2	Clyde Lantz - Vicky Lantz, West Bend WI	46.55%
2.23			3	Fred Ahlstrom, Onalaska WI; James Bloedorn, La Crosse WI	46.39%

Friday Open Pairs - 16.0 Tables / Based on 45 Tables					
MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
24.06	1			Mark Olsky - Mary Olsky, Fitchburg WI	59.37%
18.05	2			Nancy Ogreenc, Wautoma WI; Robert Webster, Ripon WI	57.38%
13.53	3	1		Jan Cobb, Verona WI; Gary Vanden Houten, Green Bay WI	57.25%
10.15	4			Mark Patton - Penny Gilloon, Dubuque IA	56.94%
8.02	5			Jonathan Greiman, Mokena IL; George Klemic, Bensenville IL	56.43%
6.87	6			Tamas Szabo, Oconomowoc WI; William McFall, New Berlin WI	56.10%
6.02	7			Sharon Anderson - Roger Anderson, Eagan MN	55.59%
5.35	8			Charles Fortney - Kathleen Fortney, Wheaton IL	55.24%
8.12		2	1	Nancy Dugan, Long Grove IA; Michelle Feeney, Davenport IA	55.13%
6.09		3		Matthew Dyer - Mark Pinkowski, Chicago IL	55.12%
4.57		4		Sandi Park, Madison WI; Rene McFall, New Berlin WI	52.35%
3.61		5		Jeroen Swinkels, Evanston IL; Charles Alexander, Northbrook IL	52.34%
3.61			2	Wayne Peters, Appleton WI; Gregg Underheim, Oshkosh WI	50.77%
2.71			3	James Bloedorn, La Crosse WI; Fred Ahlstrom, Onalaska WI	49.93%
2.03			4	Judy Burzynski, Waukesha WI; Kathleen Allen, Pewaukee WI	48.92%

Saturday Open Pairs - 15.0 Tables / Based on 45 Tables					
MPs	A	B	C	Names	Score
24.06	1			Marie-France Benoit, Ottawa ON; Jacob Morgan, Madison WI	60.51%
18.05	2			George Klemic, Bensenville IL; Jonathan Greiman, Mokena IL	58.72%
13.53	3	1		Ronald Grosh, Middleton WI; James Hudson, Chicago IL	56.52%
10.15	4	2		David Raitt - William Omdahl, Madison WI	56.11%
8.02	5	3		Nic Hristea - Mark Pinkowski, Chicago IL	55.77%
6.87	6			Matthew Dyer - Cory Perkers, Chicago IL	54.53%
6.02	7			Suzi Subeck - Stanton Subeck, Glenview IL	53.78%
5.35	8			Yvette Neary - Ronald Gould, Mequon WI	53.02%
4.57		4		Aniko Szabo - Tamas Szabo, Oconomowoc WI	52.47%
4.81		5	1	Gregory Harding, Madison WI; Douglas Babcock, Fitchburg WI	51.85%
3.61			2	Gregg Underheim, Oshkosh WI; Wayne Peters, Appleton WI	51.17%
2.71			3	Cathy River, Monona WI; David Israelstam, Madison WI	50.41%
2.03			4	Rob Gleason, Madison WI; Leah Creswell, Fitchburg WI	48.21%

Note that participants came from Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana, Canada and even more who did not make the list of winners. It was great to be back at the tables face to face seeing so many we've missed!