

I/N News ... especially for you!

Should you double a slam with two aces

By Andrew Robson

To bid and make a Small Slam, only one trick can be lost. But a defender holding two aces should not necessarily double a Small Slam - the opponents are likely to have a void somewhere so one of your aces may not win a trick. That said, you have to feel sympathy for this week's East who, holding no less than three aces, watched his opponents bid and make a Small Slam. Here is the hand:

South Deals	♠ K 7 5 4 2
None Vul	♥ K 7 6
	♦ —
	♣ K Q J 7 6
♠ Q J 10 8	♠ A 9 6 3
♥ 3	♥ 9 8
♦ Q 9 5 3 2	♦ A J 7 4
♣ 9 8 5	♣ A 3 2
	♠ —
	♥ A Q J 10 5 4 2
	♦ K 10 8 6
	♣ 10 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	6♥	Dbl	4♥
Pass	Pass		Pass

West led ♠ Q and dummy and East played low, declarer trumping. Correctly resisting the temptation to trump ♦s, declarer realised that by far the easiest route to 12 tricks was to draw trumps then - assuming trumps split 2-1 - establish ♣s by knocking out ♣ A. He cashed ♥ Q and ♥ J then led ♣ 10. East ducked his ♣ A, then won ♣ 4 to dummy's ♣ J. He had no sensible return so simply exited with ♣ 3. Declarer was able to enjoy dummy's three established ♣s discarding ♦ 1086 from hand, trump ♠ 4, trump ♦ K with ♥ K, then table his remaining cards, all trumps.

Last week we saw that it was a mistake to double a Slam if you would be unhappy should the opponents remove themselves to an alternative contract. This week we see that holding two - even three - aces is not a good enough reason to double.

ANDREW'S TIP: Do not double a freely bid Small Slam on the basis of holding two - even three - aces.

Robson, For Intermediates, continued on page 2



Andrew Robson is a player, teacher, writer. In 1995, he founded the highly successful Andrew Robson Bridge Club in SW London. He has written courses which tens of thousands have taken over the years. Andrew has written the daily Bridge column for The Times for over 20 years. He has written weekly for Country Life for 30 years and weekly for Money Week for 20 years. He also writes monthly for The Oldie.

Andrew has put his training as a schoolteacher to good use by heading hundreds of instructional seminars around the UK in aid of charity. He was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire in the 2013 New Year Honors for services to bridge and charity. Later the same year he was the joint winner of Personality of the Year at the International Bridge Press Association's annual awards. In 2018 he was a winner of the English Bridge Union's Diamond Award, introduced to recognize players "in recognition of excellence and success over a sustained period for England's international teams". Andrew represented England for 30 years. His competitive successes include winning the World Youth Team Championships, the European Championships, and the Gold Cup on no fewer than eight occasions. Andrew has written over 20 books on the game, including Tips for Intermediates, the Next Level, Top Tens and, most recently, Strong and Fives. He mainly teaches Acol.

Andrew is married, with two daughters, and lives in London. When not bridging, he loves long walks and bike rides.

For Beginners...

Thinking of a slam?

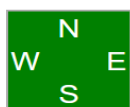
We have ascertained that a Notrump (Small) Slam requires 33 points. If you are happy to play Notrumps rather than in a suit, then count the total number of points held by the partnership.

If there are definitely 37 or more points (rare), bid 7 NT. If there are definitely 33 or more points, bid 6 NT. If there are definitely fewer than 33 points, settle for 3 NT.

But what if there may be 33 points (if partner is maximum), but there may not (if he is minimum)?

The answer is to go beyond game, thus announcing slam intentions, but not by more than one level, enabling partner to pass with a minimum hand. Bid 4 NT.

South Deals	♠ A 6 4
None Vul	♥ Q 7
	♦ A Q 6 5
	♣ A K 10 3
♠ Q 10 8	♠ 9 7 5 3 2
♥ K 10 6	♥ J 9 8 4
♦ 10 8 7 3	♦ 9 2
♣ J 9 7	♣ 8 5
	♠ K J
	♥ A 5 3 2
	♦ K J 4
	♣ Q 6 4 2



West	North	East	South
			1 NT
Pass	4 NT ₁	Pass	6 NT ₂
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Unsure whether the partnership have the 33 points (facing 12-14), North invites the slam.
2. South has a maximum point-count, so accepts.

6 NT by South

Lead: ♦ 3

This deal sees North invite slam, his partner accept, and West lead the three of diamonds. Declarer counts his top tricks: two spades, one heart, four diamonds and three clubs - total ten. The fourth round of clubs offers an excellent chance of an eleventh trick, but the twelfth will have to come from a successful major-suit finesse (either leading towards dummy's queen of hearts hoping West has the king; or leading to his jack of spades hoping East has the queen).

Because a losing spade finesse would preclude the chance of establishing the queen of hearts (a second trick would have to be lost first), declarer must lead to the queen of hearts first.

Declarer made no mistake. He won Trick One with the jack of diamonds, and immediately led a low heart. West played low (the king works no better) so dummy's queen scored.

Declarer now checked his fourth club trick was forthcoming. He cashed dummy's ace of clubs, crossed to the queen (good - both followed), returned to dummy's king (felling West's jack) then cashed the ten. He crossed to the king of diamonds, returned to the ace-queen, and took the ace-king of spades and ace of hearts. 12 tricks. Slam made.

Andrew Robson is a highly accomplished bridge professional, writer and teacher. From his home in the United Kingdom, Robson is the bridge columnist for The Times and Country Life. Andy was born on January 5, 1964 in Chester, United Kingdom




Robson for Advanced Players, continued on page 3

Robson For Advanced Players...

♥ K led Dummy
 ♥ A5432

 Declarer
 ♥ 6

Board Teams	♠ A 8 7 2		
South Deals	♥ 7 5 2		
None Vul	♦ A 8 7 6 5		
	♣ 2		
♠ K Q 5 4		♠ J 10 9	
♥ K 3		♥ 8 6 4	
♦ Q J 10 9 2		♦ 3	
♣ 8 7		♣ K Q J 10 9 6	
	♠ 6 3		
	♥ A Q J 10 9		
	♦ K 4		
	♣ A 5 4 3		
West	North	East	South
			<i>Wrobel</i>
			1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	3 ♠ ¹	Pass
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
All pass			

4 ♥ by South
Lead: ♦ Q

Declarer had garnered eight tricks and had to score two more from her remaining ♥ AQJ. An unexpected overtrick materialised (because West discarded a low spade). Declarer ruffed dummy's fifth diamond and, at trick 11, exited with her spade. West won the queen and had to lead from ♥ K3 round to ♥ AQ. Game made plus one — lovely.

Opening Three-Bids -- for weak hands with long, strong suits.

An opening Three-Bid, called a **preempt**, shows a weak hand can take five or more tricks if your suit is trumps, but is unlikely to take any tricks in any other suits. To open (or overcall) a Three-Bid, you should have:

- A good, long suit (6 or 7 cards, with at least two honors).
- No ace or king in any other suit.
- No 4-card major (especially if partner is not yet a passed hand).

Always consider the vulnerability. If you're vulnerable (your side has made a game), the penalties for not making your contract are much higher. Open a **vulnerable** Three-Bid only if you have strong 7-card suit. Here are some example hands:

♠973 ♥3 ♦KQJ942 ♣Q43 -- Open 3D (but pass if you're vulnerable).

♠AKJ10743 ♥5 ♦8654 ♣8 -- Open 3S at any vulnerability. If you're white vs. red, consider opening 4S.

♠A6 ♥J943 ♦Void ♣KJ86432 -- Pass. You have too much strength outside your suit to open 3C, which would make it almost impossible to find a heart fit if you have one. This hand may be easier to describe later (with an overcall, or a response to partner's opening bid).

♠AKJ10763 ♥82 ♦QJ54 ♣Void -- Open 4S. This has too much playing strength for 3S.

♠K84 ♥AK108654 ♦86 ♣4 -- Open 1H. This hand is too strong for a 3-bid.

Once you make a Three-Bid, you've described your entire hand, so you shouldn't bid again unless partner makes a forcing bid. The only ways partner can force are by bidding a new suit, by cuebidding the opponent's suit, or by asking for aces.

Responding to a Three-Bid

If partner opens a Three-Bid, it's up to you to place the contract. With a weak hand and no fit, you pass. With a stronger hand, don't count just points -- what's important is the **number of tricks** you can take. Consider the vulnerability and try to visualize partner's hand, then count your potential tricks.

- **A bid of game in partner's suit or notrump** (3H-4H or 3D-3NT) shows a strong playing hand with a fit and quick tricks (aces and kings).
- **A new suit response** (3C-3S) shows a strong hand and a good, usually 6+-card suit. Partner won't have 4-card support (even 3-card support is unlikely), so don't suggest a new suit unless you have a very good one.
- **A simple raise below game** (3C-4C) shows a trump fit, but no interest in game. You may raise to put pressure on the opponents, to compete for the contract or to sacrifice. A raise does **not** invite partner to bid again.

The Sacrifice

A Three-Bid can be valuable when you want to "steal" the hand with a sacrifice. If the opponents bid game, you bid higher in partner's suit, hoping to get a smaller minus score than if the opponents had made game.

For a sacrifice to be profitable, your hand must be weak enough in high cards for you to be sure the opponents can make a game. Your hand must also be strong enough in playing tricks and trump support for you to be sure you won't be set more than two (sometimes three) tricks.

The best time for a sacrifice is when you are **not** vulnerable and the opponents are--when their game would give them a 700-point rubber. You can then afford to be doubled and go down as many as three tricks (losing 500 points) for your sacrifice to be profitable.

Preempts continued on page 5

AT THE TABLE

You are not vulnerable. Partner opens 3S and the opponent on your right passes. What is your bid?

♠J87 ♥9 ♦AK72 ♣AJ1054

4S. Your spade support will help partner take at least 5 (or as many as 7) trump tricks, plus your three top tricks in the minor suits. It's also likely that he can score one or two more tricks by trumping hearts in your hand or setting up your clubs.

♠86 ♥KQJ5 ♦KJ65 ♣AJ3

Pass. This hand has more points than the previous example, but much less playing strength. You know partner has no outside aces or kings, so you may have at least three side-suit losers (or perhaps five!), as well as a possible spade loser or two.

♠J982 ♥4 ♦A10432 ♣876

4S. You have no real hopes of making this contract, but your excellent spade support and singleton heart guarantee that partner won't go down very many tricks. You know the opponents are short in spades and that they can surely make at least 4H or 5C (or even 3NT) if you let them bid it. Your 4S bid is an "advance" sacrifice -- it uses up bidding space before the opponents can find their contract.

And if partner holds a hand such as ♠AKxxxxx ♥xxx ♦xx ♣x, you'll even make your game.

You are vulnerable. Partner opens 3C and the opponent on your right passes. What is your bid?

♠AJ8 ♥A53 ♦Q1054 ♣A92

3NT. Partner is vulnerable, so he should have a good 7-card suit (you have the ace and jack, so he must have at least the ♣KQ). You can therefore count 9 tricks -- 7 clubs and 2 aces -- and you have a "stopper" in diamonds if the opponents lead that suit.

♠5 ♥A94 ♦AKQ1076 ♣A53

6C. You know the opponents have the ace of spades, but you can be almost sure that this is the only trick partner will lose. Count your possible tricks. Partner will take at least 6 or 7 club tricks (he should have the ♣KQ of clubs), 1 heart and 3 diamonds right off the top. He should be able to find 2 or 3 more tricks by trumping his spades in your hand or by running your diamonds.



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.

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.

(Opening Far More Unusual 4-Bids from Karen on Page 9)

Homophones 2

Find and circle all of the homophones that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell a secret message.

T	H	D	R	A	F	T	E	L	L	D	O	R	M	N	G	E	S	T
T	H	G	I	R	W	O	S	W	E	R	B	E	E	H	O	L	Y	R
D	I	N	T	H	G	U	A	R	D	S	D	T	H	T	I	A	W	F
E	B	A	R	R	E	D	O	E	L	D	S	N	G	L	A	I	R	S
H	E	L	A	R	N	B	G	U	L	Y	G	U	G	A	W	E	G	E
G	I	C	E	T	H	G	I	E	W	N	N	U	M	H	E	S	R	P
R	U	V	E	M	N	U	S	E	I	D	E	X	O	Z	M	H	U	G
M	U	E	F	I	U	O	M	L	N	S	R	L	E	O	A	U	U	L
E	L	O	S	L	P	S	A	O	S	W	L	A	S	T	R	M	R	A
M	A	I	L	T	O	E	C	E	R	Y	E	E	O	E	T	E	C	R
O	H	S	C	F	S	W	D	L	O	O	E	I	T	B	I	R	C	W
P	S	G	N	I	L	I	E	C	E	R	U	A	V	I	A	U	O	R
C	R	S	E	I	T	L	R	R	F	I	R	S	W	E	L	S	U	I
S	A	C	S	W	E	H	A	A	X	G	L	O	V	I	R	O	R	T
K	M	H	I	H	K	G	Z	E	C	A	E	P	L	C	E	A	S	E
N	E	A	A	A	C	I	E	Y	D	Q	W	W	H	E	E	L	E	D
I	V	L	R	C	A	E	A	E	B	R	U	I	S	E	N	O	D	W
L	A	V	C	K	R	W	M	D	R	A	B	E	S	R	A	O	C	O
O	H	E	N	S	A	A	I	B	O	U	G	H	T	O	S	I	S	B

AWAY	DRAFT	HUMERUS	RAISE
AWEIGH	DRAUGHT	HUMOROUS	RAZE
BARD	FLOUR	LINKS	REVIEW
BARRED	FLOWER	LYNX	REVUE
BOARD	FREES	MARSHAL	RIGHT
BORED	FREEZE	MARTIAL	WRITE
BOUGH	GRATER	MEDALS	WAIT
BOW	GREATER	MEDDLES	WEIGHT
BREWS	GUESSED	MUSCLE	WAX
BRUISE	GUEST	MUSSEL	WHACKS
CEILING	HALVE	PEACE	WHEELED
SEALING	HAVE	PIECE	WIELD
COARSE	HOLY	RACKET	
COURSE	WHOLLY	RACQUET	

Game Page...

Give Me a Hand!

The Board-a-match format in the Mixed Teams at Anaheim makes the overtricks vital — as witness this deal, which would be of no great significance at regular Teams scoring.

Dlr: North			
Vul: None			
♠ Q ♥ A 5 2 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ A 8 5 4 3 2			
♠ 5 2 ♥ J 9 4 ♦ J 7 3 2 ♣ Q 10 9 5		♠ K J 9 6 4 3 ♥ 10 7 ♦ K Q 9 ♣ J 7	
♠ A 10 8 7 ♥ K Q 8 6 3 ♦ A 8 6 ♣ K			
West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	2♠	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

In the other room Sue Picus and Alex Ornstein from the eventual winners as East/West had held 3NT to nine tricks on a spade lead. When declarer won the lead and cashed his club and heart winners then exited with ace and another diamond, Picus unblocked a diamond honour under the ace to avoid being endplayed to give declarer a spade trick.

4♥ looks as if it had ten tricks — but again Judy Radin demonstrated that it is always possible to get a quart out of a pint pot. She won the spade lead and ruffed a spade at once before crossing to hand in clubs and leading a third spade. Whether West ruffed or not did not matter. If he discarded Radin would ruff low and unblock hearts then cash the ace of clubs and use the ♦A as the re-entry to draw trumps. West actually ruffed in with the ♥9 and Judy overruffed and drew trumps for 11 tricks. Note that if Radin had cashed the ♣K at trick two the entry position would have been compromised. Declarer can ruff two spades as before but has to use the ♦A as a re-entry to hand. Now when she leads the third club after ruffing two spades (not ruffed by West) and unblocking in trumps, East ruffs in with the ♥10 and promotes a trump trick for West.

Debbie Rosenberg, who is married to Michael, demonstrated here that the talent in that family is not limited to her husband. Of course Debbie was also part of the USA team that won the World Junior Teams in 1994. This is Debbie at work.

Dlr: West			
Vul: N/S			
♠ J 6 ♥ A K J ♦ A J 5 4 ♣ K 9 5 2			
♠ A Q 10 8 4 ♥ 10 5 4 ♦ K Q 9 3 ♣ 3		♠ 9 2 ♥ 9 8 ♦ 7 6 2 ♣ A Q J 8 6 4	
♠ K 7 5 3 ♥ Q 7 6 3 2 ♦ 10 8 ♣ 10 7			
West	North	East	South
1♠	Dble	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	3♣	3♥
All Pass			

The defence led a club to the jack. It did not seem right to give up on the club tenace by continuing the suit (although that does defeat the hand) so East quite reasonably shifted to the ♠9 and West cashed two rounds of spades and played a third spade. Rosenberg ruffed in dummy, and appeared to have five top losers. However she realized that she had been given a chance since the defence no longer had any communications in the club suit.

Even so, the winning path was by no means obvious. However, given that East appeared to have all the remaining clubs, that marked West with the balance of high cards. Therefore, Debby cashed the top hearts and led a low diamond to the ten and queen. West hopefully led a spade, but Rosenberg could win her ♠K since East was out of trumps. She drew the last trump, finessed the ♦J and parked her club loser on the ♦A to make nine tricks, for an excellent result.

(continued on page 8)

In the last Junior European Championships the Greek team, sitting N/S here, put in a serious entry for the luckiest board of the tournament. The point is that the defence can cash out the spades against Three No-trumps, and Five Clubs appears to have two top spade losers and an inevitable heart loser when the finesse fails.

Dlr: East		♠ Q 10	
Vul: E/W		♥ J 8 5	
		♦ A 8 4	
		♣ Q J 10 5 2	
♠ J		♠ A K 9 6 5 4 2	
♥ K 9 6 4 3		♥ 10 7	
♦ J 10 5		♦ 7 3 2	
♣ 8 7 4 3		♣ 6	
	♠ 8 7 3		
	♥ A Q 2		
	♦ K Q 9 6		
	♣ A K 9		
West	North	East	South
		3♠	Dble
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

North's conservative bid of 4♣ set South up for his inspired bid of Four Diamonds, naturally raised by North to Five Diamonds. Remarkably the 4-3 fit is the only available game for North-South, because of the spade ruff in the short trump hand. When West led a spade, East won the king of spades and cashed the next spade, then played a heart.

However, declarer simply refused the heart finesse and ruffed a spade in dummy, bringing his total to eleven tricks: four diamonds, five clubs, the ace of hearts and the spade ruff. He needed to guess the trumps, as when he led the third spade from hand West ruffed in with the jack. The percentage play might have been to over-ruff and finesse against the ten, but if you bid the hands like this you don't deserve to play the percentages and go down, do you?

Note that if East had played back a heart before cashing the spades, it appears to prevent the ruff in dummy. That is so, but declarer would simply have taken the ace of hearts and drawn trumps, and then would have discarded two spades on dummy's clubs before setting up a heart. Similarly if the opening lead had been a club or diamond, South would have cashed three rounds of trumps, again discarding two losing spades on dummy's clubs.

Consider North/South's club suit on the following deal, without looking at the cards of East and West. There does not seem to be much room for manoeuvre there does there? Either the finesse works or it does not. Well, there is more to it than that.

Dlr: North		♠ 3	
Game All		♥ A 5 4 2	
		♦ K 7	
		♣ A K J 8 7 5	
♠ A K 8 6 5 2		♠ J 10	
♥ 9 3		♥ J 10 8 7	
♦ A J 6 5		♦ 10 9 2	
♣ Q		♣ 9 4 3 2	
	♠ Q 9 7 4		
	♥ K Q 6		
	♦ Q 8 4 3		
	♣ 10 6		
West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

The closest attention to detail is rarely rewarded as generously as happened on this deal in the Round Robin qualifying match from the 2000 Bermuda Bowl between Brazil and Poland. When the Polish declarer Michael Kwiecien played 3NT from the South seat he received a low spade lead round to his queen. That gave him one quick trick, but he could see that he would need to run the clubs to make his contract. The finesse is clearly the indicated line. The natural play seems to be to run the ten of clubs, and to play the suit from the top thereafter if that card is covered by the queen, but Michael saw a little more deeply into the position than that. The point is that the only distributions on which 3NT comes home are where the club queen is onside.

Moreover, since Michael knew he could not see through the backs of the cards, he was never going to negotiate a 4-1 split onside by finessing the nine on the second round. The one distribution he could cope with was to find a singleton queen onside † that would not jeopardize any other making lie of the cards and given West's apparent spade length, this possibility was not entirely unlikely. So he carefully led a low club to the queen and king at trick two, and could now unblock the ten of clubs, and was then able to return to dummy by utilizing the hearts, to collect ten tricks. That was worth a game swing when the Brazilian declarer missed the play in the other room.

Four-Bids

For unusual hands with very long suits and limited high-card strength.

An opening bid or overcall at the four-level is similar to a Three-Bid, but with a longer suit and more playing strength. You should usually have an 8-card or longer suit, and you may have an ace or king outside.

Even at this high level, your bid is still intended as a preempt, so it should be relatively weak in high-card points (no more than 10-11 pts.). With a hand of opening bid strength or better, you can better describe your hand by opening a one-bid and then jumping to game in your suit after partner responds. This allows partner to bid a slam if he has the right type of hand. With a very strong high-card-point hand (21+) and a long suit, open a Strong Two-Bid.

- **Major Suits:** An opening bid of 4H or 4S is called a "shut-out" bid. You may have good hopes of actually making your contract, especially if you're vulnerable. If you can't make it, it may be a good sacrifice, even if the opponents double.
 - **Minor Suits:** You can also open with 4C or 4D, but this isn't as common. A minor suit four-bid isn't game, so the rewards aren't as great if you do make your contract. Unless you have a very long suit and unusual hand, you should usually open a Three-Bid with a long minor. Consider opening 5C or 5D if you have a real "freak" hand and some expectation of making your contract.
 - **Overcalls:** Use these same guidelines to choose your bid if an opponent has opened the bidding. A 4-level jump overcall of your suit has the same meaning as if you had opened 4 of your suit.
-

Non-Vulnerable Four-Bids

When deciding whether or not to open or overcall with a Four-Bid, consider the vulnerability. If you are not vulnerable, a Four-Bid tends to be weaker and more preemptive. It can be especially effective if the opponents are vulnerable -- the higher you bid, the tougher you make it for them to find their best contract.

Non-vulnerable Four-Bids can be made with hands where you have little hope of making the contract unless partner has a very good hand. A good guideline is to have about 7-8 playing tricks. Some examples of non-vulnerable Four-Bids:

- ♠AJ987532 ♥2 ♦QJ4 ♣3 ♠ ♥ ♦
 - ♠7 ♥AKQJ942 ♦6 ♣J1063
 - ♠63 ♥Void ♦KJ2 ♣QJ1097543
-

Vulnerable Four-Bids

If you're vulnerable, be cautious. A Four-Bid may still be made to preempt the opponents, but you should have more playing strength -- about 8 or 9 tricks in your own hand. You can open a vulnerable Four-Bid with hands like:

- ♠AKQ10765 ♥Void ♦43 ♣QJ106
- ♠2 ♥KQJ86543 ♦A54 ♣5
- ♠Void ♥9 ♦K76 ♣KQ9876543

by Karen Walker

WUMBA APPLETON SECTIONAL

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April 4 – 6, 2024

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If this is an electronic document this is a link to the special rate: WUMBA.Appleton.2024

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT(S)
Thursday, April 4	1:30 PM	Stratified Pair/Team (Single Session) 499er Pairs – Non-Lifemaster
	6:30 PM	Stratified Pair/Team (Single Session) 499er Pairs – Non-Lifemaster
Friday, April 5	9:00 AM	Stratified Pair/Team (Single Session) 499er Pairs – Non-Lifemaster
	1:30 PM	Stratified Pair/Team (Single Session) 499er Pairs – Non-Lifemaster
Saturday, April 6	7:00 PM	Short Match Swiss (Single Session)
	9:00 AM	Stratified Swiss (Two Separate Events) 499er NLM Swiss (3 Team Minimum)

Stratified Pairs: 3000+/1000 – 3000/0 – 1000

Pairs Select Their Own Teammates for ALL Pair-Teams!

Entry Fees \$10 Per Session ACBL Members with 0 – 5 Masterpoints Play for Free!

499er/Non-LifeMaster Events: Stratified by the Director

Proof of COVID-19 vaccination will not be required

Sanction Number -- 2404340

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WUMBA (Unit #149) website: www.acbl-wumba.org			

**The North American Pairs
took place in
Milwaukee in
October.
Here are the
results...**

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS RESULTS:

Flight A - 8 tables

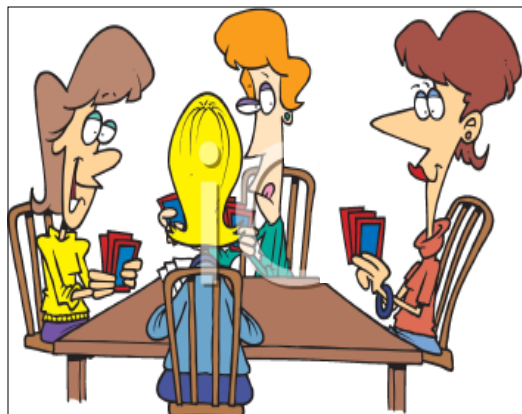
- 1 George Jacobs, Hinsdale IL; Claude Vogel, Chicago IL
- 2 Michael Steigmann, Wilmette IL; Josh Shanes, Skokie IL
- 3 Cheri Bjerkan, Elmhurst IL; Larry Robbins, Deerfield IL
- 4 Craig Allen, Glen Ellyn IL; Stephen Donahue, Riverwoods IL
- 5 Wieslaw Kalita, Woodridge IL; Jaroslaw Piasecki, Mundelein IL

Flight B Finals - 4.5 Tables

- 1 Sean McNally - Julia White, Chicago IL
- 2 James Abbott, Chicago IL; Charles Alexander, Northbrook IL
- 3 Gregory Harding, Madison WI; Douglas Babcock, Fitchburg WI
- 4 Henry Shi - Ping Hu, Naperville IL

Flight C Finals - 5 Tables

- 1 Paul Rogerson, Chicago IL; William Rogerson, Winnetka IL
- 2 Max Krawczyk, Palo Alto CA; Avery Wang, Chicago IL
- 3 Margaret Bohanon - Sandra Cooper, Oconomowoc WI
- 4 Alec Sun - Gan Yang, Chicago IL



Bridge at the club
Is so fun to play,
I go when I can
And that's most every day!
I play with Mabel.
Jane plays with Sue.
We try to emerge
As Pair One
And Pair Two!

Valentine Sectional

Unit 222

FEBRUARY 14 – 17, 2024

GOOD HOPE SCHOOL (4 ACES BRIDGE CLUB) – ROOM #26

2315 W. Good Hope Road - Glendale WI

(The school is not visible from Good Hope Road)

From I-43: Exit #80 Good Hope Road West for 1½ miles

Turn left just before the tennis courts on the south

From I-41: Exit # 47 Good Hope Road East for 5.5 miles

Turn right just after the tennis courts on the south side. The drive will take you to the school.

Enter through the main door (#1) and follow the signs to the club.

ACBL Sanction #2402352



Wednesday - 2/14: 9:30 a.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game
2:00 p.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game

Thursday - 2/15: 9:30 a.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game
2:00 p.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game

Friday - 2/16: 9:30 a.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game
2:00 p.m. Pair/Team Game & 499er Pair Game

Saturday - 2/17: 9:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. **BRUCE BROWN CUP OPEN PAIRS**
9:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. - 499er Pair Game (Single Sessions)

TOURNAMENT CHAIR:
John Pereles (414-559-3463) jrpereles@gmail.com
PARTNERSHIP CHAIR:
Yvette Neary (414-526-9035) yneary@gmail.com

Strata for all open games: 0-999, 1000-2999, 3000+
Strata for 499er games: 0-99, 100-299, 300-499
(Strats may be adjusted as attendance warrants)



Unit 123 Windy City Regional (new venue, same great competition!)
White Eagle Banquets & Restaurant, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles (Chicago)

Thursday June 27

10 and 3 Open Pairs (stratified)

Gold Rush Pairs (stratified)

Friday June 28

10 and 3 Open Pairs (stratified)

Gold Rush Pairs (stratified)

Saturday June 29

10 and 3 Open Pairs (stratified)

Gold Rush Pairs (stratified)

Sunday June 30

10 playthrough

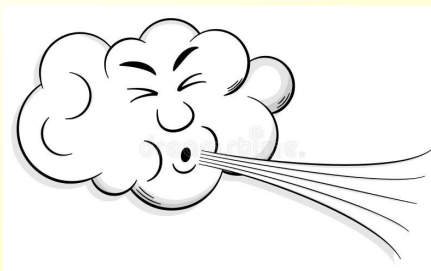
Open Swiss (stratified)

Gold Rush Swiss (stratified)

Open Stratification 0-2500/2500-5000/5000+ MP averaging

Gold Rush stratification 0-200/200-400/400-750

MP averaging but no player may be over 750



Tournament Chair: Betsy Downs
loverofbeagles@gmail.com

Partnership Chair: Jan Churchwell
jan8242@gmail.com

Stan Subeck Central States Regional
White Eagle Banquets & Restaurant
6839 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles (Chicago)

Friday November 8

10 and 3 Open Pairs (stratified)

Gold Rush Pairs (stratified)

Saturday November 9

10 and 3 Open Pairs (stratified)

Gold Rush Pairs (stratified)

Sunday November 10

10 and 3 Open Pairs (stratified)

Gold Rush Pairs (stratified)

Monday November 11 (Veteran's Day)

10 playthrough

Open Swiss (stratified)

Gold Rush Swiss (stratified)

Open Stratification 0-2500/2500-5000/5000+ MP averaging

Gold Rush stratification 0-200/200-400/400-750

MP averaging but no player may be over 750

Tournament Chair: Suzi Subeck
stansubeck@prodigy.net

Partnership Chair:
TBD



District 13 2023/2024 Grand National Teams

Saturday, February 24, 2024, 11:00 and TBA & Sunday, February 25, 2024, 11:00 and TBA

Renaissance Chicago Glenview Suites, 1400 Milwaukee Avenue, Glenview, IL
Telephone: (847) 803-9800 Bridge Rate: \$104+tax by February 9, 2024

The Championship Flight, Flight A, and Flight B events will take place over four sessions and will be concluded in a single weekend.

Flight C will be a two-session Swiss Team event played to conclusion on Sunday only.

There will be no competition among flights. Players must choose the flight in which they plan to play.

Flight	Masterpoints	Club Qualifying
Championship	Unlimited	Determined by Unit
Flight A	Fewer than 6000 points	Determined by Unit
Flight B	Fewer than 2500 points	Determined by Unit
Flight C	Non Life Master and fewer than 500 points	Determined by Unit

Flight eligibility is established by ACBL's September 2023 masterpoint cycle. This information was produced on August 6, 2023 in Horn Lake, MS. Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for these events.

Players must reside in District 13. Each member of the team must be a paid member in good standing with the ACBL. Club qualifying games are permitted at Unit discretion but are not required at any level of competition. A Flight B or C team may qualify under the rules of any Unit where a plurality of team members reside.

In addition, players who are currently, or have ever been in the past, members of another bridge organization, whether domestic (e.g., American Bridge Association) or foreign (e.g., Polski Związek Brydza Sportowego), must submit information on their past and/or current ranking in that organization. Submissions must be in writing (email is fine) and must be received by the District GNT Coordinator or District 13 Director at the time of registration for the event. The information submitted may be used to assign a conversion to ACBL masterpoints for purposes of verifying flight eligibility.

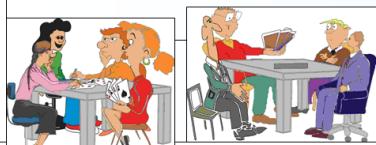
****An entry in the CHAMPIONSHIP Flight is a commitment to play in the National Final. Entries in lower flights may play to conclusion before declaring intent. We understand your reluctance to commit in advance.****

GNT Coordinator:

Suzi Subeck
847-509-0311 **stansubeck@prodigy.net**

One team will qualify in Championship and Fl. A
 In the event that there are 8 or more teams in the District Final of Flight B &/or C, that flight or flights will qualify the 2 top teams.

Any teams representing D13 at the National Event will receive a stipend paid at or just after the NABC.



Registration:

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT.

All teams wishing to enter must provide notification by noon on February 18, 2024 by contacting:

Suzi Subeck, District 13 Director, (847)-509-0311 Home, (708) 927-6819 Cell, stansubeck@prodigy.net, or by registering on line at <http://bridgeinchicago.com> when it is available

Entering teams must have a written confirmation either by email or letter. No team without such a written confirmation should assume that entry has been verified. It is important to know in advance the teams enter. Captains should bring the confirmation with them to the site and be prepared to present it when purchasing an entry.

Proof of Covid Vaccination Is Required!
Hard Copy or Electronic is OK!