

ACBL District 13 presents

I/N News ... especially for you!

When to make a penalty double by Andy Robson

Have you ever doubled the opponents in a contract that you were sure you could beat - only to see them flee to a safer haven?



West Deals	♠ A
N-S Vul	♥ J 9 8
	♦ K 10
	♣ A 10 8 7 6 4 2
♠ 10 8 6 5	♠ 9 7 3 2
♥ A K Q 10 4 3	♥ 6 5 2
♦ A 6 5	♦ 3 2
♣ —	♣ Q J 9 3
	♠ K Q J 4
	♥ 7
	♦ Q J 9 8 7 4
	♣ K 5

West North East South

1 ♥	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
3 ♥	4 ♣	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

In 1995, Andrew Robson founded the highly successful Andrew Robson Bridge Club in South West London. He has written the courses which tens of thousands have taken at the Club over the years. He still teaches several weekends a year. 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 nearly 20 years. He also writes monthly for The Oldie. Andrew produces acclaimed daily instruction "BridgeCast" videos for all levels of players (go to andrewrobsonbridgecast.com) and has seen a meteoric rise in many of his subscribers.

West had crowded the auction sufficiently to jostle North-South into the inferior 5♣ contract. That would have failed by two tricks due to the unfortunate trump break. Was East content to write +200 (two down vulnerable) on his scorepad? No - he wanted every penny! East's double sent a warning signal to North, with his bare ♣ suit. He wisely ran to his partner's ♦s and West doubled with a shrug of the shoulders.

West led ♥A and continued with ♥K. Declarer trumped and led ♦7 to ♦5, ♦K and ♦2, and returned dummy's ♦10 to ♦3, ♦8 and ♦A. West switched to ♠5 to dummy's ♠A, but declarer trumped ♥J (avoiding returning to hand with ♣K which West would have trumped); he drew West's last trump, ran his ♠KQJ and ♣AK. The doubled game was made.

East must have been kicking himself - he had been too greedy! The moral is clear....

ANDREW'S TIP: When the opponents are in the one contract you are confident of defeating, do not double or they may remove themselves to a contract you are not confident of defeating.

Robson For Intermediate Players...

Tip: DO keep equal length with dummy by Andy Robson

Provided your highest card is higher than dummy's lowest card, try to keep as many cards in a suit as dummy. This is particularly important when you (and dummy) have four or more cards, such that partner probably cannot also guard the suit.

(a) Dummy

♦ K Q J 10 4 East (you)

♦ A 9 5 3 2

As East, retain all your five diamonds if you can. Throw one away and, after your ♦ A is forced out, all dummy's remaining four cards will be good including, crucially, ♦ 4 on the fifth round.

(b) Dummy

♣ A Q J 6 East (you)

♣ K 10 5 2

As East, throw a club away and dummy's clubs will provide three tricks; you will only score ♣ K.

(c) Dummy

♥ A K Q 5 East (you)

♥ 6 4 3 2

Your hearts are dreadful. Yet because your ♥ 6 beats dummy's ♥ 5 on the fourth round, you must retain them all. [Swap ♥ 5 and ♥ 6 and you could throw them all away as your highest card would be lower than dummy's lowest card].

(d) Dummy

♠ A K J 5 East (you)

♠ Q 10 7 3 2

You can discard one spade – bringing you down to the same length as dummy; but you must not throw any more away.

(e) Dummy

♦ A 7 5 East (you)

♦ Q 9 4

The need to keep equal length with dummy is less acute here. Unless declarer has five diamonds, partner will be able to guard the suit.

Continued on page 3

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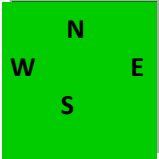
Continued on page 4



Shuffle the cards.
Don't let them fall!
Count all your points...
It's your turn to call!

Take East's hand to find the key discard

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



1. Rule of 20 opener – points plus lengths of two longest suits reaching 20.
2. Weak hand with good eight-card suit – might even bid 5D with eight likely tricks.
3. Practical shot.

6 ♠ by South

On our 6 ♠ deal West cashed ♦ A and switched to ♣ 9. Winning dummy's ♣ J, declarer drew trumps, cashed ♥ A and ran his remaining trumps. On the final trump East had to throw from ♣ 10754 and ♥ K, dummy holding ♣ AKQ2. To keep equal length with dummy's clubs, away went ♥ K (key play), East having to hope West held the precious ♥ 9 to prevent declarer's hearts from promoting.

Good partner – down one.

**Save the Dates: Stan Subeck Central States Regional
October 15th-18th, 2026, Site TBD**

A bad guy is playing Russian roulette with a six-shooter revolver. He puts in one bullet, spins the chambers and fires at you, but no bullet comes out. He gives you the choice of whether or not he should spin the chambers again before firing a second time. Should he spin again?

Answer: Yes. Before he spins, there's a one in six chance of a bullet being fired. After he spins, one of those chances has been taken away, leaving a one-in-five chance and making it more likely a bullet will be fired. Best to spin again.

Same situation, but two bullets are put in consecutive chambers. Should you tell the bad guy to spin the chambers again?

Answer: No. With two bullets, you have two chances in six (or one in three) to get hit with a bullet before he fires the first time. Because we know the previous round was one of four empty chambers, that leaves four positions the gun could now be in, with only one followed by a bullet; therefore leaving you with a one in four chance the second round will fire. Since one in four is better odds than one in three, he shouldn't spin again.

A man is caught on the king's property. He is brought before the king to be punished. The king says, "You must give me a statement. If it is true, you will be killed by lions. If it is false, you will be killed by the trampling of wild buffalo. If I can't figure it out, I'll have to let you go." Sure enough, the man was released. What was the man's statement?

Answer: "I will be killed by trampling of wild buffalo." This stumped the king because if it's true, he'll be killed by lions, which would render the statement not true. If it's a lie, he'd be killed by wild buffalo, which would make it a truth. Since the king had no solution, he had to let the man go.

Minocqua-Lakeland Bridge Sectional



The Friendly Northwoods Tournament

JUNE 12 - 14, 2026

Woodruff Town Hall
Hwy 47 (1418 - 1st Avenue), Woodruff, WI 54568

• **ENTRY FEES \$12 for all sessions** •

JUNE						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Friday, June 12

1:30 p.m.
Stratified 499er Pairs.
Stratified Open Pair/Team.

7:00 p.m.
Stratified 499er Pairs.
Stratified Open Pair/Team.

Saturday, June 13

9:00 a.m.
Stratified 499er Pairs.
Stratified Open Pair/Team.

1:30 p.m.
Stratified 499er Pairs.
Stratified Open Pair/Team.

7:00 p.m.
Stratified 499er Pairs.
Short Match Swiss.

Sunday, June 14

9:00 a.m. & TBA
2 Single Session Swiss Teams
Lunch provided for extra charge.



Pairs choose their partners for all pair/team games.



0-5 ACBL Members play **FREE** **FREE** Parking **FREE** Hospitality

Sanction: #2606335

For more information:
Chair: Lee Schultz • lschultzupnorth@gmail.com • (715)892-5479
Partnerships: Bill Christensen • christensenbill37@gmail.com • (715)356-5310
WUMBA (Unit #149) website: www.acbl-wumba.org

Accommodations: Ask for Bridge Rate
AmericInn • 1-715-356-3730
Best Western Plus • 1-715-356-1800

STRATIFICATIONS
499er: 0-100; 100-300; 300-500
Open: 0-1000; 1000-3000; 3000+

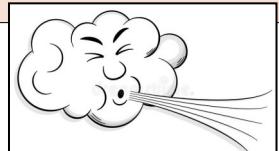


The crystal ball
Goes many places...
It tells the Bridge
Gods,
"Give me Aces!"

First Name	Last Name	New Rank
Erel	Amit	Junior Master
Terry	Broccolo	Junior Master
Maureen	Marino	Junior Master
Clayton	Mizgerd	Junior Master
Carol	Morrison	Junior Master
Joseph	Rickert	Junior Master
Karen	Segal	Junior Master
Philip	Spitz	Junior Master
Christina	Staring	Junior Master
Elaine	Stowe	Junior Master
Diane	Zeger	Junior Master
Paul	Bushland	Club Master
Qin	Chen	Club Master
Linda	Eskritt	Club Master
Sonny-Vern	Haglund	Club Master
Lynn	Hoff	Club Master
Steven	Hopkins	Club Master
Jonathan	Levine	Club Master
Zheshen	Li	Club Master
Joan	McDonagh	Club Master
Pamela	Ringsred	Club Master
Thomas	Rutherford	Club Master
Janet	Smith	Club Master
Susan	Sutter	Club Master
Lora	Wilson	Club Master
Richmond	Yeung	Club Master
John	Adams	Sectional Master
Kelli	Gustman	Sectional Master
Catherine	Osburn	Sectional Master
Libby	Butler	Regional Master
Stephanie	McFall	Regional Master
Ralph	Pound	Regional Master
Bonnie	Spear	Regional Master
Zeyu	Wang	Regional Master
Arnold	Grant	NABC Master
Zhaofeng	Wang	NABC Master
Bernard	Dost	Adv NABC Master
David	Kempner	Adv NABC Master
Susan	Salzinski	Life Master
James	Sturtevant	Silver Life Master
Dean	Whiteway	Silver Life Master
Mark	Langer	Ruby Life Master
Diane	Martin	Ruby Life Master
Michael	Shelton	Ruby Life Master
Donald	Urquhart	Gold Life Master
Mardi	Deml	Sapphire Life Master
Donald	Joseph	Sapphire Life Master
Stephen	Donahue	Emerald Life Master
Don	Lusky	Emerald Life Master

Qin	Chen	Junior Master
Susan	Cox	Junior Master
Ed	Gallagher	Junior Master
Shivaji	Kaul	Junior Master
Farzaneh	Kazemi Yaz	Junior Master
Oxana	Malevanai	Junior Master
Margaret	Maroney	Junior Master
Kathryn	Sauer	Junior Master
Joan	Tanaka	Junior Master
Jacqueline	Walker	Junior Master
Mengzi	Yang	Junior Master
Irshad	Ahmad	Club Master
Margaret	Goss	Club Master
Kimberly	Kiyosaki	Club Master
Pat	Kraft	Club Master
Melissa	Mann	Club Master
Don	Pray	Club Master
Ruth	Robb	Club Master
Laurence	Segil	Club Master
Susan	Zilberstein	Club Master
Peter	Beer	Sectional Master
Louise	Doornek	Sectional Master
Lois	Pietz	Sectional Master
Eileen	Trost	Sectional Master
Marion	Gagnon	Regional Master
Scott	Gagnon	Regional Master
Susan	Goulet	Regional Master
Christophe	Staszak	Regional Master
Marilyn	Washow	NABC Master
Kurt	Haeusler	Adv NABC Master
Mary	Krienke	Adv NABC Master
Richard	Stern	Life Master
Rahul	Garga	Bronze Life Master
Faye	Bowers	Silver Life Master
Clyde	Lantz	Silver Life Master
Mark	Nehs	Silver Life Master
Brian	Werner	Silver Life Master
Jill	Polacheck	Ruby Life Master
Ann	Blum	Gold Life Master
John	Kreag	Gold Life Master
Charles	Sweet	Sapphire Life Master
Thomas	Dressing	Diamond Life Master
Steve	Slinger	Diamond Life Master

Unit 123 Windy City Regional
1100 American Lane,
Schaumburg, IL
June 3, 2026—June 7, 2026
Wednesday June 3 10AM and
3PM Open Pairs (Stratified)
Gold Rush Pairs (Stratified)
Thursday June 4 10AM and
3PM Open Pairs (Stratified)
Gold Rush Pairs (Stratified)
Friday June 5 10AM and 3PM
Open Pairs (Stratified) Gold
Rush Pairs (Stratified)
Saturday June 6 10AM and
3PM Open Pairs (Stratified)
Gold Rush Pairs (Stratified)
Sunday June 7 10:00AM and
1:30PM* A, X, Y Swiss (5000+,
2500-4999, <2500) Gold Rush
Pairs (Stratified)



Tournament Chair: Betsy
Downs
loverofbeagles@gmail.com
Partnership Chair: Jan
Churchwell
jan8242@gmail.com
Hospitality Co-Chairs: Fran
Lyne & Missy Ravid



Congrats
to all!
District 13
Rank Advancements

Give 'Em A Hand

Dealer North. Both sides vulnerable.

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

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

After the new-minor forcing bid of 2♣, North's rebid promised three cards in spades while denying four hearts. South knew what to do.

West led the queen of clubs, and that held the trick when dummy followed low. The jack of clubs was continued (rather than a contract-killing heart). Declarer again called for a low club, which was essential as the cards lay because it left East with guards in both hearts and clubs.

After ruffing the club continuation, declarer saw that he had only nine tricks. Rather than rely on the hearts being favourable, declarer decided to try and make a tenth trick by reversing the dummy, ruffing two diamonds in hand. So, at trick four declarer made the essential play of a low diamond to dummy's king and East's ace (ducking would not have been a sound move because the ace would then be ruffed out). East exited with a trump. Declarer won this in hand with the ace then led a diamond to dummy's queen and ruffed a diamond with the king of trumps. Declarer now crossed to dummy with a low heart to dummy's king to ruff a second diamond in hand.

Declarer now led his nine of trumps to dummy's ten. When both opponents followed, he drew West's remaining trump with dummy's queen, throwing the five of hearts from hand. That was declarer's eighth trick and he claimed the last two tricks with his ace and queen of hearts.

If West had shifted to a heart at trick three, declarer would win in hand with the queen and play a diamond

to dummy's king and East's ace. After taking the heart exit in dummy with the king, declarer plays the queen of diamonds and ruffs a diamond high. Then, after cashing the king of trumps and leading a low trump to dummy's ten, declarer ruffs a second diamond in hand to reduce everyone to three cards. Then when the jack of trumps is led to dummy's queen poor East cannot keep both the ace of clubs and two hearts. Whichever suit East abandoned would provide declarer his tenth trick.

Finally, declarer might also survive if trumps proved to be 4-1 as long as three rounds of hearts survive.

Dealer South. Both sides vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
			1NT ¹⁵⁻¹⁷
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

West led the king of diamonds. Declarer counted eleven top tricks and saw that the twelfth would have to come from the heart suit. As he had to lose one trick no matter how he played, declarer followed the general principle of doing so early: he let West win the first trick.

After winning the next diamond with his ace and noting East's club discard, declarer set about gaining information about how the black suits lay before touching hearts. Declarer began by cashing dummy's ace and king of spades. Next he played three rounds of clubs ending in hand, noting that West began with only two clubs. Now the queen and jack of spades were cashed. When West followed to all four spade winners, declarer now knew that West had four spades, five diamonds and two clubs – marking him with an original 4=2=5=2 shape.

Declarer now cashed dummy's ace and king of hearts. When he called for the eight of hearts to be played next, East covered this with the nine. Since South knew that West had no more hearts, declarer covered this with

(continued on page 8)

Hands Continued from page 7

his ten of hearts. When that held the trick, he claimed his twelfth with his queen of hearts.

The point of the play here was to delay the play in the crucial suit (hearts) as long as possible while gathering information about how the other suits lay. This approach would also win when West had four hearts headed by the jack, for in the two-card ending he would not be able to keep both his diamond winner and two hearts. Declarer would then make his twelfth trick in whichever suit West abandoned.

Dealer East. North-South vulnerable.

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

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

This deal came up in a team game. The auction was the same at both tables, with 3♥ indicating a good raise at least to 3♠. Both West players began by leading the king of hearts. This was overtaken with the ace at both tables. The five of clubs was returned by each East player.

At the first table, the club was taken in dummy with dummy's queen. The declarer saw that there was a danger of East ruffing a club, so he played ace and another trump. East took the latter with his king of trumps and then led the five of hearts to his partner's queen, suggesting a club return. When that hint was taken, East's club ruff was the fourth defensive trick.

At the other table, declarer paused to think about the bidding and play to date. West was marked with the king and queen of hearts and not much else. Unless East had opened on a nine or ten count, he had to have the king of trumps and the king and queen of diamonds. The play to tricks one and two suggested to declarer that East was looking for a club ruff, with West's queen of hearts as the entry. The only way to foil this was to cut the link between the defenders' hands.

So, after winning the club shift with dummy's queen, declarer cashed the ace of diamonds and then led the jack of diamonds. When East covered this with the queen of diamonds declarer threw the jack of hearts from his hand. After ruffing East's heart exit, declarer played ace and another trump to East's king. That was

the last defensive trick: declarer had made his contract via five trumps, a diamond and four clubs.

Also, in the unlikely event that West had turned up with a diamond honour and given East a club ruff, declarer would cash the ace of trumps and make his contract as long as East had begun with a 2=5=5=1 shape.

Dealer South. East-West vulnerable.

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

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

West began with the ace, king and a third diamond. East ruffed dummy's queen with the seven of trumps. Declarer overruffed this with his nine of trumps and then led his two of spades to dummy's king. Next he ran dummy's eight of trumps to West's king. After winning the trump return with dummy's jack, declarer drew West's remaining trump with his queen. Next declarer cashed the ace, king and queen of clubs and was disappointed to see that East had four clubs. Declarer now led a spade to his jack and West's queen for down one.

"That was unlucky," wailed South. "East began with five spades so it was 5 to 2 that the finesse would win."

"Luck had nothing to do with the case" riposted North. "All you had to do was play your last trump, throwing a spade from dummy, before touching clubs. Then you cash the ace, king and queen of clubs learning that East still has a club winner. Now it's a two-card ending and when you lead a spade from dummy you know East's remaining card is a club. So you have no option but to play the ace of spades. As it happens, the queen of spades would fall under the ace, and the jack of spades would be your game-going trick."



Mary thinks she's Really cute!
Wish that she could Follow suit!

**Open & 750 NLM Madison Sectional
Madison Marriot West
1313 John Q Hammons Dr., Middleton, WI
July 31-August 2, 2026**

Friday July 31

9:30 am Open Pair/Team
0-750 NLM Pair/Team
2:00 pm Open Pair/Team
0-750 NLM Pair/Team

Saturday August 1

9:30 am Open Pair/Team
0-750 NLM Pair/Team
2:00 pm Open Pair/Team
0-750 NLM Pair/Team

Sunday, August 2

9:30am Open Pair/Team
0-750 NLM Pair/Team
2:00 pm Open Pair/Team
0-750 NLM Pair/Team



Hospitality
Free coffee & snacks

Play Free! ACBL members with 0-5 master points
Entry Fee \$12 per session
\$4 extra for lapsed ACBL members

Chair
Glenna Shannahan
madisonbridgeclub@gmail.com

Partnership
David Raitt
(612) 554-7913 text please
Partners guaranteed 30 min before game
Pair/Teams

WUMBA GREEN BAY SECTIONAL

MAY 13-MAY 15, 2026

**Tournament Site: Cedar Creek Event Center
1018 Cedar St., De Pere, WI 54115**

Hotels: Hotel J, 2620 S. Packerland Dr., Green Bay (920) 499-1900
(Ask for Bridge Tournament Rate by April 29; \$70 W, \$129 Th)

Cobblestone Hotel, 499 Main Ave., De Pere (920) 307-1055
(Go to website, enter Code GBRIDGECLUB26 by April 13; \$109 W-Th)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
Wednesday, May 13	1:30 PM	Stratified Pair/Team (Single Session) 499er Pairs
	6:30 PM	Stratified Pair/Team (Single Session) 499er Pairs
Thursday, May 14	9:00 AM	Stratified Pair/Team (Single Session) 499er Pairs
	1:30 PM	Stratified Pair/Team (Single Session) 499er Pairs
Friday, May 15	9:00 AM	Stratified Swiss Teams (Two Events) 499er Swiss Teams (3 Team Minimum)
	1:30 PM	2 nd Session Stratified Swiss Teams

Sanctioned to Unit 149:

Appleton: April
De Pere (Green Bay): May
Egg Harbor: June
Woodruff/Minocqua: June
Middleton (Madison): July
Eau Claire (regional): August
Egg Harbor: September
Schofield (Wausau): September
Onalaska (La Crosse): November
Madison: December

Egg Harbor Local Sectional, June 2-4, 2026

Door County Bridge Club, 7845 Church Street, Egg Harbor, WI



Open Pair Games:
Stratification determined
by average of pairs in
attendance.

Entry Fees:
\$22 per person per session or
\$120 for all six sessions
Masterpoints: 80% silver, 20% black

Tuesday, June 2	Wednesday, June 3	Thursday, June 4
10:00 am Stratified Open Pairs (Single Session)	9:00 am Stratified Open Pairs (Single Session)	9:00 am Stratified Open Pairs (Single Session)
2:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs (Single Session)	1:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs (Single Session)	1:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs (Single Session)

The Egg Harbor Local Sectional is limited to 48 pairs and requires an advance reservation to attend. To receive a registration packet, e-mail the Tournament Chair, Thomas Young.

Director in Charge:
Tournament Chair:

Barbara Piester
Thomas Young

piester102@earthlink.net
tmy096@aol.com

920-868-6113
920-333-0325

**Editor's Suggestion:
Save or download newsletter
and Enlarge pages
to make
reading flyers easier!**

Steve Reuschlein, well-known expert from Madison, WI, was fighting multiple ailments including balance and mobility issues. Steve sadly lost his battle and succumbed on February 15th. He and his late wife, Diana, were highly respected competitive players recognized for their skill, their ethics and their kindness at the table.

In the “old days,” Steve regularly teamed with or partnered with Jack Oest, the late Jeff Miller, and Phil Warden. He and Diana were college classmates and friends of Jacks and the others for decades.



New CCBA Website... Bigger, Bolder, and Much Improved!

Unit 123 (Chicago and the suburbs) has a new, user-friendly website at: <https://ccbaunit123.com/>

Paste the URL into your browser, have a look and bookmark it! Click on the navigation tabs: Home, Governance, News, Kibitzers, Photos, Tournaments, Clubs, Teachers, Minutes and Links to see what is there.

Contact information is at the bottom of the Home page along with a link to the U123/District 13 Facebook page.

The News page has several short articles with current info relevant to area bridge players. The top article will be the most recent submission.

The Kibitzer drop-down menu features the most current editions of the Chicago Contract Bridge Association newsletters. These issues are available for downloading with an easy “download a PDF” option.

Photos are tournament photos from the Unit’s most recent events.

Tournaments include a list of regular CCBA tournaments with general time frames and actual dates for those which have been sited. Flyers will accompany listings once schedules are complete.

The Clubs tab lists the clubs within Unit 123, as well as a few in Northern Indiana, frequented by the South and South Suburban contingent. Also there is Owner/director contact information as well as days and times of games and a RESULTS link to the results on ACBL Live . Special games are there too.

The Teachers tab lists area teachers and their contact information as well as their general geographic location.

Minutes features minutes from the most recent meetings of the CCBA Board of Directors.

Links provides a pathway to relevant bridge sites such as ACBL, USBF, District 13, BBO, Swan Bridge, the World Bridge Federation, FunBridge and RealBridge.

Governance include information on Arbitration policies, CCBA Board Members, ACBL Recorder Forms and more.

The Website will forever be “Work in Progress”. Check often to stay up to date!

**Look for This Pic
on the Home Page!**



Anyone for Golf?

The other month I took part in a Charity Golf-Bridge Pro-Am at Surrey's charming Coombe Hill. Those who've seen me play may be surprised to hear I (with partner Paul Tustain) won the Golf. We lost the Bridge. As co-organiser – with the amazing and wonderful ARBC member Godfrey King – I devised a Bridge Quiz – which I gave over dinner.

Try these three of the 12 questions : (1) You are: (a) More likely to hold 11 points than 9 (b) Less likely to hold 11 points than 9 (c) Just as likely to hold 11 points as 9. (2) Who invented the Stayman convention? (a) Sam Stayman, (b) Jack Marx and George Rapee simultaneously across the ocean, (c) Nobody knows. (3). You have three finesses to take. Assuming that each finesse is a 50% shot, what is the chance that at least two of them will work? (a) 25% (b) 33% (c) 50%.

On this deal from the Coombe Hill Charity Duplicate, the most common score was 4 ♠ by East making plus two. South invariably led a heart, enabling declarer to rise with dummy's jack, draw trumps in three rounds, cash ♥AK shedding dummy's club and merely concede to the ♦A.

East Deals	♠ J 8 4		
N-S Vul	♥ 10		
	♦ 8 7 4 2		
	♣ K 10 9 8 4		
♠ Q 10 9 7 3		♠ A K 6 5 2	
♥ J 2		♥ A K 6 4 3	
♦ K J 10 9 6		♦ Q	
♣ Q		♣ 6 3	
		♠ —	
		♥ Q 9 8 7 5	
		♦ A 5 3	
		♣ A J 7 5 2	

	N		
W	N E	E	
	S	S	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		1 ♠	2 ♠ ¹
4 ♠	4 NT ²	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Michaels, showing five-five in hearts and an unspecified minor.
2. Please bid your minor, partner.

At our featured table N-S found the unfavourable vulnerability "sacrifice" in 5 ♣ (doubled). Down one would have been a good save. South was to do better. Ruffing the opening spade lead, declarer crossed to the (queen and) king of clubs, then led dummy's singleton ten of hearts. East rose with the king and switched to his singleton queen of diamonds, but declarer won the ace and ruffed a heart, noting West's jack with interest. Declarer returned to his ace of clubs, drawing the last trump, then led the queen of hearts. When West discarded, he could count East for his 5 ♠ 5 ♥ 1 ♦ 2 ♣ shape and discarded a diamond from dummy.

East won the ace and, with no more diamonds, led a second spade. Declarer ruffed, cashed ♥98 discarding dummy's remaining diamonds and crossruffed. 11 tricks and doubled game made.

Answers to Quiz: (1)(b): the distribution is skewed because you can hold more than 20 points but not fewer than zero. (2)(b): It all happened as WW2 broke out. Rapee gave Stayman the convention to popularise, whilst the self-effacing Marx kept it to his inner coterie of North London Acolytes. (3)(c): The chances of more finesses working than failing is 50-50.

Robson For Advanced Players...

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.

District 13 Regional

May 4-May 8

Madison Marriott West

1313 John Q Hammons Dr.,
Middleton, WI, phone: 608-824-2710

Room Rate: \$161—
Reservations **must** be made
by April 12, 2026 to

guarantee rate

Yvette Neary

414-526-9035

Email: yneary@gmail.com

General Bridge Tips to Improve Your Scores!!

Declarer Play Tips

- **Plan at Trick One:** Count your winners and losers *before* playing a card.
- **Delay Drawing Trumps:** If you need to establish a long suit in dummy or cross-ruff, do it before pulling trumps.
- **Manage Entries:** Plan how to get to the dummy to play the winning suit.
- **Count the Defenders' Cards:** Keep track of how many cards are left in key suits to avoid losing control.
- **Unblock Suits:** If your high cards are "trapped" in the hand opposite the long suit, play them early to ensure you can reach the long suit.

Defense Tips

- **Lead Top of Sequences:** Lead the Queen from QJ10, King from KQJ, or Ace from AKx.
- **Active Defense:** Lead high-spot cards to show shortness if you want a suit returned.
- **Don't Rush A's:** Don't automatically lead unsupported Aces.
- **Visualize the Hands:** Use the bidding to form a mental picture of the declarer's shape.

Bidding & System Tips

- **Revalue Your Hand:** When holding a fit, add distributional points: 5 for a void, 3 for a singleton, 1 for a doubleton.
- **Open 1NT with 5-Card Majors:** Many modern intermediate systems prefer opening 1NT with a 5-card major and 15-17 points, according to the Andrew Robson Bridge Club.
- **Weak Two Bids:** Use weak twos (6-card suit, 5-10 points) to interrupt opponents.
- **Responder Strategy:** When responding to a 1♣ opener with no fit, bid your longest suit first. With two 4-card suits, bid the cheaper one first.
-

General Advice

- **Ask for Play Records:** Discuss hands with your partner and look at score sheets.
- **Take Your Time:** Pause to assess, especially at trick one.

Another Great Way to Improve Your Scores

Take advantage of the Online VuGraph when NABC's, World Championships, United States Bridge Federation Championships or European Championships are being offered on platforms such as LoveBridge or RealBridge. The broadcast is delayed for security reasons. Once it starts, you can chat with the audience and it's great fun. The link to RealBridge is available under Links on the new CCBA website (see page 10).

You cannot help but learn from watching expert play! Besides the VuGraphs, there is often streaming coverage on U-Tube with live moderators (Rob Barrington is excellent. Craig Biddle is too.) And sometimes you see a blunder that makes you feel much better about your own game. Experts are only human and like all of us, they occasionally misjudge a situation and suffer a big penalty!

Seriously, try it ... you'll like it!