

August 11-17



Hi 89 Low 70



Daily Bulletin

Welcome to the Gateway to the West Regional!

Late Night Hospitality



St. Louis offers serious hospitality for all. Join us for snacks after the evening session. **Tonight's treat: Chat & Snack: We all scream for Ice Cream!** Vanilla, Strawberry and Chocolate with all the toppings, chocolate fudge, strawberry sauce, caramel sauce, and whipped cream.

New Event Today at 9 AM

Charity 1-Session Stratified Open Pairs

We heard you. Your feedback has told us you want a 1-session Open Pairs game on Saturday morning, so we are introducing it to our schedule this year. This charity event will add to the contribution we make on your behalf to The Backstoppers after the Regional. Thanks for playing!



NO 5 O'clock Mass Today

The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you sit at the bridge table.



New Life Master & Bronze LM

Jane Crawford
Springfield, IL



Playing in Gold Rush Pairs

Last Day to Register

Get Your Convention Card Holder Gift

Register and ask for your registration gift of *a convention card holder*.



Daily Grin

A bridge duffer was polishing a lamp and... poof! Out popped a genie who said, "I will grant you one wish."

The duffer unfolded a map of the world and said, "Let these countries live in peace and harmony."

"You've got to be kidding! I'm only a genie."

The duffer thought for a while and then suggested, "OK, then make me a winning bridge player."

"Hmm..." the genie pondered. "Let me see that map again."



Reminder for Section Top Winners for all Pairs Events...

We will give Section Top Awards for all Pairs events. Prizes will be awarded from results posted in the *Daily Bulletin*. **No prizes will be mailed.** The awards table is located in the main hallway. It will be open Saturday Noon-12:45PM and 6:00-6:45PM, and Sunday 10:00-10:20AM and for 30 minutes after the Swiss event.

Bridge: Illinois Senior Olympics



September 2, 2014 Springfield, IL 1 PM to 5 PM

Mail registration by Friday, 8/22/14

Do not need to be IL resident to enter

Sanctioned game

See Unit 143 website, www.unit143.org for flyer

Today's Events

2-SESSION MORNING SWISS TEAM 2 continued
1-SESSION STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS, CHARITY GAME
199er Pairs
REGIONAL SIDE GAME SERIES 3
2-SESSION SATURDAY BAROMETER PAIRS
Open Qualifier + BAROMETER Finals
2-SESSION SATURDAY B, C, D OPEN PAIRS
FRIDAY-SATURDAY KO 4 continued
SATURDAY-SUNDAY KO 5
1-SESSION EVENING STRATIFIED SWISS TEAM

Session 2 of 2	9 AM
1 Session	9 AM
Single Sessions	1 PM, 7 PM
Sessions 3 & 4 of 4	1 PM, 7 PM
2 Sessions	1 PM & 7 PM
2 Sessions	1 PM & 7 PM
Sessions 3 & 4 of 4	1 PM, 7 PM
Sessions 1 & 2 of 4	1 PM, 7 PM
Single Session	7 PM

Today's Speaker:

I/N Room

Please check postings in Main Hallway for Speakers and Topics at 12:15 & 6:15

Stratified Events: 0-750/750-2000/2000+, I/N Pairs: Stratified 0-20/20-100/100-200, Strati-flighted Swiss: Flight A/X: 0-3000/3000+, Strat B/C/D: 0-300/300-750/750-2000. Barometer Pairs: Flight A Unlimited, All Stratifications by Average MP's in all events. Eligibility for flighted events based on highest MP player. Knockouts may be handicapped.

Zero Tolerance is in place!

Saturday's Puzzles

Friday's Solutions
Sudoku 7



9	3	1	2	5	4	7	8	6
2	7	6	8	3	1	9	5	4
4	8	5	7	9	6	2	3	1
3	2	5	9	1	6	4	7	8
1	4	9	2	8	7	3	6	5
7	6	8	3	5	4	1	9	2
6	8	4	5	3	9	7	2	1
9	3	1	7	6	2	5	8	4
5	7	2	1	4	8	9	6	3

Sudoku 8

3	6	8	9	5	7	1	2	4
4	9	5	8	1	2	3	7	6
7	2	1	4	3	6	9	5	8
2	4	9	7	8	3	6	1	5
5	8	3	1	6	4	2	9	7
1	7	6	2	9	5	8	4	3
6	5	7	3	2	1	4	8	9
9	1	4	6	7	8	5	3	2
8	3	2	5	4	9	7	6	1

Sudoku 9 Very Challenging

1			6		2			
8					5			7
9	4		8					5
		2		3			8	1
		4						7
	6							
		1			7	8		
						5	4	9
4								

Sudoku 10 Moderate

	6					3		
	9		1		7	2		
		1	5			6		
		6		3				9
				4	2			
8					9			6
								8
2	1	4		5				
						4		



16 IN HISTORY

- American forces won the Revolutionary War Battle of Bennington, Vermont, 1777
- The first cable message was sent across the Atlantic Ocean from Queen Victoria of England to United States President James Buchanan, 1858
- Fred Goldsmith first demonstrated that a curve ball was not an optical illusion at the Capitoline Grounds in Brooklyn, NY, 1870.
- Baseball great Babe Ruth died, 1948
- "Sports Illustrated" was first published, 1954
- Singer Elvis Presley died at his home, "Graceland," in Memphis, Tennessee at the age of 42, 1977

Today's Cash Concessions

Where Main playing area

When 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM, Concourse Ballroom

- Italian Hoagie Half with Condiments \$3
- Hamburgers with Condiments & Sliced Cheese \$4
- Individual Bags of Potato Chips & Pretzels \$1
- Whole Fresh Fruit/Including Bananas \$1
- Assorted Cookies and Cookie Bars \$1
- Assorted Soft Drinks \$2.75
- Assorted Bottled Juices & Bottled Water 2.75
- Fresh Fruit Bowl \$3



Trump Sacrifice Keeps Control

Today's deal is from a local team match. After South's 1D opening, North responded "up the line" with 1H. This procedure makes it easy for partner to show the other major, and thus ensures that a major-suit fit will not be lost. And so it went: South showed his spades; North raised; and South jumped to game with his exciting distribution.

West	North	East	South
			1 D
Pass	1 H	Pass	1 S
Pass	2 S	Pass	4 S
All Pass			

4 S

S Q J 10 4

E-W Vul

H K J 8 6

D 7

C 6 5 4 2

S 9 7 5

S 8 6

H A 10 7 4

H Q 9 5 3 2

D A 10 3

D K J

C J 10 8

C K Q 9 7

S A K 3 2

H —

D Q 9 8 6 5 4 2

Lead: C J

C A 3

Declarer won the opening club lead with the ace and considered his line of play. The singleton in dummy and the void in his hand suggested a crossruff; but a count of winners quickly revealed a shortcoming. Even if declarer could score all eight of his trumps separately, that would yield only nine tricks.

The only chance was to establish the long diamond suit, so declarer began by conceding a diamond to East's jack. Clubs were continued, South ruffing the third round, and a low diamond was ruffed with the spade 10. Declarer returned to his hand with the spade king (it was imperative not to ruff again in the South hand) and ruffed another diamond with the spade jack.

At this juncture the diamond suit was established. Declarer could win the rest of the tricks if trumps could be drawn; but alas, the suit was blocked (South held ace-small and North the blank queen). If the queen were cashed, declarer could not reach his hand to draw the outstanding trump; and declarer would lose control if he ruffed in hand — a frustrating predicament.

After a little thought, the solution became clear. Declarer must overtake the spade queen with his ace to gain entry to his hand. While this establishes a trump trick for West, declarer remains in control by leading good diamonds until West ruffs. The contract is made, losing only a club, a diamond and a spade.

THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF LOSERS
THOSE THAT ALWAYS PULL TRUMP AND THOSE THAT NEVER PULL TRUMP



Information At-A-Glance!

Welcome

The members of Greater St. Louis Unit 143 welcome you to the Gateway to the West Regional.

Your Tournament Team



Mike Carmen, Tournament Chair & Speakers



Chris Patrias, Head Director

Awards



Peggy Wald

Bid Boxes



Jay Shah

Caddies



George Hawley

Caddy Master



Kate Vontz

Daily Bulletin



Jennifer Luner
President & Publicity

Hospitality



Suzi Shymanski

Partnerships & Web Results



Helene Seigfried

Photos



Mary Dolan
Web Bulletin

Registration



Linda Seibert

Restaurants

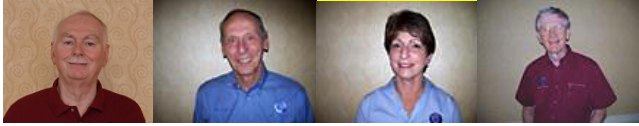


Lee Hastings

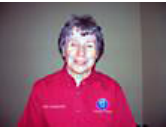


Milt Zlatic

Your Directing Staff



Tony Ames Rick Beye Donna Coker David Cotterman



Judy Cotterman



Charles McCracken



Bob Wallace

Say the magic word, *Please!* when you call. Try, "Caddy, please, or "Director, please." ... and, we **Thank You!**



New Life Masters...

Let us know the details of what event put you over and where you're from! Drop your news in our News Basket in the mail hallway.

Registration

Convention Card Holder

Let us know you're here! The Registration desk opens 45' before each session mornings, afternoons, and evenings. It's located in the main hallway. It closes 15 minutes before each event to allow volunteers to get to their tables. When you register, pick up your gift of a *convention card holder*.



Daily Hospitality

Complimentary Parking & Free Coffee

As part of our daily hospitality, we are pleased to offer you Complimentary Coffee Service during each session Morning, Afternoon, and Evening session for 1½ hours on a daily basis beginning Monday evening. Freshly Brewed Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee will be provided. Each time you leave the parking lot you will need a ticket to open the gate. **Pick up your exit ticket** at the Director's table in the Main Playing area.



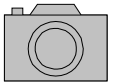
Partnership Desk

Looking for a Partner? Or Teammates? The Partnership desk opens 45 minutes before each session mornings, afternoons, and evenings. It is located in the main hallway. It will close 5 minutes before each event to allow volunteers to get to their tables. The same desk is used for ALL players in any event.



Convention Card Reminder

Each player is required to have a convention card filled out legibly and on the table throughout a session. Both cards of a partnership **must be identical** and include the first and last names of each partner.



Photographer

Attention Winners! Unit 143 photographers will snap pictures of all new Life Masters, I/N winners, and all event winners in the main hallway near the Photography poster for 20' immediately after each afternoon and evening session starting Monday evening.

NEW TO USING ELECTRONIC SCORING DEVICES?



Here's Rick Beye explaining how they work. There is one scoring device on each table. After the auction, North enters the contract into a device that looks like an oversized calculator. When play is completed, North enters the result, and then hands the device to one of the opponents to verify that it is accurate. After the opponent OKs the score, it is sent via radio signal to a computer that is compatible with ACBLScore. When the final score of the session is entered, the complete results are available for printout – just as though the data had been entered by hand.



Zero Tolerance Policy

Be cool! Bridge is fun.

We are committed to improving acceptable player behavior at all times. The ultimate purpose of the Zero-Tolerance policy is to create a much more pleasant atmosphere in our game. We are attempting to eradicate unacceptable behavior in order to make the game of bridge more enjoyable for all. *If* a player at the table behaves in an *unacceptable* manner, the director should be called **immediately**. Annoying behavior, embarrassing remarks, or any other conduct which might interfere with the enjoyment of the game is specifically prohibited; the director has the authority to assess disciplinary penalties.



Reduced Entry Fee\$

Intermediate/Novice pair game fee is \$10/player/session. Student Discounts: Our Regional offers a 50% discount on each session for full-time students ages 25 and under with ID proof. Be sure to inform the director when purchasing the entry.



Awards Desk



There are First Overall trophies for ALL Intermediate/Novice event winners awarded in the playing room. Section top awards for all Pairs Events are a BPA-free 24 oz. acrylic cup and straw. Prizes will be available the day after they were earned to allow time for any scoring corrections. You can expedite collecting your Section Top Award by telling us the day, event, section letter and direction. The awards table is located in the main hallway and will be open 30' before afternoon and evening sessions Tuesday - Saturday. The awards table will also open 30' before morning sessions on Saturday and Sunday. Sunday, the awards table will be open for 30' following the conclusion of the pairs games. The awards desk will close 15' prior to each session to allow our volunteers to get to their games. No prizes will be mailed.

Players with Non-ACBL Masterpoints

Players with non-ACBL Masterpoints must inform the director before entering any Flighted, Stratified, or Bracketed event. Failure to do so may result in disqualifications and loss of any MPs won.

Hotel Information

We are less than 1 mile from the airport at the Renaissance St. Louis Hotel Airport 9801 Natural Bridge Rd. St. Louis, MO, 63134 Phone: 314-429-1100 Fax: 314-429-3625 Toll free: 888-340-2594

Special bridge rate and Marriott Rewards program credit. High-speed internet is available in all rooms at \$9.95 or \$14.95/day with flat-screen TV with HBO, Indoor and outdoor swimming pools, fitness center, complimentary in-room coffee/tea, toll-free phone calls, shoeshine, gym and business center. An ATM is on site. Airport shuttle. Smoke-free. Pets not allowed. Check in is 3 pm, check out time is Noon.



Lost and Found

Check with a Director at the head table in the main playing area or with the Front Desk as some items found may be turned in to Hotel Security.



First Aid/Medical Service

For immediate care in case of an emergency, contact any director, Unit Board Member, or Hotel employee and an EMT will be summoned.

Area Restaurants

Come by the Partnership desk for information on area Restaurants.



Ground Transportation

Contact front desk or doorman for hotel shuttle or taxis, or call 314-993-TAXI. The region's light rail, MetroLink, connects downtown to the airport; there is a convenient MetroLink stop at the airport. The hotel runs a complimentary shuttle bus to the airport.



Bookseller

David Porris will be located in the main hallways during the Regional.



Turn Them OFF!

Please and Thank You!!!

Except for health-related equipment or by permission of the Director-In-Charge of the tournament or event, cell phones, audible pagers, or any similar communication equipment MAY NOT be operated or operable in the playing area during a session of play. If you are expecting an emergency call, you may leave your phone at the director's station.



ST. LOUIS GATEWAY TO THE WEST REGIONAL

For 1 year only: July 13-19, 2015



Summer NABC Aug. 6-12 Chicago, IL



NO Smoking Policy

This is a NO SMOKING tournament and hotel. You may smoke outside the hotel entrances. Please use provided receptacles. Hospitality breaks will be provided.

Special Request

As a courtesy to our fellow players with allergies, please refrain from wearing heavy colognes and fragrances. Thanks for your cooperation.



Area Attractions



Visit the www.unit143.org Homepage for a link for your friends and family to do in St. Louis while you are playing bridge. The top attractions are the Gateway Arch, the Clydesdales & brewery tour, the MO Botanical Garden, and the new East building galleries at the St. Louis Art Museum which opened last year. Arch trams to the top every 10 minutes, 8 am to 9pm, ticketed. Free brewery tours: Mon-Sat: 10 am - 5 pm, Sun: 11:30 am - 5 pm. The MO Botanical Garden hours are 9 am - 5 pm. with admission fee; free walking tours daily at 11am and 1pm. Art Museum hours are Tu-Sun 10am - 5pm. Fri 10am - 9pm, no admission.



Crafted Food & Spirits

Norah's Crafted Food & Spirits is an American restaurant and bar with local, seasonal recipes. Breakfast M-F 6:30 am - 11 am, Sa/Su 7am - 11 am; Lunch 11 am - 2 pm daily; Dinner 5 am - 10 pm daily. Lobby Bar brews Starbucks coffee daily from 6:30 AM - Noon. Full bar available from 2 pm - 1 am daily, with food available at the bar.



Recorder Forms

Recorder forms are available from the Head Director. Milt Zlatic is the District 8 Recorder. The aim of the recorder system is to establish a method of dealing with complaints that: 1) by themselves do not warrant the filing of formal charges; 2) are very serious but there is only the implication of wrongdoing without substantial evidence necessary to bring formal charges or 3) should be addressed by counseling and/or education.



Daily Bulletins & Results

Daily Bulletins will be available in the main hallway each morning. Bulletins and daily results can be found at www.unit143.org. Results will be posted online late, late, late each night. Daily Bulletins will be uploaded each morning. Contact Daily Bulletin editor and the tournament photographer in the playing area or leave a message in the News In Basket with news for the Bulletin. We love to bring you your news and photos. Winners get your photos taken. New Life Masters, give us your home town & event that put you over. We also love to recognize birthdays, engagements, and anniversaries you are celebrating here with us this week.

INTERMEDIATE/NOVICE PLAYERS PAGE

Balancing

by Larry Cohen

Comfort Zone

I'm a firm believer in making the game as enjoyable as possible but that doesn't mean I have to let the opponents have a comfortable time during the auction. In fact, that would be a violation of the ACBL's Code of Active Ethics:

Actively ethical players do everything they can within the scope of the game to defeat their opponent at the bridge table while making that experience an otherwise enjoyable one for them.

So, here's an auction that almost never occurs *when I'm sitting in the North-South direction* at the table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Let's see why.

Counting Trumps

The basic guideline that we use in competitive auctions is:

THE LAW'S COMPETITIVE GUIDELINE
Strive to compete to the level of the number of trumps held by the partnership.

To apply the LAW, we need to count not only the number of trumps held by our side but also the trumps held by the opponents. In the above auction, we know the opponents have at least an eight-card fit. East has a five-card or longer heart suit for the 1♥ opening and West has at least three-card support to raise to the two level.

The opponents are now "LAW" protected. They have competed to the level corresponding to the number of combined trumps they hold. They are very happy to be in 2♥ because nothing bad can happen to them. If they make 2♥, great. If they don't make 2♥, that's fine also because some contract should make the other way. So, our goal is: don't let them do it! Being minus 110 – the score the opponents receive for making 2♥ at duplicate or team bridge (60 trick score plus 50 partscore bonus) – is not the way to win. It's unacceptable. We have to go out of our way to accomplish the following objective:

A COMPETITIVE PHILOSOPHY
Don't let the opponents play in their eight-card fit at the two level.

Balancing

One situation in which we can apply this philosophy is in the balancing position—if we pass, the auction will be over. For example, suppose we are South and the auction begins:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	?

We are in the balancing seat. When I used to play with Marty Bergen, if he was sitting South, he would simply close his eyes and bid something in this type of auction. You don't have to be like Marty and close your eyes, but you do want to strive to *do something other than pass*. The guideline I would use is:

BALANCING GUIDELINE
If you have shortness in the opponents' suit – fewer than three cards – bid a suit or make a takeout double.

High-card points have nothing to do with it. If the opponents have stopped in 2♥, we should have approximately half the points in the deck. Otherwise, they would have been trying to get to game. Even if I have 6 or 7 high-card points, I still know our partnership has roughly 20 combined points – half the 40 high-card points in the deck. When I have 6 or 7 points, partner likely has 13 or 14 points with a hand unsuitable to enter the bidding earlier.

Furthermore, if I bid, partner should realize that I'm bidding just to avoid letting the opponents play at the two level in their eight-card fit. Partner is not going to jump to game, even with the values for an opening bid. Partner realizes I am bidding on the strength in both our hands. In the balancing position, I can bid with a bad five-card suit that would be unsuitable for a direct overcall. If I don't have a five-card or longer suit, I can make a takeout double with shortness in hearts. For example:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	?

♠ Q 9 7 4 3 2♠. Is it risky? Yes. Could I be doubled for a large penalty? Yes. However, when the opponents have found an eight-card fit and are about to play at the two level, top players know that they can't afford to let them stay in that contract ... despite the risks of bidding.

♥ 8 6

♦ A 7 3 2

♣ 5 2

♠ Q 10 7 4

♥ 5 2

♦ K Q 10 5

♣ K 10 3

Double. It's a little dangerous to double but the goal is the same: to get them out of 2♥. When we make a balancing call in this position, any one of three good things might happen:

1. We reach a contract we can make.

2. We go down in our contract but lose only 50 or 100 points instead of the 110 or more points they would receive for making their contract. This small difference is crucial at matchpoint duplicate.

3. We may push them a level higher and then defeat them.

In the balancing position, we bid aggressively on hands we wouldn't dream of acting on in direct position. This is especially comfortable when the opponents' suit is hearts because we may find a spade fit at the two level. When their suit is spades, we'll have to go to the three level, but it's the same philosophy. The potential gain more than outweighs the risk.

INTERMEDIATE/NOVICE PLAYERS PAGE

Balancing

by Larry Cohen

Use the same strategy if playing matchpoint duplicate or a team game. Try to be a little sounder if vulnerable – after all, we don't want to be minus 200 points when they can make only 110 points – but don't be overly concerned about vulnerability. The Unusual Balance In balancing position, we overcall with a single suit or double with support for the other three suits, but what do we do with a two-suited hand? The answer is to use the "unusual" 2NT bid. This says nothing about wanting to play in notrump. It merely says we have a two-suited hand, typically with both minor suits.

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♠ Pass
2♣ Pass ?

♠ 8 6
♥ 7 3
♦ A Q 10 8
♣ K J 9 8 5

2NT. Since I passed over 1♥, partner knows I don't have the values for a 1NT overcall or more, so this must be an unusual notrump bid asking partner to bid one of the minor suits, clubs or diamonds. Partner knows not to bid hearts since I didn't make a takeout double. Hopefully, we can find a spot to play in 3♣ or 3♦, or push the opponents to 3♠.

Although the usual definition of the balancing position is when the auction will be over if we pass, there is a situation where I consider "balancing" in the direct position. Suppose I'm South and the auction begins:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♥ Pass 2♥ ?

If I pass and West passes, partner, North, will be in balancing position. It may be difficult for partner to make a balancing call if partner has length in hearts – three or more cards. So, if I'm short in the heart suit, I like to strain to bid even in the direct position. Marty Bergen had a very cute mnemonic for this. He called it **OBAR BIDS**: if the **O**pponents **B**id **A**nd **R**aise, or Balance In Direct Seat. It's a nice way to remember the concept. What I teach is to really go crazy in this position ... throwing the usual guidelines out the window. Be very aggressive. The opponents have found a fit and, if we pass, there are two things that are likely to happen and both of them are bad for us:

1. It may go all pass. I consider this a disaster since we've violated the competitive philosophy by letting the opponents play comfortably in their eight-card fit at the two level.
2. They may continue to game and now we've lost the opportunity to make a lead-directing call or perhaps find a profitable sacrifice.

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♥ Pass 2♥ ?

♠ K Q 10 9 7
♥ 7 3
♦ J 10 8 5
♣ 8 4

2♠. Textbooks will say we can't overcall at the two level in the direct position with only 6 points. Nonsense. This is an OBAR bid. We have to alert our opponents and tell them that this could be a weak bid in this situation, but that doesn't prevent us from trying to stop them from having a comfortable auction.

♠ K 10 7 3
♥ 4
♦ K 10 8 5
♣ K J 8 6

Double. If we pass, they will likely stop in 2♥. So, we double. It's light. It's aggressive. It's good bridge.

The whole philosophy of balancing goes against the standard maxims about having a good suit to overcall or the values for an opening bid to make a takeout double. However, balancing is a proven winning strategy. If the opponents have found an eight-card fit at the two level, we need to act, and the person with shortness in the opponents' suit is the one who needs to do the acting.

When Not to Balance

We cannot be too aggressive if the opponents may not have found an eight-card fit. Consider this auction:

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♠ Pass 1NT Pass
2♣ Pass Pass ?

The opponents have stopped at the two level, so it's likely we have about half the points. However, there's no guarantee the opponents have found an eight-card fit. West has shown a six-card suit but East may have no spades. In this type of situation, we shouldn't be too aggressive in entering the auction. If the opponents don't have a fit, we may not have a fit either.

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
2♥ Pass Pass ?

The opponents probably have an eight-card fit, but be aware of the danger. West might have raised with three-card support and the opponents could be in a seven-card fit. Also, the opponents have bid two suits, so the possibility we have a fit is reduced.

When Partner Balances

If we're going to follow a competitive philosophy of trying to stop the opponents from playing comfortably at the two level in their eight-card fit, both partners have to be aware that this is our style. If partner makes a balancing bid, we don't want to punish partner's effort.

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
Pass 2♠ Pass ?

♠ J 8 7
♥ K 8 3
♦ K J 8 5
♣ A Q 2

Pass. We might have the best hand at the table, but partner is expecting us to have something because the opponents stopped at the two level. Remember, partner didn't overcall 1♠ and may have only 6 or 7 points and a poor five-card suit.

Balancing effectively gains many matchpoints. **Don't let the opponents play at the two level in an eight-card fit!**

Monday Winners

New Event!

MONDAY 0-20 MP NEWCOMERS EVENT

Winners: Susan Kramer and Pat Lackey



Wednesday Winners

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY KO 2 Bracket 1

Hugh Williams, Ed Schulte, Tom Kniest, & Jack Spear



Thursday's Result

Sorry for the delay...

REGIONAL SIDE SERIES 2 Pairs

Final

30.25 Tables / Based on 13 Tables

6.44	1	Bernard Oetjen, Mc Lean VA	110.16%
4.83	2	Ruth Naber, Kansas City MO	107.76%
3.17	3/4	Nancy Burke, Saint Louis MO	107.08%
3.17	3/4	Kenneth Bland, Saint Louis MO	107.08%
2.39	5	Ann Ruwitch, Saint Louis MO	106.68%
1.79	6/7	Wes Bugar, Ann Arbor MI	105.32%
1.79	6/7	Ben Finegold, Saint Louis MO	105.32%

Friday's Results

FRIDAY-SATURDAY MORNING SWISS TEAM 2

Leaders after 1st Session

21 Tables		A	B	C		
1					Jacob Morgan, Madison WI; James Melville, Springfield IL; Susan Perez, Maryland Hts MO; John Samsel, Chesterfield MO	102.00
2					Helene Siegfried - Jay Shah - Judy Pass, St Louis MO; Phyllis Siegel, Ballwin MO	86.00
3					Becky Hubert - Susan Kilo, St Louis MO; Gene Fluri, Saint Louis MO; Anne Agovino, Chesterfield MO	84.00
4					Dick Bruno, des Plaines IL; Robert Gardner, Glenview IL; Blake Sanders, Jonesboro AR; Ron Smith, Las Vegas NV; Colby Vernay, Lacon IL; Mark Kessler, Springfield IL	81.00
5					Leon McCarty - Chris Buck - Jayna Buck, Hurdland MO; Laird Schaub, Rutledge MO	79.00
6					Clay Cuthbertson, Quincy IL; Rod Beery, Saint Charles MO; Norman Goldman, Chesterfield MO; Tony Ames, Minnetonka MN	74.00
7					Deborah Pirkle, Clearwater FL; Carol Wilson, Rolla MO; Roseann Stice, Bethalto IL; Richard Dixon, Frontenac KS	71.00
8					James McKinney, Carol Stream IL; Ronald Diehl, Effingham IL; David Stevens, Charleston IL; Judy Gerald, Louisville KY	69.00
9/10					Mark Ziegelman, Saint Louis MO; Ken Schwartz - Jerry Dutra, St Louis MO; Jane Miller, Chesterfield MO	63.00
9/10					William Bunn, Brentwood MO; Dianne Glick, Saint Louis MO; Doris Schwartz - Steven Schwartz, Chesterfield MO	63.00

199er Pairs

Afternoon Session

1 PM

21.0 Tables					
A	B	C			
4.13	1	1	1	Sherry Singer, Clayton MO; Renee Hartstein, St Louis MO	67.56%
3.10	2	2		Betty Goran, St Louis MO; Joyce Lewin, Chesterfield MO	64.58%
2.32	3	3	2	Ann Irving - James Irving, Des Peres MO	63.69%
1.74	4	4		Linda Myers, Ballwin MO; Stephen Myers, Manchester MO	61.01%
1.31	5			Patricia Mendel, St Louis MO; Lou Anne Winters, Clayton MO	60.71%
1.09	6	5		Bob Gulovsen, Alton IL; Robert Street, Chesterfield MO	60.12%
1.36		6	3	Andrew Creasey, St Louis MO; John Belfi, Chesterfield MO	58.63%
1.02			4	Glenda Stone - Ann Wilson, Marshall MO	57.14%
0.77			5	Patricia Clark, Villa Ridge MO; Debb Keniley, St Louis MO	55.36%
0.98			6	Michael Schneider, Wentzville MO; Dan Waeltermann, St Charles MO	55.06%



**First Overall
Sherry Singer & Renee Hartstein,**

NORTH-SOUTH			SECTION L			EAST-WEST				
A	B	C	A	B	C	B	C			
1	1					1	1	1	Sherry Singer, Clayton MO; Renee Hartstein, St Louis MO	67.56%
2						2	2		Bob Gulovsen, Alton IL; Robert Street, Chesterfield MO	60.12%
3	2					3	3	2	Glenda Stone - Ann Wilson, Marshall MO	57.14%
4	3	1				4	4		Michael Andesilich, Herrin IL; Joette Miles, Carterville IL	54.46%
		2							Barbara Gossow, St Charles MO; Jeanne Mudd, Saint Charles MO	51.19%
NORTH-SOUTH			SECTION K			EAST-WEST				
A	B	C	A	B	C	B	C			
1	1	1				1	1		Betty Goran, St Louis MO; Joyce Lewin, Chesterfield MO	64.58%
2	2	2				2	2	1	Andrew Creasey, St Louis MO; John Belfi, Chesterfield MO	58.63%
3	3					3	3		Jane Herman - William Herman, Effingham IL	55.95%
4	4					4	4	2	Patricia Clark, Villa Ridge MO; Debb Keniley, St Louis MO	55.36%
								3	Susan Kramer - Pat Lackey, St Louis MO	52.98%

199er Pairs

Evening Session

7 PM

.5 Tables					
A	B	C			
2.40	1	1		Ann Lux, Saint Louis MO; Marilyn Reznik, St. Louis MO	65.91%
1.80	2	2		Curtis Wehling - Judy Wehling, Glenview IL	58.75%
1.58	3	3	1	Debb Keniley - Joile Mackney, St Louis MO	57.28%
1.01	4	4		Vicky Stringer, St Louis MO; Dennis Whitmore, Manchester MO	55.91%
0.76	5	5		Linda Myers, Ballwin MO; Stephen Myers, Manchester MO	55.46%
1.19			2	Dale Liefer - Deborah Liefer, Ballwin MO	53.63%
0.89			3	David Peterson, Wildwood MO; John Belfi, Chesterfield MO	51.37%
0.67			4	Mary Joan Woods - Marcia Buterin, St Louis MO	51.25%



**First Overall;
Marilyn Reznik and Ann Lux**



**First in C
Debb Keniley & Joile Mackney**



**First in Section O, Flight C: Debb Keniley and Pat Clark
Thursday Afternoon 199er Pairs**

Friday's Results

REGIONAL SIDE SERIES 3 Pairs

Session 1 of 4

1 PM

16.0 Tables

A	B	C		
3.94	1		Loughery Hawkins, Ballwin MO; Jane Schaffer, St Charles MO	60.10%
3.64	2	1	Robert Anderson, Bridgeton MO; George Juenger, Saint Louis MO	59.44%
2.43	3		Susan Perez, Maryland Hts MO; John Samsel, Chesterfield MO	59.13%
1.66	4		Alice Kerckhoff - Judy Putzel, Saint Louis MO	58.40%
2.73	5	2	Ronnie Frank, Saint Louis MO; Judith Inker, Wellesley Hls MA	58.32%
2.24	6	3	Peggy Hindert, Town and Ctry MO; Marilyn Bogacki, Wildwood MO	57.49%
2.43	4	1	Roberta Trochtenberg - Marilyn Dardick, Saint Louis MO	55.13%
1.15		5	George Hawley, Florissant MO; Laura Scholten, Saint Charles MO	54.83%
1.57		6	Karla Hahn, Saint Louis MO; Peggy Stewart, Ballwin MO	54.66%
1.82		2	Ken Obrecht - Jack Maram, St Louis MO	50.37%
1.37		3	Susan Rosenthal, Saint Louis MO; Patricia Corich, Creve Coeur MO	49.68%
1.03		4	Stephen Russell, Fenton MO; Kelly White, St Louis MO	49.13%

REGIONAL SIDE SERIES 2 Pairs continued

Session 2 of 4

7 PM

16.0 Tables

A	B	C		
2.58	1	1	Peggy Stewart, Ballwin MO; Karla Hahn, Saint Louis MO	64.58%
1.94	2	2	Mary Fran Oldani - Jan Du Bray, St Charles MO	58.33%
1.45	3	3	Hall Whitaker - William Morgan, Rolla MO	57.50%
1.09	4	4	John Pree, Campton Hills IL; Neil Whittle, Carol Stream IL	55.00%
1.11	5	5	Kathleen Powers, Pacific ; Joyce McMonagle, Cordova TN	54.58%

NORTH-SOUTH			SECTION H		EAST-WEST			
A	B	C	A	B	C			
1			Loughery Hawkins, Ballwin MO; Jane Schaffer, St Charles MO	60.10%	1	Susan Perez, Maryland Hts MO; John Samsel, Chesterfield MO	59.13%	
2	1		Robert Anderson, Bridgeton MO; George Juenger, Saint Louis MO	59.44%	2	1	Peggy Hindert, Town and Ctry M Marilyn Bogacki, Wildwood	57.49%
3			Alice Kerckhoff - Judy Putzel, Saint Louis MO	58.40%	3	2	Karla Hahn, Saint Louis MO; Peggy Stewart, Ballwin MO	54.66%
4	2		Ronnie Frank, Saint Louis MO; Judith Inker, Wellesley Hls MA	58.32%	4	3	Jane Ettelson - Thomas Stringer, Saint Louis MO	54.38%
5	3	1	Roberta Trochtenberg - Marilyn Dardick, Saint Louis MO	55.13%	5	5	Helen Stolar, Saint Louis MO; Gail Hawkins, Ballwin MO	53.91%
6	4		George Hawley, Florissant MO; Laura Scholten, Saint Charles MO	54.83%	6	4	Phyllis Siegel, Ballwin MO; Roseann Stice, Bethalto IL	51.86%
	5		Ann Ruwitch, Saint Louis MO; Gayle McLean, St Louis MO	51.27%		5	Jean Donoho - Betty Paterson, Louisville KY	51.86%
	6		Katherine Samuels - Edward Samuels, St Louis MO	49.52%		6	Hall Whitaker - William Morgan, Rolla MO	51.74%
		2	Stephen Russell, Fenton MO; Kelly White, St Louis MO	49.13%		1	Ken Obrecht - Jack Maram, St Louis MO	50.38%
						2	Susan Rosenthal, Saint Louis ; Patricia Corich, Creve Coeur MO	49.68%

FRIDAY A/X OPEN PAIRS

FINAL

18.0 Tables / Based on 49 Tables

A	X		
20.65	1	Jack Spear, Shawnee Mission KS; Hugh Williams, US	61.11%
13.56	2/3	Venkatrao Koneru, San Antonio TX; Rita Ellington, Charlotte NC	57.79%
13.56	2/3	Rod Van Wyk, Alton IL; Mark Boswell, Clarkson Valley MO	57.79%
8.71	4	Greg Potter - Linda Hughes, Edmond OK	56.86%
6.88	5	Michael Pitonak, Valley Park MO; Dennis Spencer, Saint Louis MO	56.32%
5.90	6	En Xie, Saint Louis MO; Becky Hubert, St Louis MO	55.99%
5.16	7	Tom Kniest, Brentwood MO; Ed Schulte, Tampa FL	55.88%
4.59	8	Ron Ashbacher, Lead Hill AR; Richard Dixon, Frontenac KS	55.77%
4.13	9	Peggy Wald, Chesterfield MO; Debra Romero, Clarkson Vly MO	55.28%
3.75	10	Ed Howard, Lawrence KS; John Burgener, St Louis MO	54.41%
3.44	11	Robert Otto, Iowa City IA; William Kochneff, Coralville IA	53.81%
3.18	12	Judy Eaton, Edwardsville IL; Nell Schneider, St Louis MO	53.59%
7.39	13	1 Marie Sander - Allyson Wolfe, Saint Louis MO	53.54%
5.54		2 John Stern, Apple Valley MN; John Robey, Winchester TN	48.53%
4.16		3 Monika Plumb, Carbondale IL; Margaret Chitty, Wildomar CA	47.77%
3.12		4 Ronald Brotherson - Janet Brotherson, Paducah KY	46.62%

FRIDAY A/X OPEN PAIRS

Afternoon Session

1 PM

NORTH-SOUTH			SECTIONS IJ		EAST-WEST	
A	X		A	X		
1		Michael Pitonak, Valley Park MO; Dennis Spencer, Saint Louis MO	62.53%	1	Tom Kniest, Brentwood MO; Ed Schulte, Tampa FL	61.33%
2		Peggy Wald, Chesterfield MO; Debra Romero, Clarkson Vly MO	60.02%	2	Greg Potter - Linda Hughes, Edmond OK	59.26%
3/4		Jack Spear, Shawnee Mission KS; Hugh Williams, US	58.06%	3	Nancy Phillips - Angela Reed, Tulsa OK	57.84%
3/4		Jack Bryant, Saint Louis MO; Milton Zlatic, St Louis MO	58.06%	4	Roger Lord - Jacqueline Sincoff, Saint Louis MO	56.21%
5	1	Monika Plumb, Carbondale IL; Margaret Chitty, Wildomar CA	55.45%	5	Ed Howard, Lawrence KS; John Burgener, St Louis MO	55.88%
6		En Xie, Saint Louis MO; Becky Hubert, St Louis MO	54.90%	6	Rod Van Wyk, Alton IL; Mark Boswell, Clarkson Valley MO	52.72%
7		Ron Ashbacher, Lead Hill AR; Richard Dixon, Frontenac KS	53.81%	7	Venkatrao Koneru, San Antonio TX; Rita Ellington, Charlotte NC	52.51%
	2	Leo Birmingham, Whitney Point NY; James Mooney, Dade City FL	45.97%	1	Marie Sander - Allyson Wolfe, Saint Louis MO	51.63%
				2	John Stern, Apple Valley MN; John Robey, Winchester TN	47.49%

FRIDAY A/X OPEN PAIRS

Evening Session

7 PM

NORTH-SOUTH			SECTIONS IJ		EAST-WEST		
A	X		A	X			
1		Venkatrao Koneru, San Antonio TX; Rita Ellington, Charlotte NC	63.07%	1	Jack Spear, Shawnee Mission KS; Hugh Williams, US	64.16%	
2		Rod Van Wyk, Alton IL; Mark Boswell, Clarkson Valley MO	62.85%	2	Ron Ashbacher, Lead Hill AR; Richard Dixon, Frontenac KS	57.73%	
3		Robert Carstedt, Wichita KS; Karen Erlanger, Saint Louis MO	59.69%	3	En Xie, Saint Louis MO; Becky Hubert, St Louis MO	57.08%	
4		Clay Cuthbertson, Quincy IL; Curtis Hastings, St Louis MO	58.61%	4	1 Marie Sander - Allyson Wolfe, Saint Louis MO	55.45%	
5		Judy Eaton, Edwardsville IL; Nell Schneider, St Louis MO	55.99%	5	Robert Otto, Iowa City IA; William Kochneff, Coralville IA	54.79%	
6		Peggy Wald, Chesterfield MO; Debra Romero, Clarkson Vly MO	50.54%	6	Greg Potter - Linda Hughes, Edmond OK	54.47%	
7		Tom Kniest, Brentwood MO; Ed Schulte, Tampa FL	50.44%	7	Susan Davis, Marion IL; Imogene Reed, Carbondale IL	53.49%	
	1/2	John Stern, Apple Valley MN; John Robey, Winchester TN	49.56%		2	Ronald Brotherson - Janet Brotherson, Paducah KY	48.04%
	1/2	Carol Umbach, Havana IL; Vicki Standley, German Valley IL	49.56%				

FRIDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS

FINAL

31.0 Tables

7	3			
10.14	1	1	Chris Newman - Grace Fagin, Chesterfield MO	59.08%
7.61	2	2	Patricia West - Suzanne Ledbetter, Harrison AR	58.48%
5.70	3		Dennis Puryear, Fenton MO; Ruth Naber, Kansas City MO	58.04%
4.28	4		Melvin Patterson, Omaha NE; Raymond Laythe, Waterloo IL	57.89%
3.46	5	3	Ken Schwartz, St Louis MO; Martha Ludewig, St. Louis MO	57.44%
2.90	6	4	Barbara Macpeek, Ballwin MO; Henri Lewin, Bolingbrook IL	56.70%
2.54	7		Linda Mize, Florissant MO; Honore Allen, Saint Louis MO	56.25%
2.57	8	5	Gary Moll, Lighthouse Pt FL; Irvin Drowel, Eureka MO	56.10%
2.81	9	6	Ann Lemp - Frank Lemp, St Louis MO	55.51%

Friday's Results

FRIDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS

Afternoon Session

1PM

NORTH-SOUTH		SECTION N	EAST-WEST		
7	3	7	3		
1	1	57.44%	1	1	Patricia Steiner, St Louis MO; Susan Corley, Saint Louis MO 59.23%
2	1	55.06%	2	2	Patricia Sharp - Louis Sharp, Libertyville IL 57.14%
3	2	52.08%	3	2	Mary Jo Wilson, St Louis MO; Mary Gaines, Saint Louis MO 56.25%
4		50.89%	4		Douglas Sutton - Martha Sutton, Springfield IL 55.06%
NORTH-SOUTH		SECTION O	EAST-WEST		
7	3	7	3		
1	1	58.63%	1		Linda Mize, Florissant MO; Honore Allen, Saint Louis MO 59.23%
2		56.85%	2		Navin Shah, Maryland Hghts MO; Elaine Booker, Arnold MO 54.76%
3		55.95%	3	1	John Welte, Ballwin MO; Delaine Boyd, Manchester MO 52.98%
4	2	53.27%	4/6	2/3	M Fish - Pat Moles, Harrison AR 51.79%
3		50.00%	4/6	2/3	David Diehm - Carolyn Diehm, Marshall MO 51.79%
			4/6		Carol Phillips, Godfrey IL; Josh Rich, Alton IL 51.79%
NORTH-SOUTH		SECTION P	EAST-WEST		
7	3	7	3		
1	1	60.42%	1		Jo Ann Froehlich, Ballwin MO; Katherine Hartenberger, Creve Coeur MO 61.61%
2	2	60.12%	2		Melvin Patterson, Omaha NE; Raymond Laythe, Waterloo IL 61.01%
3/4		56.85%	3	1	Patricia West - Suzanne Ledbetter, Harrison AR 57.14%
3/4		56.85%	4	2	Gary Moll, Lighthouse Pt FL; Irvin Drewel, Eureka MO 50.60%
			3		Vicki Valley, Edwardsville IL; Pamela Ames, Maryville IL 50.30%

FRIDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS

Evening Session

7PM

NORTH-SOUTH		SECTION N	EAST-WEST		
7	3	7	3		
1	1	69.94%	1	1	Chris Newman - Grace Fagin, Chesterfield MO 58.04%
2		60.71%	2	2	Barbara Macpeek, Ballwin MO; Henri Lewin, Bolingbrook IL 57.14%
3		58.63%	3/4		Dixie Horsey, Salem IA; Kathleen Lewin, Bolingbrook IL 53.57%
4		51.79%	3/4		Ted Baldwin, Saint Louis MO; John Levis, St Louis MO 53.57%
2		44.64%			
NORTH-SOUTH		SECTION O	EAST-WEST		
7	3	7	3		
1	1	63.99%	1	1	Ann Lemp - Frank Lemp, St Louis MO 55.95%
2	2	55.06%	2	2	Mary Ann Gerdes, Wildwood MO; Katie Boles, Manchester MO 55.65%
3		53.87%	3		Mary Dolan - Karen Pahuski, Saint Louis MO 53.27%
4		53.27%	4		Patricia Steiner, St Louis MO; Susan Corley, Saint Louis MO 50.89%
3		50.89%			
NORTH-SOUTH		SECTION P	EAST-WEST		
7	3	7	3		
1	1	61.61%	1	1	Kadie Davis, Maryville IL; Steven Clements, Wildwood MO 56.55%
2	2	59.82%	2/3	2	Pat Nieman, O Fallon MO; Marilyn Bolz, Chesterfield MO 55.65%
3		54.76%	2/3		Lois Frank - Joann Sandler, Saint Louis MO 55.65%
4	3	54.17%	4	3	Judith Wagner - Barbara Constance, Belleville IL 51.49%

FRIDAY-SATURDAY KO #4

Sessions 1 and 2 of 4

Bracket 1 9 Tables

Mark Kessler, Springfield IL; Ron Smith, Las Vegas NV; Blake Sanders, Jonesboro AR; Colby Vernay, Lacon IL; Dick Bruno, des Plaines IL; Robert Gardner, Glenview IL vs. Jacob Morgan, Madison WI; James Melville, Springfield IL; Suzanne Dunn, Crystal Lake IL; Joshua Stark, Grayslake IL; Will Engel, Freeport IL

Nate Ward - Karen Walker, Champaign IL; Tod Moses - Nancy Popkin, Saint Louis MO; William Doroshov, Skokie IL; Alan Popkin, St Louis MO vs. Ellen Coffield, Little Rock AR; Eric Rodwell, Clearwater FL; Chris Compton, Dallas TX; Kevin Bathurst, Palm Beach Gdns FL; Justin Lall, Plano TX

Bracket 2 15 Tables

Jim Hutter, Ames IA; Toby Kahn, Louisville KY; Rosalie Rappin, Buffalo Grove IL; Jennifer Luner, St Louis MO vs Helen Walz, Madison IN; Shirley Mueller, Louisville KY; Michael Roeder - Tim Donovan, Madison WI

Donald Chase, O Fallon MO; Delano Sylvester, Lake St. Louis MO; Janet Vontz - Mike Vontz, Lake St Louis MO vs Mark Zellmer, Creve Coeur MO; Jeff Eisenberger, Chesterfield MO; Bryan Gerard, Bellevue WA; Brian Kalcic, Saint Louis MO

1-SESSION EVENING SWISS TEAM

FINAL

7 PM

13 Tables				
A	B	C		
3.49	1		Bruce Greenspan - James Nunn, Chesterfield MO; Judy Cardin, Bonita Spgs FL; Carol Hamilton, Saint Charles MO	94.00
3.03	2	1	Mary MacChesney - Donald MacChesney - Jeanne Redington, Saint Louis MO; Mary Smith, Eureka MO	83.00
2.27	3	2	Linda Brazier - James Reid Brazier, Moro IL; Gail Baughman, O'Fallon IL; Farid Azzam, Chesterfield MO	82.00
1.71	4	3	2	Rolland Struebing, Saint Charles MO; Vernon Meadows, St Louis MO; Sharon Polster - Arthur O'Mara, St Charles MO 72.00
1.28	5	4		Helene Siegfried - Judy Pass - Gretchen Smith, St Louis MO; Jan Pass, Saint Louis MO 70.00

Capitulation

I'm giving up bridge- Tonight's my last night
It's amen to Staymen, I give up the fight.
The insults and muddles are giving me troubles
And I can't sleep at night for thinking of doubles.

My cards are all rotten and I have forgotten
Who's played and what's trumps and what's gone
on my right!
So for now it's all over- I'm off to the back wood
I'm bidding good-bye to Gerber and Blackwood

I can't stand the hassle, I can't stand the pain
I'm getting those bad cards again and again.
So I'm giving up bridge- Tonight's a bad night.
Declarer is horrid and nothing's going right.

My partner's a dope and I'm losing all hope.
And when s/he says "double" I know we're in trouble.
My points are not high and I'm wondering why
S/he kept on bidding right up to the sky.

We're in seven spades and all my hope fades
When surprise,surprise, the high bidding pays!
We're winning all tricks, the defenders feel sick,
And I have to admit my partner's a brick

But I'm giving up bridge- Tonight's my last night.!
Farewell to conventions- I give up the fight?
So I leave with few words but some that are true,
Bridge is a game- not for me but for you.

So be kind to your partners and don't mind their cheek.
For it's only a game- Oh! Yes. I'll see you next week!

This Week's Events

Zero Tolerance Policy Is In Place

ALL PAIRS EVENTS FEATURE PRE-DUPLICATED BOARDS

Intermediate/Newcomer (I/N) Pairs Mon-Sat *Expert Guest Speakers before I/N Pairs Games*

Tuesday thru Saturday: 199er Pairs, Single Sessions 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

NEW Sunday: 199er Pairs, Single Sessions 10:30 AM & 2:30 PM

Regional Side Game Series (Single sessions)

Series 3: Friday & Saturday 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Can play in 1 or more games of a series.

Must play in at least 2 games of same series for gold.

Knockout Teams (4-Session events)

Friday-Saturday Knockout 4 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Saturday-Sunday Knockout 5 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM, 10:30 AM & TBA

Swiss Teams (Stratified, unless noted)

Single Session Evening Swiss: Tuesday – Saturday (Wednesday Charity) 7:00 PM

2-Session Morning Swiss: Friday – Saturday 9:00 AM

2-Session Strati-Flighted Sunday Swiss, *Play through, finishes by 6:00 PM* 10:30 AM

Pairs (All 2-Session events, except Saturday Charity)

Saturday Stratified Open Pairs (*Charity Game*) 9:00 AM

Saturday Barometer Pairs (Qualifying) 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Saturday BCD Pairs 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Stratified Events: 0-750/750-2000/2000+

I/N Pairs: Stratified 0-20/20-100/100-200

Strati-flighted Swiss: Flt A/X: 0-3000/3000+

Strat B/C/D: 0-300/300-750/750-2000

Barometer Pairs: Flt A Unlimited

All Stratifications by Average MP's in all events.

Eligibility for flighted events based on highest MP player.

Knockouts may be handicapped.

♥♦♣♠

Bidding Quiz: What should I open with this hand? ♠ Q 4, ♥ K J 8 7 5 ♦ A J 8 ♣ K J 9

Most experts prefer to open 1NT with a balanced hand that falls in the partnership notrump range, even when it includes a five-card major.

Here are some of their reasons:

1. Opener can better describe the hand by opening 1NT.

An opening bid of 1♥ covers a wide range of strength and distribution. It could be anywhere from about 13-21 points, and could be balanced or unbalanced. An opening bid of 1NT describes a narrow range of strength, 15-17 points for example, and a balanced hand – no void, no singleton, and no more than one doubleton. It's unlikely that the partnership will stop too low or get too high after such a descriptive opening bid.

2. It avoids a potential rebid problem.

If the above hand is opened 1♥, what does opener rebid after partner responds 1♠? 1NT would show a minimum balanced hand of about 12-14 points; 2NT would show a strong balanced hand of about 18-19 points; a jump to 3♥ would show about 16-18 points, but also at least a six-card heart suit; a rebid of 2♣ or 2♦ would show a second four-card suit. There is no attractive rebid.

3. The 1NT opening has some pre-emptive value.

Over a 1♥ opening bid, left-hand opponent can get into the auction with a 1♠ overcall. This is no longer possible if the opening bid is 1NT. Left-hand opponent will have to enter the auction at the two level. Since responder has a good picture of opener's hand, responder may be able to double an overcall for penalty more effectively.

4. Concealing the five-card major can be an advantage in the play.

By not telling the opponents about the five-card heart suit, it is possible that the opening lead may be a heart from left-hand opponent when holding four or more hearts. Even without that, the opponents may have difficulty determining declarer's distribution until it is too late.

5. The stronger hand is more likely to be declaring.

After opening 1NT, this hand is likely to become the declarer whenever the partnership plays in notrump, or in a suit contract – after Stayman or a transfer bid, for example. Keeping the strong hand hidden will usually be advantageous during the play. If you were to open the bidding 1♥, for example, and partner were to respond 1NT, now partner is likely to be the declarer and the strong hand will be face up on the table.

So don't hesitate to open 1NT with a balanced hand that includes a five-card major suit.