

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE CBF | JUNE 2015



# bridge

## Canada



## EGADS IN EVINRUDE

PART TWO IN CHRISTOPHER ROLLINS LOL BRIDGE HUMOUR

### THE CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

The mission of the Canadian Bridge Federation is to promote bridge within Canada and protect and advance the national interests of Canadian bridge, including the selection and support of Canadian bridge teams and players for international bridge competition.



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NOTE: Membership dues are waived for Canadian players under 25 years of age. Junior players can join the CBF by sending their information to [info@cbf.ca](mailto:info@cbf.ca).

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Photo Credit: Jonathan Steinberg

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

### CBCs and August BC Publishing Date

The 2015 Canadian Bridge Championships will have ended by the time you read this issue. In an endeavor to provide timely information, we will strive to publish our August Bridge Canada by mid-July. Stay tuned to get the details on all the hands that decide the various Canadian Championships!

### Humorous Contributions to Bridge Canada

I encourage all readers to email me any of your funny bridge stories (we all have them!). A \$50 honorarium will be given to the authors of all such anecdotes used in future Bridge Canada issues.

Neil Kimelman  
Bridge Canada Managing Editor  
kimmie85257@hotmail.com

# IMPROVE YOUR DECLARER PLAY

IMPs. Contract: 6 ♠ by South  
Lead: ♣8

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

Plan the play.

Answer on page 22



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# bridge Canada

JUNE 2015 • VOL. 45 NO.3

BRIDGE CANADA MANAGING EDITOR  
Neil Kimelman  
editor@cbf.ca

BRIDGE CANADA FRENCH EDITORS  
Francine and Denis Cimon  
wirek@videotron.ca

PRODUCTION EDITOR  
Jude Goodwin  
jude@cbf.ca

**CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.**  
www.cbf.ca

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT  
Ina Demme  
1 Pietro Dr. Maple, ON L6A 3J4  
ina@cbf.ca

CBF HOTLINE  
416 706 8550  
FAX: 905 832 7184

CHARITY  
Gim Ong  
32 Sandusky Drive  
Winnipeg, MB R3T 5W4  
204-775-5114 | charity@cbf.ca

**MAGAZINE AD RATES**  
Full page \$ 500 | Half page \$ 300  
Quarter page \$ 175 | Business Card \$ 100  
10% DISCOUNT if 3 issues paid in advance.  
PUBLISHED 6 TIMES A YEAR



## **CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Zone I**

Kathie Macnab zone1@cbf.ca  
19 Clayder Lane  
Halifax, NS B3L 0A6 902-443-4676

### **Zone II**

André Chartrand zone2@cbf.ca  
565 Delinelle  
Montreal, QC H4C 3B2 514-266-7602

### **Zone III & CBF President**

Nader Hanna zone3@cbf.ca  
53 York Road  
Toronto, ON M2L 1H7 416-756-9065

### **Zone IV & CBF VICE PRESIDENT**

Neil Kimelman zone4@cbf.ca  
110 260 Fairhaven Road  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3P 1C9 204-487-2390

### **Zone V**

Jerry Mamer zone5@cbf.ca  
151 Nordstrom Road  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 6P9 306-688-3951

### **Zone VI**

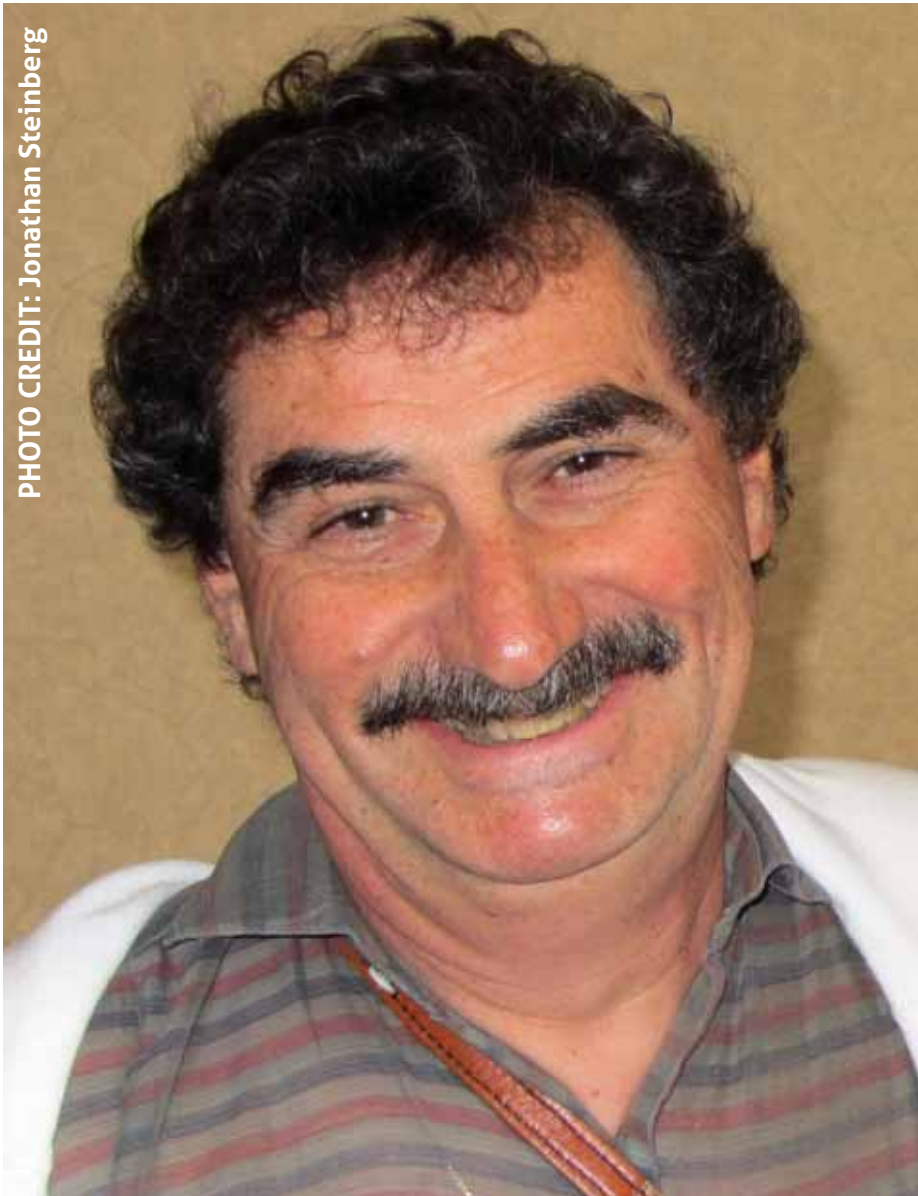
Angela Fenton zone6@cbf.ca  
601-1395 Beach Ave.  
Vancouver, BC V6E 1V7 778-386-4343



# MEET DAN JACOB

*Editor's note: Dan has been overlooked in Bridge Canada's 'Meet...' Series. This is truly an oversight considering he may be Canada's premier bridge player. So we are going to have an expanded interview with Dan.*

PHOTO CREDIT: Jonathan Steinberg



I have as much admiration for Dan's behaviour at the table as I do for his card play. As many of us know, a lot of the more skilled players let this fact go to their head. I am truly ashamed and disgusted by the treatment of their partners and opponents alike, which I have witnessed. It seems that this trend is changing for the better with such players as Dan, Daniel Korbel, and Bob Todd to name a few.

For a non-professional, his record in high level competitions is formidable (see sidebar next page).

## **When did you first start playing bridge?**

I started playing bridge in my first year of university in Bucharest, Romania. For approximately three years it was strictly Rubber Bridge for money. This way you get to play with

good players and you certainly get motivated fast not to make too many mistakes, which will cost you something of which you don't have much.

I had to quit for 6-8 months between the 4th and 5th year so I could finish my Diploma Paper on time. Once university was over I started playing almost every day until I left the country.

## **When did you come to Canada? Who did you play with in the early years of your bridge playing?**

Cristina (my wife) and I left Bucharest for Paris in 1976, where we met several other Romanian bridge players waiting for their respective visas. After we moved to Vancouver I played with Cristina at the local

*Continued on next page*

# THE JACOB FILE

## Canadian Championships

<b>CNTC A</b>		<b>COPC</b>	
2002	1st	1999	1st
2003	3-4	2014	1st
2005	5-8	2015	1st
2006	1st	<b>CSTC</b>	
2007	3-4	2011	1st
2008	1st	2013	1st
2009	3-4	<b>CIPC</b>	
		2014	1st

## ACBL NABCs

2005	3-4	Vanderbilt
2005	2nd	National North American Pairs
2008	1st	Silodor Pairs
2010	1st	Fast Pairs
2010	2nd	Rockwell Mixed Pairs
2014	4th	Life Master Pairs

## International Competition

2007	1st	Gelilobu Peace Cup Canakkale, Turkey
2014	3rd	Seniors Sanya, China

**When did you come to Canada? Who did you play with in the early years of your bridge playing?**

Cristina (my wife) and I left Bucharest for Paris in 1976, where we met several other Romanian bridge players waiting for their respective visas. After we moved to Vancouver I played with Cristina at the local club where we met Allan Graves and John Anthony. They were very nice and friendly. After getting a ride back to the West End, Allan asked me if I want to play a game with him in the upcoming sectional. I did and we won a pair event, which officially introduced me to the local scene.

**Who was your first regular partner?**

Around 1978 I met Gord McOrmond and we formed a partnership that lasted well over 20 years. In 1982 Gord and I qualified to play in the Rosenblum Cup pairs held in Biarritz, France. For the teams we played with Doug and Sandra Fraser which was a lot of fun. Funny story from this event:

We made Cristina NPC so she can get a 'tag' and thus be able to kibbitz. In the first qualifying short match against Switzerland (the #9 seed), Gord and I faced Jaime Ortiz-Patino and Pietro Bernasconi; and Cristina who wanted to do something useful inquired about their names to complete the traveling score. Mr. Jamie Ortiz – Patino seating on my left introduced himself but Cristina, with a puzzled look, asked again who is

PHOTO CREDIT: Michael Yuen



Jurek Czyzowicz and Dan Jacob 2015 COPC Gold

Ortiz and who is Patino; after which he stood up and in a very loud and pretentious voice recited that "my name is JAIME ORTIZ-PATINO" really pissed that we did not know who he was. We managed to spoil his evening even further by beating them soundly to move directly to the KO stage.

While Gord and I were consistently good on the local scene we did not excel at the national or international level. We did manage a good showing in a couple of Reisinger BAM events and finally we won a CNTC in 2002 playing with Allan Graves and Bryan Maksymetz. Gord quit competitive bridge in 2003.

### **Who did you play with after Gord?**

In Vancouver I played mostly with Larry Hicks a very talented player who, due to family and work commitments, doesn't have a lot of time to travel. Larry and I won a COPC in 1999.

From 2004 - 2006 I played with Bryan Maksymetz. We had a few good showings: Second in the North American Pairs (NAPs); 3/4 Vanderbilt held in Pittsburgh in 2005; and in 2006 we won the CNTC in Toronto (playing with Doug and Sandra Fraser, Mike Gamble and Robert Lebi). After the World Championships held in 2006 in Verona, Italy, I hooked up with Robert Lebi. In 2008 we won the Silodor Open pairs in Detroit and the 2008 CNTC in Montreal with Kamel Fergani, Nic L'Ecuyer, Vince Demuy and Marc-Andre Fourcaudot. However the partnership did not survive much longer after 2008 Beijing Games.

### **What were some of your other stand-out performances on the international/ACBL circuits?**

In 2007, playing with Robert Lebi, Sandra and Doug Fraser, Bryan Maksimetz and Nader Hana, we represented Canada and won the inaugural

Gelibolu Peace Cup held in Canakkale, Turkey. In 2010 I won the Fast Pairs event at the Summer Nationals in New Orleans playing with Nagy Kamel.

### **Who is your current partner?**

Late 2010 I hooked up with Jurek Czyzowicz, who is my current partner for most national and international events. We won the Canadian Senior Team Championships (CSTCs) in 2011 and 2013, and last year in Sanya we scraped out a bronze medal in the Senior Team event.

### **Dan, tell us about your life away from the bridge table.**

I am a professional engineer (registered as mechanical) although in Canada I worked for the federal government in the fire protection field. I retired from my government job in 2012. I am married to Cristina (for over 40 years) and we have two wonderful kids (Carol and Julien) and so far two grandchildren (Carol's side), Holden (6) and Isla (1). Julien just got married so we are hoping that a third one will come along soon. We all love sports (more to participate but also to watch). We all ski, play tennis etc.

I am an avid fisherman, although for some strange reason I used to fish more before I retired. Cristina likes to hike and I like to fish so occasionally I join her for a portion of the route.

### **Are you going to increase the amount of bridge playing now that you have retired from your job?**

Prior to 2012 I hardly played any regional tournaments unless local; I used my vacation time for national tourneys only and/or if applicable some trips outside North America. However currently I play approximately six regionals a year. If the tournament is in a nice location Cristina will join me and sometimes we take a few extra days to

travel around. There are so many nice places which you don't get a chance to see unless you have another reason for travel. I am also going to try and make it for some of the bridge festivals in Europe and even participate in one of the open European Championships.

### **What are your thoughts about the state of Bridge in North America?**

With regards to the direction bridge is going, I always felt that ACBL is doing a poor job in the context of USA being a force in international bridge scene. While they concentrate on selling Masterpoints, the bridge level in North America is deteriorating fast (with the aging population) and honestly would be much worse if weren't for the influx of European players at the national events. Can you imagine having 20 KO brackets at a regional event? It's just silly.

### **What about the Canadian Bridge Federation. Are we going in the right direction?**

What puzzles me about the CBF is the fact that as a national organization we are not able to secure some permanent federal government funding, particularly when representing Canada in international competitions. There is clearly something wrong here. The feds give money left and right to all sorts of organizations but not to bridge? Somehow we do not do a good sales job...

### **What about the level of players of Canada compared to the United States, as well as to competitors from other countries?**

We have several very good young players: Daniel Korbel, Vince Demuy, Gavin and Darren Wolpert, David Grainger, Shan Huang, Samantha Nystrom, David Sabourin etc. So I think that the future looks good. Unfortunately some of them have followed the greenback (now representing USA) so they are no longer eligible to play for Canada.

### **Any other stories or hands you wish to share?**

I don't write the hands down so after a while I forget most of the details. The only ones I remember are some of the funny ones:

In 1980 I went to San Diego nationals. At that time I was playing quite a bit with a friend from Seattle, Dick Yarrington. We somehow managed to make the final of the Reisinger BAM with a pick up team that included another friend Subhash Gupta (now in New Delhi). I picked up an absolute Yarborough, something like xxxxx, xxxx, xxxx, x. White against red Dick opened in first chair 3♣. My right hand opponent doubled and I promptly raised Dick to 5♣ with my singleton. My left hand opponent (a well-known Australian player) bid 6♣ and eventually the pair settled in a suit at seven level. Dick led the CK and my left hand opponent's eyes popped out when his partner laid down three clubs, opposite Axxx in his hand! It turned out that Dick opened 3♣ with only five good ones, KQJ10x, and some distribution. No, they didn't make the grand slam.



# WHAT WENT WRONG?

by Paul Thurston

There's a lot of 'meat on the bones' from this auction that led to North-South's disaster, so let's start at the beginning ...



DLR: West VUL: None

NORTH

♠ 9 7 5

♥ A Q 9 8 6 5

♦ A 7 4

♣ K

WEST

♠ A K 6 2

♥ 4

♦ 5 3 2

♣ A 10 5 4 3

EAST

♠ 4

♥ K J 7 3

♦ Q J 10 6

♣ Q 9 7 2

SOUTH

♠ Q J 10 8 3

♥ 10 2

♦ K 9 8

♣ J 8 6

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

OPENING LEAD: ♥4

After a hotly contested auction during an all-experts online match, South declared four spades doubled and was soon disabused of the idea that holding spades is good for competitive auctions. Yes, without raising the level, the side holding the spades had been able to outbid West's offer to play in four clubs but the cost was prohibitively expensive: East and West were charmed to accept 800 points in compensation for being denied the pleasure of declaring! There's a lot of 'meat on the

bones' from this auction that led to North-South's disaster, so let's examine the calls starting at the beginning:

## West's 1♣ bid

While many do advocate 12 HCP as the minimum threshold for an opening one-bid, there can be exceptions and this West collection would qualify as one. With an AK combination at the top of one suit and another ace in the hand, this is often referred to as a "Fast Eleven" because the hand contains three quick tricks. Further, when the Ace-King and Ace are at the top of long suits and there is no potential rebid problem, thus opening the bidding is generally a good idea.

With four spades and five clubs, whichever red suit partner might mention over the 1♣, opener will always have room for a comfortable 1♠ rebid. So this particular "Fast Eleven" is a prime candidate for opening. Contrast this with a hand like: ♠5 ♥A876 ♦AK7 ♣86532. This is also a "Fast Eleven" but not a good opener. Imagine if you were to open 1♣ and partner responds 1♠ (Murphy's Law 214:B states that when you open a sub-minimum hand, partner will almost always make the most inconvenient response, usually in your shortest suit) - what now?

1NT? A doubly flawed rebid with both a singleton spade and a tad fewer HCPs than partner might be expecting for this rebid (usually 12-14).

# WHAT WENT WRONG? ... Continued

2♣? Sometimes you do have to rebid a five card minor as a least of evils choice but this ragged suit? UGH!

2♥? A reverse on 11 HCPs when partner will reasonably expect 16+? A sure ticket to getting partner to bid too much or not trusting you the next time you reverse and really do have the goods.

So even with the Fast Eleven, don't get into the habit of automatically opening without thinking about your rebid: no good rebid, Pass for Now!

1♥

North's overcall is totally sensible.

Pass

An interesting choice by East. Many would try 1NT with hearts so well stopped, or even 2♣ as long as they weren't overly paranoid about the possible shortness of their partner's 1♣. Once again, neither of those calls are "perfect". "Pass for Now" to wait for a second chance to bid is definitely an underutilized tactic in this era of hyper-active bidders but as you'll see, it served East very well this time.

1♠

As played by many, the N-S partnership agreement was defined as "constructive but not forcing". This collection would be at the lowest end of values and spade length this response should deliver.

Pass

With partner silent and both opponents bidding, West's minimum is not worth a second peep.

2♠

North continues to perform acceptably: his hand has just enough spades, distribution and HCPs to merit a gentle raise. Note that this simple raise should show a minimum supporting hand as there are stronger ways to raise in this context:

a cuebid of 2♣ or a jump to 3♠, the first usually showing a good three card raise, the second a more distributional four card raise, both acting as very encouraging ways to invite game.

2NT

Having bided her time, East re-enters the fray with a semi-natural competitive effort intended to show support for the minors.

3♠

And then the rot started to set in! Not wanting to let his opponents declare and wanting to block West's expected conversion to 3♦ or 3♣, South tried to outmuscle his opponents. However bidding 3♠ also means you think you might be able to make nine tricks or, at the very least, go down less than what the opponents might make in their contract – and that takes values, high-card and/or distribution, beyond what might be expected for your initial bid. South had neither. Now, South's direct three-level action wouldn't be construed as a try for game (3♦ or 3♣ were available for that) but bidding again when pass was a reasonable alternative has to show something more than a flair for the competitive.

4♣

Re-energized by the news that his partner had some values (and obvious spade shortness) that included support for both minors, West decided to chance his arm with 4♣ – and was due to be disappointed as 3♠ could be defeated and 4♣ was also slated for a set with the loss of one heart trick, two diamonds and one club.

4♠

The real and unexpected upside to West's 4♣ – unaccountably North, perhaps duped by his partner's show of something "extra", decided 4♠ might have a play – WRONG!

## The Final Double

A great idea – West had his fast three tricks and a bidding partner and nothing about the auction indicated 4♠ was anything but a determined effort by North-South to declare – make them pay! And pay they did after the opening heart lead ducked to east’s jack for a spade return won by the King. West shifted to the ♦5 to the 4, 10 and King. In hand, South made a slight error when he next tabled the ♠Q that West ducked. He then led the ♥10 ruffed by West’s last small trump. West followed this with the ♠A to deplete dummy’s trump supply, then the ♣A, followed by a second round of diamonds won by the Ace. South cashed the ♥A for a diamond discard but still had two club losers, and that meant East-West had the tidy sum of 800 to record.

## WHAT WENT WRONG?

There were several minor blemishes to many of the calls made but South’s 3♠ was beyond the pale: with nothing beyond a bare minimum for what he had already shown, he truly went looking for trouble by bidding again and trouble is exactly what he found! As a small footnote, if South really wanted to compete over his opponents’ minor suit part score, he might have waited for West’s conversion to 3♦ or (more likely) 3♣ and then tried 3♠, the delayed call being less likely to excite the obviously excitable North.

Send any candidate you might have for What Went Wrong? analysis to [tweedguy@gmail.com](mailto:tweedguy@gmail.com).

# TEST YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY

IMPs. Contract: 4♥

Lead: 4♠

♠ 7 6 3  
♥ 9 8 5  
♦ A 4  
♣ K 8 7 6 4

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

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

East lead three rounds of spades, as you ruff and West follows up the line. Plan the play.

Answer on page 23



# CANADIAN BRIDGE HUMOUR

## *Egads in Evinrude Part 2*

By Christopher Rollins



For those of you who missed Part I in the February Bridge Canada: I came to the quiet lake and retirement community of Evinrude, Ontario to write 'the great novel' but instead I have been spending more time at the Evinrude Bridge Club (EBC) with Delores and my other new friends. They are wonderful people, but their bids and plays at the bridge table can be best described as 'unexpected.'

### BRIDGE DAY 3/TRIP DAY 25

My book progress is very steady and consistent. Day 25 – nada. Back to the Evinrude Bridge Club. In a strange twist of the fates, Delores phoned me on Saturday to ask me to play. I accept, thinking that there are probably no better options. She says that she doesn't get much of an opportunity to play 2/1. I ask if she plays upside down. She says that she doesn't get much of an opportunity to do that either. Ha. Bridge in Evinrude.

We meet 20 minutes before game time and agree to a few simple things. She says that she has brought me a cake, but I misunderstand - she has brought EVERYONE a cake. It's a massive sheet cake from Safeway, and it reads, "Happy 75th birthday, Dianne." Everybody sings, and indeed I get some cake. The best part is that the cake is chocolate. Happy birthday, Dianne. First hand out of the box I pick up:

♠ A J 10  
♥ A 10 x x x  
♦ K x  
♣ K x x

I open 1NT and LHO doubles. RHO bids 2♥, which I pass. Now the pace slows down. A SLOW 2♠ from LHO. RHO tries 3♥, which I double. A slower 4♣. When partner passes, I instantly regret my double. But RHO isn't done thinking. She corrects to 4♠. I can't stand that this is actually the auction, so I double, which ends it. To review, the bidding has gone:

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1NT
Dbl	pass	2♥	pass
2♠	pass	3♥	Dbl
4♣	pass	4♠	Dbl
All Pass			

Partner leads the diamond queen. Here's the dummy:

♦ Q

♠ K x  
♥ K Q J 9 x  
♦ 10 8 7 6 5  
♣ x

♠ A J 10  
♥ A 10 x x x  
♦ K x  
♣ K x x

When I see dummy, I fell pretty happy about my double. I start to play out the hand in my head. Say declarer wins the diamond and plays ♣A, ruff a club. Only if declarer has a heart void will I have problems. They can take a ruffing finesse in hearts, ruff out my club king and cash two hearts, pitching diamonds. But now I will likely have three trump tricks, and declarer will have no way to cash clubs. Looking good for down one at least.

I play low at trick one and declarer wins the ace. She starts thinking. I figure this is the Evinrude Twilight Zone, so a trump to dummy is as likely as a club at trick 2. Maybe a stiff heart towards dummy is logical. And then the impossible happens - a diamond comes back! And now I'm end-played at trick 3!

*What would you do?* I'll come back to this one later.



Very next board, I pick up:

♠ 10 8 7 5  
♥ Q J 10 9 8  
♦ J  
♣ J 8 x

Pard opens 1♦, RHO overcalls 2♣. I don't want to get a reputation THIS early in my Evinrude bridge career, so I pass it back to partner who insta-doubles. I bid an easy 2♥ and buy it there. I get a low club lead:

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

♠ 10 8 7 5  
♥ Q J 10 9 8  
♦ J  
♣ J 8 5

I play low and East wins the queen, then cashes the ace. Then, just as quickly, plays the ♦7. LHO covers with the king. I can't setup diamonds and run them, so my plan is to find Qx or Kx of spades onside. I go after trumps. LHO wins the king and leads back the ♦10. I call queen expecting it to get ruffed, but it lives (I pitch a spade). Maybe diamonds are 3-3? I lead a third diamond. RHO ruffs low! I overruff and lead a spade to the jack, losing. Here's what's left:

♠ A4  
♥ 3  
♦ 8 6 5  
♣ -

♠ 10 8  
♥ J 10 9  
♦ -  
♣ J

She gets out a club. I win, then play a trump, and RHO wins to lead another club. Fortunately, I've read the book on squeezes. I ruff and cash the last trump. LHO lets go a spade, and I know I've got him. When I lead my last spade, LHO plays low ... ? Wait, what? I play ace, and RHO plays the king. My first

pop-up squeeze in Evinrude! But wait ... nobody has diamonds left in the end position. What? They were good all along? Oh my. RHO followed to the second diamond with the nine.

This was a common theme during the game. People led low from doubletons. Routinely. Nobody really signalled - if they couldn't win the trick, they simply played low. Even though I looked around frequently, we weren't playing in an actual kitchen. Another common play at the EBC is to lead into a ruff and slough. That happened to my partner on about five of the hands that she declared. Probably more. (I lost count.)

Here's another good one. I pick up:

♠ Q 9 x x x  
♥ x x x x  
♦ x  
♣ A 10 x

Pass by me, 1♣ on my left. Double by partner. 2♣ on my right. I squeak out 2♠, not knowing if I'm overbidding or underbidding. Pard bids 4♠. The ♣K was the lead. Here are the two hands:

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

♠ Q 9 4 3 2  
♥ 8 6 3 2  
♦ 10  
♣ A 10 4

I win the ace and think about ruffing two clubs in dummy, but realize that I probably can't afford it. However, it's likely the ♦A is onside, so I lead a diamond early. It goes queen. "King???", but I know the answer long before it loses. Back comes a diamond. Now I'm in serious trouble. But I still have a shot if doubleton king of spades is onside. So I play low to the ♠8, losing to the jack. Back comes a club to tap dummy (good play), and when I try the spade ace, everyone follows, but the king is still out. This is the position (see next page):

♠ -  
 ♥ A K Q 7 4  
 ♦ 5 3  
 ♣ -

♠ Q 9  
 ♥ 8 6 3 2  
 ♦ -  
 ♣ 10

I have no hope. I cash the ♥A, then the king. RHO shows out on the second one. Still no hope. Queen of hearts. A bucket of non-hope. I feel if I lead another good heart from dummy, and leave LHO the 4th play, she will ruff for sure. So, I take my best non-hope. I switch suits. I ruff a diamond to hand and lead a low heart towards dummy's 7. This confounds LHO, so when she pitches, I am home. +420. Partner says that 4H was making also – and asks why I didn't bid my suits up the line? This question also has no hope.

Back to the first hand when you are on lead at trick against 4♠ doubled:

♠ K x  
 ♥ K Q J 9 x  
 ♦ 10 8 7 6 5  
 ♣ x

♠ A J 10  
 ♥ A 10 x x x  
 ♦ K x  
 ♣ K x x

After a ridiculous auction, partner leads the queen of diamonds and declarer lead a diamond back to you. Ace of hearts is unlikely to produce anything useful, even if it cashes, which is unlikely. So it's a spade or a club. I chose ace of spades and a small spade. "At least this will kill the dummy, and might preserve my king of clubs," I thought. Was that what you did?

Declarer wins the spade king and plays a club to the queen. Next comes the spade queen, partner following. Then the spade 9...? Partner... follows!?! Next is the diamond... jack? Partner shows out.

It's a good thing declarer blocks their own diamond suit, because you can see the endplay looming. Declarer runs diamonds ending in dummy and then leads the ♥K. You win, but have to lead away from the king of clubs. Nasty. But... this is the ETZ (Evinrude Time Zone) At back at trick 2, declarer actually led the ♦2 to the 10, so they couldn't possibly run diamonds any more. And partner had you covered - they had the ♣J. Nice. +300. The full deal:

♠	K x	♠	A J 10
♥	K Q J 9 x	♥	A 10 x x x
♦	10 8 7 6 5	♦	K x
♣	9	♣	K x x
♠	x x x x	♠	Q 9 8 x
♥	x x x	♥	--
♦	Qx	♦	A J 9 x
♣	J 8 x x	♣	A Q 10 x x

I ran the hand through Deep Finesse, just for laughs. Turns out the best opening lead is a spade, of course. But after diamond-diamond, my actual defence of ace of spades and another spade, declarer can get home. It might be "fun" for you to find it. Unless you are from Evinrude.

## *Egads in Evinrude!!*

### Part III

Stay tuned to the conclusion of this riveting saga in the August Bridge Canada Issue:

Does Delores buy another cake that is just for Christopher?  
 Does Christopher dye his hair grey?  
 Does Christopher change careers?

# THE BEAUTY OF NO TRUMP

*by Sylvia Caley*

No-trump is a wonderful thing, particularly in Natural Systems. And when you think about it, how much do you know about his hand when partner opens one of the following bids?

1♣	(11-23)
1NT	(15-17)
2♣	22+)
2♠	(6-10)

Clearly 1NT is the most clearly defined of these bids.

Partner most often knows what to do over your opening 1NT opener. This means that you should bid 1NT more often. I would open 1NT on all of the following hands:

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

This logic also applies to 1NT rebids. Consider the following auctions:

1♣ 1♥	1♣ 1♥	1♣ 1♥	1♣ 1♥
1♠	2♣	2♦	1NT

Only the 1NT rebid is limited to a 4 point range, normally 11-14 if playing a 15-17 1NT. Although I am not a fan of opening 1NT with 14 HCPs I would suggest that you:

## OPEN AND REBID 1NT WHENEVER POSSIBLE

This logic does not apply to the opening bid of 2NT. This is because 2NT is a preemptive bid in a way, as it takes away valuable bidding space. I don't believe in stretching to open 2NT and will rarely, if ever, open 2NT with only 19 HCPs.

I also like the 2NT rebid. After 1♣ P 1♥ P I have seen Turkish players rebid 2NT with four card heart support and a flat hand. The idea here is that 2NT may be high enough if partner has stretched to bid 1♥. If responder continues to bid, opener will of course bid 4♥. This 2NT rebid would be used on this type of hand.

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

After: 1♣ P 1♥ P Rebid 2NT!



# THE BEAUTY OF NO TRUMP *by Sylvia Caley ... Continued*

The 2NT rebid does require you to discuss your three level rebids in the following three cases:

1♣ 1♦	1♣ 1 Major	1♥ 1♠
2NT	2NT	2NT

Thus far we have been discussing non-contested auctions. No-trump can also be a haven and an excellent bid in a contested auction, particularly after an opponent preempts.

## WHEN THE OPPONENTS PREEMPT BEWARE OF BAD BREAKS

A useful corollary to this advice is the following quote from Rhoda Habert:

## WHEN THE OPPONENTS PREEMPT BE CONSERVATIVE

Here is a hand from Internet play. At one table the East player preempted. All White, East deals. The auction:

North	East	South	West
-	3♦	pass	pass
Dbl	pass	3NT	All Pass

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

West led a low club and South scored 2 Spades, 4 Hearts, 1 Diamond and 2 Clubs: 9 tricks.

Bob Hamman has often said:

## IF YOU THINK OF A NUMBER OF BIDS AND 3NT IS ONE OF THEM, BID IT

At the other table this was the auction:

North	East	South	West
-	-	pass	1♣
1♠	Dbl	2♦	2♥
pass	4♥	All Pass	

Here East did not preempt and E-W ended up defending 4♥ rather than 3NT. The defense took the first 5 tricks:

Trick 1	Diamond to the Ace
Trick 2	2♦ returned and ruffed
Trick 3	Club ruff
Trick 4	Spade to the Ace
Trick 5	Club ruff

This meant that 4♥ went down 2.

At the first table the NS pair bid to the best game after East preempted. At the second table East didn't reveal the extreme distribution and N-S went down in the normal 4♥ game. Here's another recent hand from internet play (next page):



# THE BEAUTY OF NO TRUMP *by Sylvia Caley ... Continued*

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

At Table 1 this was the auction:

North	East	South	West
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
2♦ <sup>1</sup>	pass	2♠ <sup>2</sup>	pass
3♣ <sup>3</sup>	pass	3♦ <sup>4</sup>	pass
3NT <sup>5</sup>	All Pass		

- 1 Strong hand
- 2 Asking
- 3 17+ with six clubs
- 4 Asking
- 5 2-2-3-6 shape with 17-20 HCPs

At table 2 the South player was someone who believed that no-trump is a thing of beauty, so she opened 2NT. This was the slightly confused auction at this table:

North	East	South	West
2NT	pass	3♣ <sup>1</sup>	pass
3♦ <sup>2</sup>	pass	4♣ <sup>3</sup>	pass
6♣	pass	6NT	All Pass

- 1 Intended as Puppet Stayman asking for a 4 or 5 card major but taken as regular Stayman
- 2 Intended to deny majors but taken as denying a 5 card major and showing at least one 4 card major
- 3 Intended as showing two 4 card majors but taken as natural

Although the pair at table 2 certainly need to clear up some of their partnership agreements, they won 11 IMPs for bidding and making 6NT (2 spades, 3 hearts, 2 diamonds and 5 clubs). The slam is on one of two finesses which is 75%.

It all goes to show that bidding and making the correct number of no-trump is truly a beautiful thing.

## HELEN SHIELDS ROOKIE MASTER GAME

Congratulations to the winners of the 2015 Helen Shields Rookie Master Game held April 22, 2015

1st Place 71.5% Gord Pippy & Jim Pietryk, Bridge Manitoba

2nd Place 70.23% Marion & Gordon Smith, Amherst Duplicate

## WHAT'S YOUR *Funny* STORY?

A \$50 honorarium will be given to the authors of any humorous anecdotes used in future Bridge Canada.

Send your story to Bridge Canada Managing editor Neil Kimelman Email: [kimmie85257@hotmail.com](mailto:kimmie85257@hotmail.com)

**Editor's Note:** Andre Chartrand won the COPC playing with Jean Castonguay in 2002 and came 2nd in the COPC playing with his current partner Charles Martineau in 2014. He is the current Zone II representative on the CBF Board of Directors.

## What drew you to play bridge and when did that happen?

In 1994 I was a competitive badminton player. Unfortunately I developed tendonitis in my right elbow and had to give up the game. I was looking for something to fill the competitive void in my life. Playing cards had been a large part of my childhood so when I discovered there was a small bridge club in Chateauguay I decided to try out playing the game. When I began beginners luck smiled on me and I thought bridge was an easy game. In a short period of time I realized just how challenging a game it really is.

## What do you think the biggest differences are between then and now?

When I started to play people would open hands primarily based on high card points. Today players open the bidding with fewer points and more shape.

## What about life away from the bridge table?

Currently I am kept very busy managing several residential real estate properties which I own in partnership with my children. I am always on the lookout for a good property to acquire. I spend as much time as I can with my Sweetheart – my English Bulldog Beckett...the 2nd love of my life. Also, I spend as much time as possible with my 5 grandchildren, aged 9 months to 3 1/2 years. I have a passion for music of all kinds: Country, Rock, Classical, Jazz, Cabaret, but my favorite is any Mozart Opera. My motto, which I learned from CBC radio host Bob Kerr: A day without Mozart is like a day without sunshine. I am a collector of old coins and old paper money. I enjoy watching old Classic movies. Some of my favorites are The Philadelphia



Story, Charade, On Golden Pond, Three Days of the Condor and All the Presidents Men.

## What is your favorite bridge book?

I feel a must read for anyone starting to play bridge is Logical Bridge Play by Hugh Kelsey. It gives a terrific insight to the "Sherlock Holmes" approach to the game.

## Cats or Dogs?

Dogs of course, British Bulldog being my favourite.

## Relaxation time?

A Classico Don Tomas cigar with a single malt scotch.

*Continue on page 21*

ESPEN LINDQVIST AND BOYE BROGELAND  
 Norway's Superstars  
*Knut, Kjærnsrød, Tored, Norway*



There is no doubt that Espen Lindqvist and Boye Brogeland are our present superstars, with victories in two North American Bridge Championship events in 2014. On the last board of the Fall Nationals, Boye put the icing on the cake by making four hearts on the following deal, to win the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams:

DLR: East VUL: None

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

Brogeland opened in the South seat with two hearts and was raised to game by Lindqvist. West started with the ace of spades and shifted to a diamond, ducked to East's queen. East played a second spade. Brogeland ruffed a club, played a diamond to the ace and ruffed a second club. Dummy's last diamond was discarded on the jack of spades. Declarer played a diamond, and West could not gain by ruffing, so he discarded a spade. Brogeland ruffed, trumped a club and ruffed his last diamond with the ace of hearts. These cards remained (top right):

♠ -	♠ -	♠ 7
♥ -	♥ -	♥ 6 4
♦ -	♦ -	♦ -
♣ K J 9	♣ -	♣ -
♠ -	♠ -	
♥ Q 10 3	♥ K J 9	
♦ -	♦ -	
♣ -	♣ -	

Brogeland ruffed the nine of clubs with the nine of hearts and could not be prevented from making two of the remaining three tricks. It had been almost impossible to find the killing trump switch at trick two.

The Open World Championships in China were not a great success for Norway, but on this board from the World Open Pairs final, Lindqvist performed with elegance:

DLR: North VUL: Both

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

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♥	2♦	Dbl	4♣
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

West led the ten of spades, ducked all around. Lindqvist won the spade continuation with his ace, ruffed a spade, discarded a heart on the ace of clubs and ruffed a club with the ten of diamonds. When Lindqvist played his last spade and West followed, Lindqvist ruffed it with the queen of diamonds, then ran the nine of diamonds successfully. He ruffed another club, removing West's last exit card and played his last two trumps to reach this position:

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

Lindqvist completed his brilliant performance by leading the queen of hearts and unblocking dummy's ten. When West won with his king, he had to lead into the ace-nine tenace to hand declarer the contract.

The Norwegian Pairs Final was played in Lyngdal in the southern part of Norway in mid-September. It was won by two of our best young players, Tor Eivind Grude and Håkon Kippe, ahead of the winners from 2012 and 2013, Terje Lie and Nils Kvangraven. On the following board, Lemet Hetta managed to land a four-spade contract, helped by a small defensive slip:

DLR: West VUL: None

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

The bidding took some time:

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

The jack of diamonds was taken by the ace, and the diamond queen was covered by the king and ruffed. If South had shifted to a heart, the contract would have been unmakeable, but he led the king of clubs, taken by dummy's ace. When Hetta ran all of his trumps, North had to keep his king of hearts guarded along with his last diamond. Hetta put him in with a diamond to lead into the ace-queen of hearts.

*Continued on next page*



The IBPA Files is a regular article in Bridge Canada and features articles from the IBPA monthly bulletin.



DLR: North VUL: None

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

North/South's system included a convention called "Garbage Multi". The bidding:

West	North	East	South
—	2♦!	2♠	Dbl
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
Dbl	All Pass		

The prize for the best-played deal of the Norwegian Championships was earned by Joar Haugseth for his effort on this board. He was able to turn a complete bottom into a complete top with a smart psychological move. West started with the ace of spades and continued with another spade. Haugseth trumped the second spade and smoothly put the ten of clubs on the table. When West played low, thinking his partner had a club honour, declarer removed the East/West trumps and played the king of hearts. This time West, perhaps rattled by his previous blunder, did not play low, and Haugseth discarded his diamond losers on dummy's hearts. A 100 percent score on a board in this Championship is rather rare, but this one was indisputable.

## MEET ANDRE CHARTRAND ... Continued from page 18

**What advice would you give a new player who wants to improve?**

Read a book once, then go back and study it to fully understand what the author is presenting and why he/she is doing so. Then discuss the book with others who have read it to see what they got out of it. If lessons are available enroll in an advanced class with your favorite partner. Since bridge is a partnership game improvement in defense and bidding comes with growing as a pair.

**Do you have any last comment for us regarding bridge?**

Bridge is a very competitive game, but without opponents there would be no game. I feel we have to always remember to respect our opponents and our partners. Post mortems should be away from the table.

## IMPROVE YOUR DECLARER PLAY

Problem on page 3

CONTRACT: 6 ♠ by South. IMPS

LEAD: ♣ 8

♠ Q 6 5  
♥ A J 2  
♦ 9 8 5 4 2  
♣ A J

♠ A J 9 8 7 2  
♥ K  
♦ A J 7 3  
♣ Q 9

### *Solution*

Playing IMPs it is almost always right to try and make your contract even it means going down an extra trick. So let's analyze this hand.

First we count possible losers – 1 spade, 1 diamond and 1 club. The diamond loser is incontrovertible, as we are off the ♦ KQ106. Therefore we must limit our black suit losers to none. So that means that the K♠ must be with East. With the club suit we could take the finesse at trick one. However West is unlikely to lead away from an honour when he could have led a trump (Remember, we are assuming East has the ♠K). There is a better alternative, and that is to discard the club loser on the ♥A.

So now we have a general approach we need to look at the specific play. First we must win the club ace at trick one. We are in dummy, with the only other entry being the ♥A. However we can't use that without sacrificing a heart trick, so we need to examine if there are any other possible dummy entries.

The answer is yes. If the spade king is singleton or doubleton with East we can enter dummy with the 3rd spade. So we need to first finesse spades, cash the ♠A, unblock the king of hearts, and enter dummy with a trump to throw your away your losing club. Yeh, it all works!! However if you took this line you are down one, because you didn't think the whole hand through before embarking on your line.

The fly in the ointment is the diamond suit. We said that we had to lose a card in that suit, but it also possible to lose two diamond tricks. If the suit is 2-2 it doesn't matter what we do, as we always limit our loss to one trick. If the suit is 4-0 we lose 3 diamonds if West has the length and lose 2-3 if East has it. So the only distribution where it might matter is 3-1, when East has either ♦ Hxx or ♦ KQx. If it's the former we must cash the ♦A before we enter dummy. If the latter we must lead a small diamond from dummy, and when East plays low insert the Jack. Which is better? Cashing the ace first. Why?

There are 4 relevant diamond holdings for East:

- ♦ Q 10 6
- ♦ K 10 6
- ♦ K Q 6
- ♦ K Q 10

Cashing the Ace before entering dummy wins when East has holdings 1 and 2.

Leading a diamond from dummy and putting in the Jack only wins against hand 3. Nothing works against hand 4 as all East has to do is put up an honour on the 1st lead of the suit, and with no more dummy entries, you are forcing to lead into East's tenace.

## IMPROVE YOUR DECLARER PLAY SOLUTION ... *Continued*

The full deal and correct line of play is shown on the next page.

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

(Underlined card identifies who is on lead).

	W	N	E	S
Trick 1:	<u>♣8</u>	A	7	9
Trick 2:	3	<u>♠2</u>	4	J
Trick 3:	10	6	K	<u>♠A</u>
Trick 4:	3	2	9	<u>♥K</u>
Trick 5:	K	2	6	<u>♦A</u>
Trick 6:	<u>♥4</u>	Q	<u>♣2</u>	<u>♠5</u>
Trick 7:	5	<u>♥A</u>	10	<u>♣Q</u>
Trick 8:	<u>♥5</u>	<u>♦4</u>	10	J
Trick 9:	<u>♣4</u>	5	Q	<u>♦3</u>

South can now claim with good spades and diamonds.

## IMPROVE YOUR DECEPTIVE PLAY SOLUTION *Problem on page 11*

The only legitimate chance is that one defender has ♣Q J, or that West has a singleton honour (although he probably would have led it). However there is a way to induce the opponents to give you your 10th trick, without giving up on any of the aforementioned chances. It just takes a little bit of imagination.

How would you play if your hand was instead ♠Q 9 ♥K J 10 8 6 4 ♦8 ♣A Q 10 3? You would cross with your club king and play a heart, and try to guess it. That is exactly what you should do! Why? Let's look at the full deal:

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

If you play this way East will likely play his partner for Qx(x) in hearts, and rise with the ♥A and return a spade, expecting partner to score his heart honour and set the contract. Imagine his surprise when you throw the ♣3, and ruff in dummy.

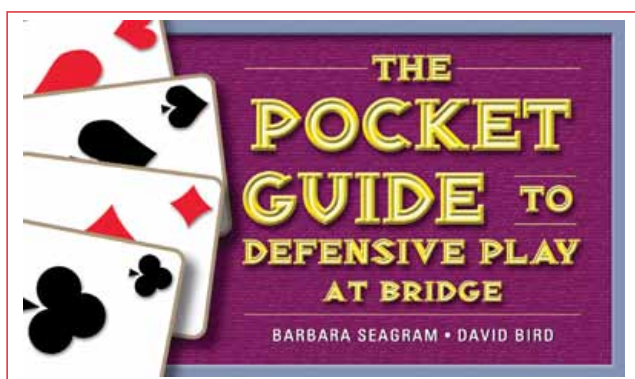
After that you would cross to the ♣A, play a heart to dummy, ruff a club high, pull a third round of hearts if necessary, and cross to the xDxA to throw your losing diamond on a good club.

For those of you paying attention, there is a little more care needed in the management of the trump suit. For maximum psychological effect, you want to play the ♥9 from dummy at trick five for your 'trump finesse.' To ensure you have an entry in hearts to ruff a club it is imperative you ruff the 3rd round of spades with the xHx6. If you instead ruff with the xHx4, and lead the xHx9 as suggested above, West can thwart your plan by ruffing the 4th round of spade with the xHx7! That would leave you with the singleton xHx5 in dummy. That is why you need to save the four at trick 3 and ruff with the six!

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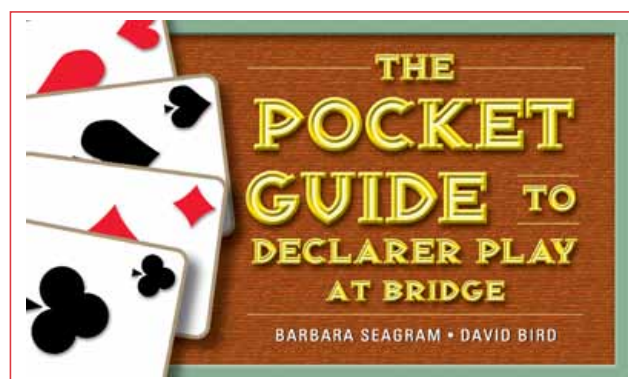


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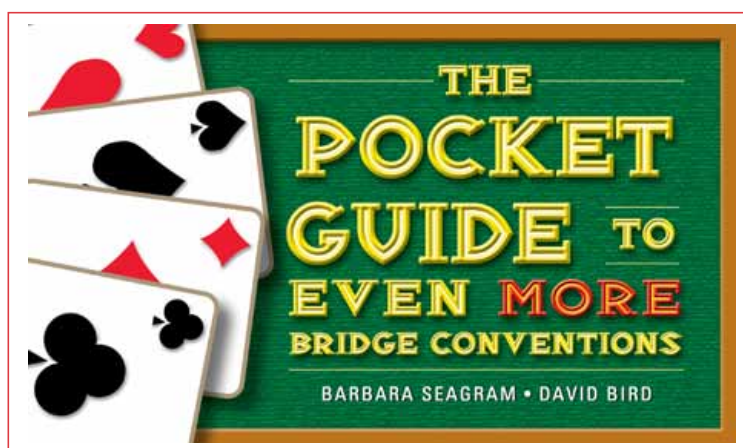
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# EVENTS & DEADLINES

Canadian Bridge Federation Calendar of Events as of May 2015. For updates see our website [www.cbf.ca](http://www.cbf.ca)

2015

## JUNE

- 23 June Tuesday evening  
Canada-wide Olympiad Fund Game

## JULY

- 15 July Wednesday evening  
ACBL-wide International Fund Game #2
- 23 July - 03 Aug  
CBF IF Regional, Kingston, ON

## SEPTEMBER

Club International Fund Games all month

- Club Qualifying games for CNTC and COPC
- 26 Sep - 10 Oct  
World Team Championships Chennai, India.

## OCTOBER

Club Appreciation Games all month

- Club Qualifying games for CNTC and COPC
- 05 Oct Monday - Evening  
Canada wide Olympiad Fund Game
- 22 Oct Thursday - Evening  
Erin Berry Rookie Master Game

## NOVEMBER

- Club Qualifying games for CNTC and COPC
- 30 Nov - Evening  
ACBL wide Charity Game

## DECEMBER

- Club Qualifying games for CNTC and COPC
- 21 Dec - Monday morning  
ACBL-wide International Fund Game #3



## Important Dates

- 2015 CBF International Fund Regional | Kingston, ON | July 28 - August 3 2015
- 2015 World Team Championships | Chennai, India | 26 September - 10 October
- 2016 CBF Canadian Bridge Championships | Toronto ON | 21-28 May 2016