

# Kibitzer

Publication of the Chicago Contract Bridge Association April/May 2024

## GNT winners are headed for Toronto

Winners of District 13 Grand National Teams have the honor of representing the district at the North American Bridge Championships in Toronto this summer.

Winning the Championship Flight at the contest, which was held over a two-day period in Glenview was the team of David Joyce, Aleksander Lishkov, Jeff Mandell, and Hal Mouser. To play in this flight, team members could have an unlimited number of points.

Coming in first in Flight A (fewer than 6,000 points) were Kenneth Tatz and Tom Fogarty, plus Kendra and Geoff Bridges.

The top team in Flight B (fewer than 2,500 points) was Henry Shi, Ping Hu, Zhiqiang Hu, and Li Miao.

Alec Sun, Gan Uang, Avery Wang, and Max Krawczyk (non-Life Master with fewer than 500 points) won Flight C.

Flight eligibility was established by ACBL's September 2023 masterpoint cycle. Masterpoints won after this cycle did not impact flight eligibility for these events. 21 teams played in the four flights across the event: six in Championship, seven in Flight A, four in Flight B and four in Flight C.

Originally there were five teams in Flight B, but one team withdrew the day before the event. This caused problems regarding the proper movement, board sets, etc., but the situation was resolved by Event Chair Suzi Subeck and Peter Wilke, director-in-charge. (Photos on p. 6)

## District 13 Regional April 15-19 in WI

See flyer on page 4

## Fun tournaments ahead

### Fantastic Windy City Regional June 27-30

Lace up your sneakers, get your convention card, and find your lucky charm because you will be blown away by the fun that the CCBA has planned for the year.



Up first is the Windy City Regional, which will take place June 27-30, at the White Eagle Events Center in Niles at 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave. Tournament Chair Betsy Downs noted that this is a new and beautiful location for the event.

The schedule includes stratified Open Pairs and

Gold Rush Pairs at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Thursday through Saturday. On Sunday, there will be stratified Open Swiss and Gold Rush Swiss at 10 a.m. In addition, there will be a playthrough at 10 a.m.

For further information contact Betsy at [loverofbeagles@gmail.com](mailto:loverofbeagles@gmail.com) or Partnership Chair Jan Churchwell at [jan8242@gmail.com](mailto:jan8242@gmail.com) or see the flyer on page 3.



*White Eagle Events and Convention Center*

White Eagle will also be the site for the second regional, the Stan Subeck, formerly known as Central States. It will take place November 8-11. The CCBA Board at its Annual Meeting voted to re-name the tournament in honor of the late Stan Subeck, who was active in District 13 leadership and ACBL initiatives. He also was active in the United States Bridge Federation. His wife, Suzi, will be the tournament chair. Both regionals offer players the opportunity to win the desirable red and gold points. There will be a game schedule for players of all levels.

The sectional on the schedule is the ever popular Labor Day event which returns this year to the convenient Weber Leisure Center, 9300 Weber Park Pl, Skokie. The tournament will run from August 31-September 2.



Weber Leisure Center

## Windy City chair reveals plans for tourney

Dear CCBA players,

I am pleased and excited to chair the Windy City Regional Tournament June 27-30. For the first time since the pandemic, the tournament is returning to a four-day format with weekend play, at a new location.

The Windy City Regional will be the first of many CCBA tournaments to be held at White Eagle Banquets and Restaurant in Niles. Our goal is to build up attendance to pre-pandemic levels. You can help by playing several sessions and spreading the word about this regional. We hope that the weekend play attracts students and younger players, as well as retired players. Students are offered reduced entry fees of \$7 per session.

The White Eagle provides an excellent venue for tournament bridge with many ballrooms of various capacity. As we grow, we can move to larger ballrooms, thus accommodating several sections without crowding. The in-house deli offers an extensive and interesting menu, and the location is near a wide choice of restaurants. Out-of-town players can choose between several nearby motels, including the Holiday Inn Express, which is approximately one mile from the White Eagle.

Two session pair events (OK to play single sessions also) will be held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. A play-thru Swiss team will be held on Sunday, with a break for lunch. Food may be pre-ordered from the deli, or you may bring in your own food. Stratified open and separate gold rush sections are planned for all events. Please see the flyer below for event details and contact information.

On a personal note, I remember the thrill of attending large Regionals at Lake Geneva, when I first started playing bridge over 30 years ago. Bridge has been an important part of my life, and now it's time for me to give back to our game.

It saddens me to see our game shrink and tournaments become small. Our aging demographic, the fall-out from the pandemic, and online options have all taken their toll; however, I see other parts of the country get larger turn out at their regionals than we have been able to get here. This gives me hope that with weekend play and good publicity, we can gradually build up the Chicago area regionals.

Let's work together to bring back large regionals to the Chicagoland area! Thank you.

Betsy Downs  
CCBA Board Member and Windy City Tournament Chair



*Betsy Downs  
Windy City Chair*

## Everybody loves STaC games

Everybody loves the STaC games, which give players the chance to win silver points at their local clubs. CCBA has three scheduled, the first set for April 2-6.

It will give players a chance to hone their skills prior to the Windy City Regional, which will be held June 27-30 at the beautiful White Eagle Events and Conference Center in Niles.

The second STaC planned will take place August 12-18, just a couple weeks before CCBA's Labor Day Sectional (August 31-September 2), which will return to a favorite site, the Weber Recreational Center in Skokie.

The third CCBA STaC will be December 16-21, approximately a month after the Stan Subeck Regional Tournament, which will take place at White Eagle.

## 2024 CCBA Officers Board Members

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Opinions of columnists are their own and may not represent those of the CCBA. For more information, go to [www.bridgeinchicago.com](http://www.bridgeinchicago.com) or call the CCBA at 630-235-4718.



White Eagle

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

### **Thursday June 27**

10am and 3pm Open Pairs (stratified)  
Gold Rush Pairs (stratified)

### **Friday June 28**

10am and 3pm Open Pairs (stratified)  
Gold Rush Pairs (stratified)

### **Saturday June 29**

10am and 3pm Open Pairs (stratified)  
Gold Rush Pairs (stratified)

### **Sunday June 30**

10am playthrough  
Open Swiss (stratified)  
Gold Rush Swiss (stratified)

Open Stratification  
0-2500/2500-5000/5000+ MP averaging  
Gold Rush stratification 0-200/200-400/400-750  
MP averaging but no player may be over 750

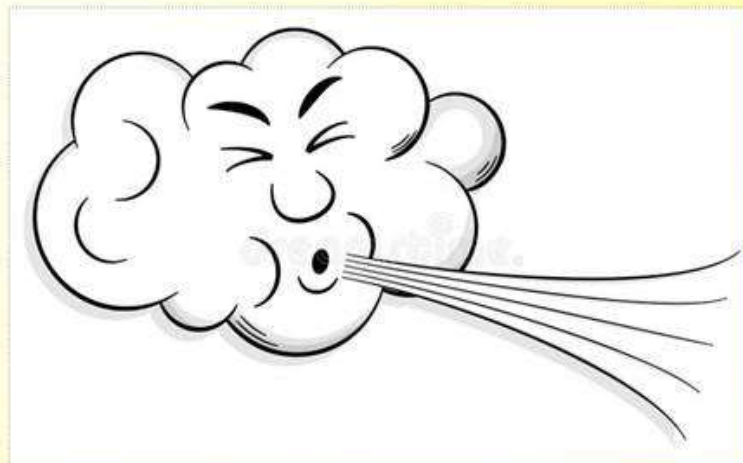
To be eligible for overall Gold Points, Regional Events are offered daily as two-session events... however, if a player wishes to play in only one session, we will accommodate them. The decision to play one or two sessions MUST be declared at the time the entry is purchased. "Change of mind" will not allow a player with a good morning score to turn a one session entry into a two session entry at the halftime!!

#### **Entry fees**

\$15 per session/person/pair; \$60/session/team  
\$7 for students under age 26 with valid ID  
\$4 surcharge for non members and unpaid members

**Tournament Chair: Betsy Downs**  
loverofbeagles@gmail.com

**Partnership Chair: Jan Churchwell**  
jan8242@gmail.com



#### **Nearby Lodging Choices:**

**Holiday Inn Express 1.3 miles from site**  
7247 N Waukegan Rd, Niles, IL  
Bridge rate of \$145 Wed-Fri and Sun; \$165 Sat.

Reservations can be made in one of 2 ways:

1. By calling the Toll-Free Number 1-800-HOLIDAY (1-800-465-4329) or 847-588-1900. Please mention the group name CCBA or the group block code CCB at the time of reservation to obtain the discounted rate.

2. Online - links CCBA  
<https://www.hiexpress.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=EX&localeCode=en&regionCode=1&hotelCode=CHISN&PMID=99801505&GPC=ccb&cn=no&viewfullsite=true>

**Rooms need to be reserved by 5/26/24 to guarantee reduced rate.**

Village Motel 1.3 miles from site  
6871 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles, IL

Edgebrook Motel 1.5 miles from site  
6401 W Touhy Ave, Niles, IL

**Snacks and water will be provided**  
Coffee is available for purchase at concession stand.

(Map and Covid Protocols on Back)

# The District 13 Spring Regional

April 15-19, 2024

**Madison Marriott West**  
**1313 John Q Hammons Dr, Middleton, WI**

**For Reservations, call 1-608-831-2000**

**Room Rate: \$142 ... To insure rate availability, reserve by March 25**

**Note: Same Monday-Friday Schedule as Last Year!!**

## Monday, April 15

10:00 & 3:00 **Open Pairs (0-1500; 1500-3000; 3000+)**  
10:00 & 3:00 **Gold Rush Pairs (0-100; 100-300; 300-750)**

## Tuesday, April 16

10:00 & 3:00 **Open Pairs (0-1500; 1500-3000; 3000+)**  
10:00 & 3:00 **Gold Rush Pairs (0-100; 100-300; 300-750)**

## Wednesday, April 17

10:00 & 3:00 **Open Pairs (0-1500; 1500-3000; 3000+)**  
10:00 & 3:00 **Gold Rush Pairs (0-100; 100-300; 300-750)**

## Thursday, April 18

10:00 & 3:00 **Single Session Side Games to Benefit the Grass Roots Fund**  
10:00 & 3:00 **Bracketed Swiss Teams**

## Friday, April 19

10:00 **Stratified Swiss Teams Playthrough ... Lunch Included...**  
**Flight A/B/C (3000+; 1500-3000; 0-1500)**



**Masterpoint Averaging When Permitted!**

**Tournament Chair:**

**Suzi Subeck**

847-509-0311

Email: [stansubeck@prodigy.net](mailto:stansubeck@prodigy.net)

**Partnership Chair:**

**Marge Morgan**

Email: [mumorgan55@gmail.com](mailto:mumorgan55@gmail.com)



**Daily Hospitality!!!**

**Daily Bulletins!**

**Special Student Rate with valid student ID card!**

**Registration Gifts!**

**Lunch Included with Entry on Friday!**

**Proof of Covid Vaccination Required**  
**Masks Optional.**

**If a masked opponent requests you mask up, you must comply.**  
**Please bring a mask to be prepared. Thank you!**

## Congrats 2023 Unit 123 Masterpoint Winners



### Mini-McKenney Winners

The Mini-McKenney recognizes the Unit 123 players who won the most masterpoints in their category during 2023. The category is based solely on the number of masterpoints they had at the beginning of the year. Unpigmented online points, such as those from robot games are not included. Below are those who took first place in their category.

Name	Points won	Category
Rahul Garga	67.20	0-5
Gail Kepley	55.42	5-20
Dorie Isaacson	65.29	20-50
Ziheng Yun	91.89	50-100
Gregory Smith	139.13	100-200
David Sales	113.43	200-300
Sriram Datla	264.49	300-500
Henry Shi	165.11	500-1,000
Donald Ferris	427.10	1,000-1,600
Mark Pinkowski	289.86	1,500-2,500
Judy Katz	488.27	2,500-3,500
Stephen Donahue	1,356.11	3,500-5,000
David Langer	439.20	5,000-7,500
Craig Allen	1,262.81	7,500-10,000
Robert Gardner	910.82	over 10,000

### Ace of Clubs Winners

The Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs recognizes the players in each category who won the most masterpoints at club games in Unit 123 during 2023. The totals exclude points won in STaC games. Unpigmented online points are not included.

Kaibai Liu	46.82	0-5
Gail Kepley	48.36	5-20
Dorie Isaacson	35.15	20-50
James O Connor	54.40	50-100
Pat Knowles	70.45	100-200
Lawrence Moelmann	75.00	200-300
Sriram Datla	69.58	300-500
Les White	132.47	500-1,000
Sylvia Dunne	110.43	1,00-1,500
Joan Nelson	154.14	1,500-2,500
Roger Hendrick	184.06	2,500-3,500
Bob Fashingbauer	218.75	3,500-5,000
David Langer	159.94	5,000-7,500
Michael Kutska	170.38	7,500-10,000
L. James Phillips	126.01	Over 10,000

## Take a road trip to District 13 Spring Regional in Madison

Looking for a chance to enjoy spring by taking a short road trip to a destination that ends in fun, yet challenging bridge games?



Your problem is solved. Head to 1313 John Q Hammons Drive, Middleton, Wisconsin, for the District 13 Spring Regional Tournament.

The event offers five days of daytime games beginning Monday April 15. After all, you deserve some enjoyment on tax day.

On Monday through Wednesday, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., there will be Open Pairs (0-1,500, 1,500-3,000, and 3,000+ ), and Gold Rush Pairs (0-100, 100-300, and 300-750).

At the same times on Thursday, there will be Single Session Side Games to benefit the Grass Roots Fund, and Bracketed Swiss Teams.

On Friday, beginning at 10 a.m., there will be Stratified Swiss Teams Playthrough. Good news, lunch is included.

There will be daily hospitality, plus a gift upon registration, Proof of COVID vaccination is required.

The Madison Marriott West is located nearby. For reservations, call 608-831-2000.

For information, contact Tournament Chair Suzi Subeck at 847-509-0311 or [stansubeck@prodigy.net](mailto:stansubeck@prodigy.net), or Partnership Chair Marge Morgan at [mumorgan55@gmail.com](mailto:mumorgan55@gmail.com). (See flyer on p. 4)



## District 13 GNT Winners



Championship Flight winners, left to right, Hal Mouser, Aleksander Lishkov, Jeff Mandell and David Joyce.



Flight A winners, left to right, Tom Fogarty, Kenneth Tatz, Kendra Bridges, and Geoff Bridges



Flight B winners were Henry Shi, Zhiqiang Hu, Li Miao, and Ping Hu,



Flight C winners were Alec Sun, Gan Uane, Avery Wang and Max Krawczyk.

(Photos by Lisa Subeck)

## Congratulations rank advancers!

### Junior Master

David Abrams  
Mary Clingman  
Arthur Curtis  
Judy Curtis  
Edwin Fraley  
Colleen Healy  
Frederica Hoyt  
Stephen Jaycee  
Denise Lamonte-Smith  
Melissa Mann  
Nellie Ross  
Alexander Xu

### Club Master

Lonnie Kepley  
Zinnia Meyer  
Therese Prouty  
Joyce Roush  
Lindy Salvi  
Mark Simon

### Regional Master

Rowena Boysen  
Brian Greene  
Avery Wang

### NABC Master

Margaret Lacion  
Michael Mehringer  
Daryl Novick  
Susan Rodgers  
Sally Schulte  
Ziheng Yun

### Advanced NABC Master

Charles Burton  
Joe Nolen

### Life Master

Phil Bishaf  
John Gillett  
Bob Kell  
David Sales  
Julia White

### Bronze Life Master

Phil Bishaf  
J Bush  
John Gillett  
Haijin Li  
J McKeon  
David Sales  
Julia White

### Silver Life Master

Charles Nudelman  
Gustavo Saravia  
Doug Scofield

### Gold Life Master

Edward Margulies  
Donna Shovel

### Sapphire Life Master

Aurora Miller

### Diamond Life Master

Barbara Lehman

## GNT

See  
more  
GNT  
photos  
on page  
12.



# WUMBA APPLETON SECTIONAL

April 4 – 6

## Holiday Inn Appleton

1565 N Casaloma Drive, Appleton, WI 54913

Front Desk 1-920-441-0206. Ask for Fox Valley Bridge Club Rate.

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

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

Pairs Select Their Own Teammates for ALL Pair-Teams!

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

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

Proof of COVID-19 vaccination will not be required.

Sanction Number -- 2404340

TOURNAMENT CONTACTS	Title Name	Telephone	Email
	Co-Chairperson: Wayne Peters	920 851 3052	wepeters44@gmail.com
	Co-Chairperson: Bill Nelson	920 751 0743	wnelson411@live.com
	Partnership: Gregg Underheim	920 252 5121	greggunderheim@gmail.com
	WUMBA (Unit #149) website: www.acbl-wumba.org		



The North American Bridge Championships (NABC) offers an excellent chance to dive into the world of bridge and explore the best of a new city. More advanced players can play in premier events awarding platinum masterpoints. Those looking for gold points will have plenty of opportunities, too. Newer players and even absolute beginners can learn and hone new skills in a dedicated space just for them. Whether you're in Toronto for a day, a weekend or all 10 days, it's a wonderful time full of meeting fellow bridge

players from all over and playing the world's best card game.

All bridge play will be at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North building. There are three host hotels:

InterContinental Toronto Centre 225 Front Street West  
Toronto, ON M5V 2X3, Canada  
\$209 CAD + tax per night

Sheraton Centre Toronto  
123 Queen Street West

Toronto, ON M5H 2M9, Canada  
\$203 CAD + tax per night

The Westin Harbour Castle  
1 Harbour Square  
Toronto, ON M5J 1A6, Canada  
\$203 CAD + tax per night  
For assistance, contact Conference Direct at (855) 956-0776 or email [acbl@conferencedirect.com](mailto:acbl@conferencedirect.com)

Reservations through ACBLs housing bureau ConferenceDirect close May 21. After this date, please contact the hotel directly for your reservation. Please note you may not get the bridge rate if you reserve after May 21, 2024. Online reservations will still be available.

## Bridge Quiz - Opening Leads Versus Suit Contracts

You are West and need to pick an opening lead after the following bidding. In general, being an aggressive leader is winning bridge, but often the bidding will give you important clues to finding the winning lead.



Ginny and Jeff Schuett

S	W	N	E					
1.	♠ 754 ♥ AKJ9 ♦ QJT8 ♣ 92			1 ♠	P	1NT	P	
				2 ♥	P	2 ♠	All Pass	
2.	♠ QT3 ♥ J7 ♦ T8742 ♣ JT9							1 ♠
				1NT	P	2 ♦	P	
				2 ♥	All Pass			
3.	♠ KQ65 ♥ A9 ♦ 95 ♣ J9732			1 ♥	P	2 ♣	P	
				3 ♣	P	4 ♥	All Pass	
4.	♠ AQT7 ♥ 852 ♦ JT ♣ AT87			1 ♥	P	2 ♣	P	
				3 ♣	P	3 ♥	P	
				4 ♥	All Pass			
5.	♠ K2 ♥ AT9 ♦ J864 ♣ Q952							1 ♦
				1 ♠	P	3 ♠	P	
				4 ♠	All Pass			
6.	♠ T865 ♥ A932 ♦ 9 ♣ KQJT			1 ♠	P	2 ♠	P	
				3 ♦	P	4 ♠	All Pass	

Answers:

1. ♠ 4. Your hand will take many tricks in ♥, but dummy might be very short and although dummy likely has only 2 trumps, you do not want to risk having any ♥ ruffed in dummy. On the real hand, dummy has 2 spades and a singleton heart and a trump lead is the only lead to set 2 ♠ contract.
2. ♠ 3. Even though South bid 1NT over partner and is showing a ♠ stopper, it is still best to lead partner's suit and to lead low with an honor.
3. ♣ 9. From the bidding, NS have indicated at least an 8-card ♣ fit, so you expect to give partner one or more ♣ ruffs. Lead the ♣ 9 - a suit preference signal hoping that partner will return a spade, the higher suit.
4. ♣ A. The NS bidding has indicated a combined 8 or 9 card ♣ fit and with your HCP, partner has very few points. Therefore, you should be able to give partner ♣ ruffs if you lead ♣ right NOW. So lead ♣ A and continue with ♣ T as a suit preference signal to return the higher suit, ♠ to get another ♣ ruff.
5. ♣ 2. There are two unbid suits, so with the ♥ A in one of them, I would lead the one that I didn't have the A. To lead a ♦ will often help declarer set up a good ♦ suit in dummy for discards.
6. ♣ K. In general, when you have trump length, you should try to find a good side suit where declarer is short and you can try to force them to ruff, thereby reducing their trump length and helping them lose control. This is usually better than trying to get ruffs yourself by leading your shortness

## Here's Scoop on Other Tournaments in Dist. 13

In addition to the amazing tournaments scheduled by our local Unit 123, other units in District 13 have tournaments scheduled.



First up is the WUMBA Appleton Sectional which runs from April 4 through April 6. The event takes place at the Holiday Inn Appleton, 1565 Casaloma Drive, Appleton, Wisconsin. In addition to its daylight games, games are scheduled 6:30 p.m. on April 4 and at 7 p.m. on April 5.

Next up is the Minocqua-Lakeland Bridge Sectional, which is set for June 7-9 at the Woodruff Town Hall, Highway 47, Woodruff, Wisconsin.

There are evening games, along with daytime games, on the first two days of the tournament.

Waukesha is having its Summerfest Sectional July 10-13 at the St. John Neumann's Parish Hall, 2400 W. State Road 59, Waukesha, Wisconsin. Wednesday features its annual potluck luncheon. Players are told to bring their appetite and a dish to pass.

For more information on these three tournaments, check out the website [www.acbl-wumba.org](http://www.acbl-wumba.org),





## Mistakes, we all make them, both declarers and defenders



By Jim Diebel  
Winning with Wimpy

Sometimes, your opponents will play perfectly and give you very little chance to get a good score. Other times, they will make a mistake and you will have the opportunity to capitalize. Unfortunately, sometimes WE make the mistake and Declarer escapes when we could have done better.

Consider this hand:

As West, with favorable vulnerability, I pick up ♠ KQT95 ♥ 8 ♦ KJ83 ♣ Q76. South is the dealer and opens 1H.

South	West	North	East
1H	1S	2S*	4S**
4NT	P	5H	P
5NT	P	6C	P
6D	P	6H	All Pass

\* Good heart raise

\*\* At this vul, weak, 4+ spades, some distribution

There's nothing wrong with my one spade overcall. I have a decent suit, and if the opponents land in NT, I won't be embarrassed if my partner leads a spade. North shows a decent heart raise and partner jumps to 4S. This typically shows a weak hand with long spades and some distribution.

Partner rarely expects to make 4S, but he hopes that either it will be a good sacrifice, or that the opponents misjudge whether or not to continue.

South asks for key cards. North shows two (without the queen of trump). South asks for specific kings and North shows the king of clubs. Finally, South bids 6D, which asks if North has anything else he hasn't shown, like the king of diamonds, the king of spades, or the queen of clubs. North signs off in 6H.

The opponents clearly have all the aces and the queen of hearts. It might be right to lead a passive trump, but since I have only one trump and can't continue them

if I get on lead again, it seems right to start out with a high spade. Here is the dummy:

North  
♠ 74  
♥ KJT6  
♦ A52  
♣ KT43

West (Jim)  
KQT95  
♥ 8  
♦ KJ83  
♣ Q76

South wins the ace of spades, plays a diamond to the ace, and ruffs a diamond with the ♥9. He leads a heart to the jack, and ruffs another heart to dummy. Declarer leads another heart to dummy, and partner follows. He exits with the ♠7 from dummy, partner underplays the ♠6, Declarer contributes the ♠2, and I am in.

It's safe to say at this point that partner has no more hearts. Declarer would have drawn a third round had it been necessary. It's also clear he has stripped the spades and diamonds, forcing me to now either give him a ruff and discard, or to break the club suit.

We need to hope that partner has the ♣J. If partner also holds the ♣9, a low club will defeat him. Declarer will be unable to avoid a club loser. But what if partner doesn't hold the ♣9. Now he will be forced to play the ♣J and declarer can finesse the ♣10 on the way back.

What if instead, we switch to the ♣Q? Now declarer will be forced to guess whether to win the ♣A in hand and finesse me for the ♣J, or win the ♣K in dummy and finesse partner. At least we made him guess. Which play is better? Think about how you would continue before reading on.

*Sheraton Grand*



North  
♠ 74  
♥ KJT6  
♦ A52  
♣ KT43

West (Jim)  
♠ KQT95  
♥ 8  
♦ KJ83  
♣ Q76

East  
♠ J863  
♥ 54  
♦ QT964  
♣ J8

South  
♠ A2  
♥ AQ9732  
♦ 7  
♣ A952

What answer did you come up with? If your answer involved leading a club – any club – you lose.

Once again, the key to this problem involves one simple technique: counting. Did you count Declarer's distribution? Declarer is known to have 2 spades, 6 hearts, and 1 diamond. Therefore he holds 4 clubs. A ruff and discard cannot possibly help him. If he has a club loser, it's not going away.

Declarer played this hand in a way to sucker you into helping him. He knew he had no chance to make the contract unless someone had the doubleton ♣QJ or he could induce the defense to break the club suit for him. We are programmed NOT to give a ruff and sluff, and usually will take almost any excuse to avoid giving one. Occasionally, they are the lesser of evils.

There are two main layouts where a ruff and discard may help the defense. One is where a single discard will not benefit declarer, such as this hand. The other is when there are trumps outstanding and declarer has no side suit losers. Forcing one hand or the other to ruff may weaken declarer's trump holding, and allow the defense to score one or more trump tricks. At rare times, he might even lose control of the hand.

I make mistakes. I make fewer than I used to make, but I still make more than I should. About 95% of them involve the same carelessness: neglecting to count.

I know I sound like a broken record, but it really can't be emphasized enough. Count! It is the surest path to winning.

Time	Club	Location	Contact
TBA Sunday	Northwestern Bridge Club	Parker Hill, Northwestern Univ. 1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston	Ben Fisk 513-808-1443
9:15 Monday	Mundelein Area DBC	Freemont Twnship Office 22385 W. Rt. 60, Mundelein	Joseph Connelly 847-271-1666
10 :15 Monday	Olympia DBC	Countryside Church 126 Smith St., Palatine, IL	Sue Erickson 847398-3440
10:30 Monday	Ace of Clubs	Temple Jeremiah 937 Happ Road, Northfield	Daryl Novack 847-8109272
11:00 Monday	Calumet DBC	Elks Club 3120 45th St., Highland, IN	Mary Schultz 245-224-2553
11:00 Monday	Oak Lawn DBC	Oak Lawn Tennis Club 10440 S. Central, Oak Lawn	Keith O'Malley 630-336-4376
11:30 Monday	Yorkville DB	Beecher Community Center 908 Game Farm Rd., Yorkville	Karl Anderson 224-276-0715
12 noon Monday	Hinsdale	Hinsdale Community Center 8th and Madison, Hinsdale	Diane Beyer Martin 708-2071500
12:15 Monday	Chicago Duplicate Bridge	Dearborn Station 47 W. Polk Street, Chicago	Patt Quinn 630-220-9058
12:30 Monday	Chicago Cultural Center	Chicago Cultural Center 77 E. Randolph St., Chicago	James Diebel 630-244-9292
6:20 p.m. Monday	Lawson Bridge Studio	Ann Sathers Restaurant 909 W. Belmont Ave, Chicago	Jerry Scholle 773-209-7089
10:30 a.m. Tuesday	Ace of Clubs	Temple Jeremiah 937 Happ Road, Northfield	Daryl Novack 847-8109272
11:00 am. Tuesday	Naper DBC	Community United Methodist Church 20 S. Center St., Naperville	James 'Diebel 630-244-0202
11:00 a.m. Tuesday	St. Charles Duplicate Bridge	Baker Community Center 101 S. 2nd, St. Charles	Marilyn Croft 630-203-0849
12 Noon Tuesday	S. Suburban Bridge Center	S. Suburban Bridge Center 18144 Glen Terrace, Lansing	Patricia Valiska 219-934-9405
6:30 p.m. Tuesday	Chicago Duplicate Bridge	Dearborn Station 47 W. Polk Street, Chicago	Patt Quinn 630-220-9058
6:30 p.m. Tuesday	Tree Towns DBC on BBO	Elmhurst BBO	Pat Quinn 630-220-9053
7:00 p.m. Tuesday	Ace of Clubs	Northmoor Country Club 820 Edgewood Road, Highland Park	Phyllis Bartlett 847-494-8474
10:30 a.m. Wednesday	Ace of Clubs	Temple Jeremiah 937 Happ Road, Northfield	Phyllis Bartlett 847-494-8474
10 :30 a.m. Wednesday	New Lenox-Joliet DBC	New Life Church 500 S. Gougar New Lenox	Nancy Miller 815-514-5363
11:00 a.m.Wednesday	Community Bridge Club	Calumet Township Center 1900 W. 41st Ave., Calumet Township, IN	Alan Yngve 219-215-45408
11:00 am Wednesday	Fox Bridge	Riverside Town Hall 27 Riverside Road, Riverside	Mary Schultz 248224-2553
12 noon Wednesday	University Club	University Club 79 E. Monroe, Chicago	Larry Cohen 630-941-0581
12 noon Wednesday	Glen Oak Country Club	Game starts up in May Glen Oak Country Club 21W451 Hill Avenue, Glen Ellyn	Patt Quinn 630-220-9053
12 noon Wednesday (2nd, 4th Wed.)	Glen Ellyn DBC	Healthtrack Sports Wellness 875 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn	Sue Kamphuis 630-348-5369
12:15 am Wednesday	Chicago Duplicate Bridge	Dearborn Station 47 W. Polk Street, Chicago	Patt Quinn 630-220-9058
6:32 p.m. Wednesday	Lawson Bridge Studio	Ann Sathers Restaurant 909 W. Belmont Ave, Chicago	Jerry Scholle 773-209-7089
10:30 am Thursday	Tom's Game	Temple Jeremiah 937 Happ Road, Northfield	Tom Dressing 847-323-4602
11:30 a.m. Thursday	Yorkville Duplicate Bridge	Beecher Community Center 908 Game Farm Rd., YorkvilleTBA	Karl Anderson 224-276-6715
9:00 am Thursday	12 Hearts	Freemont Township Administration 22385W. Route 60, Mundelein	Patricia Mayer 262-215-2566
12 noon Thursday	Hinsdale	Hinsdale Community Center	Diane Beyer Martin

Time	Club	Location	Contact
6:30 pm Thursday	Chicago Duplicate Bridge	Dearborn Station 47 W. Polk Street, Chicago	Patt Quinn 630-220-9058
10:30 am Friday	Tom's Game	Temple Jeremiah 937 Happ Road, Northfield	Tom Dressing 847-323-4602
11:00 am. Friday	Naper DBC	Community United Methodist Church 20 S. Center St., Naperville	James 'Diebel 630-244-0202
11:00 a.m. Friday	St. Charles Duplicate Bridge	Baker Community Center 101 S. 2nd, St. Charles	Marilyn Croft 630-203-0849
12 noon Friday	Oak Park Country Club	Oak Park Country Club 2001 N. Thatcher, Oak Park	Joyce Sirota 708-203-4990
12 Noon Friday	S. Suburban Bridge Center	S. Suburban Bridge Center 18144 Glen Terrace, Lansing	Patricia Valiska 219-934-9405
12:15 Friday	Chicago Duplicate Bridge	Dearborn Station 47 W. Polk Street, Chicago	Patt Quinn 630-220-9058
12:30 pm Friday	The Clare	The Clare 55 E. Pearson, Chicago	Larry Cohen 630-941-0581
6:30 p.m. Friday	Tree Towns DBC on BBO	Elmhurst BBO	Pat Quinn 630-220-9053
11:00 a.m. Saturday	Community Bridge Club	Calumet Township Center 1900W. 41st Ave., Calumet Township, IN	Alan Yngve 219-215-45408
11:30 a.m. Saturday TBA	Yorkville Duplicate Bridge	Beecher Community Center 908 Game Farm Rd., Yorkville	Karl Anderson 224-276-6715
9:30 am Saturday	Arlington Bridge B's	Park District Senior Center 1801 W. Central Road, Arlington Heights	Patricia Braun 847-506-3321

## Wolverine Regional

May 13-19

26776 W. 12 Mile Road, Southfield, Mi

Games start at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Monday through Saturday and at 10 a.m. on Sunday.

**Monday:** Grass Roots Fund Stratified Open Pairs (double session but may play single session) Gold Rush Pairs (double session but may play single session) (0-750 MP)

**Tuesday:** Stratified Swiss Teams (double session) Intermediate/Newcomer Pairs (single sessions) (no player may have more than 300 MP) Daytime Side Pair Series #1 (single sessions 1 and 2 of 6)

**Wednesday:** Open Pairs (double session) Gold Rush Pairs (double session) (0-750 MP) Intermediate/Newcomer Pairs (single sessions) (no player may have more than 300 MP) Daytime Side Pair Series #1 (single sessions 3 and 4 of 6)

**Thursday:** May 16 10:00 2:30 Bracketed Teams\* (double session) Intermediate/Newcomer Pairs (single sessions) (no player may have more than 300 MP) Daytime Side Pair Series #1 (single sessions 5 and 6 of 6)

**Friday:** Open Pairs (double session) Gold Rush Pairs (double session) (0-750 MP) Intermediate/Newcomer Pairs (single sessions) (no player may have more than 300 MP) Daytime Side Pair Series #2 (single sessions 1 and 2 of 4)

**Saturday:** Open Pairs (double session) Gold Rush Pairs (double session) (0-750 MP) Intermediate/Newcomer Pairs (single sessions) (no player may have more than 300 MP) Daytime Side Pair Series #2 (single sessions 3 and 4 of 4)

**Sunday 10:00:** Bracketed Teams\* (playthrough), Intermediate/Newcomer teams guaranteed in lower bracket.

Hotel Comfort Inn 30715 West 12 Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 248-471-9220 or 866-539-0036

TOURNAMENT CHAIR CHAIR Bob Ondo 313-320-5173  
[bobondo@gmail.com](mailto:bobondo@gmail.com) PARTNERSHIP Chair Jane Gardner 248-719-2941 [janegard@umich.edu](mailto:janegard@umich.edu)



# Mark your Calendar

## APRIL

All Month	Charity Club Championship Games
<b>April 2-7</b>	<b>STaC</b>
April 2, Any Session	Helen Shields Rookie/Master Game
April 4-6	WUMBA Appleton Sectional 1565 Casaloma Dr., Holiday Inn Appleton
April 14	Pop-UP April Showers Games
<b>April 15-19</b>	<b>District 13 Spring Regional</b> Madison Marriott West, Middleton, WI
April 22-23, 25-28	Stardust Split Week
April 24 Afternoon	ACBL-wide Charity Game (2 of 2)

## MAY

May 1-26	U.S. Bridge Championships Hyatt Regency 1800 East Golf Road, Schaumburg
May 5	Pop-UP Mothers' Day Games
May 6-12	Grass Roots Fund Games
May 13-19	NABC Fundraiser Games, Las Vegas
May 13-19	Wolverine Regional Michigan Bridge Connection, 26776 W. 12 Mile Road, Southfield, MI 48034

## JUNE

June 6-9	NAP Qualifiers (clubs)
June 7-9	Minocqua-Lakeland Bridge Sectional Highway 47, Woodruff Town Hall
June 10-f16	Silver Linings Week
June 22-23	The Longest Day Games
<b>June 27-June 30</b>	<b>Windy City Regional , White Eagle Events Ctr., Niles</b>
June 30	Pop- Up Fathers' Day Games

## JULY

July 10-13	Waukesha Summerfest Sectional 2400 W. State Road, Waukesha WI, St. John Neumann's Parish Hall
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## AUGUST

August 12-18	STaC
<b>August 31-September 2</b>	<b>Labor Day Sectional, Weber, Skokie</b>

## NOVEMBER

<b>November 8-11</b>	<b>Stan Subeck Regional, White Eagle Events Ctr., Niles</b>
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## DECEMBER

<b>December 16-21</b>	<b>STaC</b>
<i>Red indicates CCBA sponsored tournaments.</i>	

*CCBA events are in red. The CCBA Board of Directors has been and are continuing to work to develop a tournament schedule similar to the ones that existed prior to COVID.*

## Unit 123 Players on Top Vanderbilt KO Teams



Ralph Katz

Ron Smith

Ralph Katz was a member of the Nickell Team which won the Vanderbilt Knock-out Teams event at the NABC in Louisville, KY. Ron Smith was a member of the second place Bathurst team.

## GNT Snapshots

