

# Kibitzer

Official Publication of the Chicago Contract Bridge Association August/September, 2025

## IMPROVE YOUR BIDDING – Opener’s Rebid – Splinter or Something Else?

You have all had difficult hands to bid or rebid as opener & responder. Sometimes opener makes a bid you might not recognize or know what it means. Splinter bids are considered to be standard and are always a jump in a new suit, to the level just below game in our suit. They show 4+ card support for responder’s bid suit and guarantee the values to justify game if responder has a minimum for his previous bid. Usually the fit is implied, not explicitly supported yet, and that is what makes it hard to recognize. Splinters help to bid fitting slams.

S	W	N	E	Opener’s Hand as South
1♥	P	1♠	P	♠3 ♥AKJ73 ♦A6 ♣AKJ63
3♣?				

S	W	N	E	Opener’s Hand as South
1♥	P	1♠	P	♠AK83 ♥AKJ73 ♦K106 ♣3
4♣?				

S	W	N	E	Opener’s Hand as South
1♠	P	2♥	P	♠AK983 ♥K3 ♦AKJ63 ♣6
3♦?				

S	W	N	E	Opener’s Hand as South
1♠	P	2♥	P	♠AK983 ♥KQ93 ♦7 ♣K103
4♦?				

S	W	N	E	Opener’s Hand as South
1♦	P	1♠	2♣	♠AK83 ♥A93 ♦AK1096 ♣3
4♣?				



By  
Jeff and Ginny Schuett

Answers:

- 1) This is a strong jump shift which is natural showing clubs and usually about 19+ HCP. Jump shifts by opener are game forcing, so all of responder’s bids below game are forcing.
- 2) This is a splinter raise of spades showing 4+ spades, singleton or void in clubs, and enough for game if responder has just 6 HCP and only 4 card spades. So it shows 19+ points in support of spades including shortness.
- 3) This is not a jump and is natural showing diamonds. Because opener pushed the bidding all the way to the 3 level, playing Standard American, it is called a high reverse, showing extra values of about 17+ pts.
- 4) This is a splinter raise of hearts, but because responder shows 10+ pts playing Std, it can be slightly weaker, about 16+ in support of hearts including shortness. It seems like this is just a jump shift, but since 3” already shows a good hand and responder must bid again, no need to have strong jump shifts after responder’s new suit bid at the 2 level. Playing 2/1 opener doesn’t promise extra values.
- 5) After the opponent’s overcall, a jump cuebid is a splinter raise of responder’s suit. Shortness in the opponent’s suit is often the most valuable shortness you can have and shows game values so 19+.

# Moving On...

CCBA members will see some changes in leadership in the coming months:

**Kathy Fortney**, CCBA Board Member, and her husband, Charles, are relocating to Minnesota. Kathy has been a driving force on the Board of Directors. She served as Volunteer Chair for the 2023 NABC. Her energy and commitment to the CCBA FB page will be missed. We wish Kathy and Charles the best in their new adventure and look forward to seeing them at tournaments.

**Amin Hakim**, CCBA Board Member, is resigning from the Board of Directors for personal reasons. We will miss his commitment to cleaning up our website. Amin has promised to help when he can and we will be taking him up on that offer.

**DeMaris Johnson**, Kibitzer Editor, has retired from her newsletter position to pursue her passion for painting and all things art.

DeMaris has been the Kibitzer Editor for several decades. She has never missed a deadline and that is an amazing accomplishment.

We look forward to seeing Demaris and husband, Chuck, playing in the west suburban bridge clubs they enjoy, as well as at Unit 123 tournaments.

Here's to Demaris's certain success in the field of art. We look forward to saying, "We knew her when..."

Thank you, DeMaris, for your years of service. You have earned your retirement. Enjoy it!!

## **News: The Junior World Championships recently finished in Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy.**

Two of the U-16 players representing the USBF are from District 13! **Rowen Bell**, formerly from U123, now in Minnesota, reports that **Adam Hemmer** lives in Upper Michigan in WUMBA and when Hemmer's father resided in Chicago, Rowen played on and off with him for years. Adam's partner, Zinnia Meyer lives in Chicago.

Thank you "Roving Reporter Rowen!"



Adam Hemmer, USA U16, 2025 Junior World Championships

## **Candidates Sought for CCBA Board of Directors (terms starting in 2026)**

**Bob Maxson**, CCBA Nominating/Election Committee Chair, is seeking nominations for Board of Director terms starting in January, 2026.

The process includes "self-nomination" wherein members declare their interest in serving in a written letter to Bob and the committee, including name, address, email address, and reasons for seeking such a position, as well as the attributes that encourage qualification.

**FYI: The CCBA Board of Directors** is made up of 15 volunteers. To serve on the Board, you must be a member of Unit 123 in good standing with the ACBL.

Organizational skills as well as professional skills in areas of marketing, communication, site selection, legal, tournaments, and/or finance are always helpful.

Send resumes and declarations of candidacy to Bob at [bishopmaxson@yahoo.com](mailto:bishopmaxson@yahoo.com) on or before October 15, 2025 please.

Bob will contact applicants shortly after the cut-off date to set up interviews with the Nominating/Election Committee as a whole.

Applicants will be notified of their status on or before the first week in November.

Junior players are encouraged to apply as Junior representation affords the Board a fresh perspective that will allow it to best serve this demographic.

It appears there will be one vacancy to fill this year as Steve McConnell is taking leave.

**Unit 123 Board of Directors  
With Contact Information  
EC indicates Executive Committee:**

**President Loring Knoblauch EC**  
Loring.knoblauch@me.com

**Vice President Bob Maxson EC**  
bishopmaxson@yahoo.com

**Secretary Jan Churchwell EC**  
jan8242@gmail.com

**Treasurer Missy Ravid EC**  
mravid2@gmail.com

**Suzi Subeck EC**  
stansubeck@prodigy.net

**Bill Anspach**  
billanspach@gmail.com

**Phyllis Bartlett**  
bartlett.phyllis@gmail.com

**Adrienne Cohen**  
dolly370@aol.com

**Steve Donahue**  
spd47@aol.com

**Betsy Downs**  
loverofbeagles@gmail.com

**Steve McConnell**  
stevemac@sbcglobal.net

**Jamie Rubenstein**  
jamierube76@gmail.com

**Mark Stein**  
markstein@sbcglobal.net

The Kibitzer is published six times per year by the Chicago Contract Bridge Association (CCBA).

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.

# CCBA Rank Advancements



As of June 6, 2025

Kelly	Anderson	Glen Ellyn IL	Junior Master
William	Apostolos	Orland Pa IL	Junior Master
Kate	Brown	Chicago IL	Junior Master
Elliot	Eisenberg	Chicago IL	Junior Master
Diane	Merna	Lisle IL	Club Master
Gina	Myerson	Chicago IL	Club Master
Sandeep	Raje	Plainfield IL	Club Master
Zeyu	Wang	Evanston IL	Club Master
Curtis	Cassel	Chicago IL	Sectional Master
Eric	Hinds	Western SIL	Sectional Master
Lori	Schretzma	Highland IIL	Sectional Master
Barbara	Doll	Clarendon IL	Regional Master
James	Jacobson	Glen Ellyn IL	Regional Master
Doug	Shuman	Chicago IL	NABC Master
Charles	Firke	Chicago IL	Life Master
Rahul	Garga	Chicago IL	Life Master
Melissa	Graves	Chicago IL	Life Master
Melissa	Graves	Chicago IL	Bronze Life Master
Sandi	Schlueter	Chicago IL	Ruby Life Master
Joan	Nelson	La Grange IL	Gold Life Master
Cherrolyn	Woolwine	Naperville IL	Diamond Life Master
David	Langer	Buffalo Gr IL	Emerald Life Master

As of July 6, 2025

Leslie	Krohn	Naperville	Junior Master
Robin	Losito	Arlington H	Junior Master
Sebastian	Sadowski	Hinsdale	Junior Master
Deirdre	Brekke	Chicago	Club Master
Nancy	Kieffer	Palatine	Club Master
Vanessa	Klugman	River Fores	Club Master
Nesrine	Maalouf	Chicago	Club Master
Laurene	McMahon	Hinsdale	Club Master
Christophe	Staszak	Orland Parl	Club Master
Beth	Sulfridge	Glen Ellyn	Club Master
David	Swartz	Oakbrook T	Club Master
Margaret	Swartz	Oakbrook T	Club Master
Dean	Pappas	Evanston	Sectional Master
Robert	Zaun	Mundelein	Sectional Master
Richard	Greenthal	Chicago	Regional Master
Richard	Kern	Grayslake	NABC Master
Tricia	Fox	Chicago	Adv NABC Master
Sallie	Hamm	Mundelein	Life Master
Rosede	Olson	Chicago	Gold Life Master



## Bulgarian-Born Aleks Lishkov Brings Exceptional Talent to Chicago by Jamie Rubenstein

Chicagoan **Aleksander Lishkov**, a Princeton graduate with a degree in mathematics, has caught our attention. He is dedicated to promoting bridge to players at all levels, concentrating on college age newbies.

Says Aleks, "If the game is to survive, we need more young people to get involved. Partnering less experienced players "is fun and winning masterpoints with those who appreciate it is rewarding."

Literally, Aleks brings to the CCBA a "world" of experience playing online and in scores of clubs and that include at least 30 in England, with others scattered across the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Italy, and, of course, Sofia, his home town. By his own tally, Lishkov, a prolific traveler with more than 8,000 MPs, counts 80+ partners from Singapore to Amsterdam with 20-30 in metro Chicago.

Now 39, he started playing bridge at 16 in high school when "a biology teacher offered to teach us how to play." Neither of his parents played and they were of the belief that the game was "gambling."

Current bridge partner, David Joyce of Kenilworth, extolls Aleksa's "very pleasant demeanor" at the table while reminding us that Aleks "represented Unit 123 at the Toronto Nationals last summer."

For his part, Aleks expresses pride in winning several regional events in Great Britain, becoming a European Grand Master, the highest rank in the English field. Among his youthful achievements, Aleks played on the Princeton bridge team and qualified for the collegiate finals in 2006-2007. He claims today's players bid and play very fast, confident in their abilities and more friendly at the table. In Europe, the biggest clubs conduct well organized games with competent well-schooled directors.

Aleks has found the experience playing at Chicago clubs "very pleasant and enjoyable."

Overseas, his favorite bridge venue is Singapore, "a small country that has several active bridge clubs with a lot of young players unlike any other country I've been to." He adds that the players "are all fairly competent."

One of Aleks's past partners, Linda Sweig, Sun Lakes, AZ, recalls how much she learned from him, adding, "I loved being dummy so I could watch him play a hand."

David Schroeder, president of Chicago Duplicate Bridge Club, said, "I find Aleks funny" adding that Aleks is such a good player that "ordinary bridge can be boring for him."

When available, Aleks has been an active participant in the successful "Mentor/Mentee" monthly games at Chicago Duplicate Bridge Club which pairs experienced and novice players for hands-on teaching at the table. In partnering with Aleks, many of the South Loop participants have come from the University of Chicago, DePaul and Northwestern campuses.

Left to Right (years ago):

Simon Cope, Richard Bowley, James Thrower and  
**Aleksander Lishkov**, winners of the Northern Midweek  
Congress in Europe



**Unit 123 Labor Day Sectional  
Weber Leisure Center  
9300 Weber Park Place, Skokie  
August 29th—September 1st, 2025**

**Friday, Aug 29**

10:00 am Pair/Team Game

3:00 pm Pair/Team Game

**Saturday, Aug 30**

10:00 am Pair/Team Game

3:00 pm Pair/Team Game

**Sunday, Aug 31**

10:00 am Pair/Team Game

10:00 am Chicago Invitational Pairs Qualifying\* (2-session event... sold as such)

3:00 pm Invitational Pairs Final with Barometer Scoring

3:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs

\*Both players MUST have been invited to play... prior qualification is required

All pairs MUST pre-register with Adrienne Cohen (contact information below)

**Monday, Sept 1** Swiss Team - six 7-board matches with short lunch break after the 3rd match

**Entry Fees:** \$14.00/session \$7.00 students with proper I/D \$56.00/team/session

**Stratifications:** C: 0-1000; B: 0-3500; A: Unlimited

**Between Sessions!  
SATURDAY ALERT:  
Free Diebel lecture,  
Certain treat!  
Eat a quick lunch &  
Claim a good seat!**



**Tournament Chair:**  
Steve Donahue  
spd47@aol.com  
630-290-3457

**Assistant Chair:**  
Bob Maxson  
bishopmaxson@yahoo.com  
630-220-3217

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

**Invitational Pairs Chair:**  
Adrienne Cohen  
dolly370@aol.com  
630.699.5050

With starting times at 10 and 3  
Grabbing lunch comes easily.

Lots of choices ... your discretion.  
Hurry back for second session!!



# News...

## Sites:

The CCBA is pleased to announce that David Joyce has found us a potentially viable spot for our upcoming tournaments now that White Eagle is on the market.

The new site, the Irish American Heritage Center (IAHC), 4626 N. Knox, is in the city of Chicago, more centrally located within the Unit. The parking is free. The first tournament to be held at the venue would be WinterFest 2026.

David Joyce, Betsy Downs and Jan Churchwell surveyed the property on behalf of the Board of Directors. Betsy took photos of the available rooms:



There are three possible play rooms... one is large enough to accommodate a tournament of current proportions... the other two may be used in combination to afford the players and the directors adequate space for up to our expected number of tables. The lighting is good. The committee will continue to vet other venues before making the final decision.

Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

# "Hand"y ... Dandy!

Dealer East. East-West vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
1♠	2♠	3♠	1♦
Pass	4♣	Pass	Pass
All Pass			

North's cue bid of 2♠ promised a limit raise or better in diamonds. His bid of 4♣ was a long-suit game try.

West began with ace-king of spades. Declarer ruffed low then cashed the ace of trumps, and was pleased that both defenders followed. As the entries to the closed hand outside of clubs were in trumps, declarer continued with a low heart to dummy's king. East took this with the ace and returned a heart to dummy's jack. Next, declarer led a low trump to his ten, noting that both defenders followed.

Accordingly, declarer drew the last trump with his queen, leaving the king of trumps in dummy. Rather than play on clubs, declarer cashed the queen and ten of hearts, throwing two low clubs from dummy while West parted with two spades.

Declarer now reflected on the bidding and play to date. East had shown up with eight cards in the red suits, leaving five in the blacks. The auction suggested that spades were not 7=3 (then East would probably have bid less and West a little more). If East had five spades, and a void in clubs, he would have bid game in spades! So, East had surely begun with a 4=5=3=1 distribution, leaving West with an original 6=2=2=3 shape.

As a result of these musings, declarer cashed his king of clubs then led a low club towards dummy. When West followed with the nine of clubs declarer called for dummy's ten. Once that held, declarer had eleven tricks.

Of interest is that the play in 5♦ allowed declarer to

gather enough information about the defenders' hands to determine that clubs were likely 3=1 – something that would not have been possible in 5♣.

Dealer North. East-West vulnerable.

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

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

At both tables in a team game, the auction to 4♥ was identical. In both cases, South's rebid of 2NT was a forcing enquiry and 3♥ promised a minimum hand with four-card support.

The ten of clubs was led at both tables. At the first table, the declarer played without any discernible thought. He took the lead in hand with the jack of clubs then led the queen of trumps, running it when West followed low. East won the king of trumps and returned a club. West ruffed this and exited safely with his remaining trump. As the cards lay, declarer could not avoid the loss of two diamond tricks, and so finished down one.

At the other table, declarer noted that dummy's nine of clubs pointed to the lead being from shortage. Declarer saw that if it was a singleton and East had the king of trumps then he was in danger of losing four tricks – a trump, a club ruff and two diamonds. So, before touching trumps, he cashed the ace and king of spades and then ruffed dummy's remaining spade with the jack of trumps. Next, he played ace and another trump to East's king, unblocking his queen. The club return was indeed ruffed by West, but now that player was endplayed as he held a spade and five diamonds in the six-card ending. So, whatever West led at this point would allow declarer to hold his diamond losers to one.

(Continued on page 8)

At the table, West played ace and another diamond. Declarer now claimed ten tricks: two spades, a spade ruff, three trumps, a diamond and three clubs.

You should note that this plan would still succeed when West had king-third of trumps. If West began with the ace of diamonds there would be no club ruff. If he did not, the defence would take at most two more tricks - the ace of diamonds and a club ruff.

If trumps had been 4=1 declarer would still survive if West had the ace of diamonds.

**Dealer South. Both sides vulnerable.**

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	3NT	All Pass	1NT <sup>15-17</sup>

West led the queen of hearts. Declarer took this with dummy's ace then crossed to hand with a low club to his ace to run the queen of diamonds. Alas for him, East produced the king of diamonds. Declarer ducked the heart continuation to West's jack. On winning the continuation of the nine of hearts with his king, declarer ran his four diamond tricks and then led a low club to dummy's ten. East won this with his jack and shifted to a spade. Now declarer decided that nine of hearts was a signal that he held a spade card and cut his losses by winning the ace of spades for his eighth and last trick.

South bemoaned his misfortune but North was having none of it. "Yes, if the king of diamonds had been onside or East held the king of clubs without the jack you would have made the contract. However, instead of focusing on what could go right (the diamond finesse) you should have turned your attention to the best option for developing a ninth trick if the diamond king was offside.

"Once you think along those lines you should recognise that the best hope for an extra trick outside of diamonds is in spades. So, after winning the first trick with the ace of hearts, you should lead a spade to the ten. As the cards lay, West would take this with the king and likely shift to a club. Now, after winning this with your ace of clubs, you run the queen of diamonds to East's king. Then, after winning the heart return with the king, you would cross to dummy with a diamond and take a second spade finesse. After that wins, you have nine tricks: two spades, two hearts, four diamonds and a club."

**Dealer North. East-West vulnerable.**

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

In the above auction, 2♦ was game force and 3♠ set that suit as trumps. After three cue bids, South used Roman Key Card Blackwood to drive to 6♠.

West led the ten of hearts. When dummy went down declarer saw that he would have twelve tricks if trumps were not 4-0. If West had four trumps, he would need some luck to bring home a twelfth trick. However, declarer saw that if East had four trumps then there was a way to avoid relying on a somewhat unlikely squeeze. After winning the first trick with dummy's ace of hearts, declarer ruffed a heart as a matter of routine technique. Only then did he lead a low trump to dummy's queen. When West discarded a heart, declarer won the trick with dummy's queen of trumps and then ruffed a second heart. The fall of East's third heart honor suggested that the suit was 5=3, so declarer continued with the king and ace of clubs before ruffing a club in hand (rather than ruffing a third heart which would give East the chance to pitch from his doubleton club and scuttle the contract).

Next declarer cashed his ace-king of trumps, discarding a diamond from dummy. It was a four-card ending: declarer had a trump and his untouched diamonds while East was down to three diamonds and the master trump. Declarer cashed his ace and dummy's king of diamonds, reducing everyone to two cards.

When declarer led a card from dummy East was caught in a trump coup: if he discarded, declarer would make his seven of trumps. Things would be no better if East ruffed high, for declarer would throw a diamond and take the last trick with his remaining trump.

While declarer could still make the contract as the cards lay if he had not ruffed a heart at trick two, he would have had to read a complicated ending. The elegance of declarer's chosen plan was that the play was almost automatic after the queen was cashed at trick three.

# Winning With Wimpy by Jim Diebel

Some of you may believe that there is an entity who looks out for the slow-witted. There's little that infuriates me more than someone who makes some insane bid that by all rights deserves be doubled and go down a small fortune – and instead gets bailed out by a dummy that has every perfect card possible and a defensive lie of the cards that allows the contract to either make or be a profitable save. Bad bids should be punished. Here is my story, and I'm not proud of it.

Playing in a regularly scheduled team game, I picked up:

♠T7642 ♥AKJT65 ♦Q6 ♣---

My regular partner was out of town, Bob Maxson sat in for him.  
Board 14, East Dealer, No one Vul.



<u>East</u>	<u>South (Bob)</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>North (me)</u>
	1S	2D	?

With 5 card trump support, first round control of clubs, and a source of trick in hearts, I felt slam prospects were strong, unless we had two quick diamond losers. Blackwood would not provide me that answer. How could I find out what I needed to know? In a burst of inspiration, I jumped to 5S. In most auctions, a free raise to 5 of a major generally asks for 2<sup>nd</sup> round control of either the only unbid suit, or the opponents' overcalled suit.

My hopes were slipping when Bob went into the tank. Clearly, he wasn't certain what I was asking. After several uncomfortable seconds, Bob bid 6H. This was doubled by East and I figured that if 6S could make, 6H would probably make as well. No sense pulling 6Hx to 6S. If I was going to succeed, I might as well succeed doubled!

LHO led the ♥2 and I saw this hand:

♠ T7642  
♥ AKJT65  
♦ Q6  
♣ ---  
  
♠ KQJ  
♥ Q873  
♣ 532  
♦ 876

This was not the hand I had envisioned my partner holding. I went back and looked at the auction. To my horror, this is what I saw:

<u>East</u>	<u>South (Bob)</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>North (me)</u>
1S	Pass	2D	5S
Pass	6H	DBL	All Pass

Poor Bob! Even if he entertained the possibility that 5S was natural, his own holding (♠ KQJ) made it impossible. Having no idea what I wanted from him, he bid the only thing he had with 6H. Had 6H not been doubled, I would have almost certainly gone back to 6S.

Bob drew a second round of trump and in short order lost a spade and 2 diamonds going down two.  
-300 when we were cold for 4H. It looked like a 12 IMP loss.

(Wimpy, Continued from page 9)

At the other table, the auction went quite differently.

<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>
Pass!	Pass	1D	4H
4S	5H	6C	All Pass

The whole hand:

	♠ T7642		
	♥ AKJT65		
	♦ Q6		
	♣ ---		
♠ ---		♠ A9853	
♥ 2		♥ 94	
♦ AKJ764		♦ T9	
♣ KT9432		♣ AQJ5	
	♠ KQJ		
	♥ Q873		
	♠ 532		
	♠ 876		

**Jim Diebel** not only writes for the Kibitzer and serves on the Board of Directors of District 13, but also runs one of the most successful club games in the Western suburbs. In his “free time,” he gives bridge lessons on and off line.

As a Unit volunteer, Jim lectures newbies between sessions at least once/tournament at most Unit 123 tournaments. One of the highlights at the upcoming Labor Day Sectional will be Jim’s lecture on Saturday between sessions.

If looking for lessons or wanting an opportunity to meet Jim in person, you may email him at Wimpy@wimpy.biz for more information.

As is easily seen, 6C is unbeatable. Our teammates took their one heart trick and 920 was chalked up in short order. Instead of losing 12 IMPs, we gained 12 IMPs.

(-300 at one table and +920 at the other; +620 = 12 IMPs).

It’s better to be lucky than good.

Ed. Note: Good save, Bob!



**Interim Acting Kibitzer Staff:**  
CCBA Communications Committee:  
Suzi Subeck, Editor  
Jan Churchwell  
Jamie Rubenstein

**Breaking News!  
Congratulations!  
You make us proud!**

**Flight C GNT Winners in Philadelphia at the NABC:**  
District 13 Team **Fisk** defeated the Li team from D24 (New York) 145–55 in 3/4.  
*Winners of the MacNab Grand National Teams Flight C, from District 13 (Chicago, Wisconsin, Upper Michigan): (L to R) Ranmit Pantle, captain Ben Fisk, Rahul Garga, Manmit Pantle.*

Overheard at a recent game: North: “Are we playing upside down or right side up falsecards??”

# Upcoming Special Club Games

Aug 1	Chicago Duplicate Bridge Friday - 12:15	750 + Open Clare Game
Aug 1	St. Charles Duplicate Bridge Friday - 11:00	NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS
Aug 1	The Clare Friday - 12:30	No Game
Aug 2	Community Bridge Club Saturday - 11:00	club champ
Aug 3	Northwestern Sunday - 11:00	No game at Northwestern
Aug 3	Chicago Duplicate Bridge Sunday - 11:00	game TBD
Aug 4	Lawson Bridge Studio Monday - 18:20	North American Pairs Club Qualifying
Aug 4	Chicago Duplicate Bridge Monday - 12:15	Club Championship
Aug 4	Calumet DBC Monday - 11:00	NAP
Aug 4	Hinsdale Monday - 12:00	NAP Qualifier-Earn Red and Black Points!
Aug 5	Chicago Duplicate Bridge Tuesday - 18:30	Club Championship
Aug 6	Chicago Duplicate Bridge Wednesday - 12:15	Club Championship
Aug 6	Fox Bridge Wednesday - 11:00	NAP
Aug 6	Lawson Bridge Studio Wednesday - 18:20	North American Pairs Club Qualifying
Aug 6	HealthTrack DBC Wednesday - 12:15	Club Championship
Aug 6	Community Bridge Club Wednesday - 11:00	no game
Aug 7	Chicago Duplicate Bridge Thursday - 12:15	Club Championship
Aug 7	Chicago Duplicate Bridge Thursday - 18:30	Club Championship
Aug 7	Hinsdale Thursday - 12:00	Club Championship=Earn Extra Points/!
Aug 7	Tom's Game Thursday - 10:30	NAP Qualifier

## Do you know the meaning of "8 ever, 9 never?"

If declarer and dummy hold 8 trumps between them, finesse for the queen. If declarer and dummy have 9 trumps between them, play for the 2-2 split!

## IMPORTANT Update:

**Stan Subeck Central States Regional  
Schedule:**

### Thursday October 16

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

### Friday October 17

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

### Saturday October 18

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

### Sunday October 19

10 playthru  
Open Swiss (stratified)  
Gold Rush Swiss (stratified)

### Please save the dates!

**We have lost our site and are in the  
process of searching for an alternative.**

The tournament WILL take place. Please  
watch your email for more information  
as it becomes available.



Tournament Chair: Suzi Subeck  
stansubeck@prodigy.net

Partnership Chair: Jan Churchwell  
Jan8242@gmail.com

# Windy City Regional Wrap-Up

The Windy City Regional in Niles got off to a great start on July 9th. There were some memorable happenings that will forever make this tournament special. For one, **Greg Smith** of Long Grove, with a variety of partners won every single Gold Rush event! Quite an accomplishment, Greg!

On day one, Wednesday, there were 25 tables in the Open and 8 in the Gold Rush. **Zhaofeng Wang**, Evanston, and **Ronnie Smith**, Glenview, were 1st overall in the Open Pair's event. The aforementioned **Greg Smith**, and **Sallie Hamm**, Mundelein, won the Gold Rush.

Thursday's IMP Pairs had 20 tables. Thursday's Gold Rush had 8.5. **Meyer Abarbanel**, Mundelein, and **James Hudson**, Cambridge, WI, won the IMP Pairs while **Dennis Jennings**, Lake Forest, and again **Greg Smith**, Long Grove, won the Gold Rush

Friday's Gold Rush had 8.5 tables, and again, **Greg Smith**, Long Grove, won, this time with **Gary Kamin**, Sun Prairie, WI. **David Bogolub**, Deerfield, and **Rick Schoenfield**, Westchester, were 1st overall in Open.

On Saturday, there was an Open Swiss. 30 teams entered and **Rahul Garga**, Chicago, **Avery Wang**, Chicago, **Julie Arbit**, Michigan, and **Ariel Smid**, Mexico, won. Saturday's Gold Rush was a Pair's event with 7.5 tables. Again, **Greg Smith**, Long Grove, and **Gary Kamin**, Sun Prairie, WI claimed victory.

On Sunday, the only event was a Fast Pairs with 21 tables. **Wayne Snider** and **Jim Phillips** were 1st overall.

Several states were represented over the course of the five days of play, among them: Florida, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, and Missouri.

Where countries were concerned, besides the USA, Mexico had one representative, **Ariel Smid**, who, as mentioned above, won the Open Swiss.

Credit to tournament chair, **Betsy Downs**, for her unwavering commitment to promoting the event!

