

CBA Mentoring Program



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Don't miss the fun opportunity. **Sign up today!**



Ubiquitous 3NT by Steve Moese Tue 4/22

Board 4	♠ A3			
West	♥ 97643			
Deals	♦ 1095			
Both Vul	♣ 1042			
♠ QJ		N	♠ K10982	
♥ J52		W	♥ KQ	
♦ KQ8642		E	♦ A7	
♣ Q6		S	♣ A953	
E 5N; 5♦;	♠ 7654			
W 4N; 4♦;	♥ A108			
EW 4♣; 2♣;	♦ J3			
1♥	♣ KJ87			
W	N	E	S	
1♦	P	2N	P	
3♠ ¹	P	3N	AP	

Bob Hamman famously advocates playing 3NT whenever that contract is a possibility. Here is a hand that proves the point. Assume 2/1 GF bidding.

Bidding – West deals and opens 2♦ weak. This is a maximum in apparent HCP but suffers two flaws – the ♠QJ and the ♣Q6 are not full valued unless partner holds honors in those suits. East

responds 2N. If you play Ogust you respond 3♣ showing good hand (top half of range) and good suit (2 of the top 3 Honors). If you play feature responses you have a decision. 3♦ shows a minimum hand. A feature is usually a side A or K. Here the hand is so good that 3♣ is probably the least-worst bid. 3♣ and 3♥ are inferior fragments, and 3N overstates the quality of the ♦ suit.

Opening Lead – South will lean toward leading a black suit. A ♠ is safer than a ♣, and partner shouldn't have more than 6 HCP (They contracted for a 25 HCP game, and you hold 9 HCP, leaving 6 for partner – good practice to estimate partner's strength on every hand). Assume the lead of the ♠7. Why the 7? Best to lead 4th from an Honor (A, K, Q and high from a suit you don't want partner to return).

Play – North will win the ♠ A and switch to either a ♥ or a ♣. Declarer starts making a plan. East can count 4 top tricks with 3 more if ♦s behave (odds are they will). With 7 tricks counted, it's easy to see playing on ♠s is best as once the A is driven out, there are 4 more tricks in the suit. If North switches to a ♥, defense can cash their Ace. Declarer can count 11 tricks from that

4/22 - FM Leaders

1st OA: **Charlie Kobida & Ann Blomberg** (63.4%)
2nd QA: **Evelyn McCarthy & Joan Diers** (60.3%)



Bring your Questions, Hands, Ideas. Let's learn together!

Tues Eve 6:30 PM Sharp!



CBA Newcomer Games – Play Often!

Mon 7 PM	Tue 11 AM	Tue 7 PM	Fri 11 AM	Sat 10-12 AM
		Let's Talk BRIDGE 6:30 PM	Free Lesson 10:30 AM	Supervised Play



Events at the Cincinnati Bridge Center

- Friday 4/25 NLM & Open games 11 AM. Lecture 10:15 AM..
- **Swiss Teams** Tues AM 4/22. Join the fun! Thursday Evenings in May are SWISS TEAM games – Practice for the Flying Pig!!
- **April Flyer** –CBC, NKy, and Anderson offer Charity games & Club Championships with EXTRA MASTERPOINTS!
- Saturday May 3 – **New 2 Bridge!** 9 – Noon. **FREE!** 1st 16 people. Tell a friend. More new players = more fun!



Area Tournaments

Indianapolis, IN Sectional	May 2-4
Lexington, KY Sectional	May 16-18
Cincinnati OH NLM Sectional	May 24-25
Cincinnati Flying Pig Regional	June 2-8
ACBL Tournaments http://tournaments.acbl.org/display.php	

point. If North switches to a ♣, declarer will be tempted to “finesse” the ♠K. **DON'T DO IT!** This is a practice finesse – a finesse which if it works adds nothing to your trick total. Count East's tricks on the ♣ lead. East can see 6♦, 1♣, 4♠ for 11 tricks. If the ♣ finesse loses, East still has to lose the ♥A. Take your 11 tricks and run.

Post Mortem – A ♣ opening lead allows East to develop 11-12 tricks (the defense has to cash their aces immediately or lose one of them). Declarer succeeds in making 11 tricks here by staying focused on the trick count and away from practice finesses. Change West's hand to

Bd 4	Scores		MPs	
	NS	EW	NS	EW
2 ♠ E	200	2	0	
3 NT W	660	0.5	1.5	
3 NT E	660	0.5	1.5	
3 NT E 100	3.67	0.33		
3 ♦ E	110	2	2	
3 ♦ W	150	0.33	3.67	

♠ K3 ♥ 1052 ♦ KQ8642 ♣ K6 and this 11 HCP opens 1♦ (2 Quick Tricks).

Newcomer News — by Mike “Keeping Fun On My Convention Card” Purcell 513 702 4007

In just over a week we will be having our first free New to Bridge (NTB) Event Saturday May 3rd from 9am to noon. If you have friends who have an interest in learning bridge, this is a great event to invite them to. To attend they only need to register with me at mikpur@cinci.rr.com or 513 702 4007. Note we will still have our regular Sat Supervised Play Session May 3rd as well.

Here is the schedule for the next few Saturdays:

Apr 26 - Pat Hoffman and Phyllis Bishop
 May 3 - Bob Fisk and Pat Hoffman
 May 10 - Lorna Davis and Barb Levinson

New 2 Bridge!
 Bring your friends.
Sat May 3, 9-Noon
FREE!



This week we look at a hand where it pays to compete.

Board 6 ♠ 9 3
 East Deals ♥ A K 10 7 2
 E-W Vul ♦ A 10 7
 ♣ 8 6 2

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

♠ K J 7 4
 ♥ J 9 5
 ♦ Q J 4 3 2
 ♣ 10

NS 4♥; 4♦;
 EW 2♣; 1♠

(Tuesday 4/22)

Bidding – East with 13 HCP and no five card major will open their best minor, in this case 1♣ (12+ HCP, 3+ clubs). West with 8 HCP and no four card major will respond 1NT (6-9 HCP, no four card major) or 2♣ (6-9 HCP, 5+ cards). North has 11 HCP and 5 good hearts. Most would open this hand with 3 quick tricks and you should compete here too with a 2♥ call. Regardless if East competes to 3♣, South with 10 support points should at least raise to 3♥ (6-9 support points, 3+ hearts) or possibly cue bid a limit raise if a 3♣ is available. The bidding will end at 3♥ at most tables as North does not have enough support points to take a limit raise response from partner to game.

Play of the Hand – On a ♣4 lead (fourth best) from East, declarer has 7 losers (2♠, 1♥, 1♦,

3♣). Declarer can ruff two clubs in dummy, finesse the spade suit to win the ♠K and the heart suit to capture the ♥Q. This play will allow you to make 10 tricks for +170.

Post Mortem – Do not be afraid to compete at the 2 level and where warranted the 3 level. More often than not this is winning bridge.

Contract	Scores		Matchpoints	
	Bd 6	NS EW	NS	EW
3♥ N	200		2	0
3♥ N	170		1	1
3♦ S	130		0	2
2♣ E	100		3.67	0.33
3♣ E		110	1.17	2.83
2♣ E		110	1.17	2.83

Looking to improve your game? If you have an Intel Computer we highly recommend the free software offered by the ACBL and developed by Mr. Fred Gitelman. Check it out at: <https://web.acbl.org/LearnToPlayBridge/>