

THE KIBITZER August 2009

A NEWSLETTER OF THE CONNECTICUT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

Volume 13 • Number 3



Don't Panic!

by Harold Feldheim

In his very entertaining book "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy," Douglas Adams points out that one of the major reasons for the Guide's popularity was the words, DON'T PANIC, embossed in large friendly letters on the book's cover. Bridge players might do well to remember this maxim, especially when something nasty, unlikely, and unfriendly happens during a hand.

The scene is the 1963 Norwegian team championship. Seated South was Rolf Jerman, a wild and wooly bridge expert whose style combined the very best features of an RAF pilot coupled with the Hideous Hog. The scene is set. In a rather close match, the following monster came up:

Dealer: North
Vulnerability: Both

NORTH
♠ K 10 4
♥ K 7 6
♦ 10 7 6 4 2
♣ 6 2

WEST
♠ J 8 5 3 2
♥ 9 5 4
♦ 3
♣ 10 7 4 3

EAST
♠ 9
♥ J 10 3 2
♦ A K Q J 9 8 5
♣ 8

SOUTH
♠ A Q 7 6
♥ A Q 8
♦ ---
♣ A K Q J 9 5

North	East	South	West
Pass	3NT	6♣	Pass
Pass	6♦	6♠	(All Pass)

The bidding:

Clearly, East's 3NT was of the gambling variety and South, with this two loser hand, chose a direct leap to slam in clubs. East decided to take advantage of the vulnerability by bidding six diamonds, counting on no worse than -1100; a useful 7 IMP pickup against the potential -1370. Not to be outdone, South pressed on to six spades, gratefully passed by West, ending the auction. Before proceeding to the play, there's an interesting and subtle partnership point to the bidding. Over six diamonds, South could pass! Logic dictates that a vulnerable South was bidding out of strength and the pass would suggest the possibility of a grand slam. Whether or not North would have picked up this inference and continued with seven clubs or the safer route by doubling six diamonds is an unsolvable riddle but in any case, the final contract was six spades.

The play:

West led a diamond, ruffed in the closed hand. South led the ♠A followed by a spade to the king, discovering the bad news. Knowing that the match was on the line, declarer didn't panic and settled down to finding the only lie of the cards that could produce 12 tricks. Hoping for the best, South began to lead high clubs.

When East showed out on the second club, he knew there was a potential light at the end of the tunnel. After cashing two more clubs, he cashed the ♥AKQ ending in dummy, arriving at the following three card ending with North to play:

NORTH
♠ 10
♥ ---
♦ 10 7
♣ ---

WEST
♠ J 8 5
♥ ---
♦ ---
♣ ---

EAST
♠ ---
♥ J
♦ A K
♣ ---

SOUTH
♠ Q
♥ ---
♦ ---
♣ 9 5

Fully master of the situation, declarer led a diamond from dummy, ruffing with his high trump – West helplessly under-ruffing. Now he led a club towards the dummy and West was powerless to prevent the ten of spades, scoring the 12th trick. The Hideous Hog would be proud!



Our Own Rich DeMartino Elected 2010 ACBL President

The ACBL Board of Directors elected Connecticut's Richard DeMartino as ACBL president for 2010. The election took place during the Board's meetings prior to the beginning of the NABC in Washington, DC. Rich is from Riverside CT and has served as District 25 (New England) Director since 2001. Congratulations, Rich.

-Photo courtesy of Brent Manley and ACBL NABC Daily Bulletin.

Science versus Bashing

by Brett Adler



On most hands, natural bidding systems with very few gadgets will help you get to the same sensible contract as extremely advanced systems. But, occasionally, a hand will come up where an advanced system or gadget will be worth its weight in gold (or worth its weight in slam bonuses).

Recently I was playing with someone I hadn't played with for a while, and with minimal agreements, we bid the following hand in a team match.

I have rotated the hands for convenience.

Dealer: East

Vulnerability: N/S

NORTH

♠ K J 4
♥ K Q J 5 2
♦ A Q 5
♣ A 4

SOUTH

(My hand)
♠ A 6 5 2
♥ A 10 4
♦ K J 7
♣ K 7 3

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♣ ⁽²⁾	Pass	4♠ ⁽³⁾
Pass	5♣ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	5♠ ⁽⁵⁾
Pass	7♥ ⁽⁶⁾	(All Pass)	

Translation...

- (1) Transfer to hearts.
- (2) Roman Key Card asking in support of hearts. 4NT in this sequence would be quantitative; not forcing but inviting a slam and showing a 5-card heart suit.
- (3) Showing two of the five key cards (the key cards are the four aces plus the K♥) without the ♥Q.
- (4) Asking for Kings and guaranteeing all the aces.

- (5) The response shows both missing kings.
- (6) Not an unreasonable "bash" as North believes the hearts should be running and can see 12 top tricks if they do. North can account for 14 points in the South hand (two aces and two kings), so there is easily room for another queen which would guarantee 13 tricks. South may have a 4-card diamond suit, or there may be some sort of squeeze, or the spade finesse may work so there seem plenty of chances for all the tricks. Lastly, North bid 7♥ and not 7NT, in case South's clubs were KJxx and a heart ruff of one of South's small clubs might drop the Q♣, again locking in 13 tricks.

As with a lot of bridge hands, there are many ways to bid the cards. Had I held the North hand I would have bid a simple 5NT over partner's 1NT opening. South would now bid 6NT with a minimum hand, and 7NT with a maximum.

As you can see, 6♥ or 6NT should be the final contract. South has no queens, South doesn't have a 4 card diamond suit, and it would take a miracle for this hand to have any squeeze position so you have to resort to the spade finesse for the 13th trick. Unfortunately, it wasn't successful and we scored up -100 instead of +1430 (worth a loss of 17 IMPs). Had the finesse won, we would have scored 2210 which would have gained 13 IMPs against the small slam bid at the other table. In this case, it is reasonable to believe that the other table, with a combined 35 points, will be in some form of slam. But risking 17 IMPs to gain 13 IMPs on a 50% finesse is far from ideal.

In the title of this article, I referenced scientific bidding/gadgets and it is a shame that I wasn't playing with my regular partner on this hand as we have the method to explore for a grand slam, and then stop in 6NT. Here is how we would have bid the hand:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♣ ⁽²⁾	Pass	4♠ ⁽³⁾
Pass	5♣ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	5♦ ⁽⁵⁾
Pass	6♣ ⁽⁶⁾	Pass	6NT ⁽⁷⁾

(All Pass)

Translation...

- (1) Transfer to hearts.
- (2) Roman Key Card asking in support of hearts.
- (3) Showing two of the five key cards (the key cards are the four aces plus the K♥) without the ♥Q.
- (4) Asking for "specific" kings and guaranteeing all the aces.
- (5) Showing the ♦K which is the cheapest king that can be shown.
- (6) Asking for the ♣K, and by inference showing the ♥K and the ♠K.
- (7) At this stage, South has a number of bids available:
 - a. 6♦ would show the ♣K and the ♦Q, so North can bid 7NT
 - b. Similarly, 6♥, 6♠, or 7♣ by South would show the queen of that suit plus the ♣K again enabling a grand-slam to be bid.
 - c. 6♥ would deny the ♣K
 - d. 6NT would show the ♣K and deny any queens (which is the bid I would make and partner could pass hoping that the 50% finesse loses, and that partner's diamonds aren't KJxx).

How would you and your partner have bid these cards? And, what contract would you have declared? 

Can't Cost – Chapter 20

by John Stiefel



This hand from a recent Knockout is a good illustration of the “Can’t Cost” method.

Dealer: South

Vulnerability: Both

NORTH

♠ K Q
♥ Q 9 4
♦ Q J 4 3 2
♣ K 10 9

SOUTH

♠ A 2
♥ A 8 7 5
♦ A K 6
♣ J 8 7 6

North	East	South	West
		1 NT	Pass

3 NT (All Pass)

West leads: ♠J

The auction was routine and straightforward. South had 16 balanced points with all suits stopped and North had more than enough to bid game but not enough to try for slam.

Unfortunately, despite having 29 high card points in the combined hands,

declarer could count only eight tricks – two spades, one heart, probably five diamonds and one club. The ninth would have to come from a good guess in hearts or clubs. There seemed to be three equally good choices available – a club to the nine, a club to the king or a heart toward to the queen – and they all seemed to present a 50% chance of success.

At one table, declarer won the opening lead in dummy and tested diamonds by leading low to his king. When both opponents followed, he knew he had eight tricks and reasoned that, with three 50% plays to choose from for his ninth trick, he might as well choose the one that would yield an overtrick or two if it were right. So he led a low club to trick 3 and played dummy’s nine when West followed low. Unfortunately, this lost to East’s queen and a spade came back. Declarer tried the effect of running his remaining four diamond tricks, but the defense had no trouble discarding and eventually came to three spade tricks and two club tricks. Down one.

At the other table, declarer realized that it “couldn’t cost” to run his diamond tricks before deciding what to do. So he won trick 1 in dummy and ran the diamonds at tricks 2-6. The opponents had to make five discards. West threw the six of hearts (which seemed high to declarer) and a low club while East threw two hearts and a low club.

Declarer threw a heart and a club. At this point, the opponents only had three hearts left between them, so declarer led a heart to his Ace at trick 7, East playing the jack and West following. Now the opponents had only had one heart left – the king – so it was a sure thing to lead a second round of hearts at trick 8. West took his king, but dummy’s queen was declarer’s ninth trick.

Note that the winning declarer still had a chance to play on clubs if East had started with KJ10x of hearts and West showed out to trick 7. So declarer maximized his chances by postponing the club guess as long as possible and, in the end, he never had to guess clubs.

The full deal was:

NORTH

♠ K Q
♥ Q 9 4
♦ Q J 4 3 2
♣ K 10 9

WEST

♠ J 10 8 3
♥ K 6 2
♦ 9 8 7
♣ A 5 2

EAST

♠ 9 7 6 5 4
♥ J 10 3
♦ 10 5
♣ Q 4 3

SOUTH

♠ A 2
♥ A 8 7 5
♦ A K 6
♣ J 8 7 6



Milestones and Congratulations

New Life Masters

Harry Jancis
Allen Siegel
Susan Swope

Diamond Life Master

(5000 MPs)

Lawrence Lau

Gold Life Master

(2500 MPs)

Frances Schneider
Yeong-Long Shiue

Silver Life Masters

(1000 MPs)

Brett Adler
Elaine McClure
Judith Pyka
Rob Rising
Larry Wallowitz

Bronze Life Masters

(500 MPs)

Vince D’Souza
H. Leland Getz
Elaine Lowell
Jason Rotenberg
Kathleen Rowland
Charles Schnee
Allen Siegel
Marjorie Weiss Simpson
Arline Small



Bridge Forum (Hamden) Second Quarter Results

TUESDAY

Player-of-the-Year: Bob Hawes leads in all three categories, which usually presages a comfortable victory. But four other players rank in the top seven in each category. Jon Ingersoll, Fredda Kelly, Robert Klopp and Louise Wood are all well positioned to make a strong run at the title. The top four pairs are all men, with Jatin Mehta-Hasmukh Shah leading Hawes-Ingersoll and Al Guntermann-Carl Yohans. Rosemarie Tilney is the only player in two of the top ten pairs, ranking seventh with Marie Strickland and eighth with Inge Bellis.

Leonora Stein Memorial Cup:

Four former champions reached the quarterfinals. 2006 winner Bob Hawes had to defeat all of the other three to win the cup, taking out Fredda Kelly, Louise Wood and Robert Klopp in the last three rounds. With his fourth victory, Bob tied Billie Hecker for fifth overall. Bob and Billie are the only two players to have won both Tuesday-only cups twice.

FRIDAY

Player-of-the-Year: This is a more typical competition than Tuesday, with the Consistency category frequently shaking up the overall rankings. Three-time defending PoY Louise Wood is sixth overall. Al Guntermann took the lead for the first time at the end of June, with Carl Yohans and Marge Simson both likely to reclaim the lead soon. Mixed pairs are still dominant, holding down four of the top five positions. Jinny Goggin-Al Guntermann have a fairly comfortable lead. The top women's pair, Muriel Romero-Florence Schannon, have taken over second place from Janice Bruce-Carl Yohans.

Aldyth Claiborn Memorial Cup:

When heavily favored Louise Wood and Billie Hecker both lost in the quarterfinal round, Aldy's favorite partner Muriel Romero seemed as destined to win this cup at last as Roger Federer later would be to win the French Open. Louise's conqueror, Al Guntermann, did a little better in the final than Robin Soderling, but the outcome never seemed to be in doubt.

Muriel's win, her first since 2004, was her fifth, tied with Fredda Kelly and the late Morse Ginsberg. The Claiborn Cup itself kept both its streaks alive, remaining the only cup never to have been won twice by any player and the only cup never to have been won by a man.

TUESDAY/FRIDAY COMBINED

Helen Frank Cup: Marge Simson took and retained the lead until nearly the end of May. After a slow start, Louise Wood went ahead and settled into a comfortable lead. Marge, Carl Yohans and finally Shirley Fruchter kept hold of second place. Two hands in the last week provided some excitement. Louise, who has been undone once or twice by a fondness for grand slams, bid 7NT needing both K964 opposite AQ10 and Q853 opposite AK10 to produce four tricks. When neither did, most of Louise's lead evaporated. During the last game in June, Shirley finally went ahead and had the lead going into the last deal, when Al Guntermann was the only player in the room who made a penalty double of a 1NT overcall. Unfortunately for Shirley, who held ♠954 ♥65 ♦642 ♣J10865, she was not playing that useful escape of redoubling to force partner to bid 2♣, which had a chance if doubled to escape for the needed one down. When 1NT doubled was set three tricks, Louise won the Helen Frank Cup for the fifth time, bringing her overall total to 18.

Updates & Policies Of Shoreline Afiliated Clubs

Club website: www.cuebid.com/blogs/index.php?bid=222 or cuebid.com and look for CT clubs and choose HBC (Hickory B C)

The Shoreline Bridge Club is still managed by Dave Hyatt and meets Mondays at 6:45 PM in the Branford Community Center. You will need a partner but can call 203-506-7753 often as late as 3 PM Monday to arrange a partnership. We play several Swiss Team (you must register beforehand) games during the year (anytime there is a STaC scheduled), and you can see a list of all special games on the cuebid site.

The Branford Bridge Club is now managed by Dave and meets Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the Community Center. We do not play STaC games and a partner is guaranteed (pot luck or play with Dave) though a call beforehand (203-506-7753) often can arrange a partnership that is appropriate. Special games are listed on cuebid.

Both Madison games are at the Old Town Hall (basement) next to the Green in Madison. The Madison Duplicate Bridge Club continues on Tuesday at 7:00 PM and Thursday at 10:00 AM. Tuesday is managed by Sarah Corning (203-453-3933) and Connie Graham (203-421-3500) with a policy of guaranteed partnerships (but a call beforehand would be helpful). They play all STaC and Unit-wide games. Schedule on cuebid (HBC & Madison Tuesday night designations).

Thursday is managed by Dave (203-506-7753) with a policy of partnerships arranged by calling before game time (if you walk in unannounced, there is no guarantee of a partner). We play all STaC games as Swiss Teams (you must register beforehand). Schedule on cuebid.

We welcome all new players to these games (especially summer visitors), but it is a good idea to call in advance. Shoreline BC averages 7 tables, Branford BC averages 8 tables, MDBC Tuesday averages 6/7 tables, and Thursday averages 9 tables. All games are stratified so even the less experienced have a chance for point awards. These games are not appropriate for beginners (Dave runs a small non sanctioned duplicate game Saturday at 12:30 PM that is appropriate for beginners and novices; call 203-506-7753 for information.)

August special games for these clubs are: Monday the 17th Membership (ACBL) Swiss Team Game, Tuesday the 18th Unit-wide (hand records) pair game, Wednesday the 19th Club Championship, and Thursday the 27th Club Championship. Hope to see you there.



Wee Burn News

The annual Trophy games were held in May with the following winners:

Coulter Cup: Ellie Allen-Ann Fuller
Robertson Bowl: Penny Glassmeyer-Betty Hodgman

The partnership of Glassmeyer-Hodgman also prevailed for the Spring Series followed by:

2. Janet Soskin-Kathie Rowland
3. Mary Richardson-Martha Hathaway
4. Betty McCoy-Ann Towne
5. Linda Cleveland-Joan Hoben

Congratulations to the many Wee Burn players who fared well in the June STaC games.

Hartford Bridge Club

Yessiree! The halls of the Hartford Bridge Club are replete with luminaries.

First, our own Doug Doub was a member of the six person team which won the qualifying event in White Plains in June to represent this country as the USA1 team in the World Championship Bermuda Bowl to be held in São Paulo, Brazil starting August 29. Doug's team members are Adam Wildavsky, Fred Stewart, Peter Boyd, Steve Robinson and Kit Woolsey.

This team and a second team called USA2 (which lost its first knockout match and fell into the once-defeated bracket and won the rest of their matches) will go to São Paulo to represent the United States. Approximately 22 teams will compete in the IMP event with a complete round-robin of 16 boards to determine the top eight teams, followed by knock-out rounds of 96, 96 and 128 boards to determine the World Championship team.

Go get 'em Doug!

And, the second blockbuster news concerns nationally-acclaimed bridge author and teacher Michael Lawrence, who will present back-to-back lectures on his expertise at the Hartford Bridge Club on Sunday October 11. The 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM session will address responding to a takeout double, and the 1:00 to 4:30 PM session will feature ten hands of play, their bidding, playing and defense. The cost for the entire day is \$50 and includes lunch. Registration is limited to 125 people.

Lawrence, who spoke at the HBC approximately ten years ago, has written more than twenty books on bridge and has received numerous book-of-the-year awards, including one for his first book "How to Read Your Opponent's Cards."

His accomplishments are legion, among these are his three wins of the Bermuda Bowl and sixteen wins in the North American Bridge Championships.

For more information on this event, please contact Bill Watson or Mike Dworetzky at the HBC. 

RESULTS

Unit-wide Charity Pairs

Monday Morning, May 11, 2009

FLIGHT A EVENT LEADERS

- 1 Marilyn Goldberg - Shirley Gerber
- 2 Aldona Siuta - Pamela Palmer
- 3 Martha Hathaway - Marilyn Tjader
- 4 Craig Bode - Charlotte Zultowsky
- 5 Elizabeth Nagle - Helma Strauss
- 6 Dixie Mastrandrea - Paula Beauchamp
- 7 William Titley - Lothar Stiberth
- 8 Howard Zusman - Jennifer Williams

FLIGHT B EVENT LEADERS

- 1 Aldona Siuta - Pamela Palmer
- 2 Martha Hathaway - Marilyn Tjader
- 3 Donna Christensen - Marilyn Giannos
- 4 Ursula Forman - Ruth Johnson
- 5 Norma Augenstein - Stanley Augenstein
- 6 Mary Ellen McGuire - Nancy Newton

FLIGHT C EVENT LEADERS

- 1 Donna Christensen - Marilyn Giannos
- 2 Ursula Forman - Ruth Johnson
- 3 Mary Ellen McGuire - Nancy Newton
- 4 George Peteros - Robert Kistner
- 5 Gloria Hayes - Susan Schroeder
- 6 Lucille Kerr - Dorothy Sauer

Unit-wide Championship Thursday Evening, July 9, 2009

FLIGHT A EVENT LEADERS

- 1 Bess Economos - Yeong-Long Shiue
- 2 Don Stiegler - Allan Clamage
- 3 A Solomon Fein - Merle Baird-Kerr
- 4 Ted Przedpelski - Dave Fisch
- 5 Margaret Karbovanec - Helen McBrien
- 6 Joel Wolfe - Michael Innes

FLIGHT B EVENT LEADERS

- 1 A Solomon Fein - Merle Baird-Kerr
- 2 Ted Przedpelski - Dave Fisch
- 3 Margaret Karbovanec - Helen McBrien
- 4 Ray Primus - Steve Primus
- 5 Robert Bencker - Michele Raviele
- 6 Annet Bonfanti - Judy Voss

FLIGHT C EVENT LEADERS

- 1 A Solomon Fein - Merle Baird-Kerr
- 2 Ted Przedpelski - Dave Fisch
- 3 Margaret Karbovanec - Helen McBrien
- 4 Ray Primus - Steve Primus
- 5 Annet Bonfanti - Judy Voss
- 6 Ray Craven - Ellen Finch 



Come for the Fun!

Special 199^{er}

Sectional Tournament

Saturday October 3
10:00 AM and 2:30 PM
Ukrainian National Home
921 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford, CT

Stratified Pairs Games

Free Lunch, hand analysis and a bridge lesson between sessions

Win Silver Points, Prizes and Trophies

Mark your calendars now

Information and Pairing

Bill Watson
860-521-5243
nbc199@aol.com

Stratified Games

A: 100-200
B: 50-100
C: 0-50

Entry Fee: \$10 per person per session
\$1 additional for non or unpaid ACBL members
Student Discount \$3/student/session
Instant ACBL membership available

Check www.ctbridge.org for updates and results



Bridge at the Lunatic Fringe Number 12 - Don't Draw Trumps!

Part Three: Trumps Needed for Ruffs

by Allan Wolf

In this article, I'll continue on the theme of reasons to delay pulling trumps.

One of the most common reasons is that trumps are needed for ruffs, typically in the hand that is shorter in trumps, usually the dummy. But with the popularity of transfer bids, declarer's hand may well have the shorter trumps. Witness:

Dealer: South
Vulnerability: None

NORTH
(Warren)
♠ A J 9 7 2
♥ 7 3
♦ 10 7 4
♣ 8 6 4

WEST
(Minna)
♠ 10 6 4
♥ Q J 10
♦ A J 9 8
♣ K 3 2

EAST
(Majorca)
♠ 5 3
♥ 9 8 6 5
♦ K 2
♣ A J 10 9 5

SOUTH
(Prof. Lobochevski)
♠ K Q 8
♥ A K 4 2
♦ Q 6 5 3
♣ Q 7

North (Warren)	East (Majorca)	South (Prof.)	West (Minna)
2♥	Pass	1 NT	Pass
		2♠	(All Pass)

West leads: ♥Q

The bidding involved a standard Jacoby transfer sequence, with the Professor opening the bidding 1 NT, and declaring 2♠ when Warren transferred and passed.

The play was straightforward. Winning the ♥Q opening lead, the Professor started immediately on clubs, paving the way for a ruff of the third round. Note that even one round of trumps before starting the clubs would be a mistake. The defense could then lead trumps when they got in with clubs, and thereby prevent the ruff. Similarly, note that an

initial trump lead could have defeated the contract.

All good players would find this line of play if North were declarer. But having the shorter trumps in declarer's hand often induces a "blind spot", and some would fail in this contract, drawing trumps prematurely.

A similar theme occurs when trumps are needed to keep control of a hand in which the trump holding is tenuous, and the opponents are threatening a tapping defense.

Dealer: South
Vulnerability: North-South

NORTH
(Prof. Lobochevski)
♠ Q 9
♥ 7 3
♦ A 10 7 4
♣ K J 10 8 5

WEST
(Majorca)
♠ 7 6 4 2
♥ Q J 10 4
♦ Q 9
♣ A 3 2

EAST
(Vanessa)
♠ 5 3
♥ A K 9 8 6 5
♦ J 8 2
♣ 7 4

SOUTH
(Minna)
♠ A K J 10 8
♥ 2
♦ K 6 5 3
♣ Q 9 6

The bidding:

South (Minna)	West (Majorca)	North (Prof.)	East (Vanessa)
2♠	4♥	Pass	2♥
		4♠	(All Pass)

West leads: ♥Q

This deal occurred fairly early in Minna's playing career, when as a promising beginner, she had convinced the Professor to take her on as a student, hoping to rapidly elevate her game.

Minna had not yet established her partnership with Majorca, who on this occasion was playing with Vanessa, a tour operator she had met on an

extended tour of Portugal. The two had become friendly, and Vanessa was now staying with Majorca on her visit to the United States.

Vanessa opened a textbook weak 2-bid, and Minna chose to overcall her very good 5-card spade suit, rather than making a take-out double. At favorable vulnerability, Majorca aggressively raised to 4♥, and the Professor, somewhat under the gun, carried on to 4♠.

Minna had never been exposed to a tapping defense before, and to her, the hand looked like she could easily make an overtrick – five trumps, four clubs (after losing one to the Ace), and two diamonds for an easy total of eleven.

So, after a heart lead and continuation, she ruffed the second round, and began to draw trumps. When Vanessa showed out on the third round, Minna suddenly realized the trouble she was in. If she took out the last trump, she also would have no more, and the defense would be able to take several heart tricks when she gave up the ♣A. So she now led clubs to force out the Ace.

But the defense was in control. Winning the ♣A, Majorca persisted with hearts, forcing Minna to ruff, and the hand fell apart, as Majorca now had the only remaining trump.

The hand was an excellent teaching vehicle, as the Professor pointed out two lines of play to counteract the opponents tapping defense, enabling Minna as declarer to survive a 4-2 trump break.

After trumping the heart at trick two, Minna needed to immediately go after clubs, while there were still trumps in the dummy. Now if the defense continued hearts, she could ruff in dummy and preserve the trump holding in her hand. True, the defense could now maneuver a third-round club ruff, but that would be only the third trick for the defense, and Minna would be in control to claim the remainder.

Alternatively, Minna could refuse to trump the second round of hearts, and discard a club or diamond instead. This play would prevent the tap entirely.



2009 Calendar

AUGUST

6	Local (Split) Championship
10	Local (Split) Championship
14-16	Connecticut Summer Sectional, Greenwich, CT
18	Unit-wide Championship #5
25	Local (Split) Championship

SEPTEMBER

2-7	New England Fall Regional, Nashua, NH
9	ACBL-wide Instant Match Point
13	199'er Olympics, Hartford, CT
16	Local (Split) Championship
25	Unit-wide Championship #6

OCTOBER

2-4	Sid Cohen Sectional, Hartford, CT
9	Local (Split) Championship
10-11	NAOP District 25 Finals, Sturbridge, MA
12-18	District 3 Regional, Danbury, CT
31	Local (Split) Championship

NOVEMBER

4-8	New England Regional, Waterbury, CT
10	Local (Split) Championship
18-24	STaC with North Jersey
30	ACBL-wide Charity Game #2
26 - Dec. 6 ACBL Fall Nationals, San Diego, CA	

DECEMBER

2	Unit-wide Championship #7
7	Local (Split) Championship
11-13	Jeff Feldman Memorial Sectional, Hamden, CT

THE KIBITZER

The Kibitzer is published quarterly by the Connecticut Bridge Association, Unit 126 of the American Contract Bridge League.

All comments, news, items related to the bridge world and of interest to our readers are welcome. Please send all items for the next *Kibitzer* by October 15, 2009.

Editor: Tom Proulx
34 Saint Mary's Lane
Norwalk, CT 06851

Phone: 203-847-2426
Email: twproulx@optonline.net

Your CBA

President	Burt Gischner	860-691-1484
Vice President	Phyllis Bausher	203-389-5918
Secretary	Debbie Noack	203-380-0107
Treasurer	Susan Seckinger	860-513-1127
Past President	Ausra Geaski	860-533-7271
Tournament Coordinator		
Unit Coordinator	Don Stiegler	203-929-6595
Recorder	Leonard Russman	203-245-6850

CBA Web site <http://www.ctbridge.org>

Your Link to the Board

If you have something to say, suggest, or complain about, tell your representative, who is a Board member and your link to being heard.

Central	Kay Frangione	860-621-7233
Fairfield	Esther Watstein	203-375-5489
Hartford	Betty Nagle	860-529-7667
Northwestern		
Panhandle	Sandy De Martino	203-637-2781
Southern	Sarah Corning	203-453-3933
Eastern	Ed Sheperd	860-442-7418
Southwestern	Jennifer Williams	203-563-9468
Members-at-Large	Joyce Stiefel	860-563-0722
	Judy Hess	203-255-8790
	Bill Watson	860-521-5243

**You can see The Kibitzer
in blazing color
at the CT bridge site:
<http://www.ctbridge.org>**

**If you would like to receive
The Kibitzer via e-mail, let us
know. Email Tom Proulx at
twproulx@optonline.net**