

9/13 Newcomer 0-30 Leaders!

1st OA: Joanne Oppelt & Lyle Smith (59.7%)

2nd OA: Alfred Bogess & Alice Kitzmiller (58.3%)



9/18 Tuesday Eve Leaders

1st OA: Patricia Burnam & Lisa Eisenstein (58.5%)

2nd OA: Lewis Temples & F. James Hunkler (57.1%)

CBA Seminars	CBA	Date/PM	Who	Topic
	0-30	15 Sep	Phyllis	How Opener
	Sat	12:30	Bishop	Invites - Majors
	99er	25 Sep	Ron	NT Overcalls
	Tue	6:30	Babcock	

CBA NLM Games – Play Often!

Mon NLM 7 PM CBA Wed Homestyle 11:00 AM CBA

Tues 99er 7 PM CBA Wed 199er 6:30 PM NKY BC

Thurs NLM 7 PM CBA 1st Fri 99er 10:00 AM NKY BC

0-30 Sat 1 PM CBA (Lecture at 12:30 PM)

Area Tournaments

Oct 1 - 7 Fort Wayne IN R

Oct 19 - 21 Columbus OH S

Oct 26 - 28 Cincinnati OH (NAP) S/N

For Details go to <http://www.acbl.org/tournament-calendar/>

When facing a difficult bidding decision, make it, and remain emotionally detached. DO NOT undo your decision later in the bidding. Remain consistent. Partner will thank you.

Opener's Problem Hands

By Steve Moese

♠ Before opening, prepare yourself for the bid from partner you least want to hear.

♥ Always choose an opening bid with your next 1-2 bids in mind. Plan your rebid ahead of time.

♦ When choices are bad, make the least bad bid – the one that is more flexible or least likely to hurt our side.

♣ Make your choice and stick with it. DO NOT change strategy later in the bidding.

Assume Standard American or Basic 2/1 bidding (5 Card Majors, 15-17 1NT opening).

You open with ♠Axx ♥KQ1043 ♦KJx ♣Kx

Playing 5-card majors you can open 1♥. Partner responds 1♠ or 1N. If you raise responder to 2N, you promise 18-19 HCP! Opener's 2♥ rebid shows 6 cards. A 2♦ rebid does not show the strength of this hand so responder might rebid 2♥ with ♠Qx ♥Jx ♦Axxxx ♣Qxx or with ♠xx ♥Jx ♦Qxxxx ♣Ax. With the 1st 3N can make, but with the 2nd hand 2♦/♥ is the limit. Responder, not opener, should make the decision.

What to do? The expert opens the bidding with 1NT! This eliminates the rebid risks that opening 1♥ causes with this intermediate strength hand. **When opening 1N with a 5-card major you ALWAYS promise 5332 shape.**

You open with ♠x ♥AQx ♦KQxx ♣J10xxx

If you choose 1♣, and partner bids 1♠, you have to choose between imperfect rebids: 2♣ usually shows a much better suit usually 6 or more cards long; 2♦ shows reverse values (18+ HCP) and is game forcing – you do not hold that hand. 2♥ shows 4 cards suit with reverse values (18+ HCP GF) – you don't hold that one either. You can choose to rebid 1N, but partner will expect at least 2♠ cards. If responder bids 1♥ you can raise ♥ on 3-cards. Whenever you have 3 trumps and a singleton in a side suit, raising partner's major is a good rebid. **NEVER jump-raise partner with only 3-card support.** Look what happens if you open 1♦: Now you can rebid 2♣ over responder's 1-level bids (retaining your option to call 1N over 1♠ by partner) and you have shown the strength and shape with accuracy.

You open with ♠AQx ♥AQx ♦x ♣AQJxxx

If you open 1♣ and partner rebids 1♥/♠/N, a jump to 3♣ shows 15-17. You hold 19 HCP and a 4-loser hand. This hand calls for a Jump Shift or Reverse. Partner will expect 4-cards if you reverse or J/S (18+ HCP GF). 2♦ is a reverse but misdescribes your shape too much. Experts play 1 of 2 solutions: 1) Agree that you might reverse or J/S into a 3-card suit after opening 1 of a minor. This means partner will raise your major and you need to deny holding 4-cards – usually by returning to your original suit (“I have a stronger than 17 HCP jump rebid partner”); 2) **Open this 4-loser hand 2♣.** This simplifies your rebids. We can still get to 3N and our constructive bidding is easier.

Now try these hands. How would you open the bidding?

- 1) ♠KQ ♥KQ ♦J10xxx ♣J10xx
- 2) ♠Kxx ♥QJ ♦10xxxx ♣AQJx
- 3) ♠AJxxx ♥KQxxx ♦x ♣xx
- 4) ♠x ♥xx ♦KQxxx ♣AJxxx
- 5) ♠x ♥QJxx ♦10xxx ♣AKQJ
- 6) ♠AKxx ♥KQxxx ♦xx ♣xx
- 7) ♠KQxx ♥x ♦10xxx ♣AQJx

Make your choices then check out the discussion on the next page.

You Open With:	Considerations
♠KQ ♥KQ ♦J10xxx ♣J10xx	Passing this poor 12 count is an option, even opposite a passed partner. Too many HCP in doubletons, not enough strength in our length. Change this to ♠J10 ♥J10 ♦KQxx ♣KQxxx now our KQs are pulling full weight in long suits.
♠Kxx ♥QJ ♦10xxxx ♣AQJx	No Majors. If partner passed, you might have only 10 working HCP (♥QJ not working). Passing now then balancing later works. Opening 1♦ is ok.
♠AJxxx ♥KQxxx ♦x ♣xx	Open 1♠. We have the majors. Rule of 22: 10 cards in longest suits + 10 working HCP +2 Quick tricks (A and KQ) = 22. When the total is ≥ 22, OPEN!
♠x ♥xx ♦KQxxx ♣AJxxx	Rule of 22 says open, but who has the majors? If partner has passed, they likely have the majors or we have a misfit. Passing is OK! When they outrank us, don't disclose distribution since they will likely declare. The less they know about your shape the better our result!
♠x ♥QJxx ♦10xxx ♣AKQJ	Tempting to open 1♣. However when partner rebids 1♠ we have a difficult rebid (2♦/H are reverses and 1N distorts our shape. Open 1♦ to prepare the 2♣ rebid
♠AKxx ♥KQxxx ♦xx ♣xx	In Standard, opening 1♥ works fine. In 2/1, if partner makes a Forcing 1NT reply, we must rebid 2♣ on 2-card suit (2♠ is a reverse 18+ HCP GF). Solution: consider opening 1♠! (or play 1N Semi forcing where opener passes any hand that would not accept a 3-card limit raise). You can safely rebid 2♥ over 1N. Besides it's good to practice playing 4-3 trump fits.
♠KQxx ♥x ♦10xxx ♣AQJx	♣s are stronger than ♦s. Assume you open 1♣. If partner responds 1♦ you can rebid 1♠. If partner responds 1♥ you can rebid 1♠, intending to pass if responder rebids 1NT (6-10 HCP). If partner responds 1N you cannot make a safe rebid with this minimum hand. Passing might leave you open to a ♥ suit attack. This is risky when Vulnerable at pairs – we can't score -200! While opening 1♦ seems initially misleading, it caters to all possible responses including 1N (you can rebid 2♣). The downside? Partner will think you hold ♦ points. This one's a toss-up!

Newcomer News 0-30 – Mike Purcell 513 702 4007 mikpur@cinci.rr.com

3 tables this past Saturday. Congratulations to our winners:

1st **Joanne Oppelt & Lyle Smith** 59.72%; 2nd **Alfred Boggess & Alice Kitzmiller** 58.33%; 3rd **Beth Wales & Rosemary Frank** 55.56%

[Full results for Saturday's game](#) We had a few new players Saturday: **Grace Doran, Dave Elliott and Marlene Carter**. Always great to see new players!

This Saturday (9/22) Phyllis Bishop will be giving a seminar on **Invitational Bidding by Opener – Majors**. I will be running the Saturday game. Hope to see you there!

This week we look at a slam hand from Saturday.

Board 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ 7 4
♥ Q 6 3
♦ A 9 5
♣ J 10 7 5 3

♠ Q 10
♥ A K J 9 4
♦ K J 8 3
♣ A 6

	N	
W		E
	S	

NS 6N; 6♠;
6♥; 5♦; 5♣

♠ A K J 6 5
♥ 10 2
♦ Q 7
♣ K Q 9 4

♠ 9 8 3 2
♥ 8 7 5
♦ 10 6 4 2
♣ 8 2

Bidding – North has 18 HCP and an easy 1♥

bid. South with 15 HCP and five spades should bid 1♠ (6+ HCP, 4+ spades) to look for a ♠ fit.

North must now rebid 2NT showing 18-19 HCP.

South knows with North together they have 33-34

HCP enough for 6NT and two possible five card

suits that could run (♠s and ♥s) which makes

slam even more likely. We also know we cannot be off 2 Aces so bidding 6NT directly is appropriate.

Play of the Hand – You have 5 ♠s, 2 ♥s and 3 ♣s off the top. You need 2 more tricks without losing 2 tricks. The best approach is to develop ♦s pushing out the

♦A and winning the 2 tricks needed to make the contract. Do not take a ♥ finesse

to get more tricks because if it fails opponents can cash the ♦A to set your contract.

Post Mortem – Sometimes things appear too good to be true, but in this case North's rebid of 2NT makes it straightforward for South to get a good HCP count of the hand and reach a 6NT slam.

Contract	Scores		MPs	
	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
6 NT S	990		4.5	3.5
6 NT N	990		4.5	3.5
6 NT N	990		4.5	3.5
6 NT N	990		4.5	3.5
6 NT S	990		4.5	3.5
6 NT N	990		4.5	3.5
6 NT N	990		4.5	3.5
3 NT S	490		0	8
5 ♥ N	510		2	0
3 NT N	490		1	1
4 ♥ N	450		0	2