

## 9/22 Newcomer 0-30 Leaders!

1<sup>st</sup> OA: Don & Marianne Klekamp (53.13%) 

2<sup>nd</sup> OA: Judy Barrick & Alice Kitzmiller (51.56%)

## 9/25 Tuesday Eve Leaders (Open Game – Flight C)

1<sup>st</sup> NS: Ron Rose & Henry Jackson (50.6%)

1<sup>st</sup> EW: Mark Mitchell & Gail Zimmer (48.4%)

CBA Seminars	CBA	Date/PM	Who	Topic
	0-30	29 Sep	Potter Orr	How Opener
	Sat	12:30		Invites - Minors
	99er	2 Oct	Mike	Slam Bidding
	Tue	6:30	Purcell	

## 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/>

Before playing to the 1<sup>st</sup> trick make a plan. Then think: should I win this trick or is it better to duck? Cutting defender's communications can often be the key to success.

## Thinking bridge By Eddie Kantar

[Nov 27, 2010 NABC Daily Bulletin p 3](#) ← Full Article

Here are more card combination tips. **The bidding** can assist you in your card combination play.

♠K J 3 2

♠A 6 5 4

The normal play for 4 tricks is to lead the A and low to the J, needing to find West with Q-x-(x). However, if the bidding has told you that East must have the Q, play the A and low to the king, hoping East has Q-x.

**The count.** Having the count on a suit frequently alters the percentage play.

♠Q 10 3 2

♠A K 6

The percentage play for 4 ♠ tricks is to play the A and the K and low to the Q. However, if the count tells you that West started with 4 ♠s, play the A-K and low to the 10. If the count tells you that East has 4 ♠s, pray that West has J-x!

## Avoidance.

♠A 10 5 4

♠K J 7 6 2

In isolation, the best play for 5 ♠ tricks is the A then the K, but there are variables, one of which is an avoidance play. It might be worth a possible trick to make sure a particular opponent, called the "danger hand," does not get the lead. There are many good reasons to keep the danger hand off lead, like leading through an unprotected K. The trick to keeping the danger from getting in is to *make sure the danger hand plays second to the finesse trick, not last*. If **West** is the danger hand, play the K and low to the 10 finessing into East. If **East** is the danger hand, play the A and low to the J finessing into West. In both cases the danger hand plays 2<sup>nd</sup> to the trick, the non-danger hand, last. Now here's your first lesson:

North	♠ KQ1073		
Deals	♥ KQ54		
EW Vul	♦ 96		
	♣ K3		
	♠ 982	♠ A654	
	♥ 632	♥ AJ10	
	♦ K10	♦ AQJ	
	♣ AQ987	♣ J104	
	♠ J		
	♥ 987		
	♦ 875432		
	♣ 652		

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	1N	Pass
3N		All Pass	

Opening lead: ♠J

### Bidding commentary:

East's 1NT overall shows the same strength as an opening 1NT.

### Lead commentary:

Keep peace in the family and lead partner's suit particularly with a hopeless hand.

### Defensive

**commentary:** This contract is decided at trick one! If you signal

with the 7 telling your partner to continue with a ♠, he may want to, but not on this hand. Once a 2<sup>nd</sup> ♠ is not played, declarer has time to set up the ♠s and easily come to 9 tricks. However, your ♠ spots are strong enough (see the 9 8 in dummy?) to overtake the J with the Q and continue with high ♠s until you drive out the A. Now when you get in with the ♣ K you will have established 4 ♠ tricks. That ♠7 is the best card in your hand! It tops declarer's 6 and allows you to score 4 ♠ tricks plus the ♣K. **Don't signal when you can overtake!**

3 tables this Saturday including newcomers **Yvonne Coursey** and **Tom Ransick**. Great to have you join us!  
 Congratulations to our winners: 1<sup>st</sup> **Don & Marianne Klekamp** (53.13%); 2<sup>nd</sup> **Judy Barrick & Alice Kitzmiller** (51.56%); 3<sup>rd</sup> **Yvonne Coursey & Marlene Carter** (43.75%)  
 Full results for Saturday's game can be found at: <http://www.cincybridge.com/calendar2/120922A.HTM>

This Saturday (9/29) Phyllis Bishop will be running our Saturday game and Potter Orr will be giving a seminar on Invitational Bidding by Opener – Minors. Hope you can make it!

This week I look at a NT hand where the best strategy is to hold up in opponent's suit before taking your tricks. Enjoy!

**Board 13**

North ♠ Q 9 3  
 Deals ♥ K 3  
 Both Vul ♦ K J 8 4 2  
 ♣ 10 7 2

♠ 8 6 4  
 ♥ J 10 8  
 ♦ Q 9 7 6 5  
 ♣ 5 4

N	♠	K 5 2
E	♥	9 5 2
S	♦	10 3
W	♣	K Q J 9 3

♠ A J 10 7  
 ♥ A Q 7 6 4  
 ♦ A  
 ♣ A 8 6

NS 6N 6♣  
 6♥ 5♦ 3♣

**Bidding** – South with 19 HCP and 5 hearts opens 1♥. North with 9 HCP, no fit for hearts or having 4 spades should respond 1NT. While tempting North should not respond 2♦ because they do not have 10+ HCP (Standard American). South can now raise to 2NT (typically 18-19 HCP, sometimes 17 unbalanced) to invite to a 3NT game. South could also reverse and rebid 2♣ (16+ HCP and at least 5 hearts and 4 spades). With a maximum 9 HCP, most Norths will respond 3NT for game regardless of South's rebid.

**Play of the Hand** – Opening lead by East is clearly ♣K (top of a series). With 6 cards in the ♣suit but only 1 stopper, North should allow

opponents to win the 1<sup>st</sup> ♣ and take the 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is called a hold up play. Odds are this will keep West from returning ♣ should they win a trick later. If West does have 3 ♣s then at least ♣ are breaking 4-3 and you will only lose 3 tricks in the suit. After taking the ♣A at trick two, North needs to develop either ♠s or ♥s to make their contract. Since North can finesse through East (the "Danger Hand"), the best play is to get to North's hand with the ♥K and then lead the ♠Q (or ♠9) towards the ♠A on the board. You will find the ♠K can be captured allowing to you to win 4 ♠s, 5 ♥s on the 3-3 break and one ♣ and ♦ for 11 tricks or 660. To make 12 tricks for 690 you need to cash ♦A after trick 2 and before getting to the North hand with ♥K. Then when the ♠s finesse holds, North can cash the ♦K before collecting their ♠s and ♥s.

Bd 13	Scores	MPs
Contract	N-S	E-W
3 NT N	690	6 0
4 ♥ S	680	4.5 1.5
4 ♥ S	680	4.5 1.5
3 NT N	660	3 3
3 ♥ S	230	1.5 4.5
3 ♥ S	230	1.5 4.5
2 NT N	210	0 6
3 NT N	660	2 0
2 NT N	120	1 1
3 NT N	100	0 2

**Post Mortem** – As in life, expecting the best but preparing for the worst is a great strategy. In this hand holding up in ♣s was unnecessary because the ♠K was finessable. However, if West holds ♠K and ♥s are 4-2 holding up is the only way to make 3NT. Holding up one round still allows us to make the best possible score (12 tricks) while keeping us from going down when things are not going our way.

**Declarer's Hold-Up Play – Cut defender's communication.** By Steve Moese

When declaring in NT and LHO leads their suit, holding up your lone winner to the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> round can pay big dividends. Refusing to win the 1<sup>st</sup> trick buys insurance against a 5+ card suit with the opening leader. (If the suit splits 4-4 you can only lose 3 tricks so we care less about 4-4). Opening leader is the DANGER HAND. Once you exhaust

106 KJ932 A84	Q75 A84	With 5 cards, duck the 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 tricks. When RHO gets in they lead another one back!	1065 KJ932 A84	Q7 A84	With 6 cards in their suit, & RHO follows to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> trick win the Ace. They have only 2 cards!	their partner of all cards in the threat suit (the suit they led) you can finesse through the
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opening leader into RHO confident they cannot continue the threat suit. Your goal is to win the trick when RHO plays their LAST CARD.

**How many times should you hold up?** If your LHO has 6 or more cards in the suit, they likely would have bid. If they don't bid then their 4<sup>th</sup> best lead can help you count the missing cards.

If we don't know how many cards LHO has, then we can use the **RULE OF 8: Count the cards in their suit in your 2 hands and subtract from 8. That's the round to win!** If you hold 5, 8-5 says wait till the 3<sup>rd</sup> round to win the trick. If you hold 6, taking the 2<sup>nd</sup> trick will work. 106 opposite A84 you hold 5 so win the 3<sup>rd</sup> trick. 1065 opposite A84 you hold 6 so win the 2<sup>nd</sup> trick.

Sometimes with xx opposite AKx ducking the 1<sup>st</sup> trick is right. This is when no defensive shift can hurt you and there are 2 Aces (2 times more they will gain the lead). If you can guess to knock out the Ace in the long hand 1st, then your duck will pay dividends. When you win the

96  
QJ1032      875  
AK4

Duck the 1<sup>st</sup> trick. When RHO gets in they have no way to reach partner

2<sup>nd</sup> trick you can knock out the other Ace and RHO is either out of cards in the threat suit or has to lead to your high honor. Now you can finesse LHO or endplay RHO since RHO can no longer lead a threat suit card, and LHO has no sure entry.

♠Axx  
♥xx  
♦KJ10x  
♣Q9xx

← **When is it right NOT to duck?** Say you bid these cards to 3N in an unrevealing auction. LHO leads the ♠2. Do you duck or not? If you duck, opponents will switch to their other major immediately. You win and now **MUST** find the diamond queen. If you make the wrong ♦ finesse, you will go down – 1♠, 3♥, and 1♦ lost. Watch what happens if we win the 1<sup>st</sup> trick and attack ♦s. If we lose the ♦Q, opponents can run 3 ♠ tricks, but they cannot cash a 5<sup>th</sup> trick! Our ♥ Ace is still there letting us win 1♠, 1♥, 3♦ and 4♣s before they get to 5 tricks. Notice the lead of the ♠2 – this usually means 4 cards.

♠xx  
♥Axx  
♦A9xx  
♣AKJ10

**Tips:**

- If you know how long the threat suit is from the bidding, use that to determine how many times to hold up.
- Use the rule of 8 as a guide if you have no information.
- If LHO leads the 2, the suit is likely splitting 4-4 (unless LHO is being very tricky). If they lead the 3 or 4, look around and find the missing lower cards. If you see them (look at what RHO plays too!) LHO is leading from a 4-card suit. Otherwise expect 5+ cards.
- If you hold 4 cards in the suit with the Ace between both hands, consider holding up 1 round. Sometimes opponents will block their suits for you.
- When holding AKx, AQx, KQx, consider whether holding up is necessary to cut communications so you can safely drive out two stoppers and make your contract.
- If you have 2 weak suits or if they can run enough tricks off the top to set you, **DO NOT HOLD UP**. They might switch to your 2<sup>nd</sup> weak suit. You will lose the race to your contract.