

1/5 Newcomers Leaders

1st OA: **Susan DeRoos & Patricia Burnham** (60%) 

2nd OA: **Patty Ruge & Robert Roark** (56.3%)

1/8 Tuesday Eve Leaders

1st OA: **Terri Mackey & Charlie Kobida** (68.8%)

2nd OA: **Richard Horvitz & Karen Kalla** (56.7%)

CBA Seminars	CBA	Date/PM	Who	Topic
	0-30	Jan 12	Steve	Suit Contract Play –
	Sat	12:30P	Moese	Counting Losers
	99er Tue	Check back for new 99er seminar plans.		

CBA NLM Games – Play Often!

Mon NLM 7 PM CBA Wed Home Style 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 12:30 PM) Partner provided

Area Tournaments

Jan 11-13	Columbus	S
Jan 16-20	Independence OH	R
Jan 26-27	D11 GNT Finals Kettering, OH	N/R

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

Winter's here. Be sure to consult the CBA Home Page www.cincybridge.com during inclement weather to see if the game is cancelled! Directors and CBA Board officials make this decision at least 4 hours before game time.

On Counting – Shape & HCPs by Steve Moese

How does Counting **Shape** inform our choices as

Dummy	You	Declarer? Try it! You
♠87	♠AQ10	declare. Opening lead:
♥K103	♥92	♠6. - 4 th best.
♦KQ52	♦AJ32	Count the Lead – Rule of
♣AJ103	♣K942	11: 11-6=5 We have 5
You	LHO	Partner
1♦	2♦ ¹	2♥ ²
3N	All Pass	Pass
1= Michaels Cue Bid – 55 Majors		
2= ♥ Stopper for NT. Invitational +		
cards higher so RHO has		
no ♠ higher than the 6!		
Count HCP – Dummy 13,		
Declarer 14 for 27. They		
have 13.		

Count our Tricks – After the ♠ lead, we have 8 tricks off the top (Count them: 2♠s, 4♦s, & 2♣s) with one or 2 more if we guess ♣s. If the ♥ A is with LHO, we can lead low to Dummy's ♥ K finessing the Ace. We have a 2-way finesse in ♣s.

Count key suit – Since LHO's bid shows 10 Major suit cards, LHO has only 3 cards in the minors. Let's play

on ♦s to DISCOVER how many ♣s LHO has. Leading the ♦A then ♦K shows both follow to the 1st 2 rounds of the suit. ♦s are breaking 3-2. LHO has room for only 0 or 1 ♣ card in their hand. So, play the ♣A. If LHO does not play the ♣Q, play the ♣J from dummy finessing RHO for the ♣Q. Since LHO can have at most 1 ♣ card, this finesse is certain!

♥s is the danger suit. If the ♥ K loses to RHO's Ace, we will lose several more ♥s. Since we don't want LHO to lead ♥s through dummy, LHO the Danger Hand – and prefer to take finesses that, when they lose, leave RHO on lead. RHO cannot attack ♥s profitably with the ♥ K in dummy! So without the Michaels Cue bid, we'd finesse LHO for the ♣Q. Counting makes finessing RHO certain.

Running 10 tricks (2 ♠s, 4♦s, 4♣s) will put pressure on LHO. They will likely discard to hold ♠KJ ♥A. If you keep ♠AQ and ♥9, you can lead a ♥ at trick 11. That will force LHP to lead from their remaining ♠KJ into your ♠AQ. You managed to lose only 1 trick! Isn't counting shape wonderful? You play so brilliantly!

	N/A	
Dummy		You
♠8		♠AQ
♥K10		♥9
	LHO	
Trick 11	♠KJ	
You are	♥A	
to lead.		

There is some uncertainty in the 3-card ending. We don't know who has the ♥A. We know that LHO has the top ♠s (RHO did not play one at trick 1). Leading the ♥ lets defense take a winner so we might earn an overtrick. LHO has the ♥A and only ♠s left so must give us a free finesse. This is known as an endplay and happens often when you keep track of their shape! (If RHO wins ♥A they must play a ♠ - go up with the Ace. The ♠K is with LHO).

DISCOVERY is a powerful way for declarer to gather information about suit distribution. We play side suits and watch for SHOWOUTS - when an opponent discards. So, if RHO discards on the 3rd round of a suit, you know they held only 2 cards in that suit initially. Since we know how many cards we & dummy hold, we know exactly how many cards LHO had in that suit. On this hand we used clues from the bidding (55 Majors in LHO) and DISCOVERY in ♦s to count ♣s, making a possible 2-way finesse a sure thing. Counting the opening lead we earned an overtrick by playing ♥s late. Counting reduces the risks we take as declarer. **Keep Counting!**

Newcomer News 0-30 – “Resolve to Play More Bridge” Mike Purcell 513 702 4007 mikpur@cinci.rr.com

This week we had 3 full tables to start the New Year. Our winners this week are:

1st Susan DeRoos and Patricia Burnam (60%) 0.30 Masterpoints

2nd Patty Ruge and Salty Roark (56.25%) 0.21 Masterpoints

3rd Judy Barrick and Pam Campbell (55%) 0.11 Masterpoints

Full results for Saturday’s game can be found at: <http://www.cincybridge.com/calendar2/130105A.HTM>

NO 0-30 GAME Sat 1/26 – There will be a special game at the CBC. The Grand National Team (GNT) District Qualifier is in Dayton.

This Saturday (1/12) Bob Fisk will be running the Sat game. Steve Moese will present our 12:30 Seminar on Suit Contract Play – Counting Losers. The CBA has several Newcomer friendly games (See p. 1) you can play in: Tues 99er game at 7 PM and the Wed Homestyle game (no partner needed) at 11:00 AM. Give the Monday and Thursday night games at 7PM a try. These games are well established with 4-12 tables in play. All but the Wed Homestyle game require a partner. For more information, see our website at <http://www.cincybridge.com/> under the Unit Game Schedule Link.

This week we look at two hands from Saturday’s game. If you have any questions on these hands or others, you are welcome to email me.

Board 1

North Deals
None Vul

♠ A Q 8			
♥ A 6 4 3			
♦ A K 8			
♣ 10 5 2			

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

NS 3N 3♣	♠ K J 10 3
1♥;	♥ J 9 2
S 3♦; 2♣;	♦ 5 4 2
N 2♦ 1♣	♣ A Q 8

Bidding – With a balanced 17 HCP hand North opens 1NT (15-17). South (11 HCP) knows they has 26-28 HCP and must find game. Only question is does North have 4 ♠s? South can bid 2♣ to ask (Link: [Stayman Convention](#):). North with 4 ♥s will respond 2♥. South without 4 ♥s should rebid 3NT showing 10+ HCPs (but not slam values) and 4 ♠s. North corrects to 4♠ holding 4 ♠ cards. Since they do not, North passes 3NT.

Play of the Hand – East will likely lead ♠5 or ♦3 (4th best). North can count 8 sure tricks (4 ♠s, 1 ♥, 2 ♦s and 1 ♣). The best chance to get 1 more trick is to finesse ♣s. The simplest finesse is for the ♣K by playing low from the North to the ♣AQ. If East holds ♣KJ, then playing low lets you win

3 tricks in the suit. Notice in the open game that his was a completely FLAT board – everyone received the same score. Those playing in 4 of a Major found not all 4-3 trump fits bring game.

Bd 1	Scores		MPs	
	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
3 NT N	400		6	6
4 ♥ N		150	0.5	1.5
4 ♠ N		150	0.5	1.5

Bd 2	Scores		MPs	
	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
4 ♥ E	150		12	0
4 ♥ E	50		11	1
2 ♥ E		170	9.5	2.5
2 ♥ E		170	9.5	2.5
3 ♥ E		230	8	4
4 ♥ E		420	4.5	7.5
4 ♥ E		420	4.5	7.5
4 ♥ E		420	4.5	7.5
4 ♥ E		420	4.5	7.5
4 ♥ E		420	4.5	7.5
4 ♥ E		420	4.5	7.5
4 ♥ W		420	4.5	7.5
4 ♥ E		450	0.5	11.5
4 ♥ E		450	0.5	11.5
4 ♥ E	150		2	0
2 ♦ W		130	1	1
2 ♥ E		200	0	2

Bidding – West has an unbal.16 HCP. With no 5-card major, we open our best minor: 1♦. East has 9 HCP and responds 1♥ (6+ HCP and 4+ ♥s). West has 4 ♥s and 17 support points (16 HCP and 1 more for the singleton Ace). This is too strong for a 2♥ bid (12-15 SPs) and too weak to force game with 4♥ (showing 19-21 support points). West’s best rebid is 3♥ (showing 16-18 support points) and asking East to go to game if they are at the top of their range (8-9 HCPs). With 9 HCP East bids 4♥.

Play of the Hand – South leads ♠10 (from K109x series) or ♣5 (fourth best). should count losers: 1 or 2 in ♠s, likely 1 in ♥s, 1 in ♦s and 0 in ♣s (if we ruff 2 ♣s). Where can we pitch losers? If we set up ♦s, we can pitch 2 losers. Assuming a ♣ lead, the best play is to cash ♣A and then a ♦ to your ♦K to ruff a ♣. When you see ♦J fall on the K you have hopes of no ♦ losers. After you ruff your ♣, play a low ♥ to the Q since you are missing K10 and need to get back to your hand for another ♣ ruff. Assuming North ducks win the ♥Q and ruff another ♣. Now cash ♥A and note the 4-1 ♥ break. Continue with ♦A playing the ♦10 from East to unblock. The ♦Q falls as we hoped so we can run the ♦s. If North ruffs in with the K, we can pitch a ♠ loser. If they ruff with the 10, we can overruff with the jack return to the board with ♠A and play another diamond. This limits our losers to 1 ♥ & 1 ♠ making 5.

Post Mortem –Here we had a bad 4-1 ♥ break and a nice ♦QJ doubleton. The best players protect against the bad breaks and take advantage of the good ones.

Board 2

East Deals
N-S Vul

♠ A 4 2			
♥ A 9 6 2			
♦ A 9 8 5 2			
♣ A			

♠ Q 8 6			
♥ Q J 7 3			
♦ K 10 3			
♣ J 10 7			

E 5♥ 2♠;	♠ K 10 9 7
W 4♥ 1♠;	♥ 8
EW 4♦ 2N;	♦ Q J
NS 1♣	♣ K 9 6 5 4 2