



5/11 Newcomers Leaders

1st OA: **Matisse Peppet & Erin LaFarque**

2nd OA: **Jack & Elizabeth Williams**

5/14 99er Tues Eve Leaders

1st OA: **Martin Gibler & Stacy Vanstone (77.7%) WOW!!**

2nd OA: **Steve Simon & Garen Wisner (61.2%)**



CBA	Date/PM	Who	Topic
Sat	May 25	Mike Purcell	Overcalls – Takeout Doubles

CBA NLM Games – Play Often!

Mon NLM 7 PM Wed Home Style 11:00 AM CBA

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

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

New Fri NLM 11 AM (Lecture 10:30) CBA

Sat 0-40 1 PM (Seminar 12:30 PM) partners provided

Need a Partner? For One Game: Call the DIRECTOR 2 days ahead!!! For long term partnerships contact:

Chris Hastie: cwadehastie@gmail.com

Joanne Earls: jolman@fuse.net

Area Tournaments

May 17 – 19	Lexington, KY	S
May 18 – 19	Cincinnati, OH [NLM]	S
May 21 – 27	Independence OH	R
Jun 4 – 9	Cincinnati, OH	R

For Details go to <http://tournaments.acbl.org/display.php>

Hold These DATES at the CBA:

Sat/Sun May 18-19 – NLM Sectional SILVER POINTS

No Newcomers Seminar or Game 5/18

Bid the Game You're Likely to Make (Tue Eve 5/14)

by Steve Moese

Board 1	♠ J 6 5			
North	♥ 6 4			
Deals	♦ J 8 6 2			
None Vul	♣ K Q 9 7			
♠ K 10 9 8 4		N	♠ A Q 2	
♥ Q 5 3		W	♥ A 8 7	
♦ Q 9		E	♦ K 5 3	
♣ J 6 5		S	♣ A 8 4 3	
EW 3N; 3♠;	♠ 7 3			
2♣; 1♥;	♥ K J 10 9 2			
NS 1♦	♦ A 10 7 4			
	♣ 10 2			

When partner opens 1NT (15-17) and you hold a 5-card major and 8 HCP, you want to invite game in NT or your major. Rarely will it be right to play in some other strain. Here is a hand from the Tuesday Evening Game that puts EW

to the test – do you bid game? And if so, which one?

North East South West

Pass 1N Pass 2♥¹

Pass 2♠² Pass 2N³

Pass ???

1=Transfer to ♠

2=Denies 4♠s and 17 HCP

3=5332 shape & 8 HCP

East knows EW have an 8-card ♠ fit. With a maximum hand, East should bid game (25 HCP are assured). **The question is, which game – NT or ♠?**

Game in ♠s requires 10 tricks. Game in NT requires 9. The secret to the decision is where we find extra tricks.

In a trump contract, **ruffing in the short trump hand adds tricks to our total.** Ruffing in the long trump hand does not add tricks to our total. Say trumps split 5-3.

The hand with 5 is the long trump hand and the hand with 3 is the short trump hand. If we have no trump losers, we take 5 trump tricks. Can we take more than 5? If we ruff a card in the long (5-card) hand, then we have the ruff plus 4 remaining trumps or a total of 5. If we ruff in the short trump hand, then we have the ruff plus the 5 trumps in the long hand - a total of 6 tricks.

Now look at East's hand: 3=3=3=4 shape. East gets **NO RUFFS** in the short trump hand. This is why veteran bridge players despise the 4333 shape.

Since East has **honors in all suits**, opponents cannot possible run a suit. West is some 5332. So now, if the only ruffs are in the long trump hand, we are not adding tricks by playing in a trump contract. Even in ♠s, the hand will play as if it were NT. Because of the honor dispersion and strength, **East should bid 3N and not 4♠.**

Bd 1	Scores		MPs	
	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
4 ♠ E	50		6	0
2 ♠ W		110	5	1
2 ♠ W		140	3	3
2 ♠ E		140	3	3
2 ♠ E		140	3	3
4 ♠ E		420	1	5
3 NT E		430	0	6
2 ♠ E		140	3.5	0.5
2 ♠ E		140	3.5	0.5
3 NT E		400	1.5	2.5
3 NT E		400	1.5	2.5
4 ♠ W		420	0	4

Kit Woolsey in his book Matchpoints outlined the idea. When bidding a marginal game (24-26 HCP), favor NT over the majors unless distribution and ruffing matter (ruffs in the short hand. to set up long suits, or to control weakness) – fewer tricks to make. At Matchpoints, holding 29-30 HCP favor NT over Majors with balanced hands – they will make the same tricks so NT will score better.

The Rest of the Story: The 5 or 7 Hand and the Least Bad Bid by Steve Moese

I wanted to follow up last week's story with perspective from bridge experts. Recall opener's hand (left). The question revolved around the best rebid for opener given a 1♣ response from partner (silent opponents). So, I submitted the hand to Bridgewinners and got the following answers. 90 Advanced/Expert/World Class players weighed in.

Matchpoints, North/South vulnerable

W	N	E	S
		1♣	P
1♠	P	?	
♠ K983			
♥ 93			
♦ A			
♣ AKQ543			

2/1
 Strong but infrequent partner.
 Jump reverses undiscussed.
 Tues Eve Club Game - Average competition.
 Avg-Strong field (8 of 18 are A).

Current Poll Results:

2♥: 1 vote (1%)	
3♦: 5 votes (6%)	█
3♠: 4 votes (4%)	█
4♣: 66 votes (73%)	█
4♦: 8 votes (9%)	█
4♠: 6 votes (7%)	█

Abstentions: 2

As you can see, 4♣ is the runaway preference among expert players. Any other rebid is in a super minority. Of note, rebidding 4♠ is 11 to 1 less accepted than 4♣.

Recalling the **REBID OPTIONS** for East we had considered:

2♦ 18+ **Game Force** implying 4+ ♦, and 5+ ♣ A REVERSE. Might mislead partner about ♥ when East eventually supports ♠. West will expect 3=1=4=5 shape, not 4=2=1=6.

2♠ 12-15 HCP and 4♠ Cards **Not Forcing WRONG**

2♥ 18+ **Game Force** implying 4+ ♥. **WRONG** Partner will expect 3=4=1=5 or 1=4=3=5, and ♥ strength.

2N 18-19 HCP Balanced, 2+ ♠ Cards. About right on strength but wrong on shape. **NOT FORCING**

3♣ 15-17(18) HCP and 6+ ♣ **NOT FORCING**

3♦ Jump Reverse. **Game Force** 18+ Singleton ♦ and 4 ♠ Cards. Implies controls in unbid suits. Not show ♦A

3♥ Jump Reverse. **Game Force** 18+ Singleton ♥ & 4 ♠ cards. Implies controls in unbid suits. **WRONG**

3♠ 15-17(18) Support Pts. 4 Card Support. Usually denies a singleton or void. **NOT FORCING**

4♣ GF 15+ 4♣ Cards and Running ♣s.

4♦♥ Meaning unclear. Void? Exclusion Blackwood?

4♠ (18)-21 HCP 4 Trumps Balanced Hand (4 Losers)

Here is the bid choice we proposed last week: 4♣>>3♦>2♦>4♠>>2N>3♠>3♣>>2,3♥>>2♠

Several of these possibilities weren't even considered by the panel. I am not surprised by the absence of 2♦ as the shape promised by that bid is very different from the hand held.

You can see the full Bridgewinners poll at: <http://bridgewinners.com/article/view/bidding-problem-1419/>

There you will find who bids what and see commentary about other useful ways to think about bidding this hand.

Congratulations to this week’s Newcomer Team Game Leaders:

- 1st Matisse Peppet and Erin LaFarque
- 2nd Jack and Elizabeth Williams

Non-Life Master Cincinnati Tourney May 18-19 - This Saturday there will be special single session pair events at 10 and 3 pm for non-life master players. You can play at one or both times. Sunday will feature a two-session Swiss teams event that starts at 10am and includes lunch. Silver Masterpoints are awarded in these events and remember in the team game every match win means points.

The following Saturday (5/25) Pat Hoffman will be running the game and I will be doing the seminar on Overcalls – Takeout Doubles.

This week we look at a hand where your choice of overcalls can have a big impact on the outcome. If you have any questions on this hand or others, you are welcome to email me at mikpur@cinci.rr.com.

Board 17

North ♠ A J 9 8 6 5
 ♥ Q 4 3 2
 ♦ A 9
 ♣ K

Deals

None Vul

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

NS 5♥; 5♦;
 3♠; 2N;
 EW 1♣

♠ 10
 ♥ K J 9 6
 ♦ K J 10 8 6 4
 ♣ Q 4

Bidding – North with 14 HCP and 6 spades will open 1♠ (12+ HCP, 5+ Spades). East has 15 HCP and spades stopped but also 5 clubs. Would you bid 1NT (15-18) or 2♣? You want to be careful about overcalling 1NT on only 15 HCP if there is any weakness in the hand. In this case you have 5 clubs which is good for NT but Queen doubleton of diamonds is a negative.

If East bids 2♣ - South can make a negative double for the diamonds and hearts. Once North shows hearts, South with 12 support points (10 HCP and 2 for the singleton spades) can push on to 3♥ (invitational) or even 4♥. If 3♥, North with at least 15 support points (14 HCP plus one for the doubleton diamond) will go to game.

If East bids 1NT - South with 10 HCP and no fit for spades should double for penalty (shows 10+ HCP). If 1NT doubled is the contract North-South can take at least 10 tricks in defense (1S, 3H, 6D) for 800! If East rebids 2♣ then South can rebid 2♦. If North rebids spades they will play 2♠. If they try 2♥ they will be rewarded with a raise to 3♥ or even 4♥ as before. If 3♥ North will go to game.

Play of the Hand – Playing in 4♥, South can count 3 losers (1H, 1D, 1C) from their hand. Assuming East has the ♦Q, a good bet from the auction, you can draw trump and run diamonds for 11 tricks and 650.

Post Mortem – Be careful about overcalling 1NT with only 15 HCP. Even if opponents overcall 1NT and land on their feet (clubs in this case) do not give up on getting to game. Many times knowing where the HCP are will help you make the contract.

	Scores		MPs	
Bd 17	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
4♥ N	420		8	0
2♠ N	170		7	1
2♣ N	140		4.5	3.5
2♠ N	140		4.5	3.5
2♣ N	140		4.5	3.5
2♠ N	140		4.5	3.5
2♣ N	110		1	7
2♠ N	110		1	7
2♣ N	110		1	7

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/>