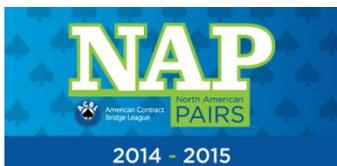


## Play the NAP National Event!



**August** is the last chance to qualify! Finish at or above 50% in an OPEN game to qualify. Check the [August Flyer](#) or the [CBA Website](#) for Q Game dates. Don't miss a chance to win extra points! Click for details about [District 11 NAP](#).

## Not All 10 HCP Are Equal

By Steve Moese

This week's Let's Talk Bridge was about bidding a hand where Dealer had 4=2=2=5 and 17 HCP and responder has 3=3=4=3 and 5 HCP (1Q, 3J). We began to discuss the weakness that 3334 shape brings to trump contracts. I thought it would be useful to discuss this topic in detail.

♠KJ2
♥AQ3
♦A432
♣AJ2
♠AQ3
♥KJ4
♦K765
♣KQ7

High Card Points work better as a guide to level when considering NT contracts than suit contracts. However it's possible 37HCP between 2 hands cannot make slam because of SHAPE. There are 2 ♦ losers no matter what declarer does. 3334 shapes (and mirror hands – hands with exactly the SAME length in all suits) should make you wary, not aggressive.

10 HCP hands are interesting to study because they are at the margin of "constructive" and Invitational valuation. They also occur more frequently than any other HCP total. (For more on hand valuation see "[What's 10 HCP Worth](#)").

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
♠A32	♠A32	♠A32	♠Q32	♠Q432
♥K43	♥K43	♥KQ43	♥AK43	♥AK43
♦Q32	♦Q3	♦32	♦32	♦2
♣J432	♣J5432	♣J432	♣J432	♣J432
9 Losers	9 Losers	8 Losers	8 Losers	7 Losers
Partner opens 1♣:				
Constr. 1NT	Inv. 2♣ or 3♣	Inv. 1♥	Inv. 1♥	Inv-GF (Maj) 1♥
Partner opens 1♠:				
Constr. 2♠	Inv. 2♠ (2♣/1N)	Inv. 2♣ or 1N	Inv. 2♣ or 1N	GF!

## 7/29 – Future Master Leaders

- 1<sup>st</sup> OA: Peg Jervis & Pat Lindeman (67.9%) **1.95 MPs**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> OA: Lewis Temples & James Hunkler (62.7%) **1.46 MPs**



Bring your Questions, Hands, Ideas. Let's learn together!  
**Tues Eve 6:30 PM Sharp!**



## CBA Newcomer Games – Play Often!

- Mon PM < 2000      Fri AM NLM + Lecture  
 Tue AM NLM      Sat AM Supervised Green  
 Tue PM 149er      Sat PM NLM (Homestyle 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>)



## Events at the Cincinnati Bridge Center

- Friday 8/1** NLM & Open 11 AM. Lecture 10:30 AM Phyllis Bishop 2/1 & Quiz For Partners call Kay 631-8070.
- Thursday Evenings and Last Tuesday in August are **SWISS TEAM** games. Call Mike Lipp (Thurs Eve) and AJ Stephani (Tuesday AM) for teams.
- August CBA Flyer** – CBC, NKy, and Anderson offer games with EXTRA MASTERPOINTS! **Final NAP Qualifier Games.**

## Area Tournaments

Dayton Sectional	Aug 1-3
<a href="#">STaC District 11 (That's us!)</a>	Aug 4-10
<a href="#">NKy Sectional</a>	Aug 15-17
ACBL Tournaments <a href="http://tournaments.acbl.org/display.php">http://tournaments.acbl.org/display.php</a>	

Subtract 1 HCP from any hand that is 3343 shape (especially when 3 cards in partner's suit). Hand A is weaker than it looks. Never invite with this hand. Let partner make the move. Hand B is stronger than A but not by much (1 Point NOT lost for shape). Hands C & D are Invitational hands over any 1-suit opening bid. Hand E will Invite in ♣ or NT, and GF in a Major after partner opens 1♣. If partner opens 1♥ or 1♠, then (E) is a GF.

HCP	Strength
0-4	Poor
5-7	Weak
7-9	Constructive
9-11	Invitational
12-15	Sound
15-17	Strong
18-21	Very Strong
22+	Super Strong

If opponents intervene (say 1♣ - 1♠ - ?, or 1♠ - 2♦ - ?) The strength of your hand does NOT change. Inviting in NT takes 10-11 HCP (11-12 if partner habitually opens 11 HCPs). Inviting in a suit takes 8 losers. For more see [Adjusted Losing Trick Count by Terry Feetham in the Bridge Bulletin](#).

# Newcomer News — by Mike “Keeping Fun On My Convention Card” Purcell 513 702 4007

This Saturday August 2 – Susan Wisner, Bob Fisk, Mike Purcell will be running the 10am game.

**NEW NLM Game Sat 1pm** – I want to encourage folks to play Saturday afternoons in a new Non-Life Master (NLM) game. NLM games are limited to our newer players only making them a great way to start playing competitive bridge. Here’s an intermediate declarer play problem from Tuesday Evening July 29.

## Stop Look and Listen by Steve Moese

♠ 42  
♥ A10943  
♦ K3  
♣ KQ73



♠ J65  
♥ KJ62  
♦ 42  
♣ A852

**Board 15** South Deals, N-S Vulnerable.

**The Bidding:** This is a typical competitive auction where both sides are unsure how high to bid. South’s 12 HCP opening bid is based on solid ♠ and useful shortness in ♦. West has an opening hand and 2 places to play. A 2♥ overcall on a thin suit is the “least bad” bid. North has a constructive raise. East has 10 Support Points for ♥s and

S	W	N	E
1♠	2♥	2♠	3♥
3♠	P	P	4♥
P	P	DBL	AP

offers a simple raise. Notice that 10 SPs with 3 ♠ cards is not enough for an invitation (8.5-9 losers). Change the ♠J to the ♠J and an invitation might work. South competes to 3♠ for 2 reasons: 1) Give EW the last guess, and 2) the hand revalues to 14 Support points after North supports ♠s. (Shortness in the LONG trump hand is not as valuable as shortness in the short trump hand. Ruffs in the short trump hand add tricks to our total. Ruffs in the long trump hand do not unless you can ruff at least 3 times (dummy reversal)). East competes to 4♥ at

favorable vulnerability. Now NS have the last guess. North doubles, suggesting the balance of power and no interest in game.

**Opening Lead:** ♣10.

**Plan the Play:** 2♠ and 1-2♦ losers, with possible losers in ♣ and ♥. We have 5 winners, 2+ dummy entries. Down 1 will be a good score, down 2 no so much. South is the danger hand (♦ switch). The ♣10 lead looks suspicious. We are missing the ♣J10964; they agreed ♠s. The 10 could be from 10964, 1096, 1094, 1064, 109, 106, 104 or 10. North raised ♠ (at least 3♠ cards) and doubled 4♥ (at least 3♥ cards). Since North did not lead a trump (and doubled 4♥)

**Bd 15**

♠  
♥  
♦ J10976  
♣

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠  
♥ 9  
♦ 3  
♣ KQ7

♠  
♥ 6  
♦ 4  
♣ 852

the ♥Q is likely in North, and North is looking for several trump tricks. If the ♣10 is singleton then South holds ♣J964. We have 3+ losers. Win the ♣ with the ♣A in dummy to preserve a possible double finesse in ♣, then come to hand and finesse North in trumps. When this holds, draw the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of trumps and play on a pointed suit. Given South opened the bidding, lead a ♦ – South did open the bidding after all so the ♦A could be there. Besides, playing a pointed suit will get you a count on South’s hand. You suspect South has 5♠

**West to lead**

♥  
♦ 85  
♣ J96

and 1♥ so there is room for 3♦ and 4♣. North wins your ♦K with the ♦A and NS play 3 rounds of ♠. You ruff the 3<sup>rd</sup> round in hand. You have 1 more ♦ loser so down 1 is certain. Best to play ♦3 now, ←and hope the opponents can do something helpful. As you

can see, either North or South is end-played. North wins and can only return a ♦, allowing dummy to pitch the ♣ loser. If North ducks to South, South cannot return a ♦ and any ♣ has an answer as long as declarer assumes South started with 4 ♣ cards.

**Post Mortem:** Declarer did well to avoid a trump and a ♣ loser. Once 2 ♦ losers are sure, down 1 doubled for -100 is the best score available to EW. Diagnosing the opening lead singleton influences where to win the 1<sup>st</sup> trick. Keeping ♣ KQ intact allowed for a future double finesse, but the endplay made that unnecessary. Here’s the whole hand. You played as if you saw all 52 cards! →

		Scores		MPs	
Bd 15		NS	EW	NS	EW
4♠ S	650			4	0
4♥ x W	300			3	1
3♥ S	200			2	2
4♥ x W	100			1	3
3♥ W	50			0	4
4♠ S	650			6	0
3♠ S	200			4	2
2♠ S	200			4	2
2♠ S	200			4	2
3♠ S	140			2	4
4♥ x W	100			1	5

**Board 15** ♠ 873  
South ♥ Q75  
Deals ♦ AJ10976  
N-S Vul ♣ 10

♠ 42  
♥ A10943  
♦ K3  
♣ KQ73

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ J65  
♥ KJ62  
♦ 42  
♣ A852

♠ AKQ109  
♥ 8  
♦ Q85  
♣ J964

NS 5♠; 5♦;  
EW 3♥; 2♣

Looking to improve your game? We highly recommend the free ACBL software at: <https://web.acbl.org/LearnToPlayBridge/>