



Sunday

August 17-23



Hi 92 Low 67

Daily Bulletin

Gateway to the West Regional Thanks You for Your Attendance!



You're Aces with Us!!!!

Come back and join us Next August. We'll be right here again next year August 8-14, 2011. Please put us on your tournament calendar.



THE BACKSTOPPERS INC.
the police officers & firefighters fund

Charity Pairs Series Raises \$1000+

BackStoppers will receive over \$1000 that you helped us raise in the 4-session Charity Series Games. We are supporting them to express our appreciation in a tangible way for a life given on behalf of others. Unit 143 will present the check at their October Sectional. Thanks for your support!



Remembering Mary Hruby

Today we will pause to remember Mary Hruby, long time friend and consummate volunteer for Unit 143, who died suddenly earlier this year. Today's event, the **Mary Hruby Strati-Flighted Swiss**, is named in her honor in recognition of her many years of dedicated and loving service to the St. Louis bridge community on our Board of Directors and as Partnership Chair for our Sectional and Regional tournaments. Members of her family will be here to receive a plaque honoring her as player, partner, Board member, and friend.

MO Bragging Rights Winners



Kansas City 2, St. Louis 1



Flight A: KC

Paul Presley, Stephen Stewart, Linda Eakes, Donald Stack, & Lee Magee



Flight B: STL

Sasanka Ramanadham, Mark Gilje Andrew Carver, Ron Diehl, & Ben Englert



Flight C: KC

Rajeev Bansal, Krisi Mertz, Michael Hughes, & Roy Coplen

Intermediate/Novice: No Match

Kansas City team did not appear

No New Life Masters reported for the entire week.

Now that's news!

Today's Events

Sunday, August 15

MARY HRUBY SWISS STRATI-FLIGHTED A
MARY HRUBY SWISS STRAT-FLIGHTED B/C/D
FAST PAIRS

2 Sessions, Play Through
2 Sessions, Play Through
2 Sessions

10:30 AM
10:30 AM
10:30 AM & TBA*

* finish by 6 PM

Swiss Teams also may have 4 to 6 players. Unless otherwise indicated, master point ranges for stratified events will be 300/750/2000. Strata-Flighted events: A = 3000+, 0-3000; B/C/D = 300/750/2000. Gold Point Events in ALL CAPS.



Entry Fee\$

Intermediate/Novice pair game fee is \$10/player/session. Student Discounts: Our Regional offers a 50% discount on each full session at each Regional event for full-time students ages 25 and under with ID proof. Be sure to inform the director when purchasing the entry.



Prize Desk

There First Overall trophies for ALL Intermediate/Novice events. We will give Section Top Awards for any Pairs event. Prizes will be awarded from results posted in the Daily Bulletin. Awards for today's events; they must be picked up within one hour of the end of the event. No prizes will be mailed. The prize table is located in the main hallway. It will be open one hour prior to game time today. The prize table will close promptly 15 minutes prior to the session in order to allow our volunteers to get to their games. You can help us greatly if you can tell us the day, session, and type of event, the section letter and direction of your section top. No prize can be awarded until the directors have officially certified the results.

Players with Non-ACBL Masterpoints

Players with non-ACBL Masterpoints must inform the director before entering any Flighted, Stratified, or Bracketed event. Failure to do so may result in disqualifications and loss of any MPs won.

Hotel Information

We are at the:

Renaissance St. Louis Hotel Airport
9801 Natural Bridge Rd.
St. Louis, MO, 63130
Phone: 314-429-1100
Fax: 314-429-3625
Toll free: 888-340-2594



Special bridge rate and Marriott Rewards program credit. High-speed internet is available in all rooms at \$12.95/day with complimentary in-room coffee/tea, toll-free phone calls, and shoeshine. An ATM is on site. Check in is 3 p.m., check out time is Noon.



Lost and Found

Check with a Director at the head table in the main playing area or with the Front Desk as some items found may be turned in to Hotel Security.



First Aid/Medical Service

For immediate care in case of an emergency, contact any director, or Unit Board Member, or Hotel employee and an EMT will be summoned.



Ground Transportation

Contact front desk or doorman for hotel shuttle or taxis or call 314-993-TAXI. The region's light rail connects downtown to the airport; there is a convenient MetroLink stop at the airport.



Bookseller

Britain Beasley will be located in the main hallways during the Regional.

Turn Them OFF!

Please and Thank You!!!



Except for health-related equipment or by permission of the Director-In-Charge of the tournament or event, cell phones, audible pagers, or any similar communication equipment MAY NOT be operated or operable in the playing area during a session of play. If you are expecting an emergency call, you may leave your phone at the director's station.



Daily Hospitality

Complimentary Parking & Free Coffee

As part of our daily hospitality, we are pleased to offer you free coffee *while it lasts* at the start of each session in the main playing area.



Smoking Policy

This is a NO SMOKING tournament and hotel. You may smoke outside the hotel entrances. Please use provided receptacles. Hospitality breaks will be provided.



Hotel Lobby Coffee

Starbucks coffee is available in main lobby.



Cash Concessions

Where

- ◆ Main playing area

When

- ◆ Sunday 11am – 5pm throughout Swiss Team Play-Through

What

- ◆ Assorted Wrap Deli Sandwiches with Appropriate Condiments @ \$3.00 each
- ◆ BBQ Pork Sandwiches @ \$4.00 each
- ◆ Individual Bags of Potato Chips @ \$1.00 per bag
- ◆ Assorted Whole Fresh Fruit @ \$1.00 per piece
- ◆ Assorted Cookies @ \$1.00 each
- ◆ Assorted Regular and Diet Soft Drinks @ \$2.50 each
- ◆ Bottled Waters and Bottled Fruit Juices @ \$2.50 each
- ◆ Fresh Fruit Bowl @ \$3.00 each



Photographer

Attention Winners! New Life Masters, I/N winners and all event winners will be photographed in the main hallway near the Photography poster for 30 minutes after today's Swiss Team event.

Area Attractions



Visit the www.unit143.org Homepage for a link for your friends and family to do in St. Louis while you are playing bridge. The top attractions are, of course, the Gateway Arch, Clydesdales & brewery tour, and the MO Botanical Garden. Arch trams to the top every 10 minutes, 8:20 am to 9:10 pm. Brewery tours: Mon-Sat: 9 am - 5 pm - Sun: 11:30 am - 5 pm. The Garden hours are 9 am – 5 pm.



Today's Puzzles

Yesterday's Solutions - Today's Solutions, p. 6
Sudoku 9

3	4	7	5	9	6	8	1	2
5	6	9	2	8	1	7	4	3
1	8	2	7	4	3	9	6	5
8	1	5	9	5	7	3	2	6
6	2	5	8	3	4	1	7	9
9	7	3	1	6	2	4	5	8
7	5	6	3	1	8	2	9	4
2	9	8	4	7	5	6	3	1
4	3	1	6	2	9	5	8	7

Sudoku 10

2	7	4	6	3	1	9	5	8
9	8	6	5	4	2	3	1	7
5	1	3	7	9	8	6	4	2
7	5	1	8	6	4	2	3	9
4	6	9	3	2	7	5	8	1
3	2	8	1	5	9	4	7	8
8	4	2	9	1	3	7	6	5
6	9	7	4	8	5	1	2	3
1	3	5	7	6	8	8	9	4

Sudoku 11 Very Challenging

				7				
		2		6		8		1
3								
		9		1			6	
				8			3	
		8	4	9	2			
7					8	4	5	
8				5		3		
	6							

Sudoku 12 Very Challenging

	3	9	8			2		
			2		9		1	6
1								
				8	1			
	5			4		9	7	
			7				2	
5								
						6	1	
6	4	7			5	9		



More
Bridge
T-Shirt
Humor

We play Stock Market
Standard and Poor

Only Jesus Saves

I fought the law
and the law won.

Meet Your Directors

Chris Patrias, Head Director



Our Home
Town
Directors!

- Rick Beye

- Donna Coker

- David Cotterman

- Judy Cotterman

- Michael Flader

- Charles MacCracken

- Richard Mueller

- Tom Whitesides



Zero Tolerance Policy
Be cool! Bridge is fun.



We are committed to improving acceptable player behavior at all times. The ultimate purpose of the Z-T policy is to create a much more pleasant atmosphere in our game. We are attempting to eradicate unacceptable behavior in order to make the game of bridge more enjoyable for all. If a player at the table behaves in an unacceptable manner, the director should be called immediately. Annoying behavior, embarrassing remarks, or any other conduct which might interfere with the enjoyment of the game is specifically prohibited; the director has the authority to assess disciplinary penalties.



Recorder Forms

Recorder forms are available from the Head Director. Milt Zlatic is the District 8 Recorder. The aim of the recorder system is to establish a method of dealing with complaints that: 1) by themselves do not warrant the filing of formal charges; 2) are very serious but there is only the implication of wrongdoing without substantial evidence necessary to bring formal charges or 3) should be addressed by counseling and/or education.



You bid WHAT?????????

More About Showing Controls

by Eric Rodwell

When the partnership has agreed on a trump suit and is interested in exploring for slam, it is sometimes necessary to exchange information about specific *first-round controls*—aces and voids—and *second-round controls*—kings and singletons. Once the trump suit is agreed, the bid of another suit initiates the *control-showing process*. It continues until the partnership returns to the agreed trump suit, jumps to slam, or bids Blackwood. The partnership can use the following guidelines:

GUIDELINES ON SHOWING CONTROLS

- 1) Once the control-showing process is initiated, partner is expected to cooperate below the game level, even with a minimum hand.
- 2) Controls are rarely shown if they take the partnership beyond game.
- 3) Both first and second-round controls can be shown.
- 4) Controls are typically shown ‘up the line.’
- 5) Controls are not shown in the trump suit. Blackwood is used to check on the total number of aces and kings held by the partnership.

In yesterday's article, we discussed the first two guidelines. Let's consider the others.

Showing First-Round and Second-Round Controls

Although some partnerships prefer to always show first-round controls ahead of second-round controls, this wastes space, especially if a second-round control could be shown below game, while showing a first-round control would go beyond the security of game. *It is generally safe to show a second-round control below game*, because Blackwood is still available to check that the partnership isn't missing too many aces.

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

OPENER	RESPONDER
1♠	2♥ ★
3♥	4♦*
4♦ *	4NT
5♦	6♥
Pass	* Control Bid

Playing 2/1, responder's 2♥ bid is a marathon bid (★), forcing to game. After hearts have been agreed, responder shows interest in slam by making a control-showing bid of 4♦.

Opener now has to decide what to do. A bid of 4♠ would take the partnership beyond 4♥, so opener does not want to do that with a minimum hand. However, if opener simply bids 4♥, responder will be worried about diamonds and will likely pass. The auction is much smoother if opener instead shows the second-round diamond control:

OPENER	RESPONDER
1♠	2♥ ★
3♥	4♦*
4♦ *	4NT
5♦	6♥
Pass	* Control Bid

Once opener shows a control in diamonds, responder can confidently bid Blackwood to check for aces, knowing the opponents won't take the first two diamond tricks. Responder isn't too concerned that the partnership might be missing both first- and second-round control in spades, since that is opener's first suit. The partnership can also reach the slam if opener's second-round control in diamonds is a singleton instead of the ♦K.

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

OPENER	RESPONDER
1♠	2♥ ★
3♥	4♦*
4♦ *	4NT
5♦	6♥
Pass	* = Control Bid

If the partnership has agreed to show both first- and second-round controls below the level of game, then *bypassing a suit during a control-showing sequence denies a control in that suit*.

That would keep the partnership out of trouble if these were the combined hands

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

Controls ‘Up the Line’

By going back to the agreed trump suit over responder's 4♦ bid, opener denies either first- or second-round control of diamonds. Responder isn't tempted to bid any more, which is a good thing. The defenders may be able to take the first three diamond tricks.

Controls are usually shown ‘up the line’—cheapest first. This helps conserve bidding space and allows partner to draw inferences when a suit is bypassed.

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

OPENER	RESPONDER
1♥	2♦ ★
2♦	2♥
?	

Once responder bids 2♥, the trump suit is agreed. With extra values, opener wants to show interest in slam and has a choice between showing the ♣A or ♦A. Suppose opener were to start with showing the ♦A by bidding diamond at the three level:

INTERMEDIATE/NOVICE PLAYERS PAGE

More About Showing Controls

by Eric Rodwell

OPENER RESPONDER

1♥	2♦	Now it becomes awkward to show the ♠A, since that would take the partnership beyond game. Opener doesn't have enough extra strength to take over and bid Blackwood. But if opener bids 4♥, responder can't go any higher with nothing in spades.
2♦	2♥	
3♦	4♣	
?		

It is much more efficient if opener starts showing controls as cheaply as possible:

OPENER RESPONDER

1♥	2♣ *	By going up the line, opener has shown both the ♠A and the ♦A by the time the auction is at only 3♦. There's plenty of room left for further investigation below game, although by now responder knows opener has spades covered and can take charge, using Blackwood to check on the total number of aces before bidding to slam.
2♦	2♥	
2♣*	3♣*	
3♦*	4NT	
5♥	6♥	

* = Control Bid

OPENER RESPONDER

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

OPENER RESPONDER

1♥	2♦ *
2♥	3♥
4♦*	4♥

After hearts are agreed, opener expresses interest in slam by making a control-showing bid of 4♦. Responder has a lot of extra values, but can draw the inference that opener has neither the ♠A nor ♣A, since opener bypassed both suits. Responder settles for game.

Combining Control-Showing Bids with Blackwood

Since control-showing bids pinpoint specific aces and kings, why is there a need for Blackwood?

- Controls are not shown in the trump suit. So Blackwood may be needed to make sure that the partnership holds the ace and/or king in the trump suit.
- Since a control-showing bid may show either first- or second-round control, Blackwood may still be needed to ensure the partnership has enough aces to bid slam.

OPENER RESPONDER

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

OPENER RESPONDER

1♠	2♥ *
2♠	3♠
4♣*	4♦*
4NT	5♦
5♣	Pass

After spades are agreed, opener can't bid Blackwood right away with no control in diamonds. So opener starts a control-showing sequence. Once responder shows a control in diamonds, opener can now bid Blackwood to check on aces. When responder shows only one ace, opener signs off in 5♣. If responder also held either the ♠A or ♥A, the partnership would get to slam.

OPENER RESPONDER

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

OPENER RESPONDER

1♠	2♥ *
2♠	3♠
4♣*	4♦*
4NT	5♣
6♠	Pass

Here responder shows a second-round control in diamonds after opener bids 4♣. Opener now knows the partnership has a control in diamonds, and wants to be in at least a small slam. If responder has the ♦A, opener can visualize a grand slam. Opener uses Blackwood to find out whether responder has the ♦A. When responder shows no aces, opener settles for a small slam.



Gateway to the West Regional

AND NOW YOU KNOW THE STORY...



NORTH
♠ A K Q
♥ A K Q J 10 9
♦ -----
♣ A K Q J

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

SOUTH
♠ 10 5 4 3 2
♥ -----
♦ 5 4 3 2
♣ 5 4 3 2

Dealer West
SUGGESTED BIDDING

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
P	7♥	X	P

All Pass
Declarer: North
OPENING LEAD: ♦ A by East

Suggested Auction

When things look too good to be true, they usually are. If you ever pick up a hand like that held by North, you should probably be suspicious . . . especially after you have read the story about the hand. Still, if you were dealt this hand, you'd probably expect to take all the tricks with hearts as the trump suit, even if partner has nothing. Open with what you think you can make, a grand slam in hearts. If you are a duplicate player, you might want to take your time and open with a strong two-bid. If partner has the ♦ A, you would want to reach the slightly higher-scoring contract of 7NT/

As North, you might be surprised to hear East double your 7♥ contract. Perhaps East has the ♦ A and is expecting to take a trick with it. You might even redouble.

East will be quite surprised to hear North bid a grand slam in hearts. The astonishment shouldn't prevent East from making a penalty double, since East knows the heart suit is breaking badly for declarer . . . very badly. If that wasn't the case, of course, there would be no story behind the hand.

Suggested Opening Lead

East has an easy choice of leads against a heart contract. East would start with the ♦ A, not caring too much whether or not it wins a trick.

Play of the Hand

As you are likely to have discovered by now, if you have played the hand, it is a disaster for North-South. In a heart contract, North can take no more than six tricks. East keeps leading diamonds at every opportunity and North never gets a trick with any of the high cards in spades or clubs. In fact, North-South can't make even a game contract. Seeing all the hands, the best the partnership can do is make a contract of 3♠ or 4♣. Not what one would expect with all those high cards.

Defense

There's nothing that needs to be said on the defenders' behalf. Before congratulating each other on the large penalty they are likely to collect, perhaps it's time for the complete story . . .

The Story Behind the Hand

This is the notorious 'Mississippi Heart Hand' and it dates from the days of whist. During the days when Whist was all the rage, bets were placed on the outcome. Gambling with cards had become a passion among card players, which created the profession of card shark. A similar hand to the one below was reported by Hoyle in 1747, an era when players were also placing bets on different players. The hand below was first described and published by Mr. Thomas Matthews in 1804. It represents a hand which Mississippi card sharks on the riverboats would sucker innocent victims to lose their money and/or to bet their money on fixed hands. It was also a manner during the Civil War period among the Yankee players to dupe the Southerners, who would place heavy bets on the outcome. In any case, such hands became very popular among card professionals and card cheaters during the era of Bridge Whist.

South, the declarer and/or sucker, would bid game, if not slam, on his holding. However, as the cards lie, South is unable to make a game contract, much less a slam in any denomination. The best South can do is to take 9 tricks in a Spade contract or 10 tricks in a Club contract. Of course, the lead by West would always be a Diamond. The sucker bet would be made on the guideline set forth by Bridge Whist, that any contract could be doubled and redoubled ad infinitum, or until the card professionals thought would be the upper limit of the paying ability of the victim.

It is reported that a Mr. Charles M. Schwab had to pay a minimum of \$10,000 when playing South as the victim. Schwab donated the Schwab Cup to the bridge community, which, beginning in 1962, is the prize of the World Pair Olympiad. It was first presented by Mr. Charles M. Schwab in 1933 for the contest between the United States and England. This cup, originally presented to the winner of this match by Mr. Schwab, was later donated to the World Bridge Federation by the Culbertson heirs.