



VOL. 59 No. 2

OCTOBER 2018

New two-session KO Teams highlight Motor City schedule

There is a new format for the Handicapped KO team events at this year's Motor City Regional.

Teams will be separated, based on masterpoint holdings, into brackets of up to eight teams. The teams will play three 16-board matches over two sessions to determine the winners.

The three KO events will be held on Monday at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., and on Wednesday and Friday at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Half of the second matches will be played in the first session, the other half after the break. There will be

single-session Swiss team events during the second sessions for teams that lose the first KO match, as well as new entrants.

The Motor City will be held Oct. 8 to 14 at the William Costick Center in Farmington Hills. As usual, the tournament includes a full schedule of two-session Open and Gold Rush Pairs and Swiss Team events as well as two daily single-session Intermediate/Novice games and side games.

A full schedule can be found on pages 2 and 3. See you there.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE

The annual election for MBA Board of Directors will be held during the last four days of the October regional. Voting will end at the start of the Sunday game. If you cannot be there on one of those days, you can still vote by completing and sending in an absentee ballot. See page 5. Candidates' pictures and statements appear on pages 6-7.

**Michigan Bridge Association's
VINCE AND JOAN REMEY
MOTOR CITY REGIONAL**

October 8-14, 2018

**SITE: William Costick Center, 28600 Eleven Mile
Road, Farmington Hills 48336**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

Handicapped KO Teams #1 1 & 7 p.m.
Stratified Grass Roots Fund Open Pairs..... 1 & 7 p.m.
Gold Rush Pairs 1 & 7 p.m.
Stratified Open Swiss Teams 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Stratified Open Swiss Teams 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Gold Rush Swiss Teams 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Handicapped KO Teams #2 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Sylvia Stein Stratified Open Pairs..... 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Gold Rush Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Stratified Open Swiss Teams 2:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

Stratified Open Swiss Teams 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Gold Rush Swiss Teams 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12

Handicapped KO Teams #3 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Stratified Open Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Gold Rush Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Stratified Open Swiss Teams 2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

Stratified Open Swiss Teams 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Stratified Open Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Gold Rush Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

Marilyn & Myles Maddox Stratiflighted Swiss Teams
..... 10 a.m. Playthru (Seven 7-board matches)

Light lunch served Saturday and Sunday

STRATS:

Two-session events Monday-Saturday:

A=unlimited; B=0-3000; C=0-1500

Single-session Swiss Teams:

A=unlimited; B=750-3000; C=0-750

Sunday Swiss:

A=unlimited; Ax=0-5000; B=1500-3000; C=750-1500; D=0-750

HANDICAPPED KO TEAMS consist of three 16-board matches played over two sessions. Teams averaging over 7500 masterpoints will be handicapped at 7500.

GOLD RUSH EVENTS

are limited to players with fewer than 750 points

INTERMEDIATE/NEWCOMER PAIRS

..... 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m. Tuesday–Saturday

INTERMEDIATE/NEWCOMER SWISS TEAMS

..... Sunday 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

I/N events are limited to players with fewer than 300 masterpoints

I/N STRATS: 0-50; 50-100 and 100-300, as attendance warrants

DAYTIME SIDE PAIR SERIES #1:

..... Tuesday–Thursday 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

EVENING SIDE PAIR SERIES #1: Tuesday–Friday 7 p.m.

DAYTIME SIDE PAIR SERIES #2:

..... Friday–Saturday, 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

To win gold points, you must play two sessions in the same event.

ALL I/N AND SIDE GAMES ARE SINGLE SESSION

TOURNAMENT HOTEL:

Comfort Inn, 30715 West 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills,
248-471-9220, 855-539-0036

TOURNAMENT CHAIR:

Brenda Bryant, bbryant@marygrove.edu, 248-331-6933

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734-591-3431, cell: 734-536-1731

Jane Gardner: janegard@umich.edu,

248-719-2941

District Website: www.district12bridge.org

TABLE TALK

Official publication
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Ann Arbor MI 48108
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MBA Officers

Bob Ondo..... president
Owen Lien..... president-elect
Jonathan Fleischmann chairman
Stacey Tessler.... recording secretary
Bob Webber..... treasurer

Board of Directors

Shelley Boschan, Brenda Bryant,
Marilyn Crane, Jonathan Fleisch-
mann, Martin Hirschman (non-voting),
Owen Lien, Marilyn Nathanson, Bob
Ondo, Grant Petersen, Patti Stoner,
Richard Temkin, Stacey Tessler, Al-
lan Tushman, Zachary Wasserman.

MBA CLUB DIRECTORY

■**Ann Arbor BC**, Walden Hills Club-
house, 2114 Pauline, Ann Arbor.
Ray Gentz, 734-769-3994. Wednes-
day 7 p.m.

■**Ann Arbor Genesis**, 2300
Packard, Ann Arbor. Stuart Col-
lis, 734-678-5549. Tuesday 7
p.m.

■**Burns Center Bridge**, 1320
Baldwin, Ann Arbor. Debra
Eaves, 248-935-0909. Wednes-
day 12 p.m.

■**Burns Park Bridge**, 1320 Baldwin,
Ann Arbor. Stacey Tessler, 734-623-
8050. Thursday 12 p.m.

■**Downriver BC**, Southgate Veter-
ans Memorial Library, 14680 Dix-
Toledo Rd., Southgate. Cono
Emanuele, 734-675-3687. Tues-
day 10:30 a.m.

■**Ford DBC**, Ford Motor Company
World Headquarters, 1 American
Rd., Dearborn. Ellen Silverest,
810-225-2278. Tuesday 7 p.m.

■**Friendly Friday BC**, St. Paul

Evangelical Lutheran Church,
375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe
Farms. Tony Faint, 586-649-
3575. Friday 12 p.m.

■**Neighborhood Club**, St. Paul
Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375
Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms.
James Schmidt, 586-463-9835.
Thursday 12 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m.

■**Plymouth Community DBC**,
Cultural Center, 525 Farmer,
Plymouth. Jim & Cheryl Perna,
248-887-9283. Tuesday 11:30
a.m., Wednesday 11:30 a.m.

■**Trenton DBC**, 2700 Westfield,
Trenton. Bob Ondo, 313-320-
5173. Thursday 7 p.m.

■**War Memorial**, 32 Lakeshore,
Grosse Pointe. Judith Thomas,
313-372-4218. Monday 12 p.m.

■**Young Center BC**, R.A. Young
Recreation Center, 5400 McKin-
ley, Dearborn Heights. Joyce Koz-
ma, 313-274-5587. Wednesday
11 a.m.

MBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION
OCTOBER 2018

The annual election for the MBA Board of Directors will take place on the last four days of the Remey Motor City Regional, Oct. 8-14, 2018, in Farmington Hills. Voting ends at the start of the Sunday event. If you cannot attend the tournament, please fill out and mail an absentee ballot according to the directions below. One ballot per MBA member, please. A second ballot is provided for use by households with two MBA members. For additional ballots, contact Jonathan Fleischmann at 734-255-6104.

Statements of candidates appear on the following two pages.

MBA ABSENTEE BALLOT

Please vote for NOT MORE THAN FIVE (5) nominees for the MBA Board of Directors. For your absentee ballot to be valid, it must be MAILED, with the name of the voter on the outer envelope. There must be no more than two ballots per envelope. If two ballots are sent in one envelope, the names of both voters must be written on the outer envelope.

This ballot may not be reproduced, *and a facsimile will not be accepted. If you need additional ballots, please contact Jonathan Fleischmann at 734-255-6104.*

Please vote for NOT MORE THAN FIVE (5) candidates. An asterisk(*) indicates incumbent. Please put an X after your choices.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Grant Petersen* | _____ | 4. Jane Gardner | _____ |
| 2. Shelley Boschan* | _____ | 5. Richard Temkin* | _____ |
| 3. Patti Stoner* | _____ | 6. Allan Tushman* | _____ |

**Mail ballots to Jonathan Fleischmann, MBA Election Chair,
3844 Columbia Dr., Bloomfield Hills MI 48301 no later than Oct. 5.**

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GRANT PETERSEN

The duplicate bridge community is aging and there needs to be an infusion of new blood. As a current, and hopefully future board member, I understand the needs of new bridge players. It is important to offer opportunities for new players to learn the game in a friendly environment. In addition, we must continue to make the game fun and competitive for our more experienced players. My experience as a club owner, teacher and director affords me the ability to understand the needs of all types of players. I would love the opportunity to continue to serve the MBA membership.



SHELLEY BOSCHAN

I am running for my fifth term on the board. I have greatly enjoyed the experience of representing our membership in this privileged position. I was able to be instrumental in creating the online directory and continue to keep it updated for the benefit of both units. I am always available by email, cell phone or in person to address individual issues. I will gladly direct you to the proper person or venue to create a successful outcome. I look forward to serving another 2-year term.



PATTI STONER

I have served on the Board of Directors for the last three terms. I have enjoyed being involved with not only our members but being a part of our general Bridge Culture. I would appreciate being elected again.

JANE GARDNER

I would like to serve our bridge community on the MBA board. I am always willing to lend a helping hand whether it be at a club event, a tournament, or one on one with a fellow bridge player. I have already served the MBA in numerous ways including working at the tournament partnership desk. I am a participant at several clubs in the state, and attend many tournaments both locally, and out of state. I have my ear to the ground, listening to fellow bridge players, to learn ways we can make our game more enjoyable for all.

**RICHARD TEMKIN**

I have been on the board since 1992, serving as president four times. I negotiated the Agreement with SOMBA to allow MBA to hold its sectionals at the Bridge Connection. More recently, I was MBA's negotiator in the attempt to merge with SOMBA. Past accomplishments include serving as the MBA Representative on the NABC Steering Committee and arranging for low parking rates at the Detroit NABC; establishing a unit recorder and Conduct & Ethics Committee; and writing a complete update of MBA's by-laws. I would appreciate being returned to the board so that I may continue to serve you.

**ALLAN TUSHMAN**

I was elected to the MBA Board two years ago and have served as publicity chair. I also maintain and update daily the Facebook Page for the Michigan Bridge Connection. I started playing duplicate bridge in 2002 and have attained the rank of Gold Life Master. I am a retired attorney and now spend a great deal of time on my favorite hobby, the study of art history. I volunteer at the Detroit Institute of Arts where I work in the Art Research Library and the Archives. My favorite pastime is enjoying my six grandchildren and following their exploits.



IT'S YOUR BID

By Marty Hirschman

Congratulations to our new Motor City Regional Chair Brenda Bryant for her perfect 500 on this tough and complicated set of problems. Also congrats to Morris Swiger for best score among readers.

You too can be tough and complicated while sending in your answers to next issue's hands, found at the end of this article.

1. MTPTs. Both vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠AJ ♥AQJ1042 ♦AJ83 ♣J
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- -- Pass 1♥
3♣ 3♠ Pass

Action	Score	Votes
4♣	100	12
4♦	80	7
4NT	60	2
4♥	50	0
4♠	50	0

With all our controls, two good cards in partner's suit and sound overall values, we are very close to blasting off to 6♠. Only the lack of a third spade is holding us back. Hearts or even diamonds could easily play better than spades, where we may have to ruff a club with a spade honor.

4♣ and 4♦, the panel choices, both leave open the various possibilities, but with a different emphasis. Which is better?

John Koschik (4♦): I think 4♣ would suggest more spade length. If I hear 4♠ over 4♦, it should be a six-bagger. I'm going to Blackwood over either 4♥ or 4♠.

Don Rumelhart (4♦): Bidding out our pattern is always right when you don't know where you are heading. Diamonds may very well be our best strain, but if I don't bid them now, we are very unlikely to find a diamond fit.

The arguments for 4♣ strike me as less convincing:

Chuck Burger (4♣): Too much for 4♥ and 4♠. 4♦ natural but I wouldn't want a raise. Over my 4♣, 4♦ by partner should be natural, not a cuebid.

Morrie Kleinplatz (4♣): In this sequence, the first meaning of the cuebid is "Let's find a place to play." Partner should bid 4♥ with Kx, or may-

SCORES

Experts:

Brenda Bryant	500	Morris Swiger	480
Suzy Burger	480	Kerry Lafer	470
Kurt Dasher	460	Barb Reed	440
Jonathan Fleischmann ..	460	Jerry Jefferies	410
Dick Temkin	460	Valentine Enache	400
Chuck Burger	450	Patty Becker	380
Joe Chiesa	450	Doris Jefferies	370
Irv Rosenstein	450	Jim Reed	370
Don Rumelhart	450	Gerald Wahl	340
Willie Winokur	450	George Pope	330

Readers:

Addendum: June:	
Gerald Wahl	440

HOW THE PANEL VOTED

	1	2A	2B	2C	3	4A	4B	5
Gene Benedict	4♦	1♦	2♦	Y:3♥	3♣	Pass	Yes	2♠
Bob Brent	4♣	1♦	2♦	Y:3♦	Pass	6♣	N:4♦	2NT
Brenda Bryant	4♣	1♦	2♦	No	Pass	Pass	Yes	Pass
Chuck Burger	4♣	1♥	2♦	No	2NT	6♣	N:3NT	Pass
Suzy Burger	4♣	1♦	2♦	No	Pass	6♣	Yes	2NT
Joe Chiesa	4NT	1♦	2♦	No	Pass	Pass	Yes	2NT
Kurt Dasher	4♣	1♦	2♦	No	Dbl	6♣	Yes	2NT
Jonathan Fleischmann								
	4♣	1♦	2♦	No	Dbl	Pass	Yes	2♠
Dennis Kasle	4♦	2♦	--	--	Dbl	Pass	Yes	Pass
Bob Katz	4♣	1♦	2♦	No	2NT	6♣	Yes	2♠
Sheldon Kirsch	4♣	1♥	2♦	No	2NT	6♣	Yes	2NT
Morrie Kleinplatz	4♣	Pass	--	--	Pass	Pass	N:3NT	Pass
John Koschik	4♦	1♥	2♦	No	3♣	Pass	Yes	2NT
Myles Maddox	4♣	1♥	2♦	No	Pass	Pass	N:3NT	3NT
Howard Perlman	4♦	1♦	2♦	No	2NT	Pass	Yes	2♠
Linda Perlman	4♦	1♦	2♦	Y:3♦	Pass	Pass	Yes	Pass
Irv Rosenstein	4♣	1♥	2♦	No	Dbl	6♣	Yes	Pass
Don Rumelhart	4♦	1♦	2♦	No	Dbl	Pass	Yes	2NT
Richard Temkin	4♣	1♦	2♦	Y:3♥	Pass	Pass	Yes	Pass
Bob Webber	4NT	1♦	2♦	No	Dbl	6♣	Yes	2♠
Willie Winokur	4♦	1♥	2♦	No	Pass	6♣	Yes	Pass

be even with xx. Then RKC is easy. If he rebids 4♠ it will be close, but I would be inclined to continue with RKC. If he bids 4♦, I am headed to 6 or 7.

It is a fact of life that partner is going to assume/hope we have spade support if we bid 4♣. We won't find out much, because he hasn't got anything to cuebid, except maybe K of hearts.

Oddly, 4♦ may make it easier to get to diamonds (and less likely to get to 6♠ if partner only has five of them), but 4♣ might make it easier to get to 7♦ because we could bid RKC if partner bids 4♦ over 4♣. Given all the problems, however, we probably should just focus on getting to the best small slam.

CONGRATULATIONS, NEW LIFE MASTERS

Susan Evatt
Tom Hill
Douglas Kahn
John A. Nelson
Graham Putnam
Doris Jefferies
Gerald Mandell

2a. MTPTs. N-S vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠K ♥108652 ♦AKQ864 ♣7
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- -- Pass ?

b. Assuming partner responds 1♠ to whatever you open, what will you bid next?

c. Will you make a third call if partner makes only a minimal second bid? If so, what bid do you expect to make?

Action			Score	Votes
2A	2B	2C		
1♦	2♦	No	100	9
1♥	2♦	No	90	6
1♦	2♦	Y:3♦	60	2
1♦	2♦	Y:3♥	60	2
Pass	--	--	50	1
2♦	--	--	50	1
1♥	2♦	Y:3♦	50	0
1♦	2♥	Y:3♥	30	0
1♥	2♦	Y:4♦	30	0

We have 12 HCPs, so Pass and 2♦ are out. Absent a strong bid from partner, we are not good enough to bid three times, which tends to show 14 to 16 HCPs, and we certainly aren't strong enough to reverse. So the only way to show five hearts is to open 1♥. But that will work poorly when you wind up in 2♥ on a crummy 5-2 fit, or when LHO declares and partner leads a heart instead of a diamond.

Sheldon Kirsch (1♥/2♦/No):
Not enough to reverse, and

Bridge is all about majors.

Chuck Burger (1♥/2♦/No): Too little to reverse. Don't want to miss 5-3 heart fit.

Don Rumelhart (1♦/2♦/No): There are a lot of black cards out there, and if my LHO should bid spades or become declarer, I want a diamond lead. Also, my hand looks like four hearts and seven diamonds, so I will start that way.

Jonathan Fleischmann (1♦/2♦/No): I almost always open my six-card suit with 5-6 hand patterns, but I sometimes make an exception with five hearts. Here, the suit disparity convinces me to open 1♦.

Bob Brent (1♦/2♦/Y:3♦): Opening 1♥ usually ends up with your partner showing a false preference with Qx or the like.

Howard Perlman (1♦/2♦/No): Sure I could miss a heart game or a higher paying part score, but this gives us the best chance for a plus on offense. If we defend, definitely want a diamond lead.

Because our hand and our hearts are so weak, opening 1♦ rates to work out better most of the time. We will only miss a heart game when partner has exactly three hearts with close to opening values. And some of the time he has

that hand, the opponents will outbid us with spades anyway.

3. MTPTs. E-W vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠Q63 ♥Q93 ♦AQ ♣AQJ52
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- Pass Pass 1NT
2♦ Pass Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
Pass	100	9
Dbl	80	6
2NT	70	4
3♣	60	2

This would be such an easy Pass at IMPs, but here there is a lot to worry about.

Brenda Bryant (Pass): Partner made no noise, and a good portion of my hand is in diamonds.

Morrie Kleinplatz (Pass): Partner has some diamond length here, but not much in points, and we have no sure landing spot. My defensive prospects are not good, but our offensive ones are worse. I believe this is their hand.

Joe Chiesa (Pass): Unless partner is completely busted he does not have a 5-card major. Thus a takeout double is likely to result in a minus in a 4-3 major fit. For those that bid 2NT or even 3♣, consider Custer at Little Big Horn. Even

if partner has a club fit, he must cover 4 of my 8 losers.

Bob Webber (Dbl): This may not turn out well, but passing concedes a probable average-minus result.

Irv Rosenstein (Dbl): Willing to play a 4-3 major fit at the 2-level. Can take ruffs if needed in the short hand.

Jonathan Fleischmann (Dbl): I play these doubles as take-out, and I have a good hand for that. Especially at matchpoints, I don't want to foreclose 2 of a major.

Gene Benedict (3♣): I'm not vulnerable, and I want a club lead if the opponents bid more.

Howard Perlman (2NT): Matchpoints. Favorable vulnerability. Unlikely to be getting a good score defending.

Chuck Burger (2NT): Pard does not have a 5-card major or enough to compete, but seems to have some values. Must compete at matchpoints. Dbl will probably lead to a 4-3 major fit: No good.

Bob Katz (2NT): You have a maximum with a good 5-card suit and a double stopper. And down 1 or 2 (undoubled) may be a good matchpoint score. Pass is a close second choice.

We have a double stopper and a source of tricks, so if I'm going to bid, I like 2NT. And it is a level lower than 3♣. If I ever figure out whether it's right to bid at all, I'll let you know.

4a. MTPTs. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠AK92 ♥AK954 ♦J7 ♣Q6
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
 2♠ 3♣ Pass 3♥
 Pass 4♣ Pass 4♠
 Pass 5♣ Pass ?

b. Do you agree with 3♥ and 4♠? If not, what would you have bid?

Action		Score Votes	
4A	4B		
Pass	Yes	100	10
Pass	N:3NT	90	2
6♣	Yes	90	7
6♣	N:3NT	80	1
6♣	N:4♦*	70	1

*As RKC over 4♣

We went out of our way to ask partner for a diamond control for slam, and he said no. Either we believe him...

Dennis Kastle (Pass/Yes): Partner is without A, K or singleton diamond.

Joe Chiesa (Pass/Yes): I have shown my suit and cuebid as a slam try in clubs and diagnosed diamonds as the trouble spot. With a hand

akin to AKxxxxx and K of diamonds, partner should have bid a slam.

Morrie Kleinplatz (Pass/N:3NT): I've made my bed.

Jonathan Fleischmann (Pass/Yes): Conservative, but partner should realize we had concerns about diamonds.

...or we don't.

Bob Katz (6♣/Yes): if this goes down, partner should not have bid 3♣ in my opinion.

Bob Brent (6♣/N:4♦[RKC]/4♣): My partner must have something besides AKJxxx(x) of clubs. We may be cold for 7 if he has the diamond ace.

Chuck Burger (6♣/N:3NT): 5♣ doesn't deny a diamond control, and we should have a play even with minimum.

5. MTPTs. N-S vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠A875 ♥Q7652 ♦A ♣AJ7
 WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
 -- Pass 1♣ 1♥
 Pass 1NT Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
Pass	100	8
2NT	90	7
2♠	80	5
3NT	60	1

Partner's 1NT should show about 9-11 HCPs, so we need to move toward game with our

15. He could still have four spades (1♠ would have tended to show five) so it is obvious to continue with 2♠. There is really no other sensible bid, in my view, though Pass could work out the best if partner has a bad hand (despite the vulnerability) or things don't go well in the play.

Howard Perlman (2♠): Descriptive raise to 2NT.

Gene Benedict (2♠): A 4-4 spade fit is still possible. Diamonds may be a weak spot if the hand is played in notrump.

Jonathan Fleischmann (2♠): Partner showed values by bidding 1NT. I don't mind forcing the auction with my nice hand. We might still have a spade fit, since partner usually doesn't reveal four spades here.

Don Rumelhart (2NT): Seems right on values. Partner will know what to do.

Irv Rosenstein (Pass): Partner has a lot of length in the minors.

Dennis Kasle (Pass): No other reasonable alternative.

Brenda Bryant (Pass): Where are we getting our tricks from if partner has no fit in hearts.

Well, there are three other suits...

NEXT ISSUE'S HANDS

1. MTPTs. E-W vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠AK642 ♥82 ♦A972 ♣63

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

-- Pass 1♠ Pass

1NT 2♣ 2♥ ?

2 IMPs. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠AK642 ♥KQ754 ♦AK4 ♣void

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

-- -- Pass 1♠

Pass 1NT* Pass 3♥

Pass 4♥ Pass ?

*Forcing

3. MTPTs. None vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠J7 ♥10973 ♦QJ2 ♣KQ109

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

2♥ 4♣* Pass ?

*5+ spades and 5+clubs, game-forcing

4. MTPTs. Both vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠J8 ♥AK864 ♦J102 ♣K94

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

Pass Pass 1♠ Pass

1NT Pass Pass ?

5. MTPTs. Both vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠AKQ10 ♥984 ♦AJ ♣7653

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

-- -- -- 1♣

1♦ 2♦ Pass 2♣

Pass 3♣ Pass ?

Mail your answers to:

Table Talk Magazine

4504 Knollcrest Road

Ann Arbor MI 48108

Or email to:

MBATalk@aol.com

Michigan players shine at Atlanta NABC

■Sondra Schubiner won the NABC women's pairs. Her partner was Linda Wynston of Toronto.

■Bob Rasmussen, David Aderente, Wilbur Argersinger, Timur Aydin and Ching-Po Wang won Flight B of the Grand National Teams.

■Dennis Kastle and a star-studded squad won the Tuesday Swiss teams.

IN MEMORIAM

Roland Meade

Correction

A story in the last issue of Table Talk gave the wrong name for the new acting executive director of the ACBL. He is Joe Jones, the league's former chief financial officer.

Michigan/SOMBA Joint Sectional

June 20-24, Southfield

Masterpoint Leaders

- 1, Owen Lien, 31.58
- 2, Jerrold Grossman, 31.29
- 3, Bert Newman, 29.65
- 4, Michael Alioto, 28.75
- 5, Jonathan Fleischmann, 28.09
- 6, Sheldon Kirsch, 25.83
- 7, Michael Crane, 24.59
- 8, Debra Eaves, 24.17
- 9, Steven Winokur, 22.38
- 10, Ron Smith, 21.62

THURSDAY AM OPEN

PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Jonathan Fleischmann, Ron Smith. 2, Robert Katz, Owen Lien. 3, Jerrold Grossman, Debra Eaves.

FLIGHT B: 1, Judi Amatangelo, Linda Mittelstaedt. 2, Lakshmi Vora, Naresh Kapila. 3, Wilbur Argersinger, David Graff. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Sylvia Wohlman, Marianne Victor. 2, Gary Luoma, Jane Gardner. 3, Song Lin, Satish Shah.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

SWISS TEAMS FLIGHT A: 1, Samir Zeine, Bert Newman, Kathy Newman, Irving Rosenstein. 2, Bob Webber, Sheldon Kirsch, Debra Eaves, Jerrold Grossman. 3, Douglas Kahn, Andrew Garnett, Owen Lien, Linda Perlman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Satish Shah, Larry Cohen, Kerry Lafer, Song Lin. 2, Carolyn Simmer, Michael

Kaleel, Richard Menczer, John Dreifus. 3, Gerald Vie-drah, Beverly Kruger, Peter Bolgar, Bonnie Weinstein. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Shah team. 2, Nathan Banker, Suzanne McIlhiny, Barb Ferrera, Jane Gardner.

THURSDAY EVENING OPEN

PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Jonathan Fleischmann, Ron Smith. 2, Chun Zhou, Xiaoping Wu. 3, William Landrum, Barb Ferrera. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Zhou, Wu. 2, Landrum, Ferrera. 3, Andrew Garnett, Douglas Kahn.

FRIDAY AM OPEN PAIRS:

FLIGHT A: 1, Anastasia Tessler, Bert Newman. 2, Owen Lien, Michael Alioto. 3, Lori Strager, Michael Crane. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Robert Raf, Steven Jacob. 2, Grant Petersen, Alan Cohn. 3, Ren Klatt, Ed Seguin. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Klatt, Seguin. 2, Mike Roeder, Richard Verhelle. 3, Anita Green, Mari Kaftan.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON OPEN

PAIRS FLIGHT AA: 1, Jerrold Grossman, Sheldon Kirsch. 2, Owen Lien, Michael Alioto. 3, Michael Kaleel, Richard Menczer. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Kaleel, Menczer. 2, Robert Trenary, Steven Winokur. 3, Robert Raf, Steven Jacob. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Ren Klatt, Ed

Seguin. 2, Evelyn Liehr, Robert Bloom. 3, Marianne Victor, Judith Kamins.

FRIDAY EVENING FAST PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Jonathan Fleischmann, Ron Smith. 2, Peter Bolgar, Grant Petersen. 3, David Cook, Diana Cook. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Bolgar, Petersen. 2, Cook, Cook. 3, Xiaoping Wu, Chun Zhou. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Cook, Cook. 2, Wu, Zhou.

SATURDAY MORNING OPEN PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, John Dreifus, Michael Kaleel. 2, Samir Zeine, Charlotte Miller. 3, James Walter, Clarke Cunningham. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Dreifus, Kaleel. 2, Walter, Cunningham. 3, Neil Manley Jr., Elaine Spiro. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Robert Bloom, Gerald Bloom. 2, Julian Prince, Dennis Potocsky.

SATURDAY SWISS TEAMS FLIGHT A 1, Robert Brent, Martin Hirschman, Linda Perlman, Howard Perlman. 2, Debra Eaves, Jerrold Grossman, Dennis Kasle, Michael Crane. 3, Steven Winokur, Ching-Po Wang, Xingyu Zhang, Frank Treiber III. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Robert Raf, Ronna Galin, Cheryl Bloom, Jim Bloom. 2, David Copi, Judith Gessner, Giles Schnob, Dianne Arman. 3, Anthony

Savant, Harrison Fletcher, Craig Linderman, Marianne Linderman. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Copi team. 2, Savant team. 3, Tengyun Tony Cao, Yu Chen, Henry Zhang, Yanping Zhang.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON OPEN PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Bert Newman, Roberta Toll. 2, Peter Attwood, Sandra Piirainen. 3, Peter Bolgar, Howard Heckman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Attwood, Piirainen. 2, Bolgar, Heckman. 3, Andrew Garnett, Douglas Kahn. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Larry Cohen, Satish Shah. 2, Bonnie Weinstein, Geraldine Spilman.

SUNDAY SWISS TEAMS: FLIGHT A 1, Steven Winokur, Morrie Kleinplatz, Frank Treiber

STEIN TROPHY RACE

Compiled by Bill Arlinghaus

Here are the standings with just the Motor City Regional to go:

- 1, Sheldon Kirsch, 87.69
- 2, Jonathan Fleischmann, 71.80
- 3, Owen Lien, 71.45
- 4, Bert Newman, 56.23
- 5, Marty Hirschman, 53.50
- 6, Linda Perlman, 51.93
- 7, Robert Katz, 50.67
- 8, Richard Temkin, 50.06
- 9, John Koschik, 45.78
- 10, Willie Winokur, 44.62

III, Robert Brandow. 2, Kurt Dasher, Michael Alioto, Jonathan Fleischmann, Robert Katz. 3, Bob Rasmussen, David Aderente, Richard Becher, John Koschik. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Satish Shah, Thomas Hunt, Manu Sheth, Ross Weinstein. 2, Tengyun Tony Cao, Yu Chen, Henry Zhang, Yanping Zhang. 3, James Walter, Wilbur Argersinger, Lillian Back, Grant Petersen. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Cao team. 2/4, Joyce Jonik, Bruce Burns, Steven Dotson, Donna Dotson. 2/4, Gary Luoma, Bob Ondo, Barb Ferrera, Jane Gardner. 2/4, Charles Royer, Susan Royer, Sally Lusk, Jon Lusk.

0-500 winners

at June sectional

THURSDAY AM PAIRS: Alan Hassoun, Janice McHale

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SWISS: David McIntyre, Tracey King, Peter Malcolmson, Margaret Carden

FRIDAY AM PAIRS: Reiko Glenn, Naoko Wada

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: Michael Fant, Paul Tilly

SATURDAY AM PAIRS: Michael Fant, Paul Tilly

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: Julian Prince, Alan Hassoun

- - -

SATURDAY AM 99ER PAIRS: Naoko Wada, Reiko Glenn

MOVING UP...

JUNIOR

MASTERS

Marnie Edwards
Beth Hoyt
Mandy Mitchell
Eric Wiedmayer

CLUB MASTERS

John H. Smith
Larry Trager
Carol VanDenBerg

SECTIONAL MASTER

Mary Robinson

NABC MASTERS

Reuven
AnafShalom
James Egan
Deanne Spoor

ADVANCED

NABC MASTERS

Douglas Kahn
James McNamara

BRONZE LIFE

MASTERS

Colleen D'Agostino
Doris Jefferies
Douglas Kahn

SILVER LIFE

MASTERS

William Landrum
Royce Williams

RUBY LIFE

MASTER

Allan Loeb

GOLD LIFE

MASTER

Michael McDonald

DIAMOND LIFE

MASTER

Charlotte Miller

RUSSELL ROOSEN SECTIONAL

Aug. 23-26, Southfield

TOP MASTERPOINT WINNERS

- 1, Samir Zeine, 33.85
- 2/3, William Winokur, 30.45
- 2/3, Wilbur Argersinger, 30.45
- 4, Gordon Parnes, 30.43
- 5, Sheldon Kirsch, 29.34
- 6, Richard Becher, 27.06
- 7, John Koschik, 24.04
- 8, Susan Parnes, 23.60
- 9, Dennis Carman, 23.16
- 10, Robert Mendelson, 23.12

THURSDAY AM OPEN

PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Bob Webber, Sheldon Kirsch. 2, Wilbur Argersinger, David Aderente. 3, Bert Newman, Kathy Newman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Argersinger, Aderente. 2, Song Lin, Satish Shah. 3, Marilyn Crane, Barbara Kalnick. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Lin, Shah. 2, Larry Cohen, George Christian. 3, James McNamara, Douglas Sweeder.

THURSDAY STRATIFIED SWISS TEAMS FLIGHT A:

1, Ronald Horwitz, Michael Giordano, Walter Goldsmith, Brenda Jaffe. 2, Nancy Finkel, Richard Menczer, Carolyn Simmer, James Smyth. 3, Kelley Hwang, Robert Mendelson, Sheldon Kirsch, Bob Webber. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Finkel team. 2, Grant Petersen,

Sandy Birnholtz, David Aderente, Wilbur Argersinger. 3, Satish Shah, Song Lin, Larry Cohen, George Christian. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Shah team. 2, Irving Hershtman, Daniel Schiffer, Raj Patil, Barb Marti. 3, Gary Luoma, Barb Ferrera, Bob Ondo, Jane Gardner.

THURSDAY EVENING OPEN

PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Joe Monro, Mike Roeder. 2, Tracey King, David McIntyre. 3, Bonnie Weinstein, Linda Perlman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Monroe, Roeder. 2, King, McIntyre. 3, Gerald Wahl, Michael Betzold. **FLIGHT C:** 1, King, McIntyre. 2, Wahl, Betzold.

FRIDAY AM OPEN PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Wilbur Argersinger, Bob Rasmussen. 2, Samir Zeine, William Winokur. 3, Robert Katz, Gordon Parnes. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Argersinger, Rasmussen. 2, Steve O'Guin, Dolores Bright. 3, Sandy Birnholtz, James Rowe. **FLIGHT C:** 1, James McNamara, Douglas Sweeder. 2, Barb Ferrera, William Landrum. 3/4, Steven Kaplan, Larry Cohen. 3/4, Henry Zhang, Yangping Zhang.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON OPEN

PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Dennis Carman, John Koschik. 2,

Mary Smith, Myles Maddox. 3, Robert Trenary, Steven Winokur. **FLIGHT B:** Trenary, Winokur. 2, Wilbur Argersinger, Bob Rasmussen. 3, Steven Kaplan, Larry Cohen. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Kaplan, Cohen. 2, Henry Zhang, Yangping Zhang. 3, Miriam Shaw, Bette Wolf.

FRIDAY EVENING FAST PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Nathan Banker, Arthur Wasserman. 2, Sondra Schubiner, Barry Lippitt. 3, Linda Perlman, Zachary Wasserman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Banker, Wasserman. 2, Rita Rubin, Peter Bolgar. 3, Karen Proefke, Carol Burkett. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Proefke, Burkett. 2, Bob Ondo, Maria Conti. 3, Wendy Winnick, Robert Winnick.

SATURDAY AM OPEN PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, John Koschik, Dennis Carman. 2, Jonathan Fleischmann, Kelley Hwang. 3, Miriam Shaw, Bette Wolf. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Shaw, Wolf. 2, Clarke Cunningham, Judy Hoher. 3, Gerald Bloom, Robert Bloom. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Shaw, Wolf. 2, Bloom, Bloom.

SATURDAY OPEN SWISS TEAMS FLIGHT A: 1, Edward White, Martin Hirschman, Susan Parnes, Gordon Parnes. 2, Linda Perlman, Owen Lien, Sheldon Kirsch, Michael Alioto. 3, Corey Powell, Gregory

Dressler, James Egan, Graham Putnam. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Powell team. 2, Satish Shah, Ross Weinstein, Thomas Hunt, Jerome Hasenjager. 3, Suzanne Baker, Jagit Singh, Gary Theis, Robert Christensen. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Powell team. 2, Tengyun Tony Cao, Yu Chen, Henry Zhang, Yangping Zhang. 3, D. Abraham, Lynda Lev, Joan Roberts, Patti Stoner.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON OPEN PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Chuck Burger, Suzy Burger, 2/3, Samir Zeine, Charlotte Miller. 2/3, John Koschik, Dennis Carman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Jon Lusk, Sally Lusk. 2, Rita Levin, Anita Green. 3, Howard Heckman, Raj Patil. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Lusk, Lusk. 2, Levin, Green. 3, Lois Wodika, Rebecca Bellinger.

SUNDAY OPEN SWISS TEAMS BRACKET 1: 1, Jack Shartsis, Samir Zeine, Richard Becher, William Winokur. 2/3, Owen Lien, Zachary Wasserman, Robert Mendelson, Suzy Burger. 2/3, Richard Temkin, Irving Rosenstein, Susan Parnes, Gordon Parnes.

SUNDAY OPEN SWISS TEAMS BRACKET 2: 1, Sandy Birnholtz, Robert Raf, Steven Jacob, Clarke Cunningham. 2, Suzanne Baker, Jagit Singh, Gary Theis, Rob-

ert Christensen. 3, Michael Crane, Lori Strager, Cheryl Bloom, James Bloom.

SUNDAY OPEN SWISS TEAMS BRACKET 3: 1, Bob Ondo, Gary Luoma, Jane Gardner, Barb Ferrera. 2, Woodie Goddard, Diane Wellstein, Bruce Poling, Nanci Poling. 3, David Copi, Don-najean Lawson, Flora Moore, Darleen Yaskanin.

SUNDAY OPEN SWISS TEAMS BRACKET 4: 1, Thomas Johnson, Jerrie Sasson, Judith Kamins, Jean Hellekjaer. 2, Inderpal Bhatia, Martha Bhatia, Corey Powell, Renata Wasserman. 3/4, Chung Zhou, John Beckman, Sarah Beckman, Xiangguo Deng. 3/4, Chris Hill, Ann Margosian, Joyce Close, Rosalyn Monticciolo.

0-500 Winners at August Sectional

THURSDAY AM PAIRS: Jerrie Sasson, Gary Boyers

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SWISS TEAMS: Paul Tilly, Michael Fant, Evelyn Rosen, Maria Conti, tied with Lisa Karam, Laura Burke, John Grant, Carrie Osborne

FRIDAY AM PAIRS: Chris Hill, Ann Margosian

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: Michael Fant, Paul Tilly

SATURDAY AM PAIRS: Adele Forster, Robert Forster

SAMIR ZEINE, top master-point winner at the August



sectional, is a native of Jordan who has been living and playing in the Detroit area this year. Zeine, 62, attended Texas Tech in the 1970s, then returned to Jordan to work in his family's business. He has represented Jordan in several international bridge events.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: Rosemary Sharland, Arlene Borland

TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Oct. 8-14: MOTOR CITY REGIONAL, Farmington Hills (MBA)

Oct. 19-21: Midland sectional

Oct. 26-27: Bloomfield Hills NLM sectional

Oct. 26-28: Toledo sectional

Oct. 29-Nov. 4: STaC Week

Nov. 15-18: Southfield sectional

2019

Jan. 12-13: Jackson sectional

Jan. 26-27: Ann Arbor sectional (MBA)

Feb. 7-10: Southfield sectional

Feb. 23-24: Flint sectional

Mar. 1-3: Toledo sectional

April 4-7: Southfield sectional (MBA)

SOLUTION TO AT THE WHEEL

From back page

NORTH

♠1062

♥8653

♦84

♣A762

WEST

♠98

♥Q42

♦KQJ965

♣54

EAST

♠7543

♥K1097

♦103

♣1083

SOUTH

♠AKQJ

♥AJ

♦A72

♣KQJ9

To make 6♣, you will have to throw a diamond from dummy on the spade winners, and then ruff *two* diamonds in dummy. That will require two trumps to do the ruffing, which means you won't be able to

completely pull trump before cashing the spades.

After winning the diamond lead, cash two high clubs in hand, then try to run four spades, throwing dummy's losing diamond. This will require that one of the opponents, presumably East, started with three or four clubs and at least four spades.

If four rounds of spades hold up, you can ruff a diamond low, then cross to the ace of hearts and ruff another diamond with the ace of clubs. You will then be able to score two of the last three tricks with your J9 of trump.

This hand came up at this year's Russell Roosen Sectional. Unfortunately at the table West, not East, had the four-card spade holding, so East ruffed the third spade, and 6♣ wound up down 2.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Mike Andrews

Eileen Buck

Carl Constant

Floreen Halpern

Millicent Higgins

Brenda Maxwell

Riley McNamara

Mary O'Shaughnessey

Charlotte Worthen

Jonathan Xia

J.Y. Michael Zhang

WELCOME, TRANSFERS

Maurice Breen

Mrs. C. Carson

Carolyn Simmer

Mitchell Simmer

Steven Spaeth

Kids dive into game at first Michigan Bridge Camp

Thirty youngsters age 10 to 16 decamped at the YMCA site in Holly for a week in July. Activities included canoeing, archery, rock wall climbing, and, oh yes, every morning and night they studied and played bridge.

The Michigan Youth Bridge Camp was the brainchild of local player Susan Woodrow of Waterford, a former administrative law judge who is phasing out her practice of law in favor of more bridge. Her grand-nephew Caleb Green, 12, of Fenton has been playing duplicate for a couple of years, but only had adult partners. Susan saw the camp project in part as a way to help develop some young partners for Caleb.

Campers came from as far away as Louisiana, Florida, Massachusetts and Missouri, and included one youngster from MBA-land, Riley McNamara, 12, of Allen Park. Volunteer instructors included local players Mike Giordano, Phil Smith, Nathan Banker, Peter Bolgar, Tai Chan, Ed White and Brenda Fortunate.

Masterpoints were awarded to those who did well in the nightly tournaments.

Ten of the youngsters went



Above: Susan Woodrow with Fernando Ruiz, left, of Waterford and Eli Bellinger of Mt. Pleasant. **Below:** Caleb Green, left, of Fenton, Shi Chen of Chicago, Brenda Fortunate, Zack Posternak of Boston.



on to Atlanta to play in the summer North American Bridge Championships and concurrent Youth NABC. They won a total of 80.65 masterpoints in Atlanta.

Woodrow already is planning the 2019 camp, which will be held July 7-13 at Camp Wathana in northern Oakland County. If you wish to help out or know a teen or preteen who might be interested, contact Woodrow at 248-760-1818.

Summer of Greatness

By Martin Hirschman
World's Greatest Bridge Bidder

How I spent my summer...
on Facebook:

Martin Hirschman July 18

Many of my old and new Friends are part of the world of Bridge. All of you have suffered at one time or another over the right way to bid a certain hand. Well, all ego aside (for the moment), I'm going to suggest that I am one of the greatest bridge bidders there is. If there is a "right" answer to your problem I know what it is. And now that you are all my Friends, it seems only fitting and proper that I offer to help you out. So...send me the hands that you are suffering over, and I will try to show you the way...via return email. (Some of these problems and my responses may show up as posts on Facebook.) Write me at mbatalk@aol.com. Don't forget to include the vulnerability and form of scoring. I will try to answer all inquiries. No charge to my Friends.

Martin Hirschman July 19

Here is our first submission... Fran of suburban Detroit asks: Matchpoints. E-W vul. As South, you hold:

♠953 ♥Q6 ♦KQ7 ♣KQJ83

TABLE TALK

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♣	1♥	Dbl	Pass
?			

MARTY'S ANSWER: Bid 1NT. Qx is a good holding opposite a hoped-for Hxxx. No heart raise from East makes such a holding in North more likely, if not probable. Spades, clubs or even diamonds could be better but they are each as much of a gamble as 1NT, mostly with less upside.

Martin Hirschman July 19

GREAT BRIDGE BIDDING

Brenda Borock Jaffe of suburban Detroit asks whether to open 1♦ or 1♥ on ♠AJ ♥KQxxx ♦AJxxxx ♣void.

MARTY'S ANSWER: Open 1♦: This hand, with its 15 high card points and 6-5 pattern, is worth three bids, which is what it is going to take to show five hearts if you open 1♦. You will next try to bid hearts twice. If the hand were weaker, I would open 1♥ to make sure partner knows I have 5 of them.

Martin Hirschman July 19

I'm the greatest bridge bidder. I make great bids. If you have a bidding problem, I challenge you to send it to me at MBAtalk@aol.com or on Facebook.

PAGE 23

Miriam David Forman I bet you have the best words too

Martin Hirschman Second-best. Best is already taken, I've heard.

Jerry Grossman Dealer matchpoints none vul:

♠AKJxxxx ♥x ♦x ♣Jxxx. One spade or three or four or pass for now?

MARTY'S ANSWER: 1♠. I almost never open one of a suit with less than 10 HCPs, but my spades are a little weak for 4♠, and I am afraid I will miss game too often if I open 3♠ and partner has around 12 HCPs, including some club cards but without a spade fit. [Many commenters favored opening 4♠.]

Martin Hirschman July 20

REALLY GREAT BRIDGE BIDS

Fran Wigod of suburban Detroit writes:

At matchpoints, I held:

♠AJxxx ♥xxxx ♦Qx ♣Q10.

Fran	Partner
------	---------

Pass	1♣
------	----

1♠	1NT
----	-----

?

I passed. Should I have bid 2♥? To bid a new suit don't I need 10 points and maybe a better suit?

MARTY'S ANSWER: After a 1NT rebid by opener, all the rules are different. 2♥ shows 6-10 HCPs and is non-

forcing. That is the correct bid on this hand. Partner must pass with four hearts, otherwise correct to 2♠. (If you had 11 or more HCPs with the same shape, you would use New Minor Forcing.)

Having said that, this particular 5-4-2-2 hand has a lot for NT: an ace and two queens, including Q10 filling out partner's possible length/strength in clubs. And a point-count maximum. So pass will work better some of the time.

Martin Hirschman July 20

REALLY VERY GREAT BRIDGE BIDS

Owen Lien of Oak Park MI asks:

Matchpoints, vul. vs. nvul.

♠A10 ♥AJxx ♦xx ♣KQxxx

LHO PARTNER RHO YOU

Pass Pass 2♦ ?

MARTY'S ANSWER: 2♥. This seems to work surprisingly often (+140 in a 4-2 fit?), and leaves room for partner to save you some of the time by bidding another strain. At IMPs, I would double, which allegedly is safer. I really don't like 3♣, but obviously that is the third choice. Anything could work on a given deal.

Owen Lien I chose X, now how would you advance with ♠Qxx ♥KQxx ♦Kxx ♣T9x? (2NT Lebensohl followed by 3♥ shows invite with exactly 4♥)

Martin Hirschman July 21

GREAT BRIDGE BIDS

Leon Fisher of Clearwater FL asks whether to open the bidding on ♠x ♥QT9 ♦KQT9 ♣KJT98 in first seat vul. at matchpoints.

MARTY'S ANSWER: No. You have only 11 HCPs and no aces. If partner has minimal opening values with no fit, you will wind up in game, probably going down. Better to pass and, if partner opens, eventually bid to 2NT (assuming no fit) to correctly show your strength. Another factor is that we are short in the majors, particularly spades. So if this turns out to be a competitive partscore deal, opponents have the tactical advantage of owning the higher ranking suit, whereas if we pass there is some chance the hand will be passed out. If I had an ace as part of my 11 and the same shape (and no singleton honor) I would open. (Aces are really worth about 4.2 HCPs, so having one turns 11 into 11+.)

Of course there are some players and partnerships that open almost all 11-point hands. That's OK if you have some way to stay out of game if partner has 12 or a misfitting 13...without also missing your normal games.

Martin Hirschman July 24

THE WORLD'S GREATEST BRIDGE BIDDER is off to the North Am. Bridge Championships in Atlanta. So there may be some delay in posting answers to your questions. Please send your toughest bidding questions to MBAtalk@aol.com.

Martin Hirschman August 1

THE WORLD'S GREATEST BRIDGE BIDDER is enroute back to Michigan. Here is a hand from Atlanta: IMPS. (GNT RD OF 16)

♠AK ♥KJx ♦K10xx ♣AJxx
You Partner
2NT(18-19) 3♠(relay)
3NT 4♠ = short-
ness w 5-5 in minors

Slam try ????

MARTY'S ANSWER: I bid 6NT, which was cold on 2-1 diamonds. Partner held ♠void ♥xx ♦Axxxxx ♣KQxxx. We won two imps when our opponents got to 6♦. It was IMPs so no big deal, right? Well we wound up winning our 60-board match by just one IMP!

Debbie Bennett to Martin Hirschman August 1

You hold:

♠x ♥AQ10 ♦AQx ♣AKxxxx.

All vul. Pass on your right.

You open 1♣, P, 1♦, P, ?

MARTY'S ANSWER: 2♥. Strong jump shift forcing to game.

Debbie Bennett Partner [next] bids 3♥...

Martin Hirschman 6♦. I have to admit I thought we had four hearts when I bid 2♥. I guess I would have bid 2♥ anyway.

Debbie Bennett I believe that's the winner. Partner holds:

♠Qxx, ♥KJxx, ♦K1087x, ♣x

Martin Hirschman August 4
WORLD'S GREATEST BRIDGE
BIDDER?

Bill Dinner sent this problem from Bridge Base today: IMPs. Vul.

♠53 ♥AQ ♦A642 ♣KQ842

P P 3♣ ?

MARTY'S ANSWER: Pass. Partner's average hand is about 8 or 9 HCPs with 2 spades, 4 or 5 hearts, 3+ of each minor. On average I don't think we will go plus in 4♣, and some of the time I bid it partner will raise to 5♣ and we will go down there. We have a decent chance of getting a plus against 3♣. Partner is about a toss-up to have a

spade stopper, and if I could transfer to 3NT from his side I might try it. Marty Bergen claims double here is basically asking partner to bid 3NT with a spade stopper, but the simple fact is that partner will bid 4♥ about 80 percent of the time if we double. If partner has a singleton spade and 9-11 HCPs, he may double on the way out, and we can take a shot at 5♣.

Martin Hirschman August 9
WORLD'S GREATEST BRIDGE
BIDDER? Due to a lack of complaints about the heading of this "column," I am removing the "(?)" from future posts.

Martin Hirschman August 13
WORLD'S GREATEST BRIDGE
BIDDER...

Hamdi Karluk of Karsiyaka, Turkey, via Columbia SC, asks: IMPs. Both vul. You hold:

♠KT863 ♥4 ♦KT976 ♣J4

Partner	You
---------	-----

1♥	1♠
----	----

2♣	?
----	---

NEW IN ANN ARBOR

BAROMETER DUPLICATE BRIDGE with deal-by-deal instruction, Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., beginning Sept. 29, at Burns Park Senior Center, 734-794-6250.

BEGINNING BRIDGE: 5 lessons on consecutive Mondays, beginning Nov. 5, at 9:45-11:30 a.m., at the Ann Arbor City Club. 734-662-3279.

--Stacey Tessler & Debra Eaves, instructors

MARTY'S ANSWER: 2♠. Best hope for 7-card fit. Partner is a heavy favorite to have exactly five hearts and four clubs, so passing or bidding 2♥ is unappealing. If he has a 6th heart, 5th club or 4 diamonds, he may pattern out. 2♦ would be artificial game-force, which would get us way too high.

Hamdi Karluk Opener had ♠2 ♥QT975 ♦A54 ♣AK72. Somehow the winning contract was 3♦.

Martin Hirschman August 14
WORLD'S GREATEST BRIDGE BIDDER...

Jay Hirschman Vera, Miles & I are playing Monopoly. I own the 3 yellows and 2 of the 3 reds. What should I offer Miles for the 3rd red (Kentucky Ave.)?

MARTY'S ANSWER: A chocolate chip cookie. [Jay is my brother, Vera his wife and Miles their grandson.]

Martin Hirschman August 19
WORLD'S GREATEST BRIDGE BIDDER...

Mark Hugger of suburban Detroit asks:

Matchpoints. N-S vul. As South, you hold:

♠KQ52 ♥A7 ♦83 ♣KQ854
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- -- 1♥ ?

MARTY'S ANSWER: 1♠. Losing strategy to pass a 14-count at matchpoints. Bidding

will encourage partner to bid if he has a fit or long suit of his own. 4-3 fit will usually play OK at two-level if partner raises. 2♣ is dangerous, but obviously could work out better on a given deal as could Dbl or Pass. Ax in opps' suit plus two aceless suits is not the time to overcall a stretched 1NT.

Toni Bales to Martin Hirschman August 31

Hi - I have a Bridge ?. You hold ♠10xx ♦10x ♦Q1098765 ♣x left hand opp is dealer and opens 1♣ and partner X. 2♣ on your right. We are red they are white. What is your call? If you pass and partner now bids 2NT what do you do? Just by chance if you chose to bid 2♦ over 2♣ and partner bids 2NT what would you do? And if you chose to bid 3♦ over 2NT and partner bid 3NT what would you do? Team game — Pittsburgh Regional - 2018. I appreciate your thoughts on this... Thanks!

MARTY'S ANSWER: 1. Pass. Volunteering a bid promises at least 5 HCP. 2. 3♦. 3. Kill myself for bidding 2♦ freely. 4. Pass. Maybe partner has three diamonds.

Send questions to the World's Greatest Bridge Bidder on Facebook or at MBAtalk@aol.com.

AT THE WHEEL

By Marty Hirschman

Matchpoints
N-S vul.

	NORTH		
	♠1062		
	♥8653		
	♦84		
	♣A762		
WEST		EAST	
	SOUTH		
	♠AKQJ		
	♥AJ		
	♦A72		
	♣KQJ9		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
--	Pass	Pass	2♣
2♦	Pass*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

*Game-forcing

Opening lead: King of diamonds
Can you find a way to make 6♣?
Solution, page 21