

CBF Junior Newsletter – Volume 1 - January 18, 2012

This newsletter is for Canada's Juniors. There will be one every two weeks. They will be available on the CBF Web Site.

Junior Manager (Bryan Maksymetz)

Thanks to those who participated in the first practice session on Saturday. It was fun and there were some interesting hands (see below – comments by Eric Kokish).

Next Practice: Saturday, January 21st at 1:00 PM EST. We can meet on BBO in a chat room – look for my BBO id – [maks](#).

We always need new players, so if any of you know of someone you think would be a good addition to the program, please let them know.

Future Competitions:

**Canadian Bridge Championships, Montreal. April 28th to May 5th
Flight B (Under 2500) and Flight C (Under 1000).**

World Youth Team Championships (U25 & U20) – Taicang City, China. July 24th to August 4, 2012

CBF Youth and Junior Bridge

There will be new and exciting things added to the **Youth and Junior Bridge** section. Under **Junior Bridge Documents**, you will find some sample WBF convention cards, also available via ECATS Bridge (www.ecatsbridge.com). These are courtesy of Eric Kokish as is a full system document.

Next Practice: Saturday, January 21st at 1:00 PM EST.

HANDS – Junior Training – January 14, 2012

Hand 2	North		
NS Vul	♠ A86		
	♥ K9		
	♦ AKQJ53		
	♣ Q10		
West		East (D)	
♠ Q10542		♠ K3	
♥ 763		♥ A42	
♦ 7		♦ 9642	
♣ J654		♣ K983	
	South		
	♠ J97		
	♥ QJ1085		
	♦ 108		
	♣ A72		

Table 1

N	E	S	W
–	P	P	P
1♦	P	1♥	P
2NT	All P		

Table 2

N	E	S	W
–	P	P	2♠
3♦	3♠	All P	

The Table 1, the auction might have continued 3♣ 3♦ 3NT. 3♣ being Checkback. **Is there another bid you might consider with North hand? What is it and why?**

2NT shows 18-19, so S can't pass. Whether S should raise to 3NT or use some method to show his fifth heart is judgment. A popular approach is to use a transfer structure: here that would lead to 2NT-3D (5+H); 3H (exactly two H; with three, bid 3NT if NT-oriented, 4H with a normal minimum, 4C with a max, 4D with 3H/5D and a good hand)-3NT (choice of games); Pass. A jump to 3NT by opener is best reserved for hands like: Kx, x, AKQ10xxx, A10x, i.e. solid D and – this is important – a singleton in responder's suit. Why? So that responder will know when to take out 3NT and when to pass. Side stoppers are essential.

At Table 2, the 2♠ opening and raise to 3♠ over 3♦ made it difficult on NS. South could have tried a responsive double over 3♠, and North might have tried 3NT over 2♠.

Is there another bid you might consider with North hand over 2♠? What is it and why?

N was right not to double the imaginative 2S, but 3D is an underbid, particularly when there is a suitable alternative available in 3NT. This should be based on a source of tricks as a big balanced hand with a stopper can start with a double and bid NT later. Caveat: if a 2NT response to a DBL is used as an ART potentially weak bid requesting doubler to bid 3C (intending to pass, convert to 3D or 3H with weak hands), there is an awkward balanced range for doubler – about 19-22 HCP – with which he has a nasty guess over 2NT between raising to 3NT and bidding 3C (which he would also have to do with (say) a 1444 13-count. There is no good solution and guesswork is inevitable. Some experts might jump to 3NT with some of those BAL strong hands too, but that is a different strategic choice than what I advocate.

Hand 4
All Vul

North
♠ 84
♥ Q963
♦ Q1072
♣ 985

West (D)
♠ A96
♥ K107542
♦ –
♣ A1032

East
♠ KJ75
♥ AJ
♦ J4
♣ KQJ74

South
♠ Q1032
♥ 8
♦ AK98653
♣ 6

Table 1

N	E	S	W
–	–	–	1♥
P	1♠	P	2♣
P	2♦	P	2♠
P	3♣	P	3♥
P	4♣	P	4♦
P	6♣	All P	

Table 2

N	E	S	W
–	–	–	1♥
P	2♣	3♦	4♦
P	4♥	All P	

There are several key decisions to be made on this hand. At Table 1, East had a choice between 1♠ and 2♣. **What is your choice and why?**

Game-forcing hands should not distort distribution so 1S is simply wrong and 2C clear-cut. More interesting is whether after 1S-(2D) the East hand should bid 3C or make a negative double. That would attract a much closer expert vote, with a fair case both ways.

After 1♠, and Pass, West can choose to rebid 2♣, 2♥, or 2♠, **What is your choice and why?**

To bid H, C, then voluntarily support S implies extra values, so 2C would be a third choice. Between 2H and 2S, you'd find strong opinions for both choices, but it's not as if either action stands out – this is more a question of style and comfort. At T1, 2S did not guarantee three over 4th suit forcing, but had E's bid been 2H (NF preference) 2S would have shown both three AND a good hand.

At Table 2, over 3♦ West bid 4♦. **What do you think of this bid and what does it show?**

At Table 2, over 4♦ East bid 4♥. **What do you think of this bid and what does it show?**

At Table 2 over 4♥. West passed. **Although this could be right on some hands, if you choose to make another bid, why would you and what would you bid?**

Should South bid 3♦ over either 1♠ or 2♣? Why?

Hand 21
NS

North (D)
♠ K652
♥ 84
♦ A
♣ AQ10653

West
♠ A1074
♥ A3
♦ KJ108
♣ J72

East
♠ 93
♥ J965
♦ Q7654
♣ 98

South
♠ QJ8
♥ KQ1072
♦ 932
♣ K4

Table 1

N	E	S	W
1♣	P	1♥	X
2♣	2♦	2♥	All P

Table 2

N	E	S	W
1♣	P	1♥	X
1♠	2♦	2♥	P
3♣	3♦	5♣	X
All P			

Here is another hand with several key decisions. At both tables, **North** had a choice between 1♠ and 2♣. **What is your choice and why?**

W's DBL advertizes the unbid suits – S+D, so **SHOWING** four spades is not so important for N while rebidding a decent 6-card C suit could be crucial. In fact, there is a good case for treating opener's bids in his RHO's announced suits as artificial. For example: RDBL = good hand (rather than a support redouble), 1S = 3-card H raise; 2D = strong rebid in C, 2NT = strong BAL 4-card H raise, 2S/3D as splinter 4-card raises to 3H, 3S/D stronger splinters, 3C semi-preemptive with good suit.

At both tables **East** bid 2♦. **What do you think of this bid and would you consider another bid? Why or why not?**

Principle: It's always safe to jump with a 5-card fit for one of two suits partner advertizes. This type of jump is a total-trumps action rather than strength-showing. By agreement only.

At Table 2, over 3♦ **South** bid 5♣. **What do you think of this bid and why?**

Both the 2H bids are questionable with only five, and at T1 S could have raised to 3C opposite N's known 6+-card suit. At T2 the technical action would be to DBL 2D to show unbid values (again agreement would help, though without agreement that should be the default treatment for everyone). N's voluntary 3C suggested a better hand, so 5C or 4D (looking for delayed H support) have merit.

At Table 2, in 5♣: **What do you know about the opponents hands? Please give details and why?**

Hand 1
None

North (D)
♠ AJ63
♥ 9
♦ AKQ743
♣ AK

West (D)
♠ 1075
♥ AJ102
♦ J9
♣ 10984

East
♠ 92
♥ KQ863
♦ 102
♣ Q653

South
♠ KQ84
♥ 754
♦ 865
♣ J72

Table 1

N	E	S	W
2♣	P	2♦	P
3♦	P	3♥	P
3♠	P	4♠	P
??			

Table 2

N	E	S	W
1♦	P	1♠	P
4NT	P	5♣	P
5♦	P	6♠	All P

There are several problems in bidding strong ♦ hands. If you open 2♣ and then rebid 3♦, there is not much room to sort out major suit fits. **What should 3♥ by South be over 3♦ at Table 1? 3♠?**

After 2♣ P 2♦ P, what should a jump to 3♥ or 3♠ by South be?

At Table 2, what do you think of North's 4NT bid? What should it mean? What are some alternate bids you might choose over the 1♠ response and why?

Which auction do you prefer and why?

Something for the future:

2C-2D

3M

4M/5+D, FG

This North hand is not strong enough for this useful treatment, and it figures to be fine to open 1D and jump to 2S over a 1H response, bid 2S over a 1NT response, and choose from among: 4D (4S/6+D, more typical of: AQ10x, x, AKJ10xx, xx than the actual hand), 3H (SPL, where 4H would be a void, both FG actions), 3C (for those who believe a SPL should be limited), 5S (look at your trumps, which you would do if void in H and did not have an Exclusion KC available) and the actual 4NT. Some prefer 3H as INV to game or a 5-level drive while 4H would be game values prepared to pass a signoff.