

The BIL Library - www.bilbridge.com

Visit often- a storehouse of information Open 24/7. Our Lounge, sit back, relax, read and absorb.

Know when our events are taking place - About BIL > Event Calendar

The BILies Retreat - Public Club on BBO

To attend Open Teaching Sessions, Hosted Playtime Sessions, Special Events, - see BIL Calendar for day/s and time/s and socialize with fellow members, bring your Friends - Open 24/7

This is YOUR Space to come and go as you please – make it your own when you start a table.

Finding Tables in the BILies Retreat on BBO: Click on Casual > All Public & Private Clubs > All Public Clubs (scroll down if nec.) to see the listing for BILies Retreat > "Show Tables" takes you to the Open tables section i.e tables with empty seats. Click on FULL TABLES Tab to find a Teaching session > click Join

BIL Time America Eastern Time (ET e.g. New York) is the BIL default time- if you do not live in that time zone to convert to your time use www.timeanddate.com > Meeting Planner - load date of session > load New York > load the nearest city in your time zone > compare , be mindful that it may be the day before or day after at your place.

Index - New This Month - Scroll down

Happiness is not having what you want - it is wanting what you have.

Special Events: - Hope Memorial Tournament March 2017

Manager's Desk:

BIL Shop: Bergen A/V Find Best Line of Play

Coaching:

Open Teaching Sessions:

BIL Player News:

Bridge Movies: .

Ask a Bridge Question:

BBO Help:

Teams & Tournaments:

Article: BSeagram - Squeezing the Defenders

Special Events

March 23, 2017 - 15:00 ET

HOPE - Nada Memorial Tournament 8bd - INDY More details later



Manager's Desk

We welcome GG_Bridge (Charlene) to the BIL's TD Dreamteam



BILHost7 - Amcs - Angela will now be regularly holding her Hosting Play session on Mondays at 18:30 ET (except for 2nd Monday of the month) Check the calendar if in doubt about dates.



BIL Shop

I have now added Marty Bergen's latest Audio/Visual lesson Find the Best Line of Play

Click Here to Purchase

The GOOD NEWS IS Pay Pal have fixed the Glitch!

www.bilbridge.com/BILShop/BILShop.php

make a selection > click on Add to cart

depending on what it is you may get a request for your BBOID then it will transfer to Pay Pal displaying the selection/s you have made

Click on **more** under the description to check that you have selected the one you want

Check the quantity

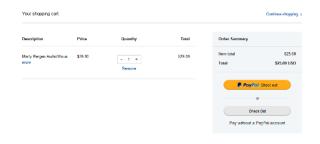
If you do not have and do not want a Pay Pal account click on the Check Out button beneath which it says " Pay without a Pay Pal account

That will take you to the PayPal Guest Checkout

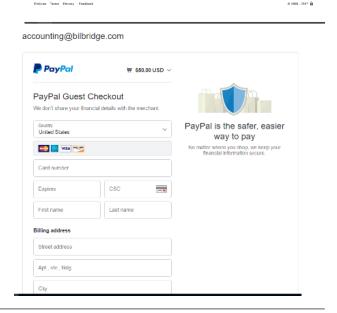
Select your COUNTRY – use the down arrow as necessary

Fill in the fields

Yes at the end they do give you the <u>option</u> to create a PayPal account <u>the choice is</u> <u>yours</u> no PP acct then just select the 'No I don't want an account now' and then click continue



PayPal





Marty Bergen's latest audio/visual lesson - FIND BEST LINE OF PLAY

Some deals are easy to play. Unfortunately, most are not.

But as the examples in this lesson will illustrate, there is a silver lining. If you can learn the best way to size up the hand BEFORE starting to play, you will find yourself making more contracts than you ever did.

Rather than spinning your wheels in many directions, these real-life deals will illustrate the approach you should take to focus on the key issues.

For each deal in the lesson, Marty will explain exactly how and what you should think about BEFORE committing yourself.

Although many players like "playing" more than "thinking",

hopefully you agree that is often destined to yield very unsatisfactory results.

In this lesson, Marty will show you how to:

- Give yourself an extra chance to make the hand
- Avoid losing finesses
- Overcome bad splits
- Know what you must about suit combinations
- Take advantage of clues from the opponents' auction
- Know when (and why) to not follow "8 ever, 9 never"
- Know when it's right to go for an endplay, and how to set it up
- Execute a squeeze without being proficient on the subject
- Know when it's right to play differently at matchpoints

See Article section for his Example and Question and Answer





COACHING Sessions

See BIL Calendar (www.bilbridge.com > log in > About BIL) - set up reminders NOW!

DIANAVD (Diana) for STARTER & BEGINNER players (Voice)

11:30 - 12:30 ET (Thursdays) a 1hr session discussing and practising the Basics

DONNAS (**Donna**) Donna's **Mon & Wed 11:00 to Noon ET** These are play & discuss coaching sessions for beginner & intermediate players .

ROSE 37 (Rose) for Improving Beginners / Intermediates (Ladystar17 - BILAssist1) Play & Discuss session Mondays 12:30 - 14:00 ET



Open Teaching Sessions

When attending an Open Teaching Session send your 'housekeeping' messages to the **BIL Assist** on duty at the lesson.

Teachers are currently being assisted by:

BILAssist1 (Ladystar17), BILAsst10 (Wyoming33), BILAsst11 (Realrowdy)

If the teacher is using BBO Voice you must be using the BBO Web Client - see instructions in the BBO Help - if you joined BBO since 2012 you will be using the Web Client (V2)

NEWS

Seen at Rich_A's 2/1 Open Teaching Session

Declarers before playing your first card

think RACE

Reveiw the Bidding

Assess Opening Lead

Count

Envision a plan

or think ABCD

Analyse the Lead

Bidding

Count

Delay or Don't Draw Trumps



BIL Player News

Twain123:

No griping and groaning Or board result moaning No censure or blame Bridge is just a game! Let's have a good game We're here to have fun Be courteous and kind Or I'll kick your behind.



Bridge Movies - LIN file and Viewer Versions

The Movie introductory page features:

Recently Added Movies - by month - with the exception of the current month all the movies are now also in the Catalogs

Calatog by Teacher/Author - use Crl +F - Find feature to access teacher names quickly Catalog by Topic - use Crl +F - Find feature to access subjects by key words quickly

Special Editions: a listing of **Nome (Kia's)** special series - everyone should study his series on Watson's Classic Book - Play of the Hand. Also available Bridge Challenged Survival Kit, Declarer Play Test series and Bridge World Defense.

Other: hands and videos

Bridge Movie Playing Software Help - detailed illustrated help

for PC users - the option to download either BBO Win or aa_Bridge

for **Mac & Linux Users** wanting to view LIN file movies - download **aa_Bridge**. Open aaBridge and drag and drop the lin file to the aa Bridge screen.

MAC and PC users can view any of the movies which have a Web Based Viewer version without having to download (see Web Link Column in the Catalogs and new additions)

Please let me know if any of the movies don't open. - admin@bilbridge.com

Latest Editions:

Nome: 1701a, 1791b, 1701c, 1791d, 1701e Hondo717 mentoring movies

Note - no more WIN versions of the new movies February 2017 on. All the ones in the Library are still accessible



Ask a Bridge Question File - answers by Bridge Expert Onlyyuman (Barbara Blodgett) - American Bridge Teacher's Association (ABTA), Master Teacher - a highly sought after accolade - attending seminars for 5 yrs and taking a number of difficult tests. Barbara is also an ACBL Accredited Teacher

I am told the East Hand didnt show on the article January Gazette

I could pretend that it was left out to make you all think more and construct it for yourselves but no, who knows where it went. All I know is that it was on my screen before I hit the send button.



Question:

2/1 - Playing Support Doubles, the auction goes 1C - (P) - 1H - (1NT); 1NT is natural. Opener has 3 hearts. Is Double by opener support or penalty? Does it make a difference is the 1NT is "sandwich"?

Answer:

Doubles of Notrump are usually for penalty.

If the Notrump was "Sandwich," Double, in that situation would probably be cooperative. Opener would be telling Responder that s/he has a good hand and if Responder could stand to leave it in for penalty to do so and pass. If Responder is very minimum and has a bad suit s/he may bid something to further describe her hand, raise opener's suit, rebid a new suit, etc., and send the message that Notrump would probably make.

Not many play Sandwich Notrump though, and it probably won't come up.



Comment from Editor:

I took the liberty of highlighting Barbara's comment "**Not Many** play Sandwich". It gave me the intro to get on my Soap Box.

A convention is of no use unless your partner uses it also. Adding little used conventions to your game only works if you have a long and well established partnership that practices together every single day so that, most of the time, you are 'on the same page'.

Even then you are better off keeping conventions to a minimum.

Good Expert bridge also depends on a thorough knowledge of the Percentages so why clutter up the mind with a bevy of conventions many of which will rarely be applicable.

Such conventions will, at all times, be useless, even costly when playing with a pick up partner. Using them can lead to disaster - the opponents wont understand or will musunderstand the alert, they will do something 'left field' and that could well cause one to be - where no bridge player wants to be.

Using a Convention is a - Less is More situation.

The BEAUTY of Bridge is that one cannot have all scenarios covered - there are many times when one has to use JUDGEMENT - a skill the Advanced and Expert players will eventually come to grips with.

Before one can develop judgement one needs to become adept at playing basic bridge.

Bridge is a journey. Enjoy It.



BBO Help

The following was posted on BBO News to help those transistioning from the old BBOWIN version to the Web Client Version. However, I think all Web Client users may find something in here that they have overlooked.

Here's a slideshow to help you get started.

Feel free to click around and explore, you won't break anything! Some FAQ to help you

How do I find a game?

Casual games: Click CASUAL then Help me find a game, or one of the other options on that screen (start a table, main bridge club, show interesting tables, etc.)

Tourneys, Team Matches:

Click COMPETITIVE then go from there.

Where are my friends?

Click Who's Online, to the right. Your friends will be listed there.

How do I chat?

<u>Private chat:</u> Click any username. Player profile will pop up. You can type in the chat line in profile to send a private chat message. You can click the little Pin icon in profile to pin the profile on your screen until you're done.

<u>Chat to table:</u> When at a table, look at the bottom left. Click the --> Table arrow, then type in the chat line at the bottom. Press enter on your keyboard, or click CHAT when done.

How do I join my friend's table?

Click your friend's username, in Who's Online. There is a Join table button in profile. Click it to join table.

How do I finetune my settings?

Click the Options button at the top of the screen.

How do I see tourney results or recent hands?

Click My BBO, at the top of the screen, then Hands and Results.

How do I see what other tables have played after I finish a hand?

Click My Results to the right. Notice that there are two tabs at the top: "My Table" and "Other tables". Click the board you want to see, then "Other tables".

How do I mark someone as a friend or enemy?

Click player's username. In his/her profile there are radio buttons for: Follow, Ignore, Neutral. Click the button you need. When you "follow" someone and they "follow" you back the two of you will appear as "Friends".

I need to do something else

Click the Help button at the top of the screen to explore our thorough help files.

I still haven't found what I'm looking for. Help!

You can contact our helpful yellow hosts online and ask any questions you may have. Click Who's Online to the right, then "Hosts".

Or, send an email to support@bridgebase.com and we'll do our best to assist.

Or, click here to ask us a question



Some tips from me - I too have to learn to get around the Web Client - will repeat some of the above - repetition is not necessarily a bad thing

First things First If like me the chat at the table has you tearing your hair out - try this www.bridgebase.com opens at the Login/Register page

BEFORE you click on the Login/Register link

Look immediately below it - it says Full Screen if the box to the left of that is ticked click on it and REMOVE the tick.

Starting a Table

Now set up your table as you normally do - go through EVERY option on the form, click in the white box to enable it - if you don't want what it says then make sure the white square is NOT ticked

Add the description (please do try to remember to put in the code +anchat+ Click on Start table

Stop and study the table

Just below the South seat there are a row of buttons

In the grey band below them in the centre of it there are a group of 3 short lines one below the other

Put your cursor over them and it will display what to us oldies looks like a division sign (who knows what they call it now, I don't have a 2017 dictionary)

Anyway left click on your mouse on it and hold it down, move the mouse up if you want a bigger chat panel - recommended when at a lesson

On the right hand side of the table the grey strip has the same thing - use it to change the width of the News Feed column (if you wish to)

You can do these during a session - <u>fiddle with it until you are happy - change it anytime you</u> want

At a Table:

On the RIGHT of the screen there are a vertical row of TABS - the default in yellow is the News Feed below that it says

Who's Online click on that

Now you have your friends list displayed click on their name to bring up their profile and send them a private message if you so wish

Across the top of that column there are Tabs for BBO Hosts – Yellows as we call them on WIN (if you need to contact one of them click on the Hosts Tab)

Want to see Star players to kib click on Stars

And when at a table and you want to see who is KIBBING the table click on the KIBITZERS tab

Note that this list is NOT self-refreshing so you have to click the tab again every time you want an updated list of who is kibbing the table

On the right there is also a My Results tab showing the last hand and also the leaderboard for the Table and there is a TAB for Other Tables (one of the links at the bottom of the table display also takes you to the Results)

CHAT (below the playing table)

on the left you will see

- -> Lobby
- ->Club
- ->Table
- ->Kibitzers

Click whichever you need to use and it will auto load the "chat to" line. For Private Chat click on the BBOID of the person you want to chat to

Type the message into the grey panel at the bottom of the screen - click on the Chat button at the right or use your keyboard enter key to send the message

Next to the Chat link there is an Options link - check it out and set it to what you want

At the bottom of the Whos Online list there are links to

My Friends - you can add / or delete

Be Right Back - if you need to delay replying to messages

Find a member - if you want to see if someone is online - type their BBO ID in the panel and click on Find Member - their profile comes up - you can private chat to them etc.

And then there are all the buttons at the top of the table

Click on each one of them to see what they do - experiment that is the only way to learn to use what is on offer .

If you get in a muddle log off and start over - you can't hurt it. But you can't learn to use it if you do not practice before you need to use it.

Over the next few weeks you may have issues with BBO dropping you - you may have issues with the chat at teaching tables - we all will . Taking the old LIN version down will cause problems but BBO will fix them asap - sometimes it not easy to determine where an issue is



BIL Mentoring Program - www.bilbridge.com > log in> About BIL > BIL Mentoring - read before Applying

Even if one is attending Mentoring sessions as part of a group one should still let the Mentor know if one cannot make it on a given day, unless there is some last minute emergency in which case send an apology as soon as one is able to do so.

Our Mentors deserve our utmost consideration and respect. It is they who are **giving** their precious time away from Family & Friends to help complete strangers to play better bridge.



Question:

lead the <u>bottom</u> from an honor sequence. Someone referred to this as Rosinow Leads. Any thoughts?

Mentor's Reply:

If you want to learn more things for you and/or your partner to easily forget and get confused over, in particular at this stage of your development, then go ahead and learn Rusinow Leads.

This convention was originated by Sydney Rusinow in the 1930s, He contended that the second-highest card should be led from a sequence, except the higher card should be led from a doubleton.

For example,

lead the K from AKx or AKQ;

lead the Q from KQx or KQJ;

lead the J from QJx or QJ10;

lead the 10 from J10x or J109

But you lead the higher card from a doubleton-

AK, KQ QJ. J10, 109 or 9x

Rusinow recommended that his convention be used on opening lead versus trump contracts only, but not in a suit that partner has bid. At a notrump contract or if partner has bid the suit, the highest card of the sequence is led.

One can always come up with one or two infrequently occuring sample hands where use of a Rusinow lead and only this lead, would provide a good result.

However, while Rusinow leads against suit contracts currently has few devotees among expert players, an offspring of this convention has found and still enjoys some popularity today. Some of the World's best partnerships use the so called:

Ace for Attitude, King for Count agreement.

Remember that this is just my opiniom in this matter.



BIL Tournaments and Teams

Always **check the Tournament Details/Description** to see if you are eligible to play - some are restricted to a level (might be for beginners only or for intermediates only).

Always make a **note of the TD 's BBOID** it will be shown in the Details section. If you wish to ask a question prior to the start message the TD direct. Don't send a message to the tournament host - they get diverted to BBO Mail and then later get redirected to admin, so may not get seen for day/s.

How to see who is the TD/ the Details & Description (Web Client)

www.bridgebase.com

Log iN

Competitive

Select Group

Choose tournament

Click on Title - the Pop up displays:

Details - Type , Duration, Scoring (important ! that changes the way you play the hands) TD (BBOID of the TD on duty) Restrictions and more.

Description - information about the tourney if nec. use the info scroll bar.



BIL - BBO Matchpoints Daily Tourneys 19:00 ET

BBO Masterpoints -\$1 entry fee are awarded to players competing in the BIL's daily MPTforINTS BIL Exchange Pairs at 19:00 ET. In addition every player receives BIL Reward Points

Reward Points can be cashed in to pay membership (1575 RP), lessons (varies), or for Cash (700 RP = BB\$\$20). See $\underline{www.bilbridge.com} > log in > Tournaments > BBO Masterpoints for full details.$

To buy BB\$\$ to play Click Here

Last months top 10 BIL Reward Point Earners

Fijukeit, Peter61, sissypill, cruzer, boldair, acer2, sdcraig, CATazzie, ecolodge, onigraves

Article

Maergen's Finding Best Line of Play Question

Neither vul North

Contract: 4♠ ♠ Q J 10

Lead: **♣**J ♥ J 2

♦ K Q J 5 3

♠ K 3 2

South

- **♦** K 9 8 7 2
- ♥ K Q 3
- ♦ 6 2
- **♣** A 5 4

North
2♦

2NT 4♠

The form of scoring does not matter.

How will you play?

Answer at the end of the Gazette





BSEAGRAM - Barbara Seagram bseagram@uniserve.com

Our Thanks to Barbara for sponsoring the Marathon17 Prizes

Barbara has now published her 2/1 Cheat Sheet!!!

Please go to
www.barbaraseagram.com
to buy your copy



Squeezing the Defenders by Barbara Seagram

You can do it! We often hear about experts making squeeze plays! It is very satisfying when you successfully execute a squeeze play so it truly is worth the bother to learn this!

A hand always contains some cards that are **busy**, and some that are relatively worthless or **idle**. When a player must discard a **busy** card (because he has nothing else), he is said to be **squeezed**. A squeeze is a way that declarer can create extra tricks when he is desperate.

e.g. These are all different suits and hands that follow: You hold:

A52 The 5 and the 2 are "idle" cards as the Ace needs no bodyguards to protect it from being "eaten".

K52 The 2 is an "idle" card, you can pitch it anytime but the 5 must be retained to protect your King from being "eaten". The 5 is a "busy" card.

Q752 The 2 is an idle card. It is vital that you keep the other two cards as bodyguards for the Q. They are "busy" cards.

J852

These small cards are all "busy" cards. The J needs 3 bodyguards to protect it from being consumed by the Ace, King & Queen.

You get the idea. Now...over to Declarer!!!!

Supposing you are in a hopeless contract, (or seemingly hopeless); maybe all is not lost. Maybe one of your opponentshas to hang on to all her bodyguards i.e. she only has "busy" cards in her hand. As you run your long suit, you force her to make a fatal discard.

e.g. DUMMY

D AJ C K

West D KQ West C Ace

DECLARER

H Ace (you are leading this now)

D 5

C 4

You are declarer and you are down to a three card ending. When you lead the Heart Ace (this is known as the **squeeze** card), poor West has a huge dilemma. If he discards a Diamond, your Diamond Ace in dummy will fell the Diamond Q and your Diamond J will be high. If West pitches his Club Ace, dummy's Club K will now be high.

The Diamond J in dummy and the Club K in dummy are both classified as "threat cards".

It is important to note that in the above scenario, if East had been holding Diamonds KQ and Club Ace

Then this attempt to execute a squeeze would not have worked as the dummy (with the threat cards) would be forced to part with one of those threat cards prior to East having to decide what to pitch. i.e. If dummy pitched the Diamond J, then East could safely pitch his Diamond Q. If instead dummy pitched the Club K, then East could safely pitch his Club Ace.

Thus, this squeeze is classified as a "**Positional Squeeze**" as it only works against ONE opponent versus both opponents.

Don't get too hung up on terminology though, as you start out in the world of squeezes. When all else looks bleak, try running your long suit and just hope for something good to happen. Sometimes, at the very least, one of your opponents isn't paying enough attention and may simply discard the wrong card. This is called a **pseudo squeeze!!**

Let's have a look at a full hand: It is best if you lay out these cards at home and see what happens to poor West as declarer (south) plays each card.

S AQ74
H J432
D 763
C 54

S J983
S 102
H 7
H 1098
D AKQ8
D 1092
C KQ102
S K65
H AKQ65
D J54

C AJ

Bidding S W N E

1HDbl2HP

4H

West leads Diamond AKQ and switches to Club K. It looks to declarer as though the contract hinges on spades breaking 3-3. Odds on the missing 6 cards dividing 3-3 are about 35%, whereas the chances of them breaking 4-2 are about 48%. Declarer does know that West has to hold the Club Q as he led the Club K at trick # 4. Odds are high that he has also holds four Spades in view of his takeout double. What if he has to discard one of these precious cards, either a Spade or the Club Q. That would bring home the contract.

South won the Club Ace and drew trumps. Instead of playing Spades now to see if they behave, he led trumps, not just three rounds but

five rounds.

Here is the 5 card ending:

	S AQ74	
	H	
	D	
	C 4	
S J983		S 102
H		H
D		D
C Q		C 987
	S K65	
	H 5 led	
	D	
	C J	

At trick 9, south (declarer) leads the Heart 5 from his hand. This card is called the squeeze card. Poor West is up the creek now. Whatever he discards will help declarer. If he discards a Spade, declarer's Spade 4 in dummy will now be high. If he discards the Club Q, then declarer's Club J will be good.

Note that it was important to not first touch the Spade suit or entries would now be a problem. It is no good having the Spade 4 high in dummy if you have no way to get there.

Note also that even if it had been the East hand who held these cards, the Squeeze would still have worked. This hand is an example of a SIMPLE squeeze.

Nobody likes to feel helpless. It is a very frustrating feeling to be squeezed (at the bridge table anyway©) so now it's your turn to make your opponents feel helpless.



Neither vul North

Contract: 4♠ ♠ Q J 10

Lead: **♣**J ♥ J 2

♦ K Q J 5 3

♠ K 3 2

South

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

You can't avoid losing three aces, so you must avoid your club loser.

Before starting to play, to have a chance to play this deal correctly, you must first answer these two important questions:

Question # 1: Where should you win the opening lead?

Question # 2: What suit will you lead at trick 2?

Essential hint: Question #1 should not be addressed until you answer Question #2.

Answer to question #2: What suit will you lead at trick 2?

You must avoid losing a club, so leading a trump at trick 2 is 100% wrong.

An opponent will win his $\triangle A$ and lead another club.

It will now be impossible to avoid losing a trick in each suit.

Leading a diamond at trick 2 is a better plan.

Dummy's diamond suit is long and strong and offers a chance to avoid losing a club trick.

However, when you knock out the ♦A, E-W will persist with clubs.

You'll then need to discard your last club on dummy's 3rd diamond honor without anyone ruffing.

For this to work, you need diamonds to divide 3-3, which is against the odds.

In fact, the correct suit to lead at trick 2 is hearts.

The combined N-S heart holding is not as imposing as the diamonds, but your side's hearts include the same three honors as in diamonds.

And since E-W have 8 hearts, neither opponent is likely to be able to ruff one of your winners. Sometimes, less is more.

Answer to question #1: Where should you win the opening lead?

You now know to lead hearts at trick 2.

Your hand has the heart "length,"

so you must preserve the only fast entry to your hand (A).

Therefore, at trick 1, you must win dummy's ♠K.

At trick 2, you'll apply

"Use up the honor from the short side first"

and lead the ♥J, and E-W are now helpless.

Here is the entire deal:

Neither vul North

Contract: 4♠ ♠ Q J 10

Lead: **♣**J ♥ J 2

♦ K Q J 5 3

♣ K 3 2

West

East

♠ A 5

♠ 6 4 3

♥ 10 7 6 5 4

♥ A 9 8

♦ 9 7

♦ A 10 8 4

♣ J 10 9 6

♣ Q 8 7

South

- **♦** K 9 8 7 2
- ♥ K Q 3
- ♦ 6 2
- **♠** A 5 4

Click Here to Purchase





Maureen Hall (hallway on BBO)

Founder Manager

Beginner Intermediate Lounge (BIL)

Cherish Your Partner & Respect the Opposition

and Don't forget to THINK, PLAN, EVALUATE and COUNT the CARDS