

KIBITZER

Louisiana Bridge Association March 2021
Editor – Diana Powell with help from Sherrie Goodman and
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President's Message March 2021

As we welcome in the winds of March, there is much hope for warmer temperatures, less Covid, and more vaccines available. Just maybe, we are getting a little closer to opening.

There is no news on when we will be opening. In order to open safely, Jackie Madden will be heading a committee to determine the procedures the club needs to put into place.

Last month, I mentioned we would let you know about any bylaw changes. The board postponed the January meeting to discuss the possible changes because of the illness and subsequent death of Lowen's (Committee Chair) mother. Our condolences to Lowen and his family.

It is hard to believe we are now in the 3rd month of a New Year. Hopefully, we will be together again soon. In the meantime, stay safe.

Carolyn Dubois

In Memoriam *Elaine Muro*

Coming Events

March 6-8 Spring 2021 NABC
Robot Individual

March 11-21 NAOBC: NAP plus
team and pair events open at
all levels

March 22-28 Stardust Week –
Double points: ½ Gold, ½ Black

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Sherrie's Virtual Club News

February was an interesting month. We had many opportunities for extra points, we contributed to charity, and we've added a new club to our virtual family. Shreveport has such nice players. We are happy to have them.

Our Sunday Swiss is back, and we are happy to have this wonderful club tradition. Jack will be joining Lil to direct this game, and I am sure if you close your eyes, you can picture Bummy walking around the house with his clipboard in tow making sure everyone has the opportunity to play.

March is going to be equally exciting. Some of our Memphis and Shreveport friends are competing in the NAP. (LBA, we need to compete for this next year!) We are having another Stardust week with ½ Gold and ½ black double points in every game. There will be extra games scheduled during the week, so you have lots of opportunities to win the gold!

Our next Pro-Am Mentoring game will be on Saturday morning, March 13. This is a great opportunity for our more experienced players to help develop a less experienced player. As usual, the Mentors will sign up at the partnership desk and the Mentees will select the Mentor. Prearranged partnerships are allowed, but not necessary. We hope you will all participate.

See you at the virtual table!

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH

S Deals			
All Vul			
N			
♠K96432			
♥42			
♦862			
♣K3			
W		E	
♠Q		♠AJ1065	
♥AK3		♥J	
♦K7		♦QJ10543	
♣AQJ7642		♣10	
S			
♠7			
♥Q1098765			
♦A9			
♣985			

Preempts are so popular because they create difficult bidding situations for the opponents. Here's hand #7 from the club game of August 26, 2018, a classic example.

S	W	N	E
3H	3NT	P	4H
P	5C	P	5D
P	P	P	

South bids 3H holding a mediocre six or seven loser hand. I sat as West with a strong hand with no obvious correct bid. I have found that it is usually profitable to overcall 3NT over a three level preempt with two types of hands, first, a strong, balanced hand, something like a 17 hcp 1NT opening bid, or second, a strong hand containing a five card or longer minor suit. I overcalled 3NT. North passed but next East, holding a

fair 6/5 two S/D two suiter, was faced with a bidding crisis. At that time, we played that when partner overcalls a three level preempt with 3NT, advancer may bid 4C Stayman or a transfer bid to a long suit. That agreement works fine when the 3NT overcall is based upon a strong, balanced hand but is questionable when the overcall is made with a long minor. East elected to bid 4H, a transfer to spades, but I refused the transfer and bid 5C. Advancer bid 5D, not sure whether I would take that call as a natural bid or perhaps a cuebid. The bridge gods were merciful, so I guessed correctly to pass and we luckily landed on our feet. South led the singleton seven of spades and North misread the lead and covered dummy's spade queen with the king, so declarer made six, for a good score. What's the point of this tale? A partnership should discuss this sequence and decide what advancer's bids mean. An agreement, even a bad agreement, is far superior to having no agreement at all. I have reluctantly reached the conclusion that advancer's bids should be natural, not conventional, but that in most cases advancer should simply pass 3NT. Ah, contract bridge, what an easy game!

For the I/N Crowd – Opening Leads #1 by Sue Himel

This series will explore how these factors influence our opening lead in a variety of situations.

1. Our hand
2. Partner's calls
3. The opponent's calls.

Against NT

1. 1NT Pass 3NT All Pass

a. You are on lead with this hand. S QT42 H A643 D K75 C 95

My choice is the 2S. Why not the 3H? The heart suit does not look very robust for establishing a long suit trick. Setting up 2 tricks in the spade suit is possible if partner has as little as the JS. Then the AH will be an entry to any spades your side establishes. When you have **two four card suits** to choose from for a lead against a notrump contract, **choose the suit that does not contain a quick entry.**

b. You are on lead with this hand. S QT42 H AJT9 D K75 C 95

Lead the JH because **your side could potentially run the suit.** If the

QH is in the dummy or declarer's hand and partner has the KH your side could run the hearts.

2. 1NT Pass 2NT Pass - You are on lead with this hand. S JT5 H 865 D T7432 C Q3
3NT Pass Pass Pass

Lead the JS and **hope to set up some tricks in partner's hand.** Hearts could be right, but you have a little help for partner if he holds spades.

Leading 4th best from your longest suit is not likely to result in establishing many tricks for your side. Even if you manage to set up some small diamonds you don't have an entry to cash them. The opponents have 25-26 points. You have 3 points. That leaves 11 or 12 points for partner. In this case you should try to establish some tricks in partner's hand. Choosing an opening lead for these hands depends on our hand and the opponents' failure to transfer or use Stayman. Our side is more likely to have the majors.

Choosing an opening lead is one of the most challenging aspects of bridge. Even a perfectly reasoned opening lead can hand us a bad result. All we can do is use our knowledge and experience to make the best guess we possibly can. Then we will make the right lead most of the time. That is all you can hope for in this game.

TRUMP COUP By: Arnaldo Partesotti

The trump coup - as defined by Wikipedia is used when the hand on lead (typically the dummy) has no trumps remaining, while the next hand in rotation has only trumps, including a high one that would have

been onside for a direct finesse if a trump could have been led. The play involves forcing that hand to ruff, only to be overruffed.

I saw this hand in a recent online game during a team match. The bidding, all vulnerable, went:

North V			
♠	73		
♥	KT63		
♦	A4		
♣	AK854		
West VD		East V	
♠	AJT52	♠	K8
♥	QJ	♥	A72
♦	JT85	♦	KQ93
♣	Q9	♣	J732
South V			
♠	Q964		
♥	9854		
♦	762		
♣	T6		

W	N	E	S
1S	X	XX	2H
P	P	3H	P
3S	P	4S	P
P	P		

It seems that declarer has four losers, one Diamond, two Clubs and the Queen of Spades. North led the Ace and King of Clubs, followed by the Ace of Diamonds and a Diamond. This was won in dummy and declarer played the King of Spades and a Spade to the Ten for a first finesse. He entered dummy with a third round of Diamonds and played the Jack of Clubs on which he pitched the Jack of Diamonds. Had South ruffed, the hand would have been over successfully for East-West, so South pitched a Heart. Declarer played the King of Diamonds on which he pitched the Queen of Hearts, South again could not ruff successfully, so he pitched another Heart. Declarer then played the seven of Clubs, ruffed in hand to shorten his trumps to the same length as South. Finally, declarer entered dummy with the Ace of Hearts and played the last Heart which South ruffed and West overruffed, thereafter dropping the Queen of trumps under the Ace. Four Spades elegantly made!

At the other table, West was in four Spades doubled, down three. I do know what happened, but obviously mistakes were made. It makes you appreciate even more the "trump coup" line of play followed by this declarer.

DIREKTORS CORNER The GOOD and the BAD

Playing bridge in the ACBL online games can be GOOD.

- No Revokes
- No Leads out of turn
- No Bids out of turn
- No seeing or hearing your Partner

But Misclicks can be BAD.

- Once you click a bid it cannot be changed.
- Click an unintended card, it cannot be changed. You can only hope you get another chance, and then, try to convince your partner to accept the intended bid.
- But you can change this BAD to GOOD.

- Open the Bridge Base site, go to Account - Settings -Playing.
- Click on the Confirm Bids, and the Confirm Cards.
- If you click an unintended bid or an unintended card, it will not play until you click the OK on the righthand side.
- (You can also click Autoplay singletons.)

Take the BAD out of your Bidding and Play.

FYI: 2021 RULE CHANGE REVIEW SNIPPET: Support doubles are no longer required to be alerted

Signed: The Hat Lady

BRIDGE ACHIEVEMENTS

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Club Master: Mary Krajcer

Sectional Master: Angela Buck
Larry Holbrook
Diane Kallenborn
Stephanie Rhodes Navarre
Ellaine Wilson

Regional Master: Dale Thompson

NEW LIFE MASTER



Mimi Groome

BRONZE LIFE MASTER



Christine Beasley

BRONZE LIFE MASTER



Denise Tabor

SILVER LIFE MASTER



Suzanne Baer

SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER



Sue Himel

70 PERCENT GAMES

2/7 Afternoon Open	John Onstott – Jim Krekorian	73.08%
2/8 Morning Open	James Thornton - Sherrie Goodman	71.47%
2/8 Afternoon Open	John Onstott – Jacob Morgan	71.95%
2/10 Morning 499	Charles Waldrop – George Wilson	71.30%
2/19 Afternoon Open	John Onstott – Craig Cordes	71.76%
2/20 Afternoon 299	Sara Mundie – P. Quinn Bates	71.11%
2/27 Morning Open	John Onstott - Howard Parker	76.23%

NEW MEMBERS

Jan Tolar
Ed Vail



WINNERS	SCORE	OVERALL RANKING	GAME	MP
Jacob Morgan & Jacob Karno	61.07	7	2/18/2021 10:45 AM Top -Flight	2.07 Red
Paul Rosenblum & Howard Parker	60.85	8	2/18/2021 10:45 AM Top -Flight	2.82 Gold
Paul Rosenblum & Howard Parker	58.33	8	2/18/2021 2:45 AM Top -Flight	7.61 Gold
Jacob Morgan & Jacob Karno	56.19	13	2/18/2021 2:45 AM Top -Flight	4.89 Gold
Liz Talbott & Laurie Hart	46.44	4	2/18/2024 10:15 AM 99er	.52 Red
Caroll Wood & Dale Thompson	56.18	27	2/18/2021 10:15 AM Gold Rush	1.56 Red
Ronald Omond & Kathy Plauche	62.77	38	2/20/21 Gold Rush	1.53 Gold
Jane Reynolds & Christine Tatum	56.18	71	2/20/21 1:45 PM Gold Rush	1.7 Gold/Red
Richard Logan & James Bush	52.38	43	2/21/21 10:45 AM Top -Flight	1.54 Red