

Louisiana Bridge Association October 2018

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President's Message October 2018

A great big “thank you “ to **Mary LeBlanc** who purchased the hot dogs, buns, potato salad and fixings for our **Labor Day party**. Thank you to **John Federico** who always comes through with yummy baked beans for everyone. And, thank you to **Suzanne Cliffe** for securing someone to get everything cooked and ready in addition to cleaning up for us.

We will have a **Seniors Game on Friday, October 5** in the Open Game. You need to be 55 years or older to the in the Open Game that day. Yes, we do have players under 55!

Do you **respect the directors?** Do you accept their ruling even if you think the ruling is unfair or wrong? That is what we all must do if we want to have directors to be in charge of games at the Bridge Center. Many of our directors want to quit directing when players are not respectful of the rulings. Most players say, “You can’t pay me enough to direct!” So **players....be nicer to the directors** or we will have to have fewer games because **we are losing directors**.

The **Halloween Party on the evening of October 31st** is **cancelled** this year. We have a tournament in our building starting the next day. We couldn’t seem to fit in a party because the kitchen will be full of the food needed for tournament!

Linda Freese

October Events

*= extra points, no extra fees

**=extra points, extra fees

Oct 1-7 support Memphis NABC**

From Oct 1 through Oct 7 our club games will award extra points, with extra fees. The extra proceeds will go to support the March Memphis NABC, as they supported our NABC in the past.

Oct 5 ACBL-wide Senior Pairs** Fri 11:45am

Oct 11-13 Metairie 299er Sectional Thurs-Sat

Oct 15-21 Club Appreciation Week* Mon-Sun

Oct 21 Club Appreciation Team Game* Sun
5% gold

Oct 25 Unit Championship*

Oct 25-27 Lafayette NLM (499er) Sectional
Thur-Sat

Oct 26-28 Jackson Sectional Fri-Sun

Oct 31 ACBLwide Instant MP game**
Wed AFTERNOON

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Mary Beth Fine, Charles Neuman, James Reily

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Mary Belcher, Nini Bodenheimer, Janice Bruner,
Jennifer Holmes, Newton Jackson, Martha Robson,
Deborah Skorlich, Renee Spratt, Melanie Thompson

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Alison Vitter

NEW NABC MASTER

Nancy Arthur

NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTER

Sheryl Thompson

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Bobby Gattusso

Jacob Karno

Karen Lea

Marilyn Methvin

NEW MEMBERS

Phillip Boston, Jim Koch, Gelone Lombard,
William Varney

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In Memoriam
Audrey Andrieu

Gulfport Sectional Firsts

Fri AM Open Suzanne Baer & Linda Denechaud Flt C

Fri PM 299er Robert Reich & Buddy Massey

Open Suzanne Baer & Linda Denechaud Flt C

Sat AM Open Larry Federico & Idell Adams; Suzanne Baer & Linda Denechaud Flt C

Sat PM Open Mike Anthony & Christine Beesley Flt C

Sun Swiss Bkt 1 Jean Talbot-Eleanor Onstott-James Bush-Bob Bowers

LBA Multi-center D10 STAC firsts

Mon AM Open Norma Phillips & Sherrie Goodman

Thurs eve open Janet Patterson & Theresa Federico Flt C

Fri aft 499er Philip Luchsinger & Judith Luchsinger

Sat aft Open Joan Van Geffen & Jean Talbot

70 percent games

99er

Sep 7 Meryl Rosenbloom & Glenn Barnett
72.02%

299er

Aug 28 Mike Russell & Steven Plotkin
73.62%; Myra Groome & Susan Martin 70.02%

Open

Aug 30 JF Lowenstein & Eleanor Onstott
70.62%

Sep 4 Bob Bowers & John Onstott 71.06%

Wednesday Grand Slam Jackpots

Sep 12 Mike Passell & Nanette Noland;
Carol Bagalman & Sherrie Goodman

Sep 26 Linda Freese & Bummy Rosenfield;
Sherrie Goodman & Carol Bagalman; Dee
Moses & Joan Van Geffen

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH Minor suit slams are notoriously difficult to bid after a 1NT opening bid. But when the bidding is successful the hands matchpoint so well that it is worth a partnership's effort to develop at least a minimal systemic method of reaching such contracts, especially when no other slam is making. Here (at left) is a hand from a New Orleans weekly club game which illustrates a simple bidding sequence that can easily be added to a partnership's arsenal of bidding methods. South dealt and opened 1NT, 15-17 hcp. Although the South hand was a point count minimum, note the excellent hand structure for controls (3 1/2 quick tricks). The uncontested auction proceeded 1NT-2C (Stayman)-2D and back to North. With no fitting four card major response from opener, what could North then do to determine whether there was a minor suit fit between the two hands? The answer is surprisingly simple. Just graft on to Stayman a forcing three level minor suit bid to show a five card or longer minor suit in the Stayman hand, in this case 3D. Note what a splendid hand South's minimum 1NT opener has become once North reveals holding a five card diamond suit. South can show the magic diamond suit fit by raising to 4D, leaving the further bidding up to the highly distributional North hand declarer. North can then make a Roman Keycard Blackwood (Minorwood) ask of 4H. (Using the suit ranking next higher to the agreed trump suit instead of 4NT to ask for keycards is called "kickback," the effect of which is to keep the auction lower than it would be if 4NT were used.) In this case the entire auction would be 1NT (15-17 hcp balanced)-2C (Stayman)-2D (no four card major)-3D (showing a five card minor)-4D (four card or longer support)-4H (3014 ask)-4S (three keycards)-6D (final contract). So although there is no major suit eight card fit and there are only eleven NT tricks (unless the defense leads clubs and the finesse is "on") there is a strong nine card minor suit fit, with sufficient controls to produce a diamond suit small slam, particularly if trumps divide 2/2. So if a minor suit slam can be bid and made on duplicate hands of this type the reader can rest assured that the declaring side is on its way to at worst a split top board. It is well worth the time and effort necessary for a partnership to learn this bidding method which, when successful, will always produce excellent matchpoint scores.

N ♠KQJx
♥9xxx
♦AKQxx
♣void

S ♠Axx
♥Axx
♦Jxxx
♣AQx

Direktor's Korner

This month's topic: A Rule Change

Director in Charge: Rule Ruleski

Folks, every once in a great while, the directors have deigned to allow me a little time in this column. This column since its inception has never been about the dry, mundane, sleep-inducing dissertation on the laws of duplicate bridge. It is reserved for your revered directors to talk about things they have observed or pet peeves or things that would make the club games run more smoothly if you would just take a moment to read the column.

However, my special spececalitee is the laws of bridge. So here we go! First, much as many of you may believe that an offending opponent should be frog marched out the door and summarily executed in the parking lot or beaten into broken, drooling submission with the law book, **punishing an offender is the last thing for which the laws were intended. The laws of duplicate bridge are written expressly to establish equity after an infraction AND whenever possible to arrive at the same result or close to the same result on the board had the infraction not occurred.** Not so recently, but still in our lifetimes and after the Saints played in their last Super Bowl, **the law on a bid out of turn was changed expressly for the 2nd reason - to try to arrive at the same or near the same result on the board.** Previously if you opened out of turn at your partner's or RHO's turn and your bid was not accepted by LHO, your partner would be barred for life and when your truly legitimate turn came, you would have to get out your crystal ball and try to figure out—without any help from your now departed partner—where you belong. You might take a shot a game when no other pair in the room ever bid that much, certainly not the same or close to the same result. BUT NOW under the new rule everyone is happier. Your call is withdrawn, is still unauthorized information for partner, BUT partner can remain at the table and do whatever they want as long as you make a COMPARABLE call at your REAL turn to bid. This is a little confusing and won't be covered now but a repeat of your first bid is most certainly comparable if you get that chance. If you opened 1D for instance when daydreaming and then after being slapped into wakefulness at your REAL turn, bid 2D because an opponent has now opened 1S, that is STILL COMPARABLE. If you make a call that is not deemed comparable, then partner is barred, but instead of being for- ever, it is for one time only. There would also be a lead penalty on partner if you are defending - but that penalty has also changed. If this ever happens to you, remember to ask the director to define COMPARABLE for you and also realize sometimes making a comparable call may just not be possible, but the rule is certainly better than it was before.

Sunday Swiss C Free Plays

The Sunday Swiss team game (1PM every Sunday) offers a FREE PLAY to every member of the winning C team. What's the catch? There must be at least three (3) C teams. The winners on 9/2/2018 were Theresa Federico, Audrey Cerise, Peggy McCranie and Maureen Richoux.

The Swiss team game is a lot of fun. It is over by 4:30 (sometimes a few minutes earlier). The Saints are on the television (no sound). It is a relaxed atmosphere (as much as any bridge game can be relaxed). We encourage EVERYONE to come try it out **If you have a C team, who knows, you might be the next BIG C's.**

Lillian Range

Jack Lewis