



Louisiana Bridge Association November 2017

Editor John Liukkonen email: jrdbℓ@cox.net

President's Message November 2017

The **299er Sectional** was a success. Table count for the 5 sessions was up over 50% and a profit of about \$1,000 is expected. Please thank Co-Chairs Lynden Swayze and Diane Scott when you see them (Lynden was not at the club to hear the accolades for her work on Saturday as she was under the weather).

The **Toledano Sectional** is **November 2-5**. Please ask Co-Chairs Nelson Daigle and Ronald Omond what you can do to help. Remember that an incentive of \$100 will be awarded the highest scoring team with less than 2,000 aggregate master points for the Sunday Swiss Team event. If only one entered team has fewer than 2,000, they will win the money. Please don't let that happen.

I know everyone has noticed the **great bulletin boards** in the hall. Please let Denise Tabor and Kitty Klaus know how much you appreciate the work they have done.

Elections for new **LBA Board Members** will be held the week of January 8-14, 2018 (which includes our January Sectional). Four vacancies must be filled and it looks like we may have six candidates. That is great news as getting folks to run is an annual problem. Thanks to Ellen Lappa for talking these candidates into running. Allen and Linda Jacobs and Bummy Rosenfield will conduct the election, monitor the ballots and announce the results. Thanks to the candidates and the election committee members.

The board approved a **\$1.00 per person surcharge** for our games during the week of **November 13-19**. The extra funds will be used to provide hospitality and entertainment at the NABC in Memphis in March, 2019. (We were the recipients of \$30,000 from this fund when New Orleans hosted the NABC in March, 2015). Points given out will be increased to 82% of Sectional ratings. Play hard for a good cause!

See you at the tables!!

Jim Thornton

November Events

*= extra points, no extra fees

Nov 2-5 Dottie Toledano Sectional

Thurs-Sun **GAME TIMES 9:30am & 1:45pm**

Nov 6-12 Club Championship Week*

Mon-Sun

Nov 13-19 Promotional Games for NABC

Mon-Sun Extra points/\$1 extra fee

Nov 20 Charity Game* Mon 6:30PM

Nov 21 ACBLwide Charity Game* Tues night

Nov 23 Thanksgiving Club Closed

Nov 23-Dec 3 San Diego NABC

Nov 26-Dec 5 Sectional at Sea

Nov 30 Unit Championship* Thurs 6:30PM

Locked Doors

On occasion, the doors to the club will be locked until an hour before game time, using the slide bolts on the doors to the club. This does not happen often, but when it does occur it is for player safety. For example, when a pressurized tank needed to be installed for our fire suppression system, or when the tiles in the hall were wet from the scrubbing machine.

While this can be an inconvenience for those who arrive long before game time, please understand that it is done in the interests of safety. The doors will be unlocked as soon as the safety matter is resolved, which should be no later than an hour before game time.

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Sectional at Sea

The LBA is sponsoring its 9th Sectional at Sea from November 26 to December 5. The cruise will begin and end in New Orleans, and travel to Mexico and the Caribbean. Further information is available from flyers posted at the club, and also from Christine Beesley at McGehee Travel in Mandeville.

Chris's contact info

Phone 985-626-5454 or 800-256-2060.

Email chris@mcgeheetravel.com

In Memoriam

Marcie Pick

NEW MEMBERS

Mary Sue Bailey, Starr Mason,
Verlee Mollere, Barbara Saik

Rank Advancements

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

*Mary-Madison Griswold, Caroline Koppel,
Marcia Legendre, Robert Reich,
Martha Robson, Philip Russo*

NEW CLUB MASTER

Dave Rice

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Jerry Boyd, Myra Menville, Lucinda Stentz

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

*Eve Kryssing, Fern Milstead,
Deirdre Provosty*

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER

Philip Backes

Seventy Percent Games

99er pairs Oct 6 Barbara Hammett &
Tom Wasson 71.67%

299er pairs Oct 9 Marcia Legendre &
Janice Zazulak 70.83%

Open pairs Oct 16 Sherrie Goodman &
Norma Phillips 71.88%

Wednesday Grand Slams

Oct 9 Larry & John Federico, Sherrie Goodman
& Sue Himel, Daisy Vandenburg & Juliette
Dubea

299er Sectional Firsts

Thurs AM

0-20 Jennifer Holmes & Becky Zaheri;
Sukie Russo & Leslie Patout Flt B

299er David Roberts & Janis Roberts; Cleo Velleman &
Richard Velleman Flt B; Katie Kwong & John Martin Flt C

Thurs PM

299er Diana Powell & Janice Zazulak; Wayne Wells &
Mercedes Wells Flt B; Renee Spratt & Leila Wachtel Flt C

Fri AM

299er Lynn Flynn & Rayne Lykes;
Philip Luchsinger & Sarah Judith Luchsinger Flt C

Fri PM

299er Lynn Flynn & Kathleen Vogel; Virginia McMurray
& Marcia Legendre Flt C

Sat AM

299er Margie Christian & Anne Nelson;
Bernard Vanderlinden & Ronald Omond Flt B; Philip
Luchsinger & Sarah Judith Luchsinger Flt C

Gulfport Sectional firsts

Fri PM open pairs Sigurd Nordvoll & Judy Pyeatte

Sat PM open pairs Larry Federico & Idell Adams;
David Wolf & Mickey Groggel Flt B

Reno Regional Firsts

Great Pumpkin Swiss John Onstott et al

Wed Open Pairs Eleanor Onstott & Judy Northup Flt B

Alpine Thurs Fri KO Bkt 1 John Onstott et al

Sat Daylight Open Pairs Eleanor Onstott & Howard Parker

Southwest Florida Regional First

Sun A/X/Y Swiss Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian et al

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH. This column explains the "how and why" of the differing declarers' techniques employed in matchpoint and IMP (or total point and rubber bridge) events. Look at the hands below left. Assume that most competent bidding pairs would reach a contract of 3NT played by South, whatever the scoring form of bridge in use. (Note that if South actually held one less point, ♠Axxx ♥Axx ♦QJ10x ♣Kx, the excellent slam contract of 6♣ would be reached by many aggressive pairs.) Start with the basic premises that at IMPs the emphasis is on safely making the bid contract, while at matchpoint duplicate the object is to score higher than the other pairs playing in the same direction, even if doing so involves a moderate but acceptable level of risk of not making the contract. So if declaring the illustrated hands in 3NT at IMPs, total points or rubber bridge, after receiving a low heart opening lead and winning East's ♥J with the ♥K, decide what declarer's next play should be before reading on. Ready? If you would have played anything other than a spade to dummy's ♠K, followed by a low club to finesse with declarer's ♣9, you would often be lucky enough to make the hand but you did not take the safest line to make 3NT. You must protect against East holding ♣Jxxx, the one holding which would make 3NT go down when East returned a heart through declarer's remaining ♥Qx. However, at matchpoints the safety play should not be taken. Why? The odds of the club suit running are high enough (75%)* that no skillful matchpoint player would worry about possibly going down. What would be the point of making a safe 3NT when all other declarers would be making four or more (or going down the same number as you would if the clubs did not break favorably)? So remember, bridge techniques logically can vary, depending upon the method of scoring. At matchpoints, do not play recklessly but do take the line of play which reasonably allows declarer to make the maximum number of tricks available, while at IMPs play as safely as you can to make the bid contract, particularly if the contract includes a bonus for making game or slam.

*The probability of a 3-2 break in clubs is 68%, and we add in the 28/4 = 7% probability of the ♣J being stiff.

Deceptive Plays - Part II by Arnaldo Partesotti

At a recent tournament I made two nice plays in two consecutive hands against a pair with one of our top players and a good regular partner. I was sitting South and this is the second hand (see diagram at left):

Dealer W All NV

North	
♠532	
♥K9632	
♦9	
♣J962	
West	East
♠JT876	♠AK4
♥85	♥AQJ
♦A76	♦QJT532
♣KT8	♣7
South	
♠Q9	
♥T74	
♦K84	
♣AQ543	

This was the bidding:

West	North	East	South
P	P	1♦	P
1♠	P	2♦	P
3♦	P	3♥	P
4♣	P	4♠	P
P	P		

North led the ♣2 and, after seeing dummy, the entire hand was known: West had five Spades, he would have not passed but returned to Diamonds with only four, due to partner's late support, showing only three cards. He had three Diamonds with the ♦A, for supporting late the suit bid twice; either he had the ♥K or it was under finesse; the ♠Q was going to drop and the ♦K was also under finesse. Therefore I also knew that partner had three Spades, and a singleton Diamond. It looked like a sure six, unless something could be created. I therefore won the ♣A and returned the ♦8, making it look like I did not have the ♦K and, possibly, that I had a singleton and was

looking for a ruff.

West thought, and thought, and thought and, finally, went up with the ♦A. He ruffed a Club, played the two top Spades, and came off dummy with a Diamond. I won the King and gave partner a ruff, keeping the contract to four when most made six, for an excellent result.

The last word: This was a very easy hand to count, and my deceptive play did not cost anything, at worst we would have ended up with the same result as most. West's play of the ♦A would have been an absolute necessity at IMPs, to secure the contract. At matchpoints it was questionable, damned if you do, damned if you don't, you do not need to secure the contract unless you think that everybody else will do the same. And give an "AttaBoy" to partner, for not leading her singleton Diamond (into a suit bid twice and supported) which would have given away immediately the good result. Leading a singleton is usually an excellent lead, but not in this case!

A Crazy Hand by Sid LeBlanc

Every day as we leave we say there were some interesting hands today. There are also several ways to bid them, even if you are an expert. That keeps us coming back. The craziest hand recently was **Board 19** on Friday Sept 29. It was played 20 times and no one made any contract. It was off three or more 17 of the 20 times.

Board 19

Dealer S EW vul	
N	
♠KT76543	
♥3	
♦KJ72	
♣9	
W	E
♠A	♠QJ982
♥AT9875	♥void
♦AQ864	♦T5
♣3	♣AK7542
S	
♠void	
♥KQJ642	
♦93	
♣QJT85	

The hand diagram for Board 19 is on the left.

It was played in 5 Diamonds by West, 3 NT by West, 3 Clubs by East, 3 and 4 clubs by South, 3 and 4 Hearts by South, (only some of the 4 Hearts and none of the 5 diamonds were doubled), and 2 and 3 Spades by North. Every bid has options. South can open one or two hearts, West normally bids diamonds, but may pass, North would like to mention that he has a 7 card spade suit, but may not, East can bid clubs or spades. And that is only the first round, when bidding is simpler.

So how would YOU bid it?

A Squeeze Lesson by Guss Ginsburg

A Squeeze occurs when a player (either defender or declarer or even the dummy) must make a discard which gives up a trick or a stopper. The result of a well-executed squeeze play is at least one additional trick for that side. In a recent club game, I found myself declaring two hands where squeezes came up. In one case, playing 6D (see diagram below left), there were six other pairs in the field in 6D making 6. Making an overtrick earned us 3 more matchpoints than had we made only 6. RHO bid spades vigorously, and her partner led the ♠2 against 6D. The dummy looked very promising. If I could ruff 2 spades in dummy, cash 3 clubs, and 5 trumps in my hand, along with the ♥AK, I have 12 tricks. I ruffed the opening lead with the ♦2, cashed a high trump in dummy, as all followed. Then a club to my King, and another spade ruff in dummy. Then I cashed the ♦Q, with all following. The 2-2 trump break allowed me the luxury of testing clubs by leading them from the top. I cashed the ♣A, discarding a spade from my hand. I led the ♣Q, and RHO discarded a spade. That was discouraging, as I was hoping to set up the long club via a ruff for my 13th trick. On the ♣Q, I discarded a low heart, as LHO followed. Now, one of my options for an overtrick is to take the heart finesse. But, since I have determined that the high club is on my left, and the high spades are on the right (a reasonable assumption on the auction), we can lead out our last two trumps after ruffing the club back to our hand. Before leading the last trump, the layout is as in the diagram to the right. On the last trump, LHO must save the ♣J, or else the ♣8 becomes established. So, LHO discards a heart. Now, the ♣8 has served its purpose as a threat against LHO, but is no longer needed, so we will discard the club from dummy. Now, RHO must keep the ♣A (or else my ♠Q becomes a winner), so he discards a heart. Then, I cash the ♥K, and lead a heart to dummy. When LHO follows with the ♥10, I know he doesn't have the ♥Q (his other card is the ♣J). And, RHO's last two cards are a heart and the ♣A, so I know the ♥Q will fall under the ace. This particular squeeze is a double squeeze, because both defenders are under pressure.

One of the traps on this hand is the temptation to discard the ♠Q on the high club, instead of a heart. If you discarded the spade, the squeeze no longer works, since RHO can discard all his spades, knowing that declarer has no threat in the suit. If you discard the spade, then your only play for the overtrick is the heart finesse (a 50% play). The line taken is 100%, after discovering the 5-2 club break.

An additional observation about this hand: the ♥J probably caused most declarers to see the finesse as their best chance of an overtrick. Had the ♥J been a small heart, there is no finesse to take, but the squeeze still operates, and the long little heart in dummy becomes a winner when both opponents come down to a doubleton heart.

N
 ♠void
 ♥AJ98
 ♦KQJ2
 ♣AQ876

W
 ♠742
 ♥10xx
 ♦9x
 ♣J9xxx

E
 ♠AKJ10xx
 ♥Qxx
 ♦10x
 ♣10x

S
 ♠Q98x
 ♥K54
 ♦A87xx
 ♣K

N
 ♠void
 ♥AJ9
 ♦void
 ♣8

W
 ♠void
 ♥10xx
 ♦void
 ♣J

E
 ♠A
 ♥Qxx
 ♦void
 ♣void

S
 ♠Q
 ♥K5
 ♦8
 ♣void

(forwarded by Carolyn Dubois)

Thank you from Lynden Clay Swayze

Diane Scott, Carla Seyler, and I want to thank everyone who assisted us with the very successful October 299er tournament.

We really appreciate all of our volunteers who came to the Club and assisted in the kitchen. Everything went more than smoothly due to your hard work.

We also greatly appreciate all of the volunteers who made desserts, salads, and other homemade food items. We got so many compliments, and I know everyone appreciated the homemade touch. Your donations also allowed us to easily stay within our budget which helps the Club since tournament proceeds go to providing all of the things that allow our club to function on a daily basis.

Thanks again for all of your hard work!

Lynden Clay Swayze