

# **KIBITZER** ♣♦♥♠

## Louisiana Bridge Association March 2020

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### President's Message March 2020

**Hey! Throw Me Something Mister** is over and we are moving into Spring.

**Our 8 is Enough Swiss** was a wonderful event and well attended by a lot of our members. **Diana and her committee** did an exceptional job with planning and implementing a great event. Can you believe we had 24 tables! I hope we can do this again.

Another event that was well attended and players are still talking about were **Lowen's workshops**. Thanks **Lowen** great workshop and over 80 players in attendance. I hear this comment from his students all the time. Lowen said, "if you know you go"

**The Planning Committee** will be working on the future of our club. If you have any interest, please see me.

A **committee** has been formed with members of our club who are **MASTER GARDENERS** or have interest in this Project.

**Enjoy your game!**

**Carolyn Dubois**

### March Events

\*= extra points, no extra fee

\*\*=extra points, extra fee

**Mar 2 ACBL-wide Sr. Pairs Game\*\***

**Mon aft—starts at noon!**

**Mar 9-15 Club Championship Week\***

Mon-Sun

**Mar 26-28 Spring 499er Tournament**

Metairie clubhouse Thurs-Sat

**Mar 31 ACBL-Wide Charity Game\*\***

**Tues aft—starts at noon!**

#### Wednesday Grand Slam jackpots

Jan 29 Doug DeMontluzun & Bill Geary

#### 70 Percent Games

99er

Feb 7 Larry Holbrook & David Wright 70%

Open

Feb 7 JF Lowenstein & Eleanor Onstott 70.49%

#### RANK ADVANCMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Phillip Boston, Mariann Wilson

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Carol Jambon, Judith Johnson

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Bette Marks, Lynne Peterson

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Judith Luchsinger, Clara Perry, Valerie Schlesinger

NEW NABC MASTER

Michael Russell

NEW LIFE MASTERS

Mae O'Neil, Ronald Omond, Sheryl Thompson

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Walker Jones, Robert Reich

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTERS

David Williams, David Woods

#### New Members

Helen Barnett, Pat Bedenbaugh, Lawrence Bourdeau, Joyce Champagne, Mark Finch

#### In Memoriam

*Nancy Pomiechowski*

#### Contents this issue

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**p3** Tournament firsts, Sue Himel's I/N column

## DIREKTORS KORNER

**THIS MONTH'S DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: Diamond Lil**

### TOPIC: When Can I Ask?

Perhaps someone dropped a tray of doughnuts, someone else had a cell phone ring, and someone else spilled coffee on the table. It's an exciting day at the club. But now you are wondering about the bidding, or the meaning of a bid.

Q: When am I allowed to review?

- A:
- (1) when partner puts the opening lead face down on the table, or
  - (2) before my first play on the first trick.
  - (3) note, explanations come from opponents, not your partner.
  - (4) **note also, no partial reviews are allowed. Only review the entire bidding sequence.**

Q: When am I allowed to ask the meaning of an opponent's bid?

- A:
- (1) when partner puts the opening lead face down on the table, or
  - (2) before my first play on the first trick.
  - (3) before my bid. **HOWEVER, USE CAUTION HERE.** If you are going to act (either pass or bid no matter what the answer), act without asking. Why? Asking may help the opponents. They may forget their system. Do not help opponents, they are not on your side. If you are harmed by a failure to alert or mistaken explanation, the director will adjust the score for you.
  - (4) it is inappropriate to ask for a meaning of a bid solely because you suspect partner does not know or was not paying attention (Law 20G1).
  - (5) if you are in the pass out seat, and you are going to pass no matter what explanation, wait until your partner faces the opening lead, then ask about the meaning of a bid.
  - (6) it is inappropriate to ask for an interpretation of a bid. If someone asks you for the meaning of a bid, the appropriate answers are the points of your agreement with your partner, or "there is no systematic agreement here."

**PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH** Beginning bridge students are usually taught that an overcall requires at a minimum a reasonably strong five card or longer suit. That's sensible advice because overcalls are both lead directive and competitive bids. A poor quality overcall, particularly when vulnerable, can too often lead to a stinging penalty when doubled. But what does a player do when holding a hand such as West's in a local

S dealer EW vul	
N	♠K10632
	♥8
	♦A1053
	♣852
W	♠AQJ7
	♥972
	♦KQ4
	♣Q107
E	♠9854
	♥J653
	♦97
	♣AJ4
S	♠VOID
	♥AKQ104
	♦J862
	♣K963

club game (see box at left). Some would pass, others would make a takeout double but yet others, often experienced duplicate players, would break the five card rule and overcall 1S. At our table the auction proceeded 1H-1S-P-2S-X-P-P-P, down three for a zero. Many critics would say West simply received the penalty he deserved when he elected to overcall on a four card trump suit in a balanced hand. But I, the East player who raised 1S to 2S, can't be so critical of West's bid, which was both lead directing and competitive, plus extremely unlucky to find spades breaking 5/0 behind him. I have found that four card overcalls can usually be effective if the bid suit is strong, typically with three high honors, the bid is made at the one level only and the hand has opening bid strength. While West's hand had all three recommended features, this board is a textbook example of what can happen after things really go terribly wrong when overcalling with a four card suit and 4=3=3=3 distribution. (This is the first of a short series of to be published columns discussing four card overcalls, some of which produced excellent results.) A successful duplicate player should understand that all bidding methods are based upon optimism but even the best of players will inevitably run into well bid hands which bring disappointing

consequences. And here's a point to be made which initially seems incorrect but should be given thought until our next columns appear. Unlike typical five and six card or two suited overcalls, which work best when overcaller is short in opener's suit, it is advantageous for the four card overcall to include length in the RHO opening bidder's suit. The reason for this anomaly is that the more cards held in opening bidder's suit in overcaller's hand, the more room there is for the intended dummy to hold length in overcaller's short trump suit. A hand such as ♠AQJx ♥Kx ♦J9xxx ♣Ax is an improper shape for a takeout double and has too weak a diamond suit to overcall but there is a good chance of reaching a part score or even a spade game when dummy fits opener's hand and holds good trump length with a few outside values. So keep tuned and we'll have more to say about four card overcalls in future columns. When used judiciously and cautiously, four card overcalls should be a part of your defensive bidding methods.

## Tournament Firsts

### Orange Beach Regional

**Monday A/X/Y Pairs** Jennie Flynn Sauviac & Edward Landry Flt X

**Mon Tues KO 1** John Onstott-Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian-Jacob Morgan-Howard Parker

**Mon Tues KO 2** Jacob Karno-Nelson Daigle-Wayne Weisler-Bill Beaushaw

**Mon Tues KO 4** Sheryl Thompson-Linda Conner-Molly Silvia-Barbara Fitz-Hugh

**Tues A/X/Y Pairs** Paul Freese & Toby Young Flt X

**Tues Gold Rush** Ronald Ocmund & Gary Bergeron; Fran Early & Linda Kamler Flt 2

**Tues Aft Swiss** John Onstott-Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian-Jacob Morgan-Howard Parker;

Sheryl Thompson-Linda Conner - Molly Silvia - Barbara Fitz-Hugh Flt B

**Tues Bktd Swiss 5** Irene Labiche-Myra Menville-Nancy Neal-Judy Daly

**Wed Gold Rush Pairs** Bernie Vanderlinden & Greg Browne Flt 1

**Wed Bktd Swiss 1** John Onstott-Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian-Jacob Morgan-Howard Parker

**Wed Bktd Swiss 2** Sid LeBlanc-Greg Blum-Toby Young-Paul Freese (tie for first)

**Tues Wed Eve Swiss** John Onstott-Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian-Jacob Morgan-Howard Parker

**Thurs Compact KO 1** John Onstott-Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian-Jacob Morgan

**Thurs Gold Rush Pairs** Mae O Neil & Nancy Linzy

**Fri Bktd Swiss 1** John Onstott-Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian-Jacob Morgan-Howard Parker

**Fri Bktd Swiss 3** Sheryl Thompson-Linda Conner-Molly Silvia-Elizabeth Cordes

**Fri Gold Rush Pairs** Dottie Stephenson & Jane Reynolds Flt 2

**Thurs Fri Eve Swiss** Sherna Dooley-Erin Deloney et al Flt B

### Houston Regional First

**Thurs Bktd Swiss Teams 7** Beth Todd-Molly Silvia-Cappy McIver-Di Lapeyre

### Gulfport Sectional Firsts

**Fri AM 299er** Debbie Tabb & Suzanne Brown

**Fri PM Open** Elaine Wilcynski & Christine Beasley Flt B

**Sat PM Open** Rick Logan & John Onstott; Jack Lewis & Cindy Lewis Flt B; Robert Reich & Buddy Massey Flt C

**Sun Swiss** Jean Talbot-Eleanor Onstott-Bruce Pierce-Ann Roberts

### D10 STAC Firsts (multi-center)

**Mon AM 499** George Wilson & Valerie Schlesinger

**Tues AM 299** Mary-Madison Griswold & Debbie Reily

**Fri AM 99** Larry Holbrook & David Wright

**Some Jacob Morgan regional firsts across the country:**

**Houston Mon Bktd Swiss, Vancouver Thurs AXY Swiss and Fri Bktd Swiss**

## *For the I/N Crowd by Sue Himel*

### Showing 5 Card Majors in Competition – Part 2

Last month I talked about which auctions showed 5 card majors in competitive auctions and the use of the support double by opener to show three card support for responder's major suit. This month I will assume you are not playing support doubles and show you the hands with which you should support responder's major suit bid with three card support.

**In all hands below you dealt, the auction has been 1D – P – 1H – 1S and it is your call.**

1. *You opened 1D with this hand:* ♠82 ♥Q83 ♦AQ43 ♣KQJ4

*Raise to 2H.* You cannot rebid 1NT with no spade stopper. 2C implies a 5-4 hand.

2. *You opened 1D with this hand:* ♠8 ♥Q83 ♦AQ432 ♣KQ74

*Rebid 2C.* Don't raise with three card support when you have a reasonable alternative rebid.

3. *You opened 1D with this hand:* ♠32 ♥Q32 ♦AQJ6 ♣K652

*I like to raise with this hand, but I would not seriously criticize a pass.*

Pass is a reasonable alternative, but not an aggressive player's alternative.

**The "rule" is: raise with 3 card support when you do not have a reasonable alternative.**