

Louisiana Bridge Association October 2020

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President's Message October 2020

Fall is here and hopefully cooler weather and no storms. Our September Board meeting was delayed because of the storm. We will meet Monday. We have a few things on our Agenda.

Our By-law Committee will be discussing if any changes need to be made. I want to thank them as they have taken on this task and the team has done outstanding work. Thanks Lowen, Ellen, Jim, Vicki, and Jackie.

If you enjoy writing and would like to write a short article on some of our interesting players to be placed in the Kibitzer monthly, Please let me know.

We will be putting together another committee on Preparing a safe environment for when our club opens. Anyone interested being on this committee may contact me for this Committee

A big thank you to Gary Bergeron for cleaning and disposing of everything in our refrigerators. It took Gary a few hours but the refrigerators are ready to be used..

Carolyn Dubois

Coming Events

October

Oct 15-18 Fall into Bridge Regional gold and red points

Oct 26-Nov 1 Club Appreciation Week upgraded masterpoints

Coming Nov 27– Dec 6

VIRTUAL NABC

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SHERRIE'S REPORT—WHAT'S HAPPENING ONLINE

Although we aren't meeting face to face at the club, most of you have been busy meeting online. Our directors have been busy reaching out to those of you still unconnected to our virtual club. If you haven't gotten your call yet, feel free to call us. (**Lil Range, Sue Himel, Linda Freese, Kathy Plauche and Sherrie Goodman** are all available to help you.) We've also been working hard at getting those convention cards posted.

ACBL has raised the level of guests in a club from 5% to 15%. Some of the larger virtual clubs reach their limit daily, but we stay at 5% or less. As a result of this historic Stardust "Gold" Event, we have had requests from some of our surrounding clubs mainly due to the size of our games and the variety of games for all levels of players. The **Shreveport Club** has enjoyed playing with us this week and have requested to continue as our guests after the Stardust Week. **Gulfport's Novice players** have been playing with us, and our club is setting records in attendance. We will continue the 99er game at 10:00 daily after Stardust has ended.

ACBL has added a **Guest Membership** for people who have never been members of ACBL. This is a perfect opportunity to get your party bridge friends or friends who might like to learn to play to have a temporary free membership to see the benefits of the ACBL. **Kathy Plauche** is teaching beginner bridge online, and **Lowen and Wayne Weisler** are teaching their students online as well.

What's to come ? **Virtual clubs will soon have zoom like ability.** Yes, you may want to comb your hair and get out of those jammies as we are very close to having visuals and voice capability at your virtual bridge table. This is a couple of months away.

Also, if you are missing those wonderful Swiss team games, BBO and ACBL are working on the technology to make this happen. We hope to have Swiss teams before the end of the year.

DIREKTORS KORNER

THIS MONTH'S DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: The Hat Lady

TOPIC: Keep our game honest

With the bridge clubs now closed, we are all thankful to the ACBL awarding masterpoints for bridge play online. Our partners, and bridge friends, are like our extended family, and share the happiness of a successful HONEST game. I emphasized honesty, because the BBO genies have been suspicious of some VERY unusual bids, and plays. The ACBL Board meeting at the Memphis NABC, passed a motion to, "permanently expel players convicted of collusive cheating without the possibility of readmission. The BOD and BOG wish to send a message to those who spoil our great game by cheating that it will not be tolerated". There is no pride winning by premeditated collusive cheating.

EDITOR'S ADDENDUM: As the Hat Lady has expressed above, we want to keep our local club games honest and enjoyable. BUT as noted in the ACBL Bulletin, BBO has means of detecting both collusive and individual cheating, even when opponents have not filed formal complaints, and strong action has been taken.

If you suspect someone of cheating the correct action is to file a player memo with the appropriate recorder. Be sure to include the board and session information. **Then let the recorder handle it.** Remember it is **UNETHICAL** to make a public accusation of cheating. In fact, such an accusation may subject you to discipline.

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH Many and perhaps most bridge authorities counsel against opening a weak two bid with a distinctly two suited hand. Their rationale is that weak two bids were designed and developed as a descriptive and preemptive six card one suited hand in the 8-11 hcp range. Those authorities note that starting the bidding of a two suited hand at the two level too often results in the second suit being lost in a competitive or preemptive auction. The contradictory minority view is that weak two bids are used primarily in matchpoint tournaments, in which free-wheeling competitive bidding is common, so it's OK to open one suit and bid the second thereafter as soon as the auction allows. The hand at the left in a Metairie club game afforded an excellent opportunity to test which of

	N	
	♠AQ7652	
	♥K86	
	♦72	
	♣QJ	
W		E
♠KJ10843		♠void
♥void		♥Q73
♦8		♦KQ1063
♣K76432		♣A10985
	S	
	♠9	
	♥AJ109542	
	♦AJ954	
	♣void	

these two positions is better. West was dealer, with N/S vul. My partner opened the West hand with 2S. North and I (East) were preempted out of any bidding at that stage of the auction, so we both passed. South decided to "walk the dog" and bid a quiet and conservative 3H, over which West happily bid 4C. The entire auction began and continued 2S-P-P-3H-4C-4H-5C-5D-6C-P-P-P. North correctly led the ♣Q in an effort to cut down dummy's ability to ruff spades. West embarked on an extended but careless crossruff sequence, ending up down one. when he failed to timely play a high diamond, giving up a trick to the ♦A and so establishing a discard for one of his losing spades. I leave it up to the reader to note how the slam could be made by taking advantage of the fall of the singleton ♠9, a significant card, allowing declarer to profit from a sequence of ruffing finesses of spades plus one high diamond to make the slam by generating the necessary twelve tricks. The consensus of the post-play discussion was that West overbid prematurely by bidding 6C ahead of partner but that partner would have made that same bid anyway, so no harm was done in the auction. Although declarer erred in the play of the hand and went down on a "cold" slam, that was not the point of this column. The purpose was to provoke a discussion of the advisability of

bidding a weak two bid with a distinctly two suited hand. Is it better to bid the two suits sequentially asap or to make a clear two suited intervention later in the auction? Each partnership must decide this issue for itself and thereafter act consistently when holding a "two suited" weak two bid type of hand. An agreement to always bid such hands either one way or the other, whichever the partnership prefers, is better than no agreement at all and leaving each hand for a random decision.

They Bid It and We Made It by Arnaldo Partesotti

Once in a blue moon some hands come up which are exceptional for some play made, or their end result, or some other unusual reason. These hands are special for writing about them, the articles do not require any effort and practically write themselves, making my life as a bridge chronicler very easy.

North V	
♠AQ964	
♥KT7653	
♦5	
♣2	
West V	East V
♠T5	♠K32
♥AQJ842	♥void
♦83	♦AKJT972
♣KJ5	♣976
South VD	
♠J87	
♥9	
♦Q64	
♣AQT843	

During a recent on-line tournament, playing against two top players, I was sitting South when the hand at left came up (hands rotated for your convenience). The bidding was very aggressive, reaching 3NT with a combined 22 points, long suits will do that to you:

W	N	E	S
			P
1H	P	2D	P
2H	P	3D	P
3NT	P	P	P

I really wanted to bid my Clubs, but I was not going to do it at the 3-level, vulnerable, after the Opponents had already bid 2/1, clearly indicating that they had the majority of the points.

Partner led the ♠6, Declarer played low from Dummy, and I played the ♠J, which won the trick.

With the ♦Qxx in my hand I thought we had a good chance to defeat the contract, and this could have been assured if I had returned a Spade, and Partner had kept the ♠A as a later entry to his hand. This also would remove the only entry to dummy, had the Diamonds become viable for cashing. But there was some hope that Partner had, perhaps, the ♣J, so I returned the ♣T instead of a Spade (*my bad*, remember the movie Wall Street: "Greed is good!")

Declarer went up with the ♣K, played the ♥A, followed by a Diamond. I knew exactly what Declarer was doing, and it was perfectly logical. If the Diamonds were coming in, 7 tricks plus 1 Club and 1 Heart = 9 tricks, contract made! And the ♣K was the best chance to win that trick (I know, you and I and other mere mortals would have played the Jack of Clubs instead!)

Declarer played the Diamonds from the top, plus one more round when they did not run. I won the Queen, cashed my remaining five Clubs, and gave partner the ♠A and ♥K for down five and an absolute top. What is so special about this hand, in case you missed it? THEY bid 3NT, and WE made it!

For the I/N Crowd By Sue Himel

Balancing #4

Responding to partner's suit balancing bid is similar to responding to partner's overcall. But, there is one important thing to remember. Partner used some of the points in your hand to make that balancing bid. I suggested in last month's column that when the auction proceeds: 1X-P-P-? (where X is any suit) that the player in the balancing position should "borrow a king from partner's hand" then make the same call they would in the direct position. When responding to partner's balancing bid remember to subtract a king from your hand before responding.

(Reminder: The partner of the overcaller or balancer is called the advancer.)

Suppose the auction proceeds 1D – P – P – 1H
P - ?

You hold the following hands. What is your call?

♠KQT ♥82 ♦QT96 ♣A542

With (11 points – 3 points) 8 points and no support advance to 1NT.

♠AQT4 ♥82 ♦K763 ♣Q92

With (11 points-3 points) 8 points and no support advance to 1S. Partner should not expect a 5 card suit since with enough points to advance and a 5 card suit you would have overcalled.

♠T862 ♥JT7 ♦K854 ♣K7

With (7 points – 3 points) 4 points, even with 3 card support, Pass. If partner had a good hand (14+ points) he would double, then rebid his suit.

♠862 ♥QJ65 ♦AJT5 ♣Q2

With (10 points – 3 points) 7 points advance to 2H.

♠K7 ♥QJ65 ♦AJT53 ♣K2

You had nothing to bid over a 1D opening, but with (14 points – 3 points) 11 points you have enough for a limit raise. Use your methods to show that. If a raise to 3H is a limit raise for you, bid that. If a Q-bid shows a limit raise or better, make a Q-bid.

I hope these columns on balancing have encouraged you to discuss this topic with your regular partners. It is not important that you use all of the methods and ranges I suggest; it is important that you have agreements about what your balancing bids and partner's advances mean.

Virtual Vacation Regional Report—Unit 134 overall finishers

Aug 27

10:15AM 99ERS 55 tables Diana Horowitz & Jackie Childress 5C

1:45PM 99ers 55 tables Diana Horowitz & Jackie Childress 2A

Mary Marks & Dorothy Weisler 3C

Early Bird Gold Rush Pairs 737 tables Om Garg & Lallie Garg 91st level 7 and 63rd level 4

Charles Waldrop & Newt Jackson 128th level 7 and 90th level 4

Twilight Gold Rush Pairs 255 tables Kathy Plauche & Debbie Reily 6P 4Q

Early Bird Mid Flight Pairs 158 tables Olivia Schiresen & Reese Koppel 30B 12C

Greg Blum & Sid LeBlanc 42B 16C

Smores Side Game 69 tables Iype Koshy & Sherrie Goodman 9th

Firefly Side Game 58 tables Mimi Groome & Myra Groome 5C

Early Bird Top Flight 89 tables Paul Rosenblum & Howard Parker 29th

Aug 28

Early Bird Top Flight Pairs 98 tables Jacob Morgan & Jacob Karno 5A

Early Bird Gold Rush Pairs 731 tables Debbie Reily & Kathy Plauche 91st level 7 and 75th level 4

Firefly Side Game 57 tables Mimi Groome & Myra Groome 5/6C

Aug 29

Twilight Mid Flight Pairs 48 tables Edgar Taylor & Neil Sandson 17B 13C

Early Bird Top Flight Pairs 114 tables Chuck Pitard & Rick Logan 9th

Smores Side Game 95 tables Iype Koshy & Sherrie Goodman 12A

Aug 30

5:15 99er Pairs 32 tables Penelope Randolph & Gregory McKnight 2C

Early Bird Gold Rush Pairs 557 tables Janice Zazulak & Diana Powell 50th level 7

Early Bird Top Flight Pairs 93 tables Reese Koppel & Sriram Ganesan 19A 5X

Early Bird Mid Flight Pairs 113 tables Wayne Weisler & Jacob Karno 11B

Smores Side Series Overall 91 tables Sherrie Goodman & Iype Koshy 18/19

Top 25 Unit 134 masterpoint winners in online regional

Jacob Karno 21.29

Chuck Pitard 12.10

Kathy Plauche 11.86

Debbie Reily 9.69

Reese Koppel 8.15

Myra Groome 5.85

Sherrie Goodman 5.71

Jackie Childress 5.34

Om Garg 5.06

Lallie Garg 5.06

Newton Jackson 5.01

Mimi Groome 4.42

Wayne Weisler 4.16

Denise Tabor 3.97

Iype Koshy 3.85

Charles Waldrop 3.84

Janet Koppel 3.11

George Wilson 2.88

Paul Rosenblum 2.65

Edgar Taylor 2.36

Sarah Pasternak 2.31

Mary Belcher 2.29

Janice Zazulak 2.11

Diana Powell 2.11

Valerie Schlesinger 2.03

70 percent games by Unit 134 Members in our virtual club in September

Sep 1 Open John Onstott & Kathy Logue 70.94%

Sep 4 Open Doris Liukkonen & Erin O'Sullivan 70.31%

Sep 10 Open Paul Rosenblum & Howard Parker 71.39%

Sep 13 Open Jacob Karno & Howard Parker 75.56%

Sep 21 Open James Bush & Guss Ginsburg 72.78%

Sep 22 Open Sherrie Goodman & Linda Freese 70.71%

Sep 24 499er Om Garg & Lallie Garg 74.44%

Sep 26 0-750 Om Garg & Lallie Garg 72.22%

Sep 28 Open Dianne Chesson & Vicki Willis 71.55%

Jacob Karno & Howard Parker placed
FIRST in a **454** pair ACBL game
Fri Sep 4 with **77.47%**

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

George Jeansonne, Tom Schwaner

NEW CLUB MASTERS

John Cumberland, Margaret Cumberland,
Diane Kallenborn, Kelly Londeree,
Cliff Williams

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Daphne Lesage, Toni Nadler, Stephen Romig

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Carolyn Herre, Hubert Herre, Diane Kramer

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER

William Weed

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTERS

Juanita Heidingsfelder

Sigurd Nordvoll

NEW MEMBER

Margaret Cancienne