



Louisiana Bridge Association September 2018

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President's Message September 2018

Please send all your friends to **Easybridge!** with Elizabeth Sewell beginning at 9:00 am on Wednesday, September 12, or the evening classes with Wayne Weisler beginning Monday, September 17, 7:00-9:00 pm. No registration...just show up and have fun!

We are encouraging our directors to enforce the **Zero Tolerance policy** instituted by the ACBL. If you witness a negative behavior, please call the director. If the director does not handle the problem to your satisfaction, please fill out a Conduct and Ethics Complaint form available near the water machine.

Our **new drink, snack, water and coffee machines** have arrived, and they look great. We would appreciate feedback. Please submit your comments (i.e. more candy bars; fewer chips, etc.) to the Suggestion Box located at the directors' desk.

Thanks to **everyone who pitches in and helps** around our Bridge Center whether it be throwing garbage away, putting pencils back in their container, washing table cloths, or just being friendly and patient while waiting for your table.

And...a great big thanks to John Liukkonen for working so diligently to publish our monthly newsletter, **The Kibitzer!**

Linda Freese

September Events

*= extra points, no extra fees

**=extra points, extra fees

Sep 3 Unit Championship* Mon

Sep 9 GNT Qualifier** Sun

Sep 11 Unit Championship* Tues

Sep 12 New Easybridge 9AM

Sep 13 ACBL wide Int'l Fund Game**

Thurs aft

Sep 14 Unit Championship* Fri

Sep 14-16 Jackson I/N Sectional Fri-Sun

Sep 17 New Easybridge 7-9PM

Sep 17-23 Club Membership Week* Mon-Sun

Only ACBL members get points

Sep 24-30 Robinsonville Regional Mon-Sun

NEW MEMBERS

Suzanne Brown, Neil Nadler

Seventy Percent Games—Open Pairs

Aug 2 Jean Talbot & Judy Katz 71.47%

Aug 6 eve Cappy McIver & Di Lapeyre
72.22%

Aug 10 John Onstott & Jacob Morgan
71.97%

Aug 20 Bonnie Nelson & Janet Patterson
70.12%

For 99ers and 299ers 70% games—see p2

In Memoriam
Leila Wachtel

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Delly Borne, Velvye Carrington, Bob Hermetz, Anita Hunley, Mary Krajcer, Starr Mason

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Patricia Arnold, Janet Bean, Marion Bruno, Carolyn Herre, Jack Kienzle

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Glenn Barnett, Fran Early, Dorothy Romig, Tim Russell

NEW REGIONAL MASTER

Robert Reich

NEW NABC MASTER

Steven Plotkin

NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTER

Elizabeth Cordes

NEW LIFE MASTERS

Henry Bodenheimer

Judy Nordvoll

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTERS

Jeffrey Perigoni

Wayne Weisler

NEW SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

Bill Weiss

NEW EMERALD LIFE MASTER

Larry Federico

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Atlanta NABC Firsts

National Title

Roth Open Swiss John Onstott-Jim Krekorian-Drew Casen et al

YouthNABC Title Fri Open Pairs Reese Koppel & Kunal Vohra

Regional level firsts

Thurs aft Swiss Flt C Sheryl Thompson-Molly Silvia-Di Lapeyre-Linda Conner

Thurs Gold Rush Pairs 3 Susan Martin & Margaret Shirer

Kickoff KO 3 Sheryl Thompson-Linda Conner-Molly Silvia-Di Lapeyre

Sun Day AXY Swiss John Onstott-Drew Casen et al

Sun Day Bracketed Swiss 2 Wayne Weisler-Jacob Karno-et al

Mon Day Open Pairs Flt C Erin O'Sullivan & Angeline Christie

Tues Fast Pairs Flt B Reese Koppel & Kunal Vohra

Mon-Wed AM KO 1 Kathy Logue et al

Tues-Wed AM Compact KO 2 Molly Silvia-Linda Conner-Gigi Matthews-Kathleen Vogel

Wed Day AXY Swiss John Onstott-Jim Krekorian-Drew Casen-Bruce Ferguson et al

Thurs Day Bracketed Swiss 4 Mimi Groome et al

Fri-Sat KO Teams 3 JF Lowenstein-Eleanor Onstott-Wayne Weisler-Jacob Karno

Seventy Percent Games—Intermediate Pairs

99ers

Aug 5 Newt Jackson & Linda Jackson 70.83%

Aug 24 Sarah Dabney Jacob & P Quin Bates 74.17%

299ers

Aug 7 Diana Powell & Charles Waldrop 70.79%

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH Point count slam bidding can be reasonably accurate when two balanced hands face each other but beware of point count hand evaluation when two highly distributional hands are involved. For example, here's a hand from a 2017 club game in which a 14 hcp declarer's hand opposite a 13 hcp dummy produced

N	♠AJx
	♥void
	♦K109xx
	♣AQ10xx
W	
	♠xx
	♥QJxxxxx
	♦Jx
	♣Kx
S	
	♠Kxx
	♥Axx
	♦AQxxxx
	♣x
E	
	♠Q10xxx
	♥Kxx
	♦void
	♣J9xxx

a well bid grand slam, proving that distributional "points" do count. North was the dealer, all not vul, and opened 1D. East made an aggressive overcall of 1S. I sat South and faced the immediate problem of convincing North that I held an enormous supporting hand for diamonds. I decided to make a cuebid of 2S, conventionally showing strong diamond support, a limit raise or better (usually "better") but not guaranteeing first round spade control. West, picturing East's overcall as showing a better hand than it did but nevertheless finding decent support, contributed 3H to the auction. Matchpoint bidding can be truly entertaining when all four parties are in on the bidding. So back to North went the auction, to this point 1D-1S-2S-3H-(?), to decide what next to bid, the possibilities being cuebids of 3S or 4H or a natural bid of 4C. North chose 3S, the lowest and best available call, in my opinion, whereupon East overbid once again with 4H, a quite effective preemptive effort. I had planned to use "Minorwood," asking for keycards with 4D but that bid was no longer available. Bidding five of a minor seldom produces a good matchpoint score but once in a great while it is the best contract. "Not so in this case with all of this bidding going on," I

thought, when I almost settled on bidding 6D, the contract I thought we could make. But then, with more thought, I reasoned that I had little to lose by cautiously reverting to using 4NT to ask for keycards. So out came the Roman Keycard Blackwood "ask" of 4NT for keycards with diamonds as trumps. West finally gave up bidding and passed. After lengthy consideration North responded 6D, the conventionally agreed bid used to show 1 or 3 keycards plus a void suit ranking higher than our trump suit, diamonds. East passed. And there I was, wondering whether North had only 1 or all 3 of the missing keycards (I held two plus the trump Queen) and which void suit he held, spades or hearts. I finally decided that North would not have cuebid his void early in the bidding sequence, so his 3S bid showed the Ace of that suit. Therefore his void was in hearts. I then reasoned that no one would bid so aggressively as North had if holding only one keycard, so he had all three keycards, being the spade Ace, the diamond King and the club Ace. That left me wondering about and concluding that there was no way I could be sure that there would be no third round spade loser. But North might hold a singleton or doubleton spade Ace to bid so strongly or perhaps there would be some other unanticipated lucky way to avoid a spade loser. By now I had taken so long thinking that the opponents were understandably calling "time," so I quickly once more reviewed the bidding in my mind, 1D-1S-2S-3H-3S-4H-4NT-P-6D, and, scrambling for the correct seldom used bidding card, dug it out of the bidding box, placed it on the pile and blurted out my final bid of 7D. As the readers can plainly see, partner unluckily held AJx of spades and the finesse was "off" as expected but the King of clubs luckily fell, allowing my third spade to be discarded on North's now good club Queen, making 7D. In my long bridge lifetime of over sixty years this hand was the only time my partner has ever responded "three keycards plus a void" to my RKB 4NT, a fact that I will no doubt remember and appreciate until my Roman Keycard Blackwood days are over. Bridge!!! What a wonderful game for creating memorable moments we play!

Two Questions by Arnaldo Partesotti

The final of the GNT Championship at the end of July in Atlanta pitted the District 17 team (Las Vegas) against the District 9 team (Florida). The District 17 team led convincingly for three quarters of the event but could not overcome a furious come-back by the opponents, who won in the end. Hand #6 of the final - see it below left - was very interesting, and it allows me to present you with a couple of quizzes.

North VD	
♠KJT93	
♥J92	
♦742	
♣54	
West NV	East NV
♠Q87	♠6
♥T8543	♥A7
♦AKT85	♦Q93
♣void	♣AKJ9873
South V	
♠A542	
♥KQ6	
♦J6	
♣QT62	

One: Hide the North-South cards and bid the East-West hands with your trusted partner, see which contract you will reach, with the Opponents interfering by bidding and supporting Spades. In the open room the bidding went:

West	North	East	South
	P	1C	P
1H	1S	3C	3S
X	P	5C	X
P	P	P	

The contract had no play and went down two, doubled.

In the closed room, playing a system called Symmetric Relay - more on this later - East-West reached the "right" contract of 5 Diamonds. I am not reporting the bidding because it was all artificial. There was a lot of discussion and disagreement among the vu-graph commentators on the best way to play the hand, if playing on Hearts or Clubs. My question to you is:

Two: How would you play the hand in **6 Diamonds**, after the lead to the Ace of Spades and a Spade continuation? Sylvia Shi, a bright new young star of the bridge firmament, shows you how: ruff the Spade continuation in dummy, immediately ruff a small Club, play Ace of Diamonds and a Diamond to the Queen, ruff a second small club, pull the last trump with the King of Diamonds, enter dummy with the Ace of Hearts and claim with all the winning Clubs.

Elementary, Watson!

Direktor's Korner

This month's topic: To play or not to play

Director in Charge: Big Foot

Recently we have experienced a spate of late arrivals for our game start times, often without a call of explanation or an estimated arrival time. In at least two known cases, the partner at the club was not aware that their better half was not planning to play at all. When questioned, these innocent lambs led to the director's slaughter said they just spoke to the absentee last week or three days ago or this week and knew they were coming. When asked to call to verify, imagine their surprise to learn that the mischievous player was not planning to play at all.

The LBA club rules say this about late arrivals: "The director will penalize a partnership three points for coming in late or leaving the game early, unless there is an emergency. The director has the discretion of refusing to sell an entry to players not arriving by game time. The director cannot be asked to fill in at the beginning or at the end of the game." Don't be surprised if this rule is more closely followed by our game directors in the future.

Now for a tip: It is never too soon before game time to confirm your partner is actually coming. You may wish to consider texting them to say "On my way to the bridge club. See you there."

Baton Rouge Sectional Pairs firsts

Thurs AM

299er Robert Reich & Buddy Massey 70.83%

Open James Bush & John Onstott

Thurs aft

299er Robert Reich & Buddy Massey

Fri AM

Open Wayne Weisler & Jacob Karno Flt B

Fri aft

Open Erin Fleming & Angeline Christie Flt C

Sat AM

299er Robert Reich & Buddy Massey

Open Bob Bowers & James Bush 70.09%;
Erin Fleming & Angeline Christie Flt B

Sat aft

Open Bob Bowers & James Bush

Baton Rouge Sectional Swiss First

Bracket 1 Jean Talbot-Joan Van Geffen-Charlie
Robert-Sally Gerhold

“Interesting” Hand by Sid LeBlanc

Every day we say “there were interesting hands today”.

How about we bid five spades, which makes, and our opponents sacrifice in six hearts, missing three aces, and they made six, doubled of course.

Board 19 from Monday July 16 was:

North NV	
♠A9842	
♥4	
♦6	
♣AQ9542	
West V	East V
♠void	♠Q1063
♥AKQ9876	♥J1052
♦K103	♦QJ874
♣J83	♣void
South D V	
♠KJ75	
♥3	
♦A952	
♣K1076	

South passes or bids a diamond (I passed). West says a heart, north, two hearts, east four hearts, south four spades, west five hearts, north five spades. All but two pairs passed five spades, but **our** opponents bid six hearts, doubled, leaving us only bad options. If north leads a diamond, he can use his singleton heart to trump a return and set it one—still a bad board for us. Or, he can lead the ace of spades and it is a lay down six for EW.

Big Game on Northshore.

On Aug 7 Diane Schwartz and Steve Heffner had a **75.6% game in the 8 table Tues Open Pairs** at the Mandeville Bridge Club. Pre-Katrina members of our Metairie club will remember Diane as a member here.

St. Louis Regional Firsts

Chuck Pitard & Allan Siebert scored **firsts**
in
Bracketed Swiss I Wed Aug 15 9:30AM
AND Thurs A/X Pairs