

KIBITZER

Louisiana Bridge Association July 2021

Editor – Diana Powell with help from Sherrie Goodman and
Jim Thornton email: dspowell10@gmail.com

President's Message July 2021

Welcome back!

Our first week back was exciting, and I felt like a child on his first day of school. There were a few kinks but, basically it went smoothly. I hope you enjoyed the new bid boxes and playing cards, new art, plants, flowers, and the cleanliness of the building.

We all appreciate the hard work of our club manager, Sherrie. A great big thanks to Sue, Kathy, and Wayne for directing the games. We will be gradually expanding the schedule to give you more opportunities to play at the club. We are grateful for your support for our face-to-face-games.

Steve Romig is stepping down from the Board. I want to thank Steve for his service, especially for his work as treasurer overseeing our finances. Jackie Madden is also stepping down. Thank you Jackie for all of your hard work getting us ready to reopen the club.

Thank you,

Carolyn Dubois

Sherrie's Virtual Club and LBA Face-to-Face Club News

July is a big month for the virtual club as well as for our face-to-face club. We continue to have several NAP games at **both** clubs. Here is the link to the schedule for the July 15-25 NAOBC online games: <https://nabc.acbl.org/naobc/-schedule>. Stardust Week offers double points - ¼ Gold & ¾ Black. There are extra games for you to get these much sought-after Gold-points.

We will have NAP games the first two weeks of July at the club. The “soft” opening has been surprisingly well attended compared to what other clubs have reported about their opening attendance. Hopefully, we will eventually be back to our “pre-COVID” schedule of 7 days a week. Look for some upgraded Club Championships and regular Club Championships when the expanded schedule comes out. If you are unsure of the schedule each week, you can call the club on Sunday night and listen to the message. (504)889-0869.

Coming Events

July 10-12 Summer 2021 NABC Robot
Individual

July 15-25 Summer 2021 NAOBC
Knockout
& Pair Event

July 26-August 1 Stardust week (1/4 Gold
¾ Black) Double points

Contents

P2- Arnaldo's Partesotti
Column

P3- Sue Himel's Column

P4- Paul Deal's Column

P5- Direktor's Corner

P6- Bridge Achievements

Call the Bridge Police!

By: Arnaldo Partesotti

I “almost” asked for the Bridge Police to be called... on myself! To be clear, I did not do anything wrong, but my play was so suspicious that I would not blame my opponents for calling the Bridge Police and reporting me. Thank God they were friends!

North V		
S Q4		
H K3		
D J632		
C AJ843		
West NVD		East NV
S AK6		S JT9832
H JT9542		H Q8
D 54		D T8
C T6		C K72
	South V	
	S 75	
	H A76	
	D AKQ97	
	C Q95	

I held the West hand in the diagram shown - regular on-line play. I opened 2 hearts. I would prefer to have a stronger suit with top honors but, if I did not bid hearts in first position, I might not be able to bid them again. We were non-vulnerable against vulnerable, and beggars cannot be choosers! North bid 3 clubs, very questionable in my opinion, partner passed and South bid 3NT, ending the auction.

I was on lead, and these were my thoughts: the opponents did not bid spades, nor did they Double my 2 hearts showing a potential interest in spades; therefore, they must have a concentration in the minors. In addition, declarer should have a heart stopper. My hearts were particularly weak, and partner had not supported them; therefore, a heart lead did not seem promising.

I decided to lead a Spade Honor. I wanted to take a quick look at dummy, and also see what partner would play. Of course, this struck gold when partner signaled strong encouragement, and the Queen of Spades dropped on the second Honor. By running the spades, we set the contract two tricks (-200) for an absolute top.

Apparently, I was the only one to make this lead against 3NT. The other 3NT's made on a heart lead. Looking at our hands, the spade lead may seem suspicious. However, once I eliminated the minors and a questionable heart lead, spades seemed like the best bet.

FYI - At most tables, the N/S pair were in a partial diamond or Club contract. Five of a minor does not make because you would lose 2 spades and the Club King

For the I/N Crowd
 Competitive Bidding #1 Negative Doubles I
 By Sue Himel

Bidding has changed immensely over the decades. Many of the innovations that have been adopted in the modern bidding game are those that allow players to get into the auction and compete. We will explore these modern innovations for the next few months. First up, negative doubles.

A form of take out double, the negative double tends to show the unbid suits, but there are a few other situations the convention can deal with.

LHO	Pard	RHO	You	
			1C	You hold: S K4 H AQT D Q3 C KT8743
1H	Dbl	Pass	1NT	
P	2D	Pass	?	

Pass. Yes, partner does promise 4 spades in this auction. But his 2D is a sign off bid. His hand is weak and probably something like S JT54 H 43 D KQT754 C2.

LHO	Pard	RHO	You	
			1D	You hold: S A8 H QT4 D KJ865 C A74
1S	Dbl	Pass	1NT	
Pass	2H	Pass	?	

Pass. This auction shows a 6-card heart suit. Why didn't partner just bid 2H? Because he does not have the requisite 10 points to make a bid at the two level. I see players bid 2H frequently in this auction with only 6 or 7 points so they can get their suit in. It isn't necessary. Make a negative double and sign off at 2H at your next turn to bid.

LHO	Pard	RHO	You	
			?	You hold: S QJT4 H A73 D T873 C 97
	1C	1D		

Bid 1S. This only promises a 4-card suit after a 1C opening and a 1D overcall. Only make a negative double if you have 2, 4-card majors.

LHO	Pard	RHO	You	
			?	You hold: S 83 H QJ9752 D K832 C 8
Pass	1C	2D		

Pass. If you double, you must be prepared for partner's rebid. If partner rebids 2S, you will have to bid 3H, too high for the strength of your hand. If partner has to rebid a 5-card club suit, you don't have much help for that contract. If partner can reopen with a double, you will be happy to bid hearts.

In general, make a negative double

- 1) when you hold at least 4 cards in the unbid major **AND** the other unbid suit **OR** a tolerance for partner's first suit.
- 2) when you hold a long suit lower ranking than the overcalled suit, less than 10 points and you can rebid it at an appropriate level after opener's rebid.
- 3) after a 1C opening and a 1D overcall when you hold both majors.
- 4) after a 1H opening bid and a spade overcall, when you hold both minors.

Watch for an announcement of fall lessons for Intermediate to Advanced players on counting, inferences, and technique.

Paul's Deal of the Month

Playing matchpoints and bidding a minor-suit game often presents a problem even to expert bidders. It requires a partnership to risk going down one by overbidding just a bit and avoiding the temptation of reaching for a minor suit slam on nice hands when twelve tricks might come in. An example of this bidding difficulty arose with hand #12 at the club on November 14, 2018.

Let's pretermite any discussion of whether 3NT could be bid, made, or defeated double dummy on this hand (It looks like the best defense will hold it to 2NT on a low heart lead from either side). Please consider whether our bidding was flawed when it went P-P-1D-Dbl-1S-P-2C-P-2D-P-3D-P-P-P, making five. Could E/W logically ignore South's light double and keep bidding onto game? Should East have made a more aggressive game try, such as 3C, 4C or 4D over West's 2D? Should West have raised to 3D over East's 2C or 4D over East's 3D? Would your partnership have done better on this difficult auction? We thought it would be easier to bid to game at other scoring forms of bridge, but at matchpoints, the risk of going down one or two for a poor score was ill advised. However, taking a chance and bidding game may pay off at rubber bridge or IMPS. Be honest! How would your partnership have done on this hand?

W Deals		
N/S Vul		
	N	
	♠ A6543	
	♥ 98532	
	♦ 10	
	♣ 102	
W		E
♠ K872		♠ Q
♥ J107		♥ A
♦ K762		♦ AQJ843
♣ J6		♣ A9875
	S	
	♠ J109	
	♥ KQ84	
	♦ 95	
	♣ KQ43	

Direktor's Corner

Swiss Teams Issues Online

Swiss teams are a popular form of our beloved game of bridge. Swiss teams involve 4 people: 2 sets of pairs. One pair always sits north/south, and the other pair always sits east/west. Currently, our club offers Swiss teams every Sunday at 2 and one Thursday each month at 7:15.

Signing up for Swiss teams involves an additional step beyond registering for a pairs event. Here is what you need to do: first, log on to BBO as usual, then go to our club. If you are a member, one way to go to our club is to go to VIRTUAL CLUBS, then NORTH AMERICA. Our club will be listed (LBA/LBC... Swiss). If you are NOT A MEMBER you can still play. Go to ALL TOURNAMENTS. Then look for our club Swiss game (LBA/LBC... Swiss). Second, register as usual with your partner. Now you are almost there. Third, look under SELECT TEAMMATES. You will see yourself and your partner plus all the other pairs who are waiting to sign up with their teammates. When you see your teammates, INVITE them (blue box). When they accept your invitation, your team will appear under the entries tab. If you have any trouble, text or call Lil (504 330 1158) or Jack (504 201 3348).

If you have a partner but no teammates, here is what to do. First, tell the director, who may know of others in the same situation. Second, stand by. If you have registered with a partner, but fail to get teammates, BBO will put you into the game and the director will find subs to be your teammates. Do not ask other pairs who have already signed up in Select Teammates. They probably already have teammates. It creates confusion to ask already committed pairs to form a team. If you have any questions, text or call Lil or Jack. We would love to have you in the game!

Diamond Lil

BRIDGE ACHIEVEMENTS

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

**Junior Master: Wanda Brazile
Aldridge Haile**

Club Master: Lydia Boutte

Sectional Master: Penelope Randolph

**Regional Master: Clare Brown
Melanie Thompson**

ENDLESS SUMMER REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

6/24 1st **Jacob Karno /Wayne Weisler** 2.28 GOLD

6/24 2nd **Jacob Karno /Wayne Weisler** 14.75 GOLD

6/25 5th **Howard Parker/Paul Rosenblum** 11.04 GOLD

SILVER LIFE MASTER



Barbara Zelenka

RUBY LIFE MASTER



Suzanne Cliffe

GOLD LIFE MASTER



Sherrie Goodman

70 % GAMES

6/2	299er	Ray Nolan – Karen Boquet	70.90%
6/6	299er	Elizabeth Sewell – W. Blair Robinson	73.19%
6/9	Open	Wayne Weisler – Dee Moses	71.62%
6/12	Open	Jacob Karno – Howard Parker, III	71.03%
6/14	Open	James Thornton – Sherrie Goodman	70.47%
6/14	Open	John Onstott – Jacob Morgan	71.04%
6/17	99er	Stephanie Rhodes Navarre – Marva Arceneaux	83.33%