

# KIBITZER

## Louisiana Bridge Association September 2022

Editor – Diana Powell with help from Sherrie Goodman and  
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### President's Message September 2022

In my August message, I expressed optimism that our 499er tournament scheduled for October 6th-8th would be held as scheduled but warned that low participation could doom the tournament in future years. The board decided, at our August meeting, to poll our 499er players to get a projection of participation. The results of that poll indicated that our maximum participation would probably be three or four tables per session. This is not enough for a viable tournament, so I must sadly advise that we have cancelled the 2022 499er tournament. The tournament may be held in 2023 depending on 499er participation in our regular sectional tournaments scheduled for November 3rd-5th this year as well as the ones in January, May, and July next year. We schedule daily limited master point games in all these tournaments.

We continue to ease food restrictions at the club and even have a pizza day scheduled on September 9th. Please enjoy your food away from the playing tables.

Plans for the 2023 NABC are proceeding satisfactorily. Jackie and I have a monthly conference call with the ACBL tournament coordinators.

**Larry Federico**

#### **At the LBA Face-to-Face:**

There are some really special days at the club this month. We will have pizza before the game on September 9<sup>th</sup> thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor. September 5<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> is Club Membership week. The games receive triple points, but you have to be a member to participate! Make sure your ACBL dues are current. We welcome the NABC Promotional games the week of September 12<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. These games are being held all over District 10, and they are for our benefit.....they help to defray our expenses in hosting the NABC in March. We are adding Saturday games for both of these special events! We will also have a GNT Qualifier on Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. This is a double point Swiss game with ½ red and ½ black mps.

#### **At the Virtual Club:**

The virtual club has added two more clubs to the fold. We are so happy to have Huntsville and their surrounding towns as well as Jackson and northern Mississippi. Please welcome them when you see them at the virtual table.

**Sherrie Goodman**

**FOR THE I/N CROWD**  
**Slam Bidding(3), Splinter Bids Part 2**  
By Sue Himel

**Evaluating Your Hand for Slam After a Splinter Bid**

Last month I wrote about how splinter bids can impact your bidding to game. This month let's look at how you should evaluate your hand for slam when partner splinters in support of your major suit bid.

The auction: West North East South  
P 1H P 4C\* \*Splinter in support of hearts

North holds: S A6 H KJT54 D AQ97 C 83

The opponents have a lot of clubs but not many points. You have a pretty good hand. I suggest you cue bid 4D on the way to game. This costs nothing to your side in the auction. If partner signs off at 4H, push again by cue bidding 4S. If partner now bids 5H, I would pass. With no high cards in his short suit, partner's hand should fit well with yours. Slam is not out of the question, but if you make two tries for slam by cue bidding and partner still isn't interested, trust partner.

North holds: S A6 H KJT54 D K83 C QJ7

Soft values in partner's short suit are not valuable. Basically, you have an 11-point hand. Sign off at 4H. Partner may continue with an exceptional hand, but with most minimum hands partner should pass 4H.

North holds: S AK6 H KQJ73 D Q4 C T98

Knowing you have only one loser in the club suit allows you to explore for slam. Usually, I do not bid 4NT when I am missing controls in one or more suits, but it is hard to envision an opening hand for partner that does not have a diamond control. Bid 4NT and if partner has two aces, bid a small slam.

North holds: S AK H KQJ73 D K4 C A986

You have better than a good hand. You should visualize partner's high cards in his long suit. Bid 4NT and plan to bid a grand slam in hearts if partner shows 2 aces. There is no point in bidding 5NT since you hold all the kings.

When partner splinters in support of your major suit, you should reevaluate your hand.

- 1) Envision partner's high cards in his long suits.
- 2) Discount your soft values (queens and jacks) in partner's short suit.
- 3) Remember that partner's shortness has in effect removed some of the points necessary for you to bid and make a game or a slam.
- 4) Count potential losers and bid accordingly.

## Paul's Deal of the Month

Many experts advocate opening hands lighter than the traditional 13 hcp with two defensive tricks. Indeed, they often open hands that are not considered to be adequate openers by most club players. But few experts would consider South's hand to be a "light" opener with its 5/5 distribution in the majors, especially with all 11 hcp in those two suits.

In the club tournament game held on Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, the typical auction with the featured hand was:

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

Therefore, they missed the cold game. Some bid more aggressively, achieving the game bonus.

S	W	N	E
1S	P	1NT	P
2H	P	2S	P
3H	p	4S	

S Deals  
None Vul

	N	
	♠ J3	
	♥ Q108	
	♦ A873	
	♣ K1054	
W		E
♠ 97		♠ Q654
♥ A9		♥ 765
♦ Q10542		♦ KJ6
♣ 8762		♣ AQJ
	S	
	♠ AK1082	
	♥ KJ432	
	♦ 9	
	♣ 93	

An important point that the game bidders took into consideration was the favorable distribution of the "spot" cards, with the lower "spots" being held in declarer's two long suits along with the necessary honor cards, a distribution which is seldom quite so favorable to the offense, and which was easily overlooked. But in this case, the two suits plus one outside Ace generated ten tricks with only one finesse, fortified by the spade 10.

## NEWS

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### In New Orleans at the Marriott & Sheraton

March 9 – 19, 2023 - NABC Tournament

#### At the Club:

Sept. 9 – Pizza before the game.

Sept. 5-10 – Club Membership week.

Sept. 12-17 – NABC Promotional Games

Sept. 24 – GNT Qualifier (Sat. Swiss)



### Welcome New Members

Clare Engler

Gabriele Forsyth

Julie Lafarque

### In Memoriam



Marion Bruno

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### ROAD WARRIORS

Flowood, MS

Aug 12-14, 2022

Total masterpoints: 236.68 earned by 78 players.

Total attendance: 82 tables.

7	7.56	Mike Russell, New Orleans
8	7.56	C Waldrop, Metairie LA
13	4.67	Virginia Dabbs, Metairie
14	4.67	Margie Christian, Metairie
17	4.26	Edward Trapp, Metairie LA
18	4.26	Carolyn Trapp, Metairie LA
21	3.92	Yvonne Bayhi, New Orleans
22	3.92	Carolyn Dubois, Metairie
47	1.80	Myra Groome, New Orleans
48	1.80	Margaret Shirer, Metairie
65	0.70	Quin Bates, Marrero LA
67	0.70	Lucinda Stentz, Metairie

Unit 134 Members won 45.82 Master Points at this NLM Regional. This is an amazing 19.4% of the total points awarded. Congratulations!!! Y'all did good!!!

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### RANK ADVANCEMENTS

**Club Master:** Velvye Carrington

**Junior Master:** Bin Su

**Ruby Life Master:** Celeste Bowden

**Gold Life Master:** Erin Deloney

### 70 % GAMES

**July 26 – August 25 (Next issue starts with August 26)**

7/19	299	Mary Marks, Angele Thompson	71.67%
7/27	Open	Sherrie Goodman, Sam Whitten	74.24%
7/31	Open Swiss	John Onstott and teammates	74.00%
8/1	Open	John Onstott, Jacob Morgan	74.42%
8/2	499	Kathy Ademek, Sara Mundie	73.61%
8/3	Open	John Onstott, Jacob Morgan	76.52%
8/10	Open Club	John Federico, Daryl Fisher	71.79%
8/11	Open	James Thornton, Paul Freese	71.11%
8/15	Open Club	Judy Katz, John Federico	71.16%
8/22	Open	Iype Koshy, Sherrie Goodman	70.83%
8/24	750	Debbie Reily, Kathy Plauche	71.43%