

# KIBITZER

Louisiana Bridge Association February 1, 2026

Editor – Jean Weiss with help from Sherrie Goodman, Kathy Plauche,  
Keenan Romig, Mike Russell & Jim Thornton  
(email:jeanandbill223@mac.com)

## President's Message:

Welcome to our new board members Beth Bayer, Hans Jonassen, Carolyn Stolz and Charles Waldrop and a thank you to our retiring board members Sid LeBlanc and Kathy Logue for their years of service. And also a thanks to Keenan Romig for the outstanding job as president for the last two years. As your new president, I welcome your suggestions for improving our club and will strive to continue the excellent job that Keenan did.

We had a very successful Rosenblum Tournament last month. Attendance was up, and it was great to see the club filled to almost overflow capacity. Thanks to Sherrie Goodman for chairing the tournament and for everyone else that volunteered.

The club will hold a game on Mardi Gras Day. Game time will be 10:00 AM, and there will be two sections if attendance warrants. Please sign up at the front table, if you plan to play so we can plan food accordingly. We need volunteers to help with preparing the food and someone to volunteer as *guardian of the parking lot* up until game time, so that those playing will have a place to park.

The Education Committee will be kicking off the New Year with a long-awaited series on Defense. John Federico will be presenting this set of lessons beginning on Feb 11<sup>th</sup>. Flyers with more information are on the front entrance table.

Our next Eight is Enough Swiss Game is scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup>. This is a really fun game and a great way to meet and play with players that you might not normally play with. Look for more details soon; hope you will join us!

Newt Jackson

## **Club Manager's Report:**

Thanks to all who helped with the recent Rosenblum Sectional. Our attendance was the most we have had since 2019. Our 499ers came out and bulged our walls! We had to order extra food every day, but it was worth it. Our Swiss game on Saturday was so much fun, having 4 sections & 28 tables! One of our participants said we should give Saturday Swiss a try, and low and behold, enough people signed up early to guarantee a novice section, and by the time you read this, we may have had enough for 2 sections. This has been requested for once a month, so make your plans and let me know if you need a partner or teammates. The February Saturday Swiss will be February 28, and the March 21 will be 8 Is Enough. We'll have more information about this one next month.

February 2-7 is StaC Week. All games award extra Silver points with the ability to get overalls in District. We will have a Saturday game at 12:30 if enough people preregister.

February 9-13 is Education Foundation Fund week as well as February 23 and 24. Our own Reese Koppel is on the Board of Trustees and can share with you the important work this Foundation supports.

February 16-20 are Club Championships except for Mardi Gras Day which is a Unit Championship.

### **Virtual Clubs**

At the virtual clubs February 2-6 is Education Foundation week with 200% mps. All swiss games on both BBO & RealBridge are GNT qualifiers with 150% ½ red and ½ black. We hope you will play often and get your team ready to compete in the District GNT. See calendar for dates.

Sherrie Goodman

## ACBL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

**LBA MEMBER REESE KOPPEL IS ON THE ACBL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION BOARD. HE WAS THE NATIONAL KING OF BRIDGE RECIPIENT WHEN HE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF HIM. HE PROVIDED THE INFORMATION LISTED BELOW.**

The ACBL Educational Foundation is proud to support a growing portfolio of educational and development initiatives that strengthen bridge at every level. Recent grants have funded youth bridge camps and multi-week instructional programs for students ages 8–18, as well as in-school programs across multiple grades, helping introduce thousands of new players to the game while building sustainable local bridge communities. The Foundation has also provided travel support for college students to attend national competitions, reinforcing bridge as both a competitive mind sport and an educational opportunity. Additionally, we have been excited to fund scholarships through the ACBL Bridge Bowl and our signature King and Queen of Bridge Scholarship, and have just launched our own direct scholarship program for graduating bridge-focused seniors that brought in several hundred applications in its first year.

The Foundation continues to invest in teacher training and elite youth development. Support for the ABTA Summer Convention helps prepare the next generation of bridge educators, while grants to U31 players enable young competitors to represent the United States on the world stage. These investments reflect the Foundation's mission to grow bridge through education, opportunity, and long-term player development. All of this is possible because of member support and club contributions. I am so appreciative of the LBA's support!



# BASIC ELEMENTS OF DEFENSE

The Louisiana Bridge Association  
presents  
a ten-part series with:  
**Instructor John Federico**

**Wednesday's 1:30PM - 3:30PM**  
**Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> through Apr 13<sup>th</sup>**

**TOPICS INCLUDE:** Leads, Signals, Discards,  
Counts, Second Hand Play, Third Hand Play, and  
other fundamental defensive skills

***You do not want to miss this series!!!***

See Flyer on Front Table for more information  
including cost and how to register



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Monday - Friday: 9am-5pm  
Saturday: 10am-2pm  
Sunday: Closed



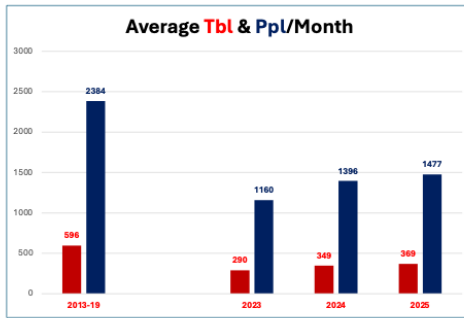
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### Table Count & Face-to-Face \$ Pre-Covid to 2025



2013-19	596 Tbls/Mo	2384 Plyr/Mo
2023	290 Tbls/Mo	1160 Plyr/Mo
2024	349 Tbls/Mo	1396 Plyr/Mo
2025	369 Tbls/Mo	1477 Plyr/Mo

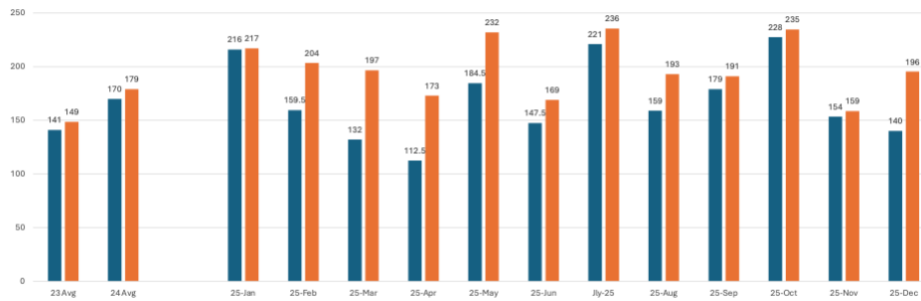
If we assume \$7 per player Pre-Covid and \$8 per player afterwards:

Year	Pre-Covid	Post-Covid
2013-19	\$ 16,688	
2023	\$ 9,280	-\$7,408
2024	\$ 11,168	-\$5,520
2025	\$ 11,816	-\$4,872

On an annual basis, we are still below Pre-Covid F2F cash flow by ~\$58,000.

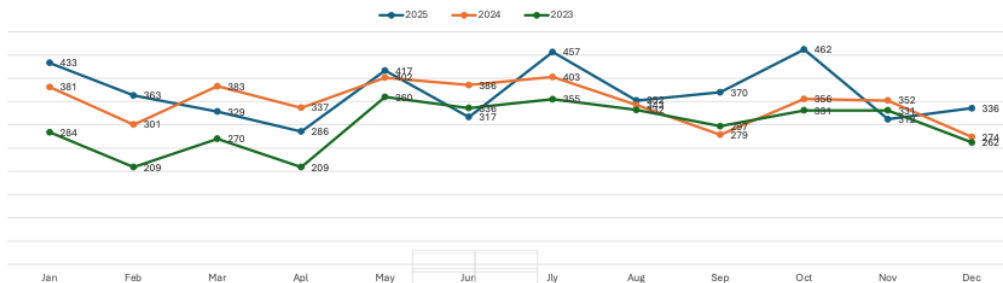
### Table Counts Jan - Dec 2025

Open Limited



NOTE 1: Apl 25 table count does NOT include play at Regional hosted by club - a "loss" of one week's tables is ~ 94 avg for 2025  
Avg Table count would be an additional 23 tables at EOM April  
Note 2: July total includes 88 tables from 4th July Trmy.

### Total Tables Per Month



### 2025 Table Count By MP Limited Games

Open		Intermediate				<199	
Day	Evening	750	499	299	199	Day	Evening
1775.5	256.5	541.5	416.5	438.5	466	465	71

# EVERYBODY HAS A LOGO - RIGHT?



**WRONG!**



The LBA doesn't have one. We are putting it out to our members to suggest a logo for the LBA that we can use in our advertising and promotion.

If your design is chosen, your reward will be **5 FREE PLAYS** and the undying respect of every member for your creativity.



Submit your entry to Mike Russell (jmrjcr47@gmail.com) by February 6<sup>th</sup>.



Happy  
Valentine's  
Day

# ACHIEVEMENTS

## RANK ADVANCEMENTS

### NEW JUNIOR MASTER:

ANNE LOPINTO

### NEW SECTIONAL MASTER:

JOHN DUBBERLY

### NEW REGIONAL MASTERS:

SUZANNE BROWN

### BRONZE LIFE MASTER



LUCINDA STENTZ

**LIFE MASTER**



**PETER WALKER**

## February 2026 Calendar

Feb. 2-7 STAC Week Silver points \$9 LBA  
Feb. 2-6 Ed. Found. 2X points \$8 BBO  
Feb 2-6 Ed. Found. 2X points \$6 RealBridge  
Feb 4,11,18,25 @1pm John Federico's Defense Classes  
Feb. 9-13 ED. Found. 2X points \$9 LBA  
Feb16,18,19,20 Club Champ. 2X points \$8 LBA  
Feb. 17 Mardi Gras Unit Champ. 2X points \$8 LBA  
Feb. 23 & 24 Ed. Found. 2X points \$9 LBA  
Feb 28 Saturday Swiss 150% ½ red \$9 LBA

Sunday Swiss GNT	150% ½ red 2PM \$7 BBO
Monday Swiss GNT	150% ½ red 5PM \$6 RealBridge
Tuesday Swiss GNT	150% ½ red 6PM \$6 Realbridge
Wednesday Swiss Grand Slam GNT	150% ½ red 6:30PM \$6 RealBridge
Thursday Swiss GNT	150% ½ red 6:50 PM \$7 BBO

## GNT

What is the GNT? Why should I care?

The Grand National Teams is a national event at the summer NABC; this year it will be in Minneapolis. We all know how nice it is in Minneapolis in the summer, but this is one of the Premier events awarding Platinum points. Every year, District 10 & ACBL help fund the travel expenses for the top teams in District 10 for the Championship and A bracket and the top two teams in the B and C bracket. This is to help defray the travel expenses. The District competition this year will be held on RealBridge. For the A and C bracket, the District 10 competition is Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. The District Competition for Flight B and the Championship (over 6000) brackets will be on Saturday, May 9. You are allowed to have as many as 6 players on your team. I sincerely hope that LBA has several teams vying for these District spots. We are known throughout the District and throughout ACBL, for that matter, as the Swiss team capital of ACBL. We want representation in these District and National events. So, get your team together and start practicing. We have Swiss games 5 days a week on BBO & Realbridge, and now a monthly face to face Swiss at the club. It is really fun to compete for District (gold points!), and if you are lucky enough to win (or come in 2<sup>nd</sup> in B or C), it is really fun to participate in a National event against your peers (Platinum points). Go team!!!

## NEW MEMBERS

### ELIZABETH WOLF & DIANE IRELAND

#### DAILY IN PERSON LBA SCHEDULE

Monday	9:00am	0-199 lesson with Wayne Weisler
Monday	9:30am	0-199 game with Wayne Weisler
Monday	10:00am	Open game with Elizabeth Sewell
Tuesday	12:30pm	299er & Open game with Linda Morrison
Tuesday	1:pm	Open game with Linda Morrison
Wednesday	9:30am	0-750 game with Elizabeth Sewell
Wednesday	6:30pm	Open with Wayne Weisler
Wednesday	6:30pm	199er with Wayne Weisler
Thursday	9:00am	Circle bridge with Kathy Plauche
Thursday	9:00am	0-5 game with Kathy Plauche
Thursday	1:00pm	Open game with Linda Freese
Friday	12:30pm	499er game with Sherrie Goodman/et.al
Friday	1:00pm	Open game with Sherrie Goodman/et.al
Saturday	12:30pm	Swiss teams (FEBRUARY 28 <sup>TH</sup> )

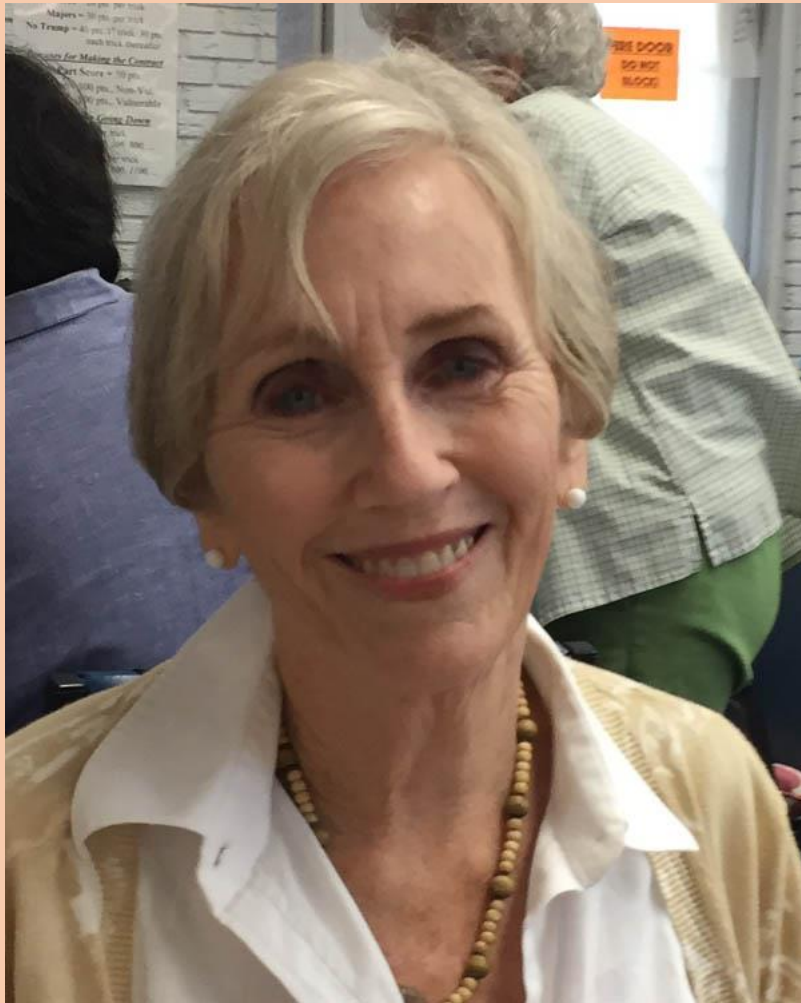
SPECIAL EVENTS MAY TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER THE REGULAR SCHEDULE.

**THIS SCHEDULE CAN BE FOUND ON THE LBA WEBSITE.**

#### January 70% (12/29-1/27)

1/13	299	Club	Norris Robicheaux, Michael Maher	72.05%
1/15	Circle	Club	Janet Genusa, Diana Casey	74.83%
1/18	Open	Swiss	Ernie Levinson and teammates	74.00%
1/20	Circle	Club	Jim Koch, Sue Doody	71.03%
1/27	Open	Club	Jim Thornton, Kathy Logue	71.60%

**IN MEMORIAM**



**JO ANNE CHANCEY**

**IN MEMORIAM**



**CAROLYN YORK**