



Louisiana Bridge Association April 2018

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President's Message April 2018

We are so happy to **welcome new players** to our bridge center. We have had many out-of-towners as well as players that have moved to the area from other cities. WELCOME!

Our club will be sponsoring our annual **Spring 299'er Sectional Tournament** from Thursday, April 19 – Saturday, April 21 with games at 10AM and 2PM Thursday and Friday, and 10AM Saturday. The tournament ends after the Saturday morning game—no Sunday tournament games.

The **Dot Babin Derby Day Sectional Tournament** will be **May 3-6, 2018** with games held at 10AM and 2PM on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. There is a special game for players with 0-20 master points at 9AM on Thursday. And, there will be a Sunday Swiss game starting at 10AM for all levels. **DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR FAVORITE HAT TO THE BRIDGE CENTER ON SATURDAY**, watch the Run for the Roses, and drink Whiskey Slushes!

Blair Plumbing Services has been working on our **sewer pipes**. They found a 21-foot break in the main sewer pipe and have recently dug up the old pipe and installed a new one. We should be having no problems in our restrooms from now on! Hooray!

Happy spring....

Linda Freese

April Events

*= extra points, no extra fees

**=extra points, extra fees

Apr 4 Unit Championship* Wed

Apr 5-8 Baton Rouge Sectional Thurs-Sun

Apr 9 Unit Championship* Mon night

Apr 12 ACBL Charity Fund** Thurs

Apr 13-15 Jackson Sectional Fri-Sun

GNT/NAP District Finals

Apr 16-22 Gatlinburg Regional Mon-Sun

Apr 19-21 Metairie 299er Tourney Thurs-Sat

Apr 25 ACBL-wide Charity Game** Wed AM

Apr 27 ACBL Charity Fund Game** Fri

Apr 28 Unit Championship* Sat

Congratulations to Vicki Willis! She has been re-elected to another two year term as President of District 10 of the ACBL.

Congratulations to Cindy & Jack Lewis! They placed **first in District 10** and **eighth in the ACBL** in the **Feb 3 International Fund Game** with **70.83%**.

NEW MEMBERS

Charlie Carson, Julie Essick, Newton Jackson, Elsa Schneider

Wednesday Grand Slam Jackpots

Feb 28 Sherrie Goodman & Carol Bagalman, Bummy Rosenfield & Wayne Merkel

Mar 14 Larry & John Federico, Audrey Cerise & Ana Urrutia

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Janice Bruner, Peck Hayne, Leslie Page

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Carol Castle, Curtis Castle, Heather Russell

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Quin Bates

NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTER

Linda Conner

NEW LIFE MASTERS

Mike Anthony, David Roberts, Janis Roberts, David Scherer

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Jeannie Beaushaw

In Memoriam

Shirley Sipes

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Birmingham Regional Firsts

Mon/Tues Bktd KO 2 Bill Beaushaw-Jeannie

Beaushaw-Mary Hanni-Elaine Wilczynski

Tues Bktd Swiss 1 John Onstott-Drew Casen-Jim

Krekorian et al

Bktd Swiss 2 Paul Freese-Linda Freese-Dianne

Chesson-Ralph Chesson

Stratified Open Pairs Flt B JF Lowenstein &

Eleanor Onstott

Tues/Wed eve Open Pairs Flt B Sigurd Nordvoll

& Judy Chandler

Thurs Swiss Bkt 2

Nelson Daigle-Geoff Chichester et al

Wed/Thurs KO Bkt 1 John Onstott-Drew Casen-

Jim Krekorian et al

Fri PM Swiss Teams Flt B Paul Freese-Linda

Freese-Dianne Chesson-Ralph Chesson

70% GAMES

99er Pairs

Mar 2 Thomas York & Sandra Broussard 70.73%

Mar 16 Karen Boquet & Ray Nolan 70.41%

Open Pairs

Mar 19 Larry Federico & Jean Talbot

Lake Charles Sectional First

Thurs Aft Open Pairs Flt B Bill Beaushaw

Gulfport I/N Sectional Firsts

Fri Aft NLM Pairs Flt C Susan Glennon & Ellen Manshel

Sat Morn 49er Pairs Flt C Janice Bruner & Sheila Boyne

Philadelphia NABC Platinum Points Results

Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian et al

Silodor Open Pairs 18th,

Vanderbilt KO teams 17/32,

Jacoby Swiss Teams 3rd

Kibitzer Shout Out to Lynden Swayze.

What does a former CPA and CFO of Lusher Schools do when she retires? Well, Lynden Swayze joined Easybridge! a year and a half ago, and continues to work, only this time....we are the beneficiaries! A year after walking into our club, she chaired her first tournament. Two weeks later, we put out a plea to get 299ers to play in the Sunday Swiss at our Sectional. In walks Lynden pulling her teammates (each having less than 5 mps) with her to play in the Swiss! Weeks later, she asks if the club would mind if she supplied new bidding boxes with new cards. She 's one of these wonderful people who sees a need and tries to fulfill it. Lusher's loss is our gain!

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH. There are sometimes seemingly simple hands which offer a choice of opening bids, following which the final contract will vary, depending upon which opening bid has been chosen. This hand from a New Orleans sectional duplicate is a classic. South, in first seat as dealer, has the choice of making the traditional opener of 1D, which facilitates the long shot chance of reaching a minor suit slam or can push the lower acceptable limit of opening 1NT (15-17 hcp) with this semi-unbalanced holding because reaching 3NT will occur about 25 times more frequently than will a minor suit slam. Determining which opening bid is better would have to await the development of the ensuing auction. **OPTION NO. 1:** Opening 1D is likely to lead to a complex auction, such as 1D-1S (duplicate bidders love to insert even questionable spade overcalls)-2H-P-3C-P-3H or 3NT (take your pick)-P-4H or P (again take your pick, recognizing that North will be the declarer at either contract). Played from the North side both contracts should make five. Against 4H East will lead to partner's spades. Declarer has two immediate spade stoppers but cannot ruff the third spade without losing two heart tricks because both of dummy's (South) hearts are needed for a double finesse in that suit. One way or the other the 4H declarer will lose two tricks, either two trumps if the third spade is ruffed or one heart and either a spade or a diamond if no spade ruff is taken (only one discard on clubs is available).

If North declares in 3NT careful but wide open play will also produce eleven tricks on a spade lead. Declarer must win the first or second spade trick, cash the ♣Q (to avoid blocking the suit), go to the dummy with the ♣K and immediately take the heart double finesse, hoping that the hearts break 3/2 and the defense's royal honors are split. East wins the first heart trick and clears the spades for West. Declarer counters by winning North's second spade trick, crossing to the dummy (South) with the ♦A, cashes the ♣A, pitching a loser and takes the second leg of the heart double finesse. The hearts cooperate, so declarer triumphantly collects two spades, five hearts, one diamond and three clubs, eleven tricks, for his typically aggressive matchpoint induced play. Note that the careless declarer who wins the first spade trick and attacks the diamond double finesse without holding up on one spade trick can be held to only eight tricks if the defenders hold onto their spades. However, even if declarer timely holds up once and shuts out the long spades only nine tricks can be made if declarer starts diamonds and not hearts. The matchpoint score for +400 will not be much better than that for going down one trick, as most 3NT declarers will score +460. **OPTION 2:** If South opens 1NT, doing so will likely shut out West's spade overcall. But North will cancel South's positional advantage for notrump play by transferring to hearts and raising directly to 4H, to be declared from the South side. If West makes a dangerously aggressive spade lead, the defense will pay the penalty of declarer making twelve tricks, consisting of three (not just two) spades, five hearts, plus one diamond and three clubs. But out of nowhere and down the final stretch arises the lucky South who declares 3NT on the unlikely simple auction of 1NT-P-3NT, against which West is almost certain to lead a low spade, thereby surrendering twelve notrump tricks to the most unlikely and greediest bidding sequence the dummy (North) could produce on these holdings. And so, dearest readers, I leave it up to each of you to decide for yourselves which of the two logical opening bids is the "better" and which bidding sequence is the "most sensible."

Impossible Defense and Active Ethics by Arnaldo Partesotti

As South you are dealt your usual collection of Quacks (Queens and Jacks): ♠QT9 ♥J32 ♦J7 ♣KQJ93

East bids 3♦, you pass and West bids 3NT, which ends the auction. Partner leads the ♥9, dummy comes down with:
♠42 ♥T85 ♦KQT8652 ♣8

West asks if you play coded 9's and 10's (9's and 10's show two higher honors), which you acknowledge, covers the ♥9 lead with dummy's ♥10, you play the ♥J and West wins the ♥A. After dislodging the ♦A on the first, second or third round, playing Diamonds towards Dummy as needed (guessing right), West makes 3NT + 3 for a near top, by winning any return, entering dummy with the ♥8 and running all the Diamonds. The full hand is below left (E dealer, EW Vul):

North	
♠8653	
♥97	
♦A43	
♣T752	
West	East
♠AKJ7	♠42
♥AKQ64	♥T85
♦9	♦KQT8652
♣A64	♣8
South	
♠Q109	
♥J32	
♦J7	
♣KQJ93	

The impossible defense was to withhold the ♥J on the first play, which would have denied the only entry to dummy later on with the ♥8. This was very difficult to find at the table, we are "hard wired" for third-hand high! West's question about coded 9's and 10's, when holding all Hearts honors in her hand, made this defense really impossible, and it was very misleading. I am 100% sure she did not mean to "trick" us, it was one of those questions that sometimes come out automatically from good players, but it resulted in myself (and my partner) thinking that the other was holding ♥K and ♥Q, after seeing the ♥J and ♥A played in the first round. After I played the ♥J it made no difference in this hand anyway.

But it brings up the question of "active ethics". It is not enough to not kick partner under the table, not make faces, or not bid after partner thinks for a long time and finally passes. It is also your duty to avoid any comments, questions, etc... when it might mislead the opponents, even if the question is - by itself - legitimate. Which, in this case, it was not.

Direktor's Korner

Director in Charge: TheMerk-Eh

Topic: Psychic bids, psychs, psyches

Usually, a psych is made on a very weak hand in an effort to convince the opponents they have less combined strength than they really do. On rare occasion, though, a player purposely underbids his hand hoping the opponents will overestimate their values, or double him in a later round of bidding.

Examples: After partner opens with 1♠, responder bids 2♦ to try to ward off a diamond lead on the way to 4♠ holding: ♠QJxxx ♥Ax ♦xxx ♣KQx. Or, you might cuebid an ace you don't have on your way to six of a suit.

Psychs are expressly allowed in bridge, with two conditions. One, a player cannot use conventional psychs as part of his bidding system; his partner must be totally oblivious to the fact that a psych has been made. Two, a player cannot psych more than once in a blue moon.

Excessive psyching is frowned upon in social bridge, and disallowed in tournament play. Not only do psych bids have the tendency to irritate opponents, they can lead to unspoken bidding agreements between the psycher and his partner.

A good psych is like a good bluff in poker and should be rewarded as such, but it should be reported to the director as psychs must be kept to a minimum. Our local regulations ask the person who makes the psychic bid to self report the bid to the game director. However, if that does not occur, you should summon the director and report the psych.

The club has a mechanism for dealing with excessive psychs, and if players would report psychic bids, any problems in our club re psychs would be minimized