



## Louisiana Bridge Association February 2020

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### President's Message February 2020

Ring out the old, Bring in the New!

We welcome in the New Year with two new Board Members. **Jim Thornton** and **Diana Powell**.

**Susan Beoubay** continues to bring in delicious food for our Tournaments under **Suzanne's** leadership. Thank you, ladies. A Big THANK YOU to **Alan** and **Linda Jacobs** for their dedication in running an excellent election. Let's not forget all our Committees: Newcomers, Plants, Publicity, Educational, Mentoring, and Health. Thank you, **Keenan** for your leadership with the Directors and purchasing our paper products. Thanks to **Sherrie** for her gift of giving to us daily. We say goodbye to **Wayne** and will miss his dedication as a Board Member for six years and his work as maintenance director. We are grateful to our members for supporting the game of Bridge and the people who play.

Your Board of Directors will be working on long term planning and all members of our club will be asked for their input on our future.

### Carolyn Dubois

#### February Events

\*= extra points, no extra fee

\*\*=extra points, extra fee

**Feb 1** ACBL-wide International Fund Game\*\* Sat PM

**Feb 3-9** STAC

**Feb 12** Eight is Enough 10AM

**Feb 13** Education Foundation Games\*\* Thurs All

**Feb 14-16** Gulfport Sectional

**Feb 21** Education Foundation Games\*\* Fri All

**Feb 25** Mardi Gras – Unit Championship\* Tues

#### BOD election results

**Carolyn Dubois, Ellen Lappa** and **Mary LeBlanc** were reelected to the Board of Directors. Carolyn and Mary for 3 year terms and Ellen for a one year term.

**Diana Powell** and **Jim Thornton** were also elected to the Board, for 3 year terms. **Congratulations to all of these.**

They will join the six continuing Board members **Suzanne Cliffe, Steve Romig, Theresa Federico, Lowen, Jackie Madden** and **Hunter McFadden**.

At the first meeting of 2020 the new board chose the following officers:

**President Carolyn Dubois,**  
**Vice President Jim Thornton, Secretary Suzanne Cliffe, Membership Lowen,**  
**Finance Mary LeBlanc** and **Steve Romig.**

#### Rosenblum Sectional Results

**Thurs AM 499er** Diana Powell & Charles Waldrop; Dottie Stephenson & Jane Reynolds Flt E

**Open** John Liukkonen & Doris Liukkonen; Robert Reich & Buddy Massey Flt B

**Thurs PM 499er** Elizabeth Sewell & William Sewell

**Open** Guss Ginsburg & John Onstott; Erin O'Sullivan & Jacob Karno Flt B; Wanda Picarella & Susan Beoubay Flt C

**Fri AM 99er** Bette Marks & Susan Stephens tied with Liz Talbott & Vicki Miller; Talbott-Miller win Flt I

**499er** Ronald Ocmund & Steven Plotkin; George Wilson & Gregory Browne Flt E

**Open** Wayne Weisler & Jacob Karno; Marilyn Seward & Silvia Kltziger Flt C

**Fri PM 499er** Ronald Ocmund & Steven Plotkin; Margie Christian & Michael Schlosser Flt E; Dale Thompson & Peck Hayne Flt F

**Open** Jamie Bush & Rick Logan; Nancy Gates & Helen St Romain Flt B; David Woods & Mark Greensfelder Flt C

**Sat AM 499er** Cleo Velleman & Richard Velleman; Mary Belcher & Denise Tabor Flt F

**Open** JF Lowenstein & Judy Katz; Janet Patterson & Bonnie Nelson Flt B

**Sat PM 499er** Susan Martin & Margaret Shirer; Cheryl Hauver & Leslie Nolan = Mary Groome & Valerie Schlesinger = Mary Belcher & Denise Tabor Flt E (3 way tie); Hauver & Nolan win Flt F

**Open** James Bush & Iype Koshy; JF Lowenstein & David Williams Flt B; Janet Patterson & Bonnie Nelson Flt C

**Sun Swiss Bkt 1** Walter Lewis-Jay Segarra-John Onstott-Rick Logan

**Bkt 2** Gail Fayard-Cindy Lewis-Audrey Cerise-Peggy McCranie

#### In Memoriam *John Martin*

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## DIREKTORS KORNER

**THIS MONTH'S DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: Rule Ruleski**

**TOPIC: There Can be Only One...Highlander...Queen Bee...Obi Wan...Moby Dick...AND ... Read On**

As a general rule, it is not our practice to pound the rules of our game into heads full of mush in this column. Once in a while when I make my guest appearance here, you are going to take such a pounding.

**Law 11 addresses the forfeiture of the right to rectification.** Twice in very recent memory, we have had players take the law into their own hands and NOT CALL THE DIRECTOR when a discrepancy occurred at their table. The players then attempted to get the director to take action later in the same hand for the same discrepancy and were surprised when law 11 was invoked. In both cases, there were erstwhile directors sitting at the table as players. **TAKE CARE. CALL THE ONLY GAME DIRECTOR** anytime a discrepancy occurs at your table and don't attempt to make a ruling yourselves or you risk losing any right to rectification you may have had. AND ALWAYS remember that **there can be only one game director in charge in any game at any one time.** This is an inviolable rule. The players at your table may look, smell and feel like a director, but they are in no way the game director for that game. They have no right to assist you or make any rulings at the table. This applies to yours truly as well. If you ever catch me falling into this trap, just slap me Moe!

There is another part to Law 11 that addresses offending players taking advantage of other players that may not be as familiar with the laws when the director is not called and a "player ruling" is made. Look for part II on this in a future column.

### Wednesday Grand Slam jackpots

**Jan 1** Juliette Dubea & Daisy Vandenburg

**Jan 22** Don Daigle & John Onstott

### 70 percent games

**99er Jan 17** Gregory McKnight & Wayne Delarge 71.15%

**Open Jan 14 eve** Cappy McIver & Stephen Kishner 70.83%

**Jan 24** Joan Van Geffen & Judy Katz 73.46%

**PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH** I advocate bidding and playing carefully at matchpoints in order to insure going "plus" on hands in which our side holds a majority of the high card points but not enough so as to make the field all bid game.. At IMPS bidding close vulnerable games is rewarding even if you go down almost half of the time, especially in a long match. But at matchpoints there is simply no reward in constantly pushing to bid close games and succeeding less than half of the time, irrespective of vulnerability. If you are often admonished by your bridge "friends" for bidding too conservatively at matchpoints, as I am, I can understand your occasionally reacting to the criticism by bidding more aggressively than usually. Every now and then I do so myself. Such an event took place for me on the

**W dealer none vul**

<b>N</b> ♠42	
♥AKQ653	
♦AQ96	
♣9	
<b>W</b> ♠KQ	<b>E</b> ♠8763
♥4	♥987
♦KJ87532	♦4
♣653	♣K10872
<b>S</b> ♠AJ1095	
♥J102	
♦10	
♣AQJ4	

occasion of a hand at our club game. (see box at left). I was North and heard my RHO open 3D. My hand optimistically looked like at least eight tricks to me, so I overcalled 4H. (Even those who employ weak single jump overcalls over one bids should play intermediate to moderately strong such overcalls over opening two and three bids, which don't leave enough bidding room for takeout doubles on strong essentially one suited hands.) My LHO passed and to my pleasant surprise partner raised me to 6H after checking for keycards. I considered raising to 7H but rejected the temptation to do so, reasoning that I had already given it my all to jump to 4H and, after all, we might even have been off an Ace. East made the normal lead of his singleton diamond, hoping for an immediate ruff but no such luck. I took West's ♦K and ruffed a small diamond before drawing three rounds of trumps. I then guessed to take the club finesse against East's King because even if it lost doing so gave me enough tricks to make 6H. And note that if East held the club King and one of the spade honors, while West held the other spade honor and the high diamond, I might find a double squeeze and make 7H. But the finesse won, allowing me to discard one small spade on the ♣A. I then ruffed a low club, noting that East's King did not fall. Now look at what happened when I pursued the

suspected double squeeze position and ran the rest of my trumps before leading to dummy's spade Ace. As North I came down to three cards, one each of small spades, hearts and diamonds. West reduced to three cards, the ♠KQ and the ♦J. When I played my small heart and discarded dummy's ♣J, still a loser because East held the ♣K, West was positionally squeezed. He tossed the ♦J, so I cashed my now good ♦9, discarding dummy's lower spade from the ♠AJ, making the very 7H I had considered bidding but had not. My technique was good for pursuing the visualized double squeeze but I had overlooked the possibility of a positional squeeze if West held the ♠KQ and the high diamond. Luckily, both squeeze possibilities required the same order of playing the cards, so I was in good luck. Note, however, that only an unlikely opening spade lead would have killed dummy's late entry and defeated 7H. If I had just had the nerve to bid it. Perhaps I really am too conservative a bidder at matchpoints but I still don't think so.

**Chi di Spada Ferisce... by Arnaldo Partesotti**

(Cultural intermission) “Chi di spada ferisce, di spada perisce” (rhyme) is the Italian proverb translating the Latin phrase “Qui gladio ferit, gladio perit”, which in turn comes from the Gospel according to Matthew (26,52), where similar words are pronounced by Jesus himself “Omnes qui acceperint gladium, gladium peribunt” (or “all who accept the sword, will die by the sword”.)

What does that has to do with bridge? It obviously applies to any very aggressive style of play: if you use very light interferences to make your opponents life miserable, sometimes they will come back to kill you!

<b>N V Dlr</b>	
♠AK	
♥KQ753	
♦T76	
♣AT4x	
<b>W NV</b>	<b>E NV</b>
♠Q98754	♠6
♥void	♥98642
♦KJ95	♦AQ843
♣J86	♣Q7
<b>S V</b>	
♠JT32	
♥AJT	
♦2	
♣K9532	

With this regular partner we usually bid very aggressively, with overall positive results. Sometimes however this backfires spectacularly Consider the hand to your left: North opened the bidding with 1H, East passed, South bid 2C, sitting West I bid 2S (because we were not vulnerable, because I wanted to disrupt their bidding, because life is too short, just because...), North bid 2NT and South closed at 3 NT, all passing. As you can see, if East makes his normal lead of the ♦4, the contract is down one from the beginning. He however led the ♠6 based on my bid, and the contract made.

On the second hand (below right), playing the same 3NT contract against the same pair, after three passes, North opened 1C, East bid 1S, South bid 1NT and North closed at 3NT.

In West I have a natural Heart lead, which sinks the contract immediately. However, respecting Partner’s bid, I led the ♠J, South won the ♠Q,

played a Diamond which I ducked (what was I thinking?) and the contract made. I must confess that if I had won the ♦A, I probably would have continued with my second Spade, same result. My only comment to partner: “I gave it back to you!”

Here are some considerations:

—If partner bids a suit, unless you have very compelling reasons for not doing so, you better lead it. Your only alternative is to be able to cash five winners up front, or immediately after regaining the lead, or you will be looking for a new partner very quickly.

—Something however must be said for listening to the bidding: if your opponents are reliable players and reach a 3NT contract in spite of your interference, maybe a different suit than that bid by partner should be led. Use with a grain of salt...

<b>N NV</b>	
♠9	
♥K6	
♦KQ42	
♣AQJ972	
<b>W V</b>	<b>E V Dlr</b>
♠J2	♠KT863
♥JT742	♥AQ98
♦AJ9	♦653
♣T53	♣6
<b>S NV</b>	
♠AQ754	
♥53	
♦T87	
♣K84	

**For the I/N Crowd by Sue Himel**

**Showing a 5 Card Major in Competition Part 1**

Terry Habig asks: Is New Minor Forcing on in competition? If not, how do you show a 5 card major in a competitive auction?

New Minor Forcing is off in all competition whether it is an overcall or a take out double by your opponents. But, in some competitive auctions responder’s major suit bid at the one level promises a 5 card suit. Here are some examples:

- 1C - 1H - 1S                      This 1S bid promises a 5 card suit.
- 1C - 1D - 1H (or 1S)            This major suit call only promises a 4 card suit.\*
- 1C - X - 1H (or 1S)              This major suit call only promises a 4 card suit.

Support Doubles (and Redoubles) allow the opener to show three card support in some competitive auctions without raising the bidding level.

- 1D - P - 1S - 2C
- X    Shows three card spade support
- 1D - P - 1S - X
- XX   Shows three card spade support

Once responder knows there is three card support for their major the responder can make a decision to play in the major, NT or support opener’s original suit. You will sometimes end up in a 4-3 fit at the 2 level. It is not always possible for responder to show a 5 card major, but there are devices available to the partnership to help them end up in the best contract.

\*Editor’s note: Remember that in the particular auction 1C-1D-X, that negative double promises 4-4 in the majors. So after 1C-1D, the bid 1H or 1S may be based on only 4 cards in that major and fewer than 4 in the other major.

## Checking Scores

There has been a change in how we report club scores and masterpoints to ACBL. Our directors now upload club results into ACBL daily. **This means that score corrections should be made before you leave the club, and before the other party to a scoring error leaves the club. They CANNOT be made after the director leaves the club. So check your scores in the club at the end of the game.**

There are two methods to do this. First, you can get a **printed summary** of your reported scores from the director and check them against your scores. If in a hurry you can get an unofficial printed summary right when you finish. This unofficial summary may not have your final ranking and percentage, but it WILL have the scores you have reported and you can catch gross errors—e.g. if your +980 went in as -980.

Second, you can also check your scores by **using the bridgemate servers**. This is quicker and the editor recommends it. Here's how.

**If you were N/S this is straightforward.** After you bring up your ranking and overall game percentage, "Game Summary" will appear at the bottom of the page. Click on "Game Summary" to bring up the list of your reported scores and you can scroll through them to check them. Should take less than a minute.

**If you were E/W score checking is a little more complicated but still quite feasible.** After you have seen your ranking and percentage and after N/S checks their scores (if they wish), then click on cancel or "back" to exit the ranking and back out of the bridgemate altogether. If "rank" appears on the screen you have not backed out far enough. You will get to "end of session". Now hit cancel. The screen should look like it did when the director told you at the beginning of the game that the bridgemates are ready and you are about to put in the right section and enter player numbers. The word "setup" should appear in the lower left of the screen. At this point click "OK" and you will be asked to pick your section—typically A or C. Pick the appropriate section (the one you just played in) and you will be asked for your table number. Enter the number of the table you played at in your last round. Then you will be able to ask for rank and you will be asked for your pair number and direction. Enter your pair number and E/W. Your ranking and percentage will appear. **But more importantly "Game Summary" will appear at the bottom of the page**—click on that to bring up the list of **your** reported scores. Scroll and check.

**Remember the point is to check your reported scores quickly, before half the club has left. You want to be sure your +980 didn't go in as -980 and be able to correct that. You can find out your final standing later.**

**Eight is Enough** is a Mentoring Swiss game being held on February 12 from 10am-2pm with lunch being served. Players will be assigned numbers 1,2, or 3 depending on their Masterpoints. Each team will consist of 4 players totaling 8 points or less. This is a great way for Novice and Open players to get to know each other while promoting the play of Swiss teams at our club. Wayne will have some interesting hands for us to play and discuss. All members are encouraged to participate. Please preregister by signing in on the front bulletin board or online at our website, [la-bridge.com](http://la-bridge.com).

See more details on this event at our website.

**To sign up to receive your Live for Clubs Results**, login to ACBL and under the Membership tab on your left, click on Privacy Settings. Half way down the page you will see "[Click here for Live for Clubs notification preferences](#)". Click on this, and you will arrive at the page "Manage My Live for Clubs Notification".

Player Score Emails – click "ON". Fill in your email and click on Green button "Subscribed". You should receive all results reported to ACBL on your behalf.

### RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTER Courtenay Matthews	NEW LIFE MASTER Linda Conner
NEW CLUB MASTERS Julie Essick, Kay Perrin	NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER Roy Richardson
NEW SECTIONAL MASTER Cheryl Hauver	NEW GOLD LIFE MASTER Jack Lewis

### NEW MEMBER

Patrick McNamara