

Louisiana Bridge Association September 2015

Editor John Liukkonen email: jrdbl@cox.net

♣PLAY NICE♦PLAY NICE♥PLAY NICE♠PLAY NICE♣PLAY NICE♦PLAY NICE♥PLAY NICE♠PLAY NICE♣PLAY NICE♦PLAY NICE

President's Message September 2015

The club recently purchased 200 sets of bidding cards to replace the dirty cards in the bid boxes. The club owes a debt of gratitude to Linda Freese who took the new cards home and put scotch tape on the pass cards and the one club cards. These cards are used the most and her efforts will greatly extend the useful life of the new sets.

Gerri Abbott has continued her work updating the I/N bulletin board. Her efforts are appreciated.

Sharon Henry continues providing beautiful flower arrangements. Her efforts are also appreciated.

Improvements and maintenance at the club are a never ending process. Wayne Weisler is coordinating the installation of a new air conditioner in the board room. Wayne recently arranged the movement and replacement of our dumpster resulting in a net gain of three much needed parking spaces.

Suzanne Cliffe is starting a new 99er game at the club on Friday mornings. See more details on this game in another section of the Kibitzer.

Larry Federico

♣PLAY NICE♦PLAY NICE♥PLAY NICE♠PLAY NICE♣PLAY NICE♦PLAY NICE♥PLAY NICE♠PLAY NICE♣PLAY NICE♦PLAY NICE

September Events

- Aug 31-Sep 6** Membership Week
Extra points, no extra fees; points only to ACBL members
- Sep 7** Labor Day-Unit Championship- AM
games Extra points, no extra fees
- Sep 10-13** Lake Charles Sectional
- Sep 14-20** Tunica Regional
- Sep 25-27** Alexandria Sectional
- Sep 29** 7PM Unit Championship-
extra points, no extra fees

NEW PHONE DIRECTORY

We are publishing an updated phone directory in September. The draft version is available for review on the front desk at the bridge center. Please check your listing and make any corrections, additions, deletions. If you are not listed, please add your information on a blank page at the back. This edition is based on the ACBL membership list information and we have tried to include secondary phone numbers if listed in the current edition. You may also email your current information to keenanromig@bellsouth.net. Deadline is September 15th.
Thanks.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Janet Bean, Nini (Anita) A Bodenheimer, Lorraine Friedrichs, Stephanie Navarre, David Williams

Got friends interested in learning Bridge?

Next EZ Bridge starts Thurs Sep 10 9AM

There will also be a 7PM evening session if attendance warrants

Get more information from Wayne Weisler
wdweisler@yahoo.com or 504-417-6369

New 99er Game!

The Board has approved a new game for players with no more than 99 masterpoints. The game will serve as a stepping stone to our 299er games for players with little or no previous experience in duplicate. It is aimed at party bridge players who want to try duplicate, people who have been away from the game who want to brush up on their skills, and players in our Thursday morning Easybridge game who are ready to move on. Or in fact, anyone who is struggling in our 299er games.

The games will be Fridays at 9AM beginning Sept 11. The playing fee will be \$6 and master points will be awarded. Each game will begin with a lesson and consist of approximately 16 hands. It will end by 11:30AM in order to free the room for the noon games.

Suzanne Cliffe will direct and partners are guaranteed.

If you have friends who are party bridge players, please tell them about this new opportunity.

A play problem from Bob Bowers

Your hand ♠AK8 ♥AK95 ♦AJ ♣A952

Dummy ♠QJ965 ♥J4 ♦K ♣KJ864

The contract is 7S and the lead is ♥7. Of course you make the contract if you can drop the ♣Q in two rounds. This is a 53% chance. Bob asks, can you IMPROVE upon this.

Solution below.

70 Percent Games

Jul 30 299er Pairs Mimi Groome & Elizabeth Bolles 71.86%

Jul 31 Reese Koppel & Ben McKown ABA National Tournament 70.81%

Aug 2 Baton Rouge Sectional AM Open Pairs Iype Koshy & Fred Woodruff 71.02%

Aug 7 Open Pairs Joan Van Geffen & Jean Talbot 70.83%

Grand Slam Jackpot

Aug 26 Doug DeMontluzin & Lynn Giordano \$25

Chicago NABC masterpoints

Drew Casen 75.85; John Onstott 52.52; Lillian Range 23.42; Julius Rosenfield 23.42; Jack Lewis 20.98; Cindy Lewis 20.98; Jeffrey Juster 17.22; Reese Koppel 8.10; Mimi Groome 5.07; Eleanor Onstott 4.88; Judy Pyeatte 3.92

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Susan Glennon, Dorothy Romig

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Barbara Fitz-Hugh, Maxine Henning, Jill Lane

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Eileen Crane, Patricia Durel, Kathryn Wilson

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Linda Conner, Maryann Joyner

NEW NABC MASTER

Billie Sturrock

NEW LIFE MASTER

Sandra Weber

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Cathy Alford, Brady Lotridge

Solution to Bob Bowers problem.

Yes you can substantially improve on the basic line. Rise with ♥J at trick one, covered by RHO with ♥Q and win in hand. Then unblock the diamonds, run the spades and play off the top two clubs ending in dummy. If ♠Q has dropped you make the grand slam. If ♠Q has not dropped the layout will then be

Your hand ♥K9x Dummy ♥x ♣Jx.

It is reasonable to hope RHO started with ♥QTxx(x) in hearts, and if he also had the guarded ♠Q you are home. He must hold onto ♠Q and so come down to ♥10x in hearts. LHO now has at most two low cards in hearts. So lead a heart toward hand and if you have read the layout correctly you pick up three heart tricks and land your grand slam.

Paul's Deal of the Month. Opportunities for a "stealth defense," which is what I call a subtle defense when there is actually no sure defense available, are rare. Sometimes such a "trick" will work best against a high level opponent. Here's an example why. You are East, all not vul, holding ♠Jx ♥Kxxx ♦1098x ♣xxx, when South opens 4S, West passes and North bids 6S, the final contract. Partner leads ♣Q. Dummy comes down with ♠A10 ♥AQJ ♦QJxx ♣Axxx. It's often best to take your time and consider your possible defense on the opening lead, so do so now. Then you'll be ready to play at a normal rate of speed in tempo. Ready? You play low and declarer wins with the King and immediately plays the ♥8, on which partner plays the deuce and South finesses. Well, do you win the trick or duck it at a normal tempo so as not to give away the position? **DECIDE WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE DONE BEFORE READING ON.** You should be able to quickly reason that partner's deuce, using standard signals, shows three or five hearts, which also means that declarer holds one or more likely three hearts. Would declarer be finessing with one? Not likely. So duck at a normal tempo and perhaps declarer, holding three hearts, will be convinced that the finesse is "on." Why is declarer finessing hearts before touching trumps? Obviously because declarer has a problem with the trump suit. Here's why. Declarer holds ♠K9xxxx ♥987 ♦A ♣Kx and decided to make an abnormal pre-empt. Don't worry about why. Remember, South is a strong player, so if he is convinced that the heart finesse works, which he probably will be if you play smoothly enough, he can consider making a safety play in trumps (low to the 9 or 10 if second hand follows). If declarer does so your side will collect an unearned trump trick now and the heart King later, for down one on a cold slam. If this doesn't convince you to think first before playing to trick one at bridge, perhaps you should consider taking up Canasta.

Know the Director Rulings

By Jennie Flynn Sauviac

RULE 94

What?? The ACBL Laws end at #93. Some are Bidding Laws and some are Playing Laws, etc. But one important Law should be added, "COURTESY LAW #94." When the opponents arrive at your table a **SHORT** greeting immediately followed by each player removing their cards from the board, and start bidding **ASAP**.

Commentary before, during or after the bidding is **NADA**. After 3 passes the player on lead must lead face down, **BEFORE** recording the contract, and the Dummy must face the dummy cards **BEFORE** recording the contract. Next board should begin as soon as the results are entered and approved. After the final board is finished, **then** time for conversation until the next round is called. The players waiting to play the next round will appreciate this, but no one will appreciate it more than the Director.

PS: When discussing the played hand **whisper**, so the next table will not overhear.

PPS: Do not allow the opponents to make any rulings. Say Director Please.

Play Nice

The Play of the Year by Arnaldo Partesotti

("A Rosenberg Special" by Oren Kriegel, the base for this article, appeared on June 9, 2015 in Bridge Winners)
 Michael Rosenberg was inducted into the American Contract Bridge League's Hall of Fame at the Summer NABC in Chicago. I watched him play on Vugraph in the fifth segment of the Senior USBC. On the play which follows he demonstrated why he is one of the greatest players in the world. This was Board 11 (rotated, below left):

| | | |
|-----------|--------|------------|
| Zia | | Sutherland |
| ♠J753 | | ♠42 |
| ♥K1073 | | ♥J98854 |
| ♦4 | | ♦K9753 |
| Morse | ♣10843 | ♣9 |
| ♠K10986 | | |
| ♥6 | | |
| ♦AJ106 | | |
| ♣QJ6 | | |
| Rosenberg | | |
| ♠AQ | | |
| ♥AQ2 | | |
| ♦Q82 | | |
| ♣AK752 | | |

The bidding was very straightforward:

| | | | |
|---|-----|----------|-----|
| W | N | E | S |
| — | P | P | 2NT |
| P | 3C | P | 3D |
| P | 3NT | all pass | |

West leads the ♠10 against your 3NT contract. If clubs run, declarer has 10 tricks: two spades, three hearts, and five clubs. If clubs don't run, however, the defense will almost certainly be able to shift to diamonds and defeat the contract (unless East has the ♦AK or West has the ♦AK accompanied by the club entry). Rosenberg found an elegant way to dissuade a diamond shift: **he won the spade ace at trick one**. This convinced West that his partner held the ♠Q, so he could put him in to shift to a diamond, which succeeds whenever East has the ♦K or ♦Q. Alternatively, if declarer had opened 2NT with a singleton ♠A, the defense has four spades, the

♣Q, and the ♦A. Sure enough, upon winning the ♣Q, West played the ♠8, and declarer had nine tricks (although he took 10 when East unguarded hearts later in the play). The Vugraph commentators went ga ga over this play, which you might see in articles and books on trick plays but seldom in "real" life, some calling it the "Play of the Year". I do not know about that, but recently, at the club, I too made the Play of the Year. This was the hand (below left, cards are approximate):

| | | |
|---------|--|-----------|
| North | | South(me) |
| ♠QJ10x | | ♠A9x |
| ♥xxx | | ♥xxx |
| ♦xx | | ♦AQxx |
| ♣AKxx | | ♣QJxx |
| West | | |
| ♠Kx | | |
| ♥AQx | | |
| ♦K10xxx | | |
| ♣xxx | | |
| East | | |
| ♠xxxx | | |
| ♥Kxxx | | |
| ♦Jx | | |
| ♣xxx | | |

The bidding was very aggressive, but this is matchpoints:

| | | | |
|----|-----|---|----------|
| W | N | E | S |
| 1D | P | P | 1NT |
| P | 2C | P | 2D |
| P | 2NT | P | 3NT |
| | | | all pass |

LHO led the ♦5 and RHO played the ♦J. You can see immediately what might happen: I win the trick with the ♦Q, cross to dummy with a club for the spade finesse (which is almost surely marked to fail by West's opening), back comes a heart and down I go! Remembering Rosenberg's play, **I won the first trick with the ♦A**, crossed to dummy with a club and took the spade finesse. LHO took the ♠K and, after a brief thought, played a diamond for partner's "sure" ♦Q, hoping for a switch through my heart holding. Contract made!

At the table nobody said anything, and it was on to the next board. I MADE THE PLAY OF THE YEAR AND NOBODY EVEN NOTICED IT! So I decided to write about it myself.

Read **change of rank stories** by **Paul Freese** (recently made Gold Life Master) and **Claire Webb** at the District 10 website. The link is <http://d10bridge.org/300/rankchange4.html>