

Last Week's Leaders

2/4 Saturday 0-20 MP

1st overall : J. & A. Williams (67.9%).

2nd overall: B. Murdock & D. Chavez (62.5%)



2/7 Tuesday Eve 99er

1st overall: M. Collins & R. Horvitz (58.1%)

2nd overall: S. Simon & G Wisner (57.2%)

Tuesday Evening CBA Seminar Series Cordell Coy leads how to handle interference over a 1NT opening Tue Eve 2/14 @ 6:30 PM. Cordell is a Life Master and CBA Board Member. (*Ask him about playing Meckstroth & Rodwell in Biloxi*)

1 NT When Opp. Interfere Feb 14 [Cordell Coy](#)

5-Card Maj Inv/Forcing Raises Feb 21 [AJ Stephani](#)

5-Card Maj - Jacoby 2NT Feb 28 [Everett Kitchen](#)

CBA NLM Games – Play Often!

Mon NLM 7 PM CBA Wed Homestyle 11:00 AM CBA

Tues 99er 7 PM CBA [Wed 199er 6:30 PM NKY BC](#)

Thurs NLM 7 PM CBA [1st Fri 99er 10:00 AM NKY BC](#)

NEW! - 0-20 Sat 1 PM CBA (Lecture at 12:30 PM)

Coming Area Tournaments

Mar 2 – 4 Dayton OH S

Mar 5 – 10 **Indianapolis IN R**

Mar 15 – 25 **Memphis TN NABC**

Go to <http://www.acbl.org/tournament-calendar/>

Did You Know... The ACBL tracks our masterpoints online. Master Points won at the Club are added at the end of the month. MPs won at tournaments are added within 2 days of the end of the tournament. ACBL members can read current and past Bridge Bulletins on line.

Counting HCP

Many bridge players know this is a counting game. We count our HCP, our shape and our tricks to decide how to bid and play. Counting HCP is important whether you declare or defend. Here are a few examples. What do you know from this bidding?

1) 1♣ – P – P // 1N – P – P // 2N – P – P

2) 1♣ – P – 1♥ – P – 1N

3) 1♠ – P – 2♠

4) 1♥ – P – 1N

5) 1♥ – P – 1♠ – P – 2N

6) 1♣ – P – 1♠ – P – 2♥

7) 1♥ – P – 1♠ – P – 2♥ – P – 3♣ – P – 3♦

8) 1♥ – P – 1♠ – P – 2♦ – 3♣ – P – 3♥

- 1) Opener's partner is weak. How weak? Passing over 1♣ denies 5 HCP. Passing over 1N denies 8 HCP. Passing over 2N denies 4-5 HCP.
- 2) The 1N rebid is defined by the 1N opening bid! Opening 15-17, the 1N rebid promises 12-14 HCP. Opening 12-14, the 1N rebid promises 15-17 HCP.
- 3) Responder shows 5-9 HCP and 4 trumps. With 5+ trumps many bid 4 of partner's major.
- 4) 1N Nonforcing shows 6-9. 1N Forcing shows 5-12 (some play up to 15 or more!)
- 5) The 2N rebid usually shows 18-19 HCP (too few to open 2N (20-21)).
- 6) 2♥ by opener is a reverse. A reverse is when you rebid a suit ranking higher than the suit you opened at a higher level in the auction. This shows longer ♣s than ♥s and is forcing. If opener rebids ♥s opener promises a 6+♣s and 5+♥s. If 5♣ and 4♥s, opener should have 18 HCP or more. With 6-5 patterns opener can have fewer HCP as success will depend on degree of fit to one of these 2 suits.
- 7) By rebidding ♥s then bidding ♦s, opener shows a minimum opening hand with 6♥s and 4♦.
- 8) By bidding ♦ before rebidding ♥s at a higher level, opener shows a stronger hand (15+ HCP) with 6♥ and 4♦. This bidding does **NOT** show 6-5 or 5-6.

Why Count?

Imagine left hand opponent (LHO) opens 1♣-P-P to you. You hold 6 ♠s and 17 HCP. You bid ♠s, partner raises and you decide to bid game. Partner has 9 HCP. What do you know? LHO had opening count, say 12 HCP. That means Your 17 + Partner's 9 + LHO's 12 = 38, leaving Right Hand Opponent with **at most 2 HCP** – One Queen or 2 Jacks. If RHO plays a Jack at any point, play LHO for every missing major honor card!

Make it a habit of counting HCP all 4 hands! When defending add dummy's to your count and declarer's approximate count to determine how much strength you can expect from partner. That way you know if partner might hold that Ace or King you need, or not!

Counting shape helps find tricks. Shape information comes from bidding, show-outs (when opponents fail to follow) and from their signals. More soon!

Comments? Suggestions? Contact Steve Moese at moese.sa@pg.com