

## 9/29 Newcomer 0-30 Leaders!

1<sup>st</sup> OA: Dave Holtsclaw & Grace Boran (69.5%)

2<sup>nd</sup> OA: Jack & Elizabeth Williams (59.4%)



## 10/2 Tuesday Eve Leaders

1<sup>st</sup> OA: Richard Horvitz & Karen Kalla (67.6%)

2<sup>nd</sup> OA Judith Lucas & Natalia Steinberg (64.3%)

CBA Seminars	CBA	Date/PM	Who	Topic
	0-30	6 Oct	Potter Orr	Responder Initial
	Sat	12:30		Hand Assessment
	99er	9 Oct	Amy Fisher	Bidding Over Their
	Tue	6:30		1NT Opening.

## 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

**0-30 Sat 1 PM CBA (Lecture at 12:30 PM)**

## Area Tournaments

Oct 19 - 21 Columbus OH S

Oct 26 - 28 Cincinnati OH (NAP) S/N

Oct 29 – Nov 3 Indianapolis, IN S

Nov 5 – 11 Elizabeth, IN R

For Details go to <http://www.acbl.org/tournament-calendar/>

Coming Soon!

We have the right to know what our opponents' bids mean. However we must ask only at our turn, and only in a way that doesn't call attention to a specific strain. We must avoid giving partner **Unauthorized Information** about our hand.

## How to Ask Questions at the Table by Steve Moese

I was playing in the NABC+ Swiss Teams in Detroit March 2008 at Barnet Schenken's table. Their auction was 1♠ – 2N (Alert) – 3♣ (Alert) – 3♦ (Alert). When it was my turn to bid, I turned to my RHO and asked "What did his 3♦ bid mean?" **My question was a violation of the Laws and proprieties!**

At the club we often hear alerts and questions. Newer players want to understand what's going on. They might ask questions for their partner's benefit, too. "Did your partner's 3♦ bid mean s/he has ♦s?" and when I say yes, they might say "Really?!" Questions should pertain to the specific auction and not general bridge theory. (Ask those after the game).

Andrew Gumperz recently published a wonderful article on [Asking and Answering Questions](#) at Bridgewinners.com. I recommend you read it. In brief, **properly sharing information covers not only asking questions but also alerting.** You Alert all calls requiring an alert (red on your convention card) and announce all calls requiring an announcement (blue on your convention card). Did you know that you are barred from alerting any calls at or above game

(3N) past your partner's 1<sup>st</sup> bid? That protects opponents from reminding partner of your agreements mid-stream. You must tell the opponents when the auction ends that several alertable bids above game were made. They can ask then.

If a 1♣ or 1♦ opening could have 2 cards, announce "Could be Short". If partner makes a Jacoby Transfer or Texas Transfer announce "Transfer", but if you play transfers to the minors, these are Alerts!

When asking questions, there is only one way: 1) You must ask during your turn to bid or play (partner must NOT ask until their turn), and 2) You must ask in an unbiased way. Here are proper ways:

- "May I have a review of the auction with explanations"
- "Please explain" or "Anything more I know before I lead?"

**Do not call attention to a specific strain or call.**

You can also ask about calls that weren't alerted. Say the auction is 1♥-1♠-2N-P-3N. You may ask for a review, then ask if 2N was invitational or game forcing before you lead. We are allowed to ask for inferences and alternate bids. After 1♠-P-1♥-P-1N it's OK to ask if they rebid NT on all balanced hands regardless of ♠ length.

**Unauthorized information from partner** has severe penalties. While everyone should be aware of the Rules of Duplicate Bridge, only about half of the experts have read them recently ([recent BW Poll](#)). Here's what the Laws say:

Law 16: Authorized and Unauthorized Information

B. Extraneous Information from Partner

1. (a) After a player makes available to his partner extraneous information that may suggest a call or play, as for example by a remark, a question, a reply to a question, an unexpected\* alert or failure to alert, or by unmistakable hesitation, unwonted speed, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement or mannerism, the partner may not choose from among logical alternatives one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another by the extraneous information.

(b) A **logical alternative** action is one that, among the class of players in question and using the methods of the partnership, would be given serious consideration by a significant proportion of such players, of whom it is judged some might select it.

So, in Detroit I should never have mentioned 3♦. Instead I should ask for a review of the auction with all bids explained. Don't ask for partner's benefit it's forbidden! Don't ask to show partner what you know, and don't tell opponents their alert! Asking specifically about 3♦ is not proper (UI), and then saying "Really?!" implying disbelief is UI. Practice good alerts and questions. You will get the hang of it. When in doubt, call the director to protect both sides and the field. Don't feel bad. If you look at tournament committee rulings, you'll see UI dominates infractions by VERY experienced players! For more see [Duplicate Bridge Laws](#).

# Newcomer News 0-30 – Mike Purcell 513 702 4007 [mikpur@cinci.rr.com](mailto:mikpur@cinci.rr.com)

Congratulations to our leaders:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Dave Holtsclaw and Grace Boran (69.53%);
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jack and Elizabeth Williams (59.38%);
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Kay Neal and Sharon Koster (54.70%).

Full results for Saturday's game can be found at: <http://www.cincybridge.com/calendar2/120929A.HTM>

This Saturday (10/6) I will be running our Saturday game and Potter Orr will be giving a seminar on **Responder Bidding - Initial Hand Assessment**. Hope you can make it!

Let's look at a hand that scores best in NT featuring another hold up play in opponent's suit. Enjoy!

**Board 8**

West Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 9 5 2  
♥ A 10 7 2  
♦ 6  
♣ J 6 5 3

♠ 8 6 4 3  
♥ K Q 5  
♦ 10 9  
♣ 9 8 7 2

N		♠ J 7	
W		E	♥ J 9 6 4 3
			♦ K 8 4 3
S		♣ K 4	

NS 5♠ 4N  
5♦ 5♣ 2♥

♠ A K Q  
♥ 8  
♦ A Q J 7 5 2  
♣ A Q 10

**Bidding** – South with 22 HCP has a clear 2♣ opening - an artificial and forcing bid showing any hand with 21 (sometimes 20) or more HCP hand (except those balanced 20-21 hands which we open 2NT). North then bids 2♦ as an artificial “waiting” bid to allow South to describe their hand. South will rebid 3♦ showing their 6 card suit and unbalanced hand. North does not like ♦s and will bid 3♥ hoping to find partner with 4 hearts and a fit. South cannot support ♥s or show 4 ♠s but likes North having a ♥ stopper and will bid 3NT and hope for the best.

**Play of the Hand** – West's best lead is the ♥K but that is hard to do when North bids 3♥. You are more likely to see a ♠ or ♣ lead. If a ♠ then you will want to cash 2 ♠s, see the ♠J fall and then cash another spade. Most declarers will then choose to attack ♦s playing ♦A and then ♦Q to force out the ♦K and hopefully run the suit if opponents are 3-3. East will win the ♦K and then either switch to a ♥ or if you are lucky an aggressive ♣K. If a ♥ you should duck twice (Hold Up Play, see last week's 99er Newsletter), then win the ♥A, cash your good ♠ and take a ♣ finesse hoping it will win or if it loses West will be forced to lead back a ♣ so you still make your contract.

*If West open leads a ♣* - you can pick up 4 ♣s and 4 ♠s because you have a free opening lead ♣ finesse and transportation to dummy in hearts if you cash 3 ♣s and 3 ♠s from your hand right away. Depending on what East pitches on the ♣s and ♠s or if you take the ♦ finesse, you will win 1-2 ♦s as well.

*If West open leads ♥s* – If West leads ♥K (top of a series) feel free to give them a nasty look at the very least. Declarer should duck ♥s twice and then take their ♥Ace. Now Declarer has to decide whether to attack ♦s or ♣s. I prefer ♣s because you can only lose 1 trick maximum and it provides the extra chance to get back to the dummy and cash a 4<sup>th</sup>♠. To play for this you must play a low ♣ from dummy and finesse with the ♣Q. Then play the ♣A to drop the ♣K. When this happens you know you have a 4-2 break so you cannot run ♣s but you can run ♠s using the ♣J as transportation to dummy. You can then get 1-2 ♦s as before to make your contract.

**Post Mortem** – With South's hand do not be afraid to go to 3NT when North shows ♥s because NT will often score better than ♦s. Even in the worst case where North does not actually have a stopper you can get a 4-4 break and still make your contract. When opponents find their suit consider holding up taking your stopper to cut communication on defense and increase the odds of making your contract.

Bd 1	Scores		MPs	
	N-S	E-W	N-S	E-W
3 NT S	460		6.5	1.5
3 NT S	460		6.5	1.5
3 NT N	460		6.5	1.5
3 NT S	460		6.5	1.5
3 NT S	400		3	5
3 NT S	400		3	5
5♦ N	400		3	5
3♣ S	130		0	7
3 NT N		50	0	8
5♦ S	400		1.75	0.25
5♦ N		50	0.25	1.75