

A L E R T

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2860 Cooper Rd., Cincinnati, Oh 45241, Phone: 513-563-2218

President's message...

Do you think that most members of the Cincinnati Bridge Association (we're Unit 124 of the ACBL) are Life Masters? Guess again. How about the percentage of our membership that have under 100 masterpoints? Would you believe that it's over 50%? There are 977 members in Unit 124, and 508 of that total have fewer than 100 masterpoints. Despite comprising 52% of our membership, they accounted for only 21% of the tables at the Cincinnati Bridge Center last year. Of course, we have many other clubs in the Unit, but I suspect their numbers aren't dramatically different.

We talk a lot about introducing bridge to people who have never played it before, but we can do a lot to encourage our existing members to become more active. One of our goals as the CBA Board this year is to strengthen our membership by being more responsive to our newer duplicate players, and providing more opportunities is an important part of that effort.

We've re-launched a free (*FREE!*) seminar series targeted at this group. On not just on one day, but three! Lessons for 0-99ers are every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., and NLM seminars are scheduled for the same time every other Monday starting January 9. Finally, seminars for beginner duplicate players (0-20 points) are planned and will start in February when the new Saturday afternoon 0-20 game begins. Did I mentioned the seminars are free?

If you're over 100 points, we need your help on this. First, PLEASE do what you can to make our clubs an inviting place for newer players. I know most of us are trying to figure out why partner gave attitude instead of count on the last hand, but last I checked, no one's bridge game has ever suffered from smiling and uttering a casual "Hi!" at a newer player.

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Second, if you're a Life Master, PLEASE consider donating 20 minutes of your time and sign up for one of our seminar series slots. We've assembled the materials for you; just check out our website or talk to one of Board members to find out how.

Speaking of Board members, a hearty welcome to Ron Manne, our newest member. Ron has the formidable task of replacing all three outgoing Board members: Debbie Cummings, Everitt Kitchen, and Chris Schwartz (our Board was reduced from 11 members to 9 this year). We're kidding, of course (but expect a big surprise on those Committee assignments, Ron), and we want to extend our thanks to Debbie, Everitt, and Chris for their service. If you see them, tell them you appreciate it.

On a sad note, I'm sorry to report that Beth Reid was in a very serious car accident last month. Some of you know Beth personally, and I'm sure many more know Beth through her terrific reports as our District's representative to the ACBL Board of Directors. I hear that Beth is now home after an extended stay in the hospital, but keep her in your thoughts and prayers as she begins a long recovery.

AJ Stephani
CBA Board President

The Physics and Chemistry of Dynamite Bridge

By Amit Raturi, Editor

There is no Nobel Prize for bridge unlike physics and chemistry. Considering that all the money for the Nobel prize came from dynamite, let's check the physics and chemistry of what makes dynamite bridge.

First are the "explosive" bids. These are bids that take the auction into the stratosphere faster than Bill Higgins can say, "Amit you are late again". No sense of sanity remains in the auction. 2 hearts by RHO, double by you, 6 hearts by LHO, pass, pass to you. You hold KJT9876, -, AKxxx, x. If you bid 6S and partner has Axx of spades and 2 small diamonds, it makes. Or LHO could have AQ of spades and you might go for 1700 (you take 5 spades and 2 diamonds). Or you can double and they make 6 hearts. Explosive enough for you?

Next on the list is the minefield that this game becomes once in a while. Pass, Pass, 4H on your right, NV opponents versus Vulnerable and you have 16 points, nondescript shape!! If you double, they make it, or partner bids and you go for 1100. If you don't double, you miss a cold slam. I can construct many hands in this domain for your pleasure (especially the ones that went for -1100, many real life experiences and all that). Third seat pre-empts are the most unpredictable pre-empts with most good players. They know partner is a passed hand and will not punish them, so they can pre-empt with good hands or bad hands and you have no idea!

Third on my list of Nobel-prize-winning-bridge-action is bidding 3 NT whenever you can. Don't forget TNT (Three No Trumps) is dynamite action in bridge. My very first bridge partner is now the CEO of the largest firm in India (Reliance). On the very first board of a critical match, I opened one club and he bid 3NT with 7 high card points! I had a distributional 16, they mis-defended, and he made 9 tricks. When the match was over I asked him what was that all about, since I would bid 6 NT with some partners, and 4NT with others (both losing actions). Here was his reply - "I wanted to see how well can these guys defend!!"
Trinitrotoluene Bridge. Every time Nancy and I go to compare scores with Eugene and Bill, Eugene's favorite quote is "Why not 3 NT?" You could have a 6-3 fit in a major, but he wants you to play 3 NT. I think the logic goes something like this - in a suit contract, they have deadly ammo in their defensive arsenal - the ruff. Well, bid 3 NT and take it away. I think Nancy was going to make Eugene a t-shirt that said Y03NT!

The fourth noble concept of TNT bridge is fireworks. Think 4th of July, liberation, declaration of independence (Oh, I do declare so well!). DOUBLE WHENEVER U CAN...WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO LOSE BUT A BOARD. AND IF THEY DOUBLE,

REDOUBLE. Norm Coombs has made a habit of redoubling contracts that have no chance of making...and guess what, he makes them anyway. His logic is why should he be the only one to feel the heat; you should too. Last week, he redoubled a contract I doubled; it had no chance of making; but we found a way to give it to him. I asked him why he redoubled; his response, "well, I was playing it, so I had to give myself an extra trick for that". So if they light a firecracker, you go for TNT.

Fifth on the list of TNT bridge is Take No Prisoners (oops that's TNP bridge but what the heck, at least it rhymes). 2 weeks ago, we were in a ridiculous 3 NT contract. I get a favorable lead and more than favorable defense. I made 9 tricks, wiped the sweat from my forehead, and ran for the much needed cup of coffee to calm my nerves. I come back refreshed and partner suggests that a trick had gone missing from my balance sheet. He knows I hate losing tricks I am due. Based on their defense, I had close to a 90% route to a tenth trick. My first response was going to be WHAT IN THE \$\$\$#@@*** WORLD WAS I DOING IN 3NT but I was afraid my partner would sneak that information to Eugene who would then say something like "Is 3NT whenever possible not part of dynamite bridge?" just to make me eat my words. So I did not say a word. Post mortem of the game was ...we had come 2nd by 2 match points and making ten tricks on that hand would have gained us 2.5 match points. OUCH, that hurt. Greed is good and I am slightly fond of Ayn Rand.

I asked my wife to "proof" this column; her first comment was "how come I don't see anything about all the contracts you bombed". I don't think that was very nice of her; but you know what it's OK, because, she's dynamite

...Amit

The "Pig" is coming!!

This year our flying pig regional will be held at the Sharonville convention center from Monday, May 7 through Saturday, May 12. By having our tournament in the second week of May we avoid overlapping with Derby day but have to run Monday through Saturday to avoid overlapping with Mother's Day. We used this time slot in 2010 and had a very successful tournament. In addition to avoiding a conflict with the Derby, by running our tournament in this week we have virtually no other regionals in the country competing with us.

As always, I am counting on all of you to be extraordinarily gracious hosts for all of our out-of-town visitors. In addition, I need volunteers and there is a link on the main page of the website that takes you to an easy sign-up form.

.....*Potter and Sandy Orr*

The Tricky Game By Rob Weidenfeld(elianadad@gmail.com)

One of the very first tenets of defense that a new player must learn is not to grab a trick just because it is there for the taking. This is embodied in the notion of second hand low. When I am paying against a new player and even most intermediate players, here is a situation that is easy to diagnose. I am playing in a suit contract and I lead a small card towards dummy whose holding is KJxx. Every lesser player I know who is on my left, will rise with the ace if they have it, making my job easy. Many intermediate players will either rise with the ace, or think about what to do, thus giving away the same information. Good players will play small without so much as a flicker and thus give nothing away. Even if I as declarer I have a singleton, my LHO with the ace may not lose because I may and probably will play the jack from dummy.

Similarly, laying down aces when on opening lead is often just giving away the contract. We were taught that aces and kings were made to capture kings and queens, not deuces and treys. But it is surprising to many to find out that sometimes even then it is wrong. Similarly, sometimes declarer play from dummy may not seem to make a difference, but squandering an honor may bring back dividends. I've just completed a fascinating book called *The Tricky Game* by Hugh Kelsey. I am going to write two articles expanding on the concepts that he so effectively articulates.

Example #1

Playing in a no trump contract with plenty of entries, this is your holding:

K5
Q97642

You lead a card to the K in dummy and your opponents follow with the 10 on your left and the 3 on your right. Now that you know where the ace is, how do you continue? You play a card towards your hand and RHO produces the 8. Now what? If LHO has AJ10 it doesn't matter what you do, but what if he has A10 doubleton? Playing small from hand will bring the ace from LHO and you will lose only one trick. So you play small and you find out you have been duped! Here is the layout:

K5
J10 A83
Q97642

Notice that if your RHO won the ace, you would have no choice but to play the queen in order not to lose further tricks in the suit, and it would work. The point here is that when you can see that declarer is bound to succeed if you win the trick, maybe it is right to duck. Said another way, declarer has no option but to play the queen if RHO wins with the ace. When you duck, you give them a chance to go wrong and sometimes even good opponents guess incorrectly.

Example #2

You are on lead against a 3NT contract where the auction has been a non-revealing 1NT-3NT. You decide to lead from your major suit and pick the 4 from this holding: Q764. You look at dummy and see this holding in the suit led, 1053. Declarer plays the 10 and partner thankfully plays the J and declarer the king. You subsequently get on lead and have to decide whether or not to continue the suit. To show it another way, here is how it went:

(10)53
Q76(4) J
K

What do you know? Declarer certainly has the ace. If it is doubleton, any return of the suit will do. The key is where is the nine? Can declarer have AK9? Why then would he play the 10 from dummy at trick one, when playing low is just as good. Isn't declarer more likely to have AKx without the nine, and played the ten hoping you had led from QJxx? Thinking declarer has no reason to play the ten with the nine in hand, you lead back the suit only to find you were duped again! (I see you get duped a lot!) Here was the layout:

1053
Q754 J82
AK9

Upon reflection and analysis you realize that the ten was a no-cost play. It was designed to give you a problem-causing you to be uncertain about the location of the nine. You may not have been fooled, but the salient point is this: If declarer had played low from dummy at the first trick and your partner played the J, you would know with certainty where the nine is. It would have to be in declarer's hand because partner would have played the nine holding J9x. If declarer had played low at trick one, you would know not to continue this suit. And that is the basis for making these plays.

Learn to give your opponents more problems to solve and watch your game improve immeasurably! When you can discern that any given play by you will give declarer no option but to make the right play subsequently, then it cannot be right. Make a play that will sow an element of uncertainty. The opponent may figure it out, especially if he/she has read this article (or better Kelsey's book!), but then you tip your cap. The point here is to make them guess! Even great opponents sometimes guess wrong.

To be continued next issue

Sound of the Spirit, the movie starring Rob, make its Cincinnati debut in a private showing in the AMC Theater at Newport on the Levee. on Thurs, Feb. 16 at 7:00pm. This will be a private screening, but you can call Rob Weidenfeld (513-317-2337) to reserve a seat for you (only 100 seats have been set aside, Cost is \$7).

“Change is good - You go first” Dilbert by Potter Orr

CBA Website –

Web browsers (the program she used to surf the web like Internet Explorer and Firefox) have a nasty and somewhat unpredictable habit. In an effort to seem faster than they really are, they will store a copy of a webpage on your local computer. If you go back to a webpage you visited recently, they will pull out the store copy and display on the screen very quickly. While this may make the program look good it poses a problem when a website is often updated. In early January I received a number of phone calls from members who were not seeing the 2012 club results page. I had actually made a change to the website on December 31, but they were not seeing the newest version. To make sure you are seeing the most current version of the website (or one of its pages) you have to beat your Web browser about the head and shoulders.

There are a couple of methods that can force your browser to go back and look for the newest version of the page.

1. Up at the top of the page near the address bar you should see one of these two symbols clicking on whichever one of these you have forces the program to go back to the website and get the newest version.



2. If your computer is running any version of Windows, there is a second method that you can use to force a refresh. On almost all keyboards at the very top above the row containing the numbers there are 12 "F" keys – labeled F1 through F12. Pressing the F5 key forces a refresh.

Two other new and wonderful pieces of technology have created challenges for the website. Occasionally I need to put a form on the website that asks people to fill it out and click the submit button. I discovered that the software I've been using for a number of years is based on a technology called "Flash" which does not work on iPad (until Steve Jobs gives his permission which now seems unlikely). I found a new form generation software that does not depend on flash and it seems to work.

Just as I was breathing a sigh of relief, I started receiving calls from members who said that they could not reach cincybridge.com from their smart phones. Apparently some member of the mythical Internet "they" decided that smart phones should automatically redirect some requests to a new address. I pulled out my iPhone and typed in www.cincybridge.com and the phone changed it to m.cincybridge.com (this would be the special version of the site for mobile devices) Well, there wasn't a mobile version of our website. Working with the company that hosts our website, I have put together a rudimentary version of our website with the address m.cincybridge.com. I'm hoping to do better since the current version does not have our full Main page, but at least on my iPhone I can now get through to the club results page.

Amiable bridge: Resolutions -- It's that time of year....

By Amy Fisher

1. I resolve to be confident at the table. I know certain bids/plays are correct. I will not second guess.
2. I resolve to learn something new about this beautiful game once a month. Maybe I'm ready to learn about complex squeezes, or maybe I'm ready to learn just how a certain convention works. I will spend time to think about it.
3. I resolve to kiss Joe good morning every day. And it wouldn't hurt for me to say hello to each new set of opponents I meet.
4. I resolve to actively participate in the mentor/mentee program. I may not be the most experienced player or the best teacher, but it will be fun to partner with someone new.
5. I resolve to eat more healthy foods this year. And it wouldn't hurt to bring snacks to a game or tournament.
6. I resolve to support some games that I don't regularly attend. My schedule is comfortable. Many times I don't even think about playing bridge when the time is an unusual one for me. But some of our games need support.
7. I resolve to be proactive in stamping out negativity. When I hear someone complain about a situation, I will ask what can be done to help. Or I will direct that person to someone who can address the problem. Gossiping only escalates a minor situation into a major one, and it damages our game unnecessarily.
8. I resolve to actively practice Zero Tolerance. When I hear a bad situation start up at my table, I will ask that we move on or I will call the director. I will strive to keep my partnership safe from such situations.
9. I resolve to keep my work area in my sewing room clean. And it wouldn't hurt if I pick up my trash from around the bridge table, especially used napkins and tissues!
10. I resolve to practice counting on the easy hands so that I can easily count on the difficult hands.

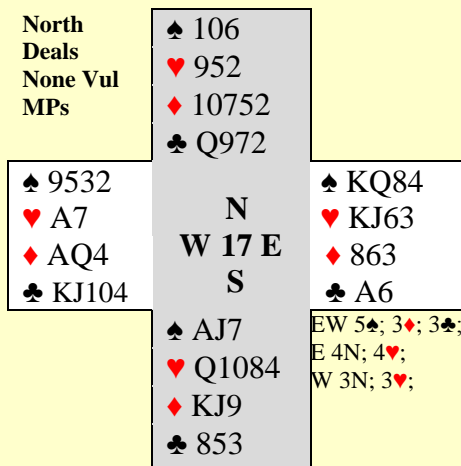
I wish every one of you a safe and happy year. Bid those slams and double the opponents!

Learning Points – Avoid Practice Finesses

By Steve Moese. Edited by Mike Purcell

January 10, 2012

Declarer Play Level: Intermediate



A practice finesse, once taken does not improve your chances to make your contract. They add risk and offer no reward. Here is a hand with 5 finesses. Which ones should you take and importantly when should you take them? Pick the order that maximizes your chances on the entire hand (not just in a single suit). Keep track of missing HCP & opponents' shape along the way.

The Bidding

The ♠ game was common. South's passes in 4th seat with a 4333 & 11 HCP hand is appropriate.

The Play

With 12 HCP opposite 14, declarer needs to develop 5 tricks before opponents get to 4. There are enough entries in both hands.

North	East	South	West
Pass	1♦ ¹	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			
1 = 11-15 HCP, at least 2♦s			
North leads ♠10			

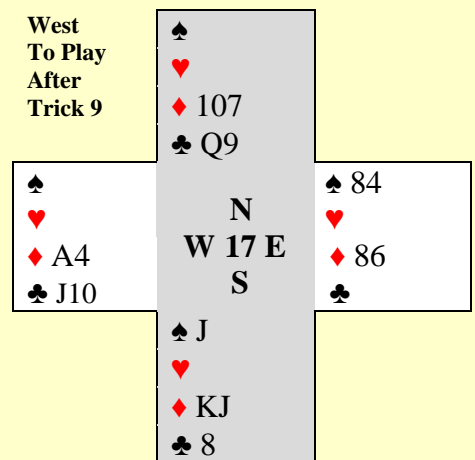
Declarer's Analysis:

- Top Winners:** 5 (0♠, 2♥, 1♦, 2♣).
- Losers:** 2-6 (1-2 ♠, 0-1 ♥, 1-2 ♦, 0-1♣)
- Trick Sources:**
 - 2♠, 3♥, 2♦, 3♣s → 4 finesses work (~6%)
 - 1♠, 2♥ & 2♥ Ruffs, 2♦, 2♣s & 2♣ Ruffs (~50%)

The ♠10 is passive and places the ♠AJ with South. We have 2 trump losers. East put up dummy's ♠K and South won the ♠A. South switched to the ♦9. Declarer wins the ♦Q. South has the ♠AJ & ♦K – 8 HCP. Should we finesse in ♥ or ♣? There's a chance that a Q will drop in the 3rd round. Best: score 4 trump tricks by cross-ruffing (Line B). Declarer plays a trump to the ♠Q and both opponents follow. Ruff ♥s before ♣s. ♣s Suit strength means we might win if defenders lead ♣s. We can finesse the ♣Q in either direction (not so in ♥s). Plays 2 rounds of ♥s and ruff a small ♥. The ♥Q does not appear. Return to the ♣A. Ruff the 4th ♥ and South shows the ♥Q (10 HCP). North likely holds the ♣Q. Play a 2nd ♣ to the ♣A **DO NOT FINESSE**. Lead the ♣J from hand. If North ducks, discard a losing ♦ from the dummy. If North covers, ruff and returns to hand in ♦s to play the now good ♣10 pitching a losing ♦ from dummy. 4♠ making 5 ties for top score.

Post Mortem

Declarer lost the ♠ finesse (♠A), won 1 ♦ finesse, and won 1 ruffing finesse in ♣s for an overtrick. The ♠&♦ finesses were given. If you lose the ♣ finesse you still make your contract. The ♥ finesse and the ♣ finesse through South are practice finesses. If you took either of them, count your likely tricks and look to avoid risk that can't help.



Learning Points

- Take only the finesse you need. Each new suit finesse halves your chance of success.
- Ruffing out an honor is a good way to improve your odds of success instead of just finessing.
- Stay in the game – count opponents' HCP and shape. You need this information.
- When all but one honor are in one opponent's hand, if the remaining honor gives them a bid and they didn't bid, they don't have it! Play the other opponent to hold the missing honor.

Education Committee News

New CBA Seminar Series and 0-20 Game, Youth Bridge Update

The Education Committee has several new initiatives designed to support and welcome new members into our club in 2012 like:

New Saturday 0-20 MP Section - Come out and play in this *FUN* new section that starts Feb 4th - **Pre-Game Lecture 12:30PM** with 1PM game start. We are intending this game to be a good place for our newer players to play with a relaxed atmosphere and more time allowed per hand. This game features a 12:30 seminar before the game and a there will be a volunteer on hand to help during play and to fill in as a standby when needed. If you have questions, please contact Mike Purcell at mikpur@cinci.rr.com or 513 702 4007.

CBA Seminar Series (VOLUNTEERS NEEDED) - This series is already off to a great start for the 99ers and NLM sections. The 0-20 series will follow suit in February. We do need volunteer speakers for these seminars throughout the year. The materials for these seminars are already prepared. If you can help on the 99er or NLM seminars, contact Steve Moese (moesefamily@aol.com), for 0-20 contact Mike Purcell (mikpur@cinci.rr.com). Special thanks to Steve Moese for his tremendous efforts in putting the materials and program together.

Youth Program Update - St. Xavier, Walnut Hills and Lakota West currently have bridge clubs, Indian Hills will start in February. We are supporting these efforts with volunteers and a special game in our Regional. We will also begin encouraging our more ambitious students to start playing in some of the games at the CBC.

We could use your help to promote these new programs. Please encourage your friends who are new players to play in the 0-20 section or volunteer to help with a seminar (or two). If you have questions on what is involved, please contact me.

Mike Purcell

CBA Education Committee Chair
mikpur@cinci.rr.com
 513 702 4007

ANDERSON BRIDGE CLUB FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

ALL MONTH WILL BE EXTRA POINTS
 Every Tuesday and Wednesday will be Junior
 Fund Days Except
 Tuesday February 21st. Unit Championship
 Game starts 11:30

Anderson Senior Center
 7970 Beechmont Ave.
 Cincinnati, OH 45255

When Forest Hills School closes because of the weather
 we do too.

Need a partner call Helen 232-2240



DIVAGATIONS OF A TRANSITIONAL PLAYER¹

ROBERT S BROWN

1. The Albatross torments me by regurgitating past hands and sifting that detritus for lapses in my bidding or play. Those I fail to refute or acknowledge are spammed to an *ad hoc* panel² invited to join the Albatross' carping. The web-based *WinDup* hand and bidding results, alliteratively abetting my abasement and abuse, may have to be destroyed by a virus of unknown origin.
2. Bridge authors, the Albatross, and his cohorts-in-criticism frequently base their "sunder than thou" bidding sequences on hypothetical closed hands that invariably meld with their open hand suggestions – ignoring equally probable alternative holdings that militate for a different response.³
3. The alleged comestibles proffered along the west wall of the Bridge Center are an affront to my alimentary tract, four of my five senses⁴, and the science of nutrition. Only the Albatross, an omnivore thriving on carrion, regularly consumes these Freestore Foodbank rejects. My Modest Proposal – First and Second Class game fees – the former including admittance to a private buffet of superior quality.⁵



¹ Reluctantly continued after the collective failure of *Alert's* readership to detect the blatant/deliberate error of my inaugural article at Note 2.

² In ascending order: ML*, DC, FL, RB, JM, PD, the EEE's**, and the *ad feminam* final authority – NS. *Only to confirm that the issue posed is discernible with minimal brain stem activity. **East European Eidetics – RB-P and YS.

³ The arrogance of these conjectures is galling. Cf. Ian Fleming, *Moonraker* (Draxo vs. 007 – the Duke of Cumberland hand); *Ecc1. 9:13* ("time and chance happeneth to them all"); Matthew Arnold, *Sohrab and Rustum* ("only the event will teach us in its hour"); T.S. Eliot, *East Coker* ("only a limited value in the knowledge derived from experience"). *Sed Vide* <http://www.snopes.com/luck/bennett.asp> (Myrtle Bennett's 1931 acquittal for the slaying of her husband John – whose opening one spade bid was inexcusably light).

⁴ Touch included under the proverbial "ten foot pole" theory.

⁵ I know some left-wing egalitarians will find cause to quibble over this cruise and airline staple – but shouldn't playing together be enough for them?

SERIOUS BRIDGE AT ZERO GRAVITY

Stephen Felson (aka Albatross)

This was supposed to be a classy spacecraft – yes, it is super-fast, and yes, the staff is impressively large (*two* under-chefs!) – but her beryllium spheres flame out faster than my partner’s high-level penalty doubles and she blows fuses the way he blows makeable game contracts by relying on the shakiest of inferences instead of playing the odds. These mechanical problems could be natural, or maybe the space gods are against us for pushing arrogance to a new level – I mean, do we really need a basketball court 1700 light years from Madison Square Garden? Anyhow, the moment Dean steps on board the rotators go out again and everything starts floating around the room at random, just like Brown’s bidding with an unbalanced hand.

*Obi-wan, just
because the force is
with you doesn’t
mean
every damn bid you
make is forcing.*

So, here’s Dean and his new partner, Darth Bane, a retired Sith lord formerly known for the Sith rule of two (“there shall only ever be two Sith warriors at a time, a master and an apprentice”). Now he’s best known as a fanatical advocate for Mel Colchamiro’s rule of two, balancing over every IN-P-P he sees.

The good Lord is some kind of Thermian octopoidal encephalopod if I’m any judge of these matters. He’s the color of old whale meat, has a pronounced hump, and holds his cards with a sticky appendage better suited to catching large insects. This is not to say that some of the players at our old club on Cooper Road weren’t just as weird looking, but that was long ago and in another galaxy. And Dean himself is no perfect model of human physiology either.

The staff brings lunch and I’m quite surprised to find Lord Bane is partial to calamari – to me that’s as close to cannibalism as I’d care to get. And, while the three humans are busy capturing the floating mollusks with both hands, our octopoidal guest proudly proves he can out-grab us by a factor of four.

After lunch we get ready to start on the RIPS deals, “Regional in Private Space.” This event can draw over 100,000 pairs these days, mostly playing electronically because of the distances. Since Dean loves to travel we said come on over, have lunch, and we’ll play our boards face-to-face.

Before I go on I should tell you why I still play with Brown despite all my complaining. Here is one of many similar deals we’ve played over the decades, from the smallest moons of the Kaplan-Sheinwold Galaxy to Telos in the Outer Rim. This particular one is from the first electronic regional – Kaplan and the Milky Way only, about 10 years ago:

	♠ 2	
North Deals	♥ A K 10 8	
Both Vul	♦ Q J 10 9 6 4 2	
	♣ 10	
♠ A 8 7 5		♠ K J 9 6
♥ J 7 4 2		♥ Q 6 3
♦ A K 8 7		♦ 5 3
♣ 6		♣ J 9 5 4
	♠ Q 10 4 3	
	♥ 9 5	
	♦ —	
	♣ A K Q 8 7 3 2	

Okay, the bidding goes 1D-P-1S (bid first by agreement)-P, 2D-P-3C-P, 3D-P-4C-P, 4D. At this point I'm 99 per cent sure we're better off in clubs than in diamonds but *my partner says no – he loves his diamonds, he despises spades, he wants to play this hand.* To thwart this suicidal impulse I would have to go to 5C with a total misfit, and even then he might try 6D. And I guess I'm still hoping to be loved. So I pass. As I suspected, my clubs are eight to the AKQ while Bob's diamonds are only seven to the QJ. Partner is crazy, right? But what actually happens on this layout? A lucky heart lead would have held N-S to nine tricks but we get 10, and both 5C and 3N go down. We end up with +130, *first out of 65,000 pairs playing that day*, and win a bucketful of points, colored like an earth rainbow!

And so, once again, I recognize the bitter truth – I will never have the strength of character to out-bid Robert Brown, even though I know I'm right, or to convince him that the result of one hand does not cancel all the other bottom scores, unless I keep playing with him, and keep playing with him, and keep playing with him, and keep playing with him, and keep playing with him, as we push onward, onward, onward, where no pair has gone before, past the Outer Rim and ever approaching but never quite reaching that Grand National said to be located at the infinite intersection of curved space and curved time.

May the force eventually be with me.

How to Play Like an Expert (without having to be one) Part III

Goal: Have *fun* exploring ideas from Colchamiro's book

Everyone can learn expert techniques if they are shown the way in simple language they can understand. This is taken from the introduction to Mel Colchamiro's book whose title is given above. Mel's book is a big winner. At the table I back my judgment with his simple quantitative rules a couple of times each session.

Topics: We will cover arithmetic rules from Colchamiro's book, which we haven't covered yet. We will give an introduction to Losing Trick Count with examples of how it can be used to improve our judgment. We will then reintroduce Mel's rules that depend on LTC, explain why they work, and give ideas on adapting them to Michaels and Unusual No trump deals. Competitive doubles after an initial negative double.

Even if you missed the first two Colchamiro seminars, come to this one. It will cover some new topics. When previous topics come up, I will be sure to reintroduce them so you won't miss out. I promise to include new examples for previous students.

When/Where:

Single Session Short Course

11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. @ CBC on

Saturday, April 14th

Saturday Duplicate game follows at 1 p.m.

\$10 and a promise you won't use these ideas when you play against me. No discounts for continuing students because this is not a repeat course.

Joe Fisher, jo.fshr@gmail.com 513-772-1024

A Mentor-Mentee Dialog on Stayman

Mike Ma and Dick Naber

We are starting what is hopefully a new series, a mentor-mentee series, based on bridge conversations between the two of us, Dick and Mike, who were mentee/mentor this past summer. Dick is a relatively new bridge player, but is very interested in becoming better and better in bridge. Both Dick and Mike have benefitted from their mentor-mentee relationship, including from various bridge conversations. For clarity and conciseness, the following is not a verbatim dialog, but is faithful to the spirit of the conversation.

MM: I thought it will be useful to talk about certain Stayman sequences, because they are important of themselves, and also because the thought process is representative of how to think about bidding in general. Opponents are silent. You open 1N, I bid 2C Stayman, you deny a 4 card major with 2D, and I continue with 2S. What am I showing? Since the meaning of a bid may depend on how we play other bids, I note that we play 15-17 NT, Jacoby transfer, 2N natural and invitational, so my 2C guarantees at least one 4 card major.

DN: Let's see, you should not have 5 S since you did not transfer. I was told in the past that you can transfer with no points, but Stayman should guarantee like 8-9 points?

MM: Let's take things back one step. When partner opens 1N, responder may be looking for the **best partial, inviting to game, forcing to game or higher**. In each case, one is also looking for the best strain in a suit or NT. Of course, this is not unique to a 1N opening, but the relatively narrow range of points and distribution by opener, means responder has less to find out and also less to tell opener than after a suit opening. OK, back to the 2S bid after 2D response to Stayman.

DN: Based on Stayman promises some points, but not necessarily game forcing, and I don't think you have 5 S. I would say you are showing 4 S with 8-9 points. With more S, you would transfer. With more points, you would make a stronger bid.

MM: Pretty good reasoning, especially about 8-9 points. Let's think about how many S I am showing. A big part of bidding Stayman is to try to find 4-4 or better major fit, and falling back on NT when there is no such fit. So why would I bid 2S with 4 S after your 2D. Why won't I bid 2N?

DN: You got me in a quandary! I guess you have 5+ S but, why didn't you transfer?

MM: What if I have 5 S and 4 H, invitational hand? How would I bid? Transferring to S and then bidding 3 H may land us at the 3 level with not enough strength and no 8 card major fit. I can transfer to S and then bid 2N to show 5 S and invitational hand, but that gives up on 4-4 H fit.

DN: Yes, I see. Bidding Stayman you can try to find 4-4 or better major fit, and then after 2D bid 2S to show 5 S and by inference of the Stayman bid, also 4 H. Opener now knows you have invitational hand with 5-4 in the majors and can act accordingly.

MM: Nice. You see how by deducing what partner should not have; you then deduce what partner has. For a follow up, what if responder bids 2H over your 2D, what does that show?

DN: I am not sure.

MM: One simple way for it to mean the same as 2S, but with 4 S and 5 H. That is easy to remember. However, there is another way to bid that hand, namely, transfer to H and then bid 2S. Notice that unlike transferring to S and then bidding 3H with 5 S and 4 H this does not force to the 3 level. The disadvantage of doing things this second way is that one cannot stop at 2H, which may be the last makeable contract when opener has a minimum NT.

DN: So why would anyone bid this second way instead of Stayman and then 2H over 2D then?

MM: This goes back to your earlier point about Stayman promising points. When responder has very few points after opener's 1N, it is almost always better to play in a suit contract, plus it is much more difficult for opponents to double for penalty once responder makes a bid. That is why one transfers with 5+ major and no points. If we play 4 suits transfer, we can even transfer to a minor also, usually with a 6+ card minor. Transfer requires at least a 5 card suit. Lacking a 5+ suit, responder with weak hand can still bid using Stayman, intending to get to a suit contract at the 2 level. This is called Crawling Stayman, Garbage Stayman, or Drop-dead Stayman. Transferring to H and then bidding 2S to show invitational 4 -5 majors allows one to use that type of Stayman. Let's talk about this more another time. Thanks for the dialog.

DN: Thank you.

TREASURER'S REPORT

OCTOBERBEST

I'm happy to report a profit of \$1500 on our Sectional. A welcome surprise! You may remember, in 2008 the Octoberbest Player Fee was \$9. In 2009 & 2010, as 'payback' to the members, the fee was decreased to \$8. Along came this recession...our 2011 Regional was down over 60% and our CBA Operating Loss was projected to be well over \$27K. Not good. Our goal for the 2011 Octoberbest was to break-even, so given our fears of a repeat of the Regional's decimated attendance, we needed to return the fee to \$9. A profit (hooray!!) of about \$500 was generated as a result of the increased fee. In addition, another \$1000 profit was generated from a 12.5% increase in attendance (interestingly, the NAP attendance was down by 12%).

Here's an abbreviated summary of the Tournament (259.5 tables):

Player Fees	\$ 9343
Less::	
Directors, travel, hotels, fees ,etc.	-3943
Caddys,hand records,freeplays	- 747
Rent, promotion, hospitality	<u>-4723</u>
	NET
	<u>-\$70</u>
Plus NAP charge to District**	<u>\$1600</u>
	PROFIT
	\$1530

THE DECEMBER STaC

This STaC was held by District 11 for the benefit of the Midwest Monitor. Even with it being a last minute addition and with very limited promotion, the STaC was a success, showing a 48 table-count increase over the same period last year. Looks like everyone won on this - CBA with \$480 increased income, the Sanction Holders with extra income, and the players with 117 silver points awarded. Assuming another is held in 2012 we should know much further in advance and perhaps be able to hand out even more silver points!

INCREASED PLAYER FEES

As previously reported, player fees and sanction holder table fees were raised to help staunch the \$\$ hemorrhage we have been experiencing from daily operations. We estimated this loss to be \$27-29K. The "good" news is that the loss came in closer to \$26K. Assuming table counts remain the same as 2011, we can expect additional income from the increases of \$25K. We will be monitoring the situation ongoingly so that the Board can make a timely decision regarding Sanction Holder Table Fees for 2012. As it currently stands, those fees will increase to \$12 for each of the 1st 5 tables and \$18 for all additional tables. Given the actual table counts for every game of the 12 months ended September 2011, CBA would collect (& sanction holders would pay) an average of less than \$16/table (not \$18). Barring an unforeseen calamity, player fees are not expected to increase for at least a few years.

CBA OPERATING INCOME

As you know, CBA makes money from 2 sources - net earnings from games CBA hosts (\$4,887 in 2011) and table fees from the Sanction Holders (\$61,886 in 2011), making for a total of \$66,773. Costs just to keep the facility open - rent, utilities & cleaning totaled \$69,338. We haven't even been covering these costs never mind all of the other expenses related to running a bridge club! We continue to look for ways to cut costs, several of which have already been implemented.

FYI, Financial Statements will be posted on the kitchen area bulletin board quarterly, if not monthly. I will address specific items here in the Alert... so if you have any questions.....

Gayle Keaney, Treasurer,
gkeaney@aol.com

Can Cincinnatians do better than the East Europeans?

Yauheni Siutsau

All problems are from Polish Bridge Magazine.

IMPs, Dealer W.

	You	N	E	S
	1♦	pass	1♥	pass
	2NT	pass	3NT	pass...
♠ Kxx		N		♠ J98
♥ xx	W	E		♥ QJ10x
♦ AQJ9xx		S		♦ 108x
♣ AK				♣ QJ10

3NT (W). Opening lead : ♠5. S wins ♠A and plays ♠4 at trick two. Plan your play.

Solution :

Well, it looks like one more routine 50% 3NT game (you should hope that ♦K is onside - otherwise defense will get 1diamond 2 hearts and at least 2 spades). However, you have no quick entry to dummy for diamond hook. If you carelessly played small spade at trick one you have **no entry to dummy at all** (assuming that N has ♠Q). In order to create an entry you should **unblock ♠K at trick one**. Defense can get 2 spades and 2 hearts only.

Look at the full deal:

	♠ Q10753		
	♥ Kxx		
	♦ x		
	♣ xxxx		
♠ Kxx		N	♠ J98
♥ xx	W	E	♥ QJ10x
♦ AQJ9xx		S	♦ 108x
♣ AK			♣ QJ10
	♠ A4		
	♥ A9xx		
	♦ Kxx		
	♣ xxxx		

Even if S will shift at trick two to a club (or heart) you will play small spade to the ♠J and ♦10 from dummy (you'll get 6diamonds+1spade+2(3) clubs).

Bottom line: Plan your play at trick one.

IMPs, Dealer W.

	You	N	E	S
	1NT	pass	2NT*	pass
	3NT	pass		

* - invitational

♠ KQx		N	♠ Axx
♥ AKx	W	E	♥ xx
♦ 109xxx		S	♦ Jxx
♣ KQ			♣ A98xx

3NT (W). Opening lead : ♥Q. Plan your play.

Solution :

Let's count our top tricks: 3 spades+ 2 hearts + 0 diamonds + 3 clubs = 8. You need one more trick to make 3NT. You have no time to establish long diamond suit – defense will knock out your second heart stopper and you'll lose 3 diamonds and at least 2 hearts.

Therefore you should try to set up long clubs. If clubs are 3-3 (or somebody has ♣J10 doubleton) you'll get 5 tricks. So, simple line is : unblock ♣Q and ♣K, cross to dummy in spades and hope for the best.

However, if clubs are 4-2 this line of play will fail (unless ♣J10 are doubleton). Dummy has only one entry (♠A), that's why you will not be able to cash your last good club.

Since you **don't need all 5 tricks in clubs** (3 spades + 2 hearts + 4 clubs = 9) you can improve your chances by cashing ♣K and **overtaking ♣Q with the ace**. This line will work if :

1. Clubs are 3-3
2. Somebody has ♣J10 doubleton
3. Clubs are 4-2 and somebody has ♣10x or ♣Jx

Look at the full deal :


	♠ xxx		
	♥ QJ109		
	♦ Ax		
	♣ Jxxx		
♠ KQx		N	♠ Axx
♥ AKx	W	E	♥ xx
♦ 109xxx		S	♦ Jxx
♣ KQ			♣ A98xx
	♠ J10xx		
	♥ xxxx		
	♦ KQx		
	♣ 10x		

S will play ♣10 on the second round and now you can play ♣9 knocking out ♣J and establishing 2 more tricks in clubs. Defense can get 1 club and 3 diamonds only. If no ♣10 or ♣J will appear in two rounds you should hope for 3-3 break and play third club.

ACBL Rank Promotions for Unit 124 (Dec-Jan)

Junior Master	5 pts		
Nancy Grote			
Steven Ross			
Gary Wilson			
Robert Letourneau			
Virginia Brunsman			
Club Master	20 pts		
Terry Ruf			
F James Hunkler			
John LaMacchia			
Judith Lubow			
Sectional Master	50 pts (5 Silver)		
Robert Glueck			
Liz Kelley			
Kent Wahl			
Liz Lin			
Regional Master	100 pts (15 silver, 5 red)		
Gail Arnow			
Greg Brinker			
Joanne Earls			
Robert Frey			
Sheryl Roykta			
Robert Bobinger			
Paula Wolfe			
NABC Master	200 pts (25 silver, 15 red)		
Justina Clendening			
Stephen Felson			
Martin Petersen			
Gretchen Sherman			
Susan Wisner			
Robert Prosis			
Life Master **	300 pts (50 black, 50 silver)		
Stephanie Richardson			
Cynthia Schultz			
Robert Fisk			
Nalin Mehta			
Marilyn Prosis			
Bronze Life Master	LM with 500 pts		
Cynthia Schultz			
Carol Vradelis			
Silver Life Master	LM with 1000 pts (200 silver)		
Michele Staats			

0 to 5 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	James Brannen	Ft Mitchell KY	16.58
2	Kay Weyrick	Cincinnati OH	10.54
5 to 20 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Linda Pretz	Cincinnati OH	40.62
2	Howard Schumacher	Cincinnati OH	31.24
20 to 50 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Lawrence Newman	Cincinnati OH	65.09
2	Debbie Wiest	West Chester OH	56.41
50 to 100 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Robert Fisk	Cincinnati OH	297.16
2	Helen Mess	Cincinnati OH	147.66
100 to 200 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Stephanie Richardson	Cincinnati OH	211.87
2	Marilyn Prosis	Cincinnati OH	137.2
200 to 300 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Arun Gupta	West Chester OH	137.18
2	Sandy Johnson	Cincinnati OH	105.29
300 to 500 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Sonya Wilson	Cincinnati OH	214.7
2	Cordell Coy	Villa Hills KY	213.13
500 to 1000 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	A J Stephani	Cincinnati OH	232.42
2	Anthony Brockman	Florence KY	231.21
1000 to 2500 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Albert Fultz	Ft Mitchell KY	495.53
2	Cliff Pleatman	Cincinnati OH	273.67
2500 to 5000 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Amitabh Raturi	Cincinnati OH	572.8
2	Frank Treiber III	Toledo OH	523.97
5000 to 7500 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	William Higgins	Cincinnati OH	823.94
2	Yauheni Siutsau	Loveland OH	799.55
7500 to 10,000 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Pamela Granovetter	Cincinnati OH	1,059.31
2	Nancy Sachs	Cincinnati OH	642.2
Over 10,000 Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race			
1	Matt Granovetter	Cincinnati OH	1,108.46
2	Norman Coombs	Brookville IN	534.48


**2011
Mini-McKenney
Winners
For Unit 124**

0 to 5 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	James Brannen	Ft Mitchell KY 16.05
2	Kay Weyrick	Cincinnati OH 10.54
3	Faye Levine	Cincinnati OH 9.63
5 to 20 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Linda Pretz	Cincinnati OH 26.41
2	Howard Schumacher	Cincinnati OH 24.46
3	Sherryl Wilson	Florence KY 18.58
20 to 50 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Pam Preston	Cincinnati OH 51.11
2	Bert Luken	Erlanger KY 45.16
3	Lawrence Newman	Cincinnati OH 41.11
50 to 100 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Robert Fisk	Cincinnati OH 129.81
2	Helen Mess	Cincinnati OH 80.24
3	Chris Hastie	Cincinnati OH 55.69
100 to 200 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Stephanie Richardson	Cincinnati OH 83.24
2	Tak (Oliver) Yip	Union KY 65.82
3	Marilyn Prorise	Cincinnati OH 61.85
200 to 300 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Nalin Mehta	Cincinnati OH 55.52
2	Sharon Kreitzer	Cincinnati OH 51.37
3	Sandy Johnson	Cincinnati OH 49.02
300 to 500 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Cordell Coy	Villa Hills KY 127.5
2	Marlene Middaugh	Union KY 91.83
3	Michael Remondino	Crestview Hills KY 85.18
500 to 1000 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Anthony Brockman	Florence KY 87.97
2	Timothy Martin	Ft Thomas KY 82.35
3	Dean Congbalay	Terrace Park OH 82.14
1000 to 2500 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Rick O'Connor	Villa Hills KY 143.2
2	Peggy Ammon	Bulington KY 142.58
3	Albert Fultz	Ft Mitchell KY 138.03
2500 to 5000 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Lorna Davis	West Chester OH 128.5
2	Jacqueline Meyers	Cincinnati OH 125.64
3	Jackie Toth	West Chester OH 116.76
5000 to 7500 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	William Higgins	Cincinnati OH 202.02
2	Yauheni Siutsau	Loveland OH 178.74
3	Bruce Parent	Brookville IN 40.12
7500 to 10,000 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Nancy Sachs	Cincinnati OH 102.79
2	Pamela Granovetter	Cincinnati OH 18.79
Over 10,000 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race		
1	Norman Coombs	Brookville IN 121.7
2	Matt Granovetter	Cincinnati OH 15.2



2011 Ace of Clubs Winners For Unit 124

BRIDGE LESSONS

Winter 2012

SUPERVISED PLAY

Wednesdays 4:00 –6:00 PM

Jan. 18 & 25; Feb. 1, 8, 15 & 22

2/1 GAME FORCE WORKSHOPS

Saturday mornings 10:00 AM – Noon

Jan. 14 & 21; Feb. 4, 11, 18 & 25

Nancy Sachs is the instructor for the above classes. She is an Emerald Life Master with more than 30 years experience teaching bridge. She is an ACBL accredited teacher and director. For information/registration, contact Nancy at 561-1766 or nspp@fuse.net.

C

<<< For Advancing Players >>>

Matchpoint Doubles

Joe W Fisher

Compared to team play, matchpoint pairs are a horse of different color. It is not a matter of *how much* we beat our table opponents by, but rather, *how frequently* we beat the results of the other pairs holding our cards. Suppose other pairs holding our cards are allowed to score +140 by making 3♥. If our table opponents sacrifice by bidding 3♠, then we only get +50 or +100 for setting them one. When this happens, typically, we get 1 or 2 matchpoints on a 12 top. They are stealing from us and we must double to try to recoup our 140. Since we might not be as quick to double at other forms of scoring — this is a *matchpoint double*. We have little to lose and a lot to gain. In general, if I feel that it is *our* hand, and I can't bid on, I double.

Let's look at the expected gain from 10 matchpoint doubles on the assumption that *half* of them make. If the opponents make the doubled contract, instead of getting, say, 2 matchpoints, we get 0 matchpoints — so we go from a total of 10 matchpoints on 5 boards down to 0.

What about the other 5 deals which we defeat? If our doubled score betters the +140 that other pairs are getting, we will score well above average, say 10 out of 12 top. Let's say this happens on 3 of the 5 boards, but we just get back to average on the other 2. The matchpoints on these 5 boards total to 42: two averages for $6 + 6 = 12$ and three tens for 30. Forty-two matchpoints on 10 boards doesn't get us back to average, but compared to our 10 to 20 matchpoints if we don't double, you can see we are ahead by a net gain of at least 22 matchpoints on these deals. And this is if just *half* of the doubled contracts go down! My partnerships usually do better, so, on average, we gain even more by doubling.

But for some players, just one doubled contract making, spoils their whole session. So even though matchpoint doubles are an important tactic, they timidly pass and repeatedly settle for a far-below average result. As Mel Colchamiro says, a double is like calling the cops when someone steals your purse. Do you call the cops or do you let the thief run off unaccosted? Take a lesson from Norm. We have all seen him double, lead, and say, «Let's see if we can beat'm?». He realizes that doubling and defending is an important part of the game and accepts it as such. You have to call the cops to try to get your purse back!

Here is a deal (rotated and groomed) from recent Tuesday CBA game. Both sides vulnerable and partner as North opens 1♥. Your hand is ♠ 532, ♥ J854, ♦ KJ8, ♣ KQ6

Partner	East	You	West
1♥	1♠	2♥	2♠
pass	pass	3♥	3♠
pass	pass	?	

What do you think? Are we on for +140 in 3♥? Are the opponents stealing from us? Should we bid 4♥? Is it time for a matchpoint double?

There are a few clues to help us, but I think the *best judgement* we can make on this deal is to *judge* to make a matchpoint double! Partner's failure to compete immediately to 3♥ indicates *only* a 5 card heart suit and should *deny* a singleton spade. So we have nine hearts and they have only 8 spades. We have the balance of points and our hand is balanced. **Call the police!**

Topic is taken from my January Colchamiro seminar at CBC. Look for another one in April.

GOLD RUSH



Sharonville Convention Center 11355 Chester Road, Sharonville, OH 45246

Tournament Features:

- ♣ **GOLD RUSH** Pairs & Swiss Teams
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- ♣ Free Entertaining Evening Lectures
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 (513) 777-1760

Bob Fisk
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 (513) 379-5252

♦ **Card Fees:**
 \$12/session - ACBL Members
 \$2 surcharge - unpaid/nonmembers
 Except:
 \$6/session - Youth Players *all sessions*
 \$6/session 0-5 MPs (99'er/299'er single sessions only. Not valid for other events)

♣ **Tournament Chair:**
 Potter Orr
Potter@orrccomputer.com
 (513) 240-9561

Knockout Teams (4 sessions):

- ♦ "Porky Pig": Mon 1:30 & 7:00; Tue 1:30 & 7:00
- ♣ "Morning "Elmer Fudd": Tue/Wed/Thu/Fri 9:30 AM
- ♥ "Miss Piggy": Tue 1:30 & 7:00; Wed 1:30 & 7:00
- ♠ "This Little Piggy": Thu 1:30 & 7:00; Fri 1:30 & 7:00

Compact Knockout Teams (2 sessions)

- ♠ "Pig Out": Fri 1:30 & 7:00

Swiss Teams

- ♦ Morning "Baby Back" (2 sessions): Wed/Thu 9:30 a.m.
- ♠ "Piglet" (1 session): Mon 7:00 Tue 7:00 Thu 7:00 Fri 7:00
- ♥ "Big Pig" Stratified (2 sessions): Wed 1:30 & 7:00
- ♠ NLM Playthrough (2 Sessions) & "That's All Folks" Stratiflighted Playthrough (2 sessions): Sat 10:00 AM

Pairs

- ♦ **Stratified Side Game Series (1 session):**
 MTW Series I: Mon 1:30 & 7:00 Tue 1:30 & 7:00 Wed 1:30 & 7:00
 Thu-Fri Series II: Thu 1:30 & 7:00 Fri 1:30 & 7:00
- ♣ **Morning Fast Pairs Series (1 session):** 9:30 AM Tue/Wed/Thu/Fri
- ♥ **Stratified Open Pairs (2 sessions):** Mon 1:30/7:00; Tue 1:30/7:00; Thu 1:30/7:00; Fri 1:30/7:00;

GOLD RUSH

- ♥ **Stratified Pairs (2 sessions)**
 Tue 1:30/7:00
 Fri 1:30/7:00
- ♠ **Swiss Teams (2 sessions)**
 Wed 1:30/7:00



Stratifications

- ♣ **Open Pairs & Side Games** (w/o Gold Rush): 0-750/750-2000/2000+
- ♦ **Open Pairs & Swiss** (with Gold Rush): 0-3000/3000+
- ♥ **Gold Rush Pairs & Swiss:** 0-300/300-750
- ♠ **Stratiflighted Swiss:** B/C/D 750-1500/300-750/0-300 A/X 3000+/0-3000

(All events stratified by average MPs except when event has an upper MP limit. Then all players must have fewer than that limit)

Newcomer/NLM Events

- ♣ **99'er Pairs (1 session):** Tue 1:30 Wed 7:00 Fri 1:30
- ♦ **299'er Pairs (1 session):** Mon 1:30 & 7:00 Thu 1:30 & 7:00
- ♥ **NLM Swiss Teams (2 session):** Sat 10:00 Playthrough

Join us for a week of great competition, unsurpassed hospitality and many opportunities to GO FOR THE GOLD. Bring all your friends to our biggest tournament of the year. See you there! Learn more about the CBA: <http://www.cincybridge.com/> and our Youth bridge initiative: <http://www.cincybridge.com/youth/index.html>



NEWCOMERS:
 0-5 MP: \$6/session for single session 99'er & 299'er events. **Not Valid for any other events.**
YOUTH PLAYERS:
 \$6/session all events

DIRECTIONS: From I-75 North or South take Exit 14 (Sharon Road). Turn West on Sharon Road, then turn Right (North) on Chester Road. The Sharonville Convention Center and LivINN Suites Hotel are about 1/2 mile on your left.



GOLD RUSH



Sharonville Convention Center 11355 Chester Road, Sharonville, OH 45246

Daily Calendar of Events

MONDAY MAY 7	9:30 AM	1:30 PM	7 PM	THURSDAY MAY 10	9:30 AM	1:30 PM	7 PM
"Porky Pig" Bracketed Knockout (Round 1-2)		♥	♠	"Elmer Fudd" Bracketed Knockout (Round 3)	♣		
[1] Open Pairs (2 sessions)		♥	♠	[1] Fast Pairs Side Series T-W-Th-F (3)	♣		
[1] M-T-W Pairs Side Series (1)		♥	♠	[1] "Baby Back" Morning Swiss Teams (2)	♣		
[1] "Piglet" Swiss (1 session)			♠	"This Little Piggy" Bracketed Knockout (Round 1-2)		♥	♠
299'er Pairs Game (1 session)		♥	♠	[1] Open Pairs (2 sessions)		♥	♠
TUESDAY MAY 8	9:30 AM	1:30 PM	7 PM	[1] Thu-Fri Pairs Side Series (1)		♥	♠
"Elmer Fudd" Bracketed Knockout (Round 1)	♣			[1] "Piglet" Swiss (1 session)			♠
[1] Fast Pairs Side Game Series T-W-Th-F (1)	♣			299'er Pairs Game (1 session)		♥	♠
"Porky Pig" Bracketed Knockout (Round 3-4)		♥	♠	FRIDAY MAY 11	9:30 AM	1:30 PM	7 PM
"Miss Piggy" Bracketed Knockout (Round 1-2)		♥	♠	"Elmer Fudd" Knockout (Round 4)	♣		
[2] Open Pairs (2 sessions)		♥	♠	[1] Fast Pairs Side Game Series T-W-Th-F (4)	♣		
[3] GOLD RUSH PAIRS (2 sessions)		♥	♠	"This Little Piggy" Knockout (Round 3-4)		♥	♠
[1] M-T-W Pairs Side Series (2)		♥	♠	"Pig Out" Compact KO (1-2) (3-4)		♥	♠
[1] "Piglet" Swiss (1 session)			♠	[2] Open Pairs (2 sessions)		♥	♠
99'er Pairs Game (1 session)		♥	♠	[3] GOLD RUSH PAIRS (2 sessions)		♥	♠
WEDNESDAY MAY 9	9:30 AM	1:30 PM	7 PM	[1] Thu-Fri Pairs Side Series (2)		♥	♠
"Elmer Fudd" Bracketed Knockout (Round 2)	♣			[1] "Piglet" Swiss (1 session)			♠
[1] Fast Pairs Side Game Series T-W-Th-F (2)	♣			99'er Pairs Game (1 session)		♥	♠
[1] "Baby Back" Morning Swiss (1) <i>Continues Thur</i>	♣			SATURDAY MAY 12	10 AM		
"Miss Piggy" Bracketed Knockout (Round 3-4)		♥	♠	[4] "That's All Folks" Stratiflighted Swiss Teams	♦		
[2] "Big Pig" Stratified Swiss (2 Sessions)		♥	♠	NLM Swiss Teams	♦		
[3] GOLD RUSH SWISS TEAMS (2 Sessions)		♥	♠	<i>Saturday Swiss Teams are 2-session Playthrough Events.</i>			
[1] M-T-W Pairs Side Series (3)		♥	♠	<i>Sunday May 13 - Happy Mother's Day!</i>			
99'er Pairs Game (1 session)		♥	♠				

ACBL Members: \$12/ Session
\$2 Surcharge Lapsed/Non-members

Youth Bridge Players (20 Yrs and younger):
Play for \$6 per session in all events.

0-5 MPs: Play for \$6 per session in any single session 99'er or 299'er event (excludes Gold Rush)

Stratifications

- ♣ [1] Open Pairs (w/o Gold Rush) and Side Games: 0-750/750-2000/2000+
- ♦ [2] Open Pairs and Swiss (held with Gold Rush): 0-3000/3000+
- ♥ [3] Gold Rush Pairs and Swiss: 0-300/300-750
- ♠ [4] Stratiflighted Swiss: **BCD** 750-1500/300-750/0-300 **A/X** 3000+/0-3000

(All events stratified by average MPs except when the event has an upper MP limit. Then all players must have fewer than that limit)



Learn more about the CBA:
<http://www.cincybridge.com/>
and our Youth bridge initiative:
<http://www.cincybridge.com/youth/index.html>

GNT Winners:
Championship Flight
Bill Higgins, Yauheni Siutsau,
Matthew and Pamela Granovetter

Flight C
John and John Altman,
Arun Gupta, Nalin Mehta

Congratulations to Both the Cincinnati Teams....
And Good luck in the National Event

Upcoming Tournaments

02/10/12 to 02/12/12 Louisville KY

03/05 to 03/10 INDIANAPOLIS IN

03/02/12 to 03/04/12 Dayton OH

Spring NABC 2012 Mar 15-25,
Memphis

03/30/12 to 04/01/12 Columbus OH

04/16/12 04/22/12
GATLINBURG TN

05/07/12 05/12/12
CINCINNATI OH

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