



# Quarterly Newsletter



*Cincinnati*  
Bridge Association



UNIT 124

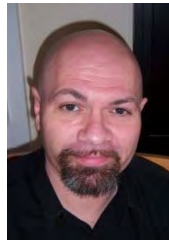
January 2013 XXXVIII Number 1

2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241 (513) 563 2218

## From the President's Desk

by A J Stephani

Whew! January has been a busy time for some of us, as it performed its familiar function of ushering in a wealth of changes to the new year. We extend a hearty welcome to new Board member Sonya Wilson and a welcome back to returning Board members Mike Purcell and Susan Wisner, all of whom were elected to 3-year terms. Many thanks are owed to Patrick Hoffman, who stepped down from the Board after years of faithful service, including a stint as Secretary. Also, special thanks go out to Gayle Keaney, who has passed on the Treasurer mantle to Susan Wisner after several years of incredibly hard work getting our finances in order.



I occasionally get questions about "who does what" to keep the CBC and the Unit going. At a January Board meeting, we reviewed our Committee assignments, Officers, Coordinator positions, and other significant jobs, and I was shocked to see what an extensive list it was. And then I realized it's not even a complete list – there are many others who volunteer their time to get everything done. Still, we could always use some help, so if you're interested in any of these areas, please let me know.

**CBA Officers:** A.J. Stephani, President; Potter Orr, Vice President; Barbara Levinson, Secretary; Susan Wisner, Treasurer (the Officers also comprise the Executive Committee)

**District 11 Board Representatives** (our Unit has 2 voting members): Barbara Levinson and Mike Purcell

**Education Committee:** Mike Purcell (chair); Steve Moese, Phyllis Bishop and Bob Fisk

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## CONGRATULATIONS! District 11 GNT Qualifiers:

Championship Flight: William Higgins, Yauheni Siutsau, Pamela Granovetter, Matt Granovetter

Flight A: Tim Crank (Siraj Haji, Jim Adams, & Dan Neill).

All qualifiers: <http://www.mvba.com/1301010.HTM>

Good luck in Atlanta!

## Upcoming 2013 Tournaments

Feb 9 – 10	Owensboro KY	S
Feb 15 – 17	Louisville, KY	S
Feb 18 – 24	Cincinnati OH D11 STaC	S
Mar 1 – 3	Gilbertsville KY	S
Mar 4 – 10	Indianapolis IN	R
Mar 14 – 24	St Louis MO	N
Mar 26 – 31	Indianapolis, IN	S
Apr 1 – 6	Indianapolis IN Unit 130	S
Apr 5 – 7	Columbus, OH	S
Apr 12 – 14	Dayton OH	S
Apr 15 – 21	Gatlinburg, TN	R
May 17 – 19	Lexington, KY	S
May 18 – 19	Cincinnati OH, NLM	S
May 21 – 27	Independence OH	R
Jun 4 – 9	Cincinnati, OH	R

**Finance Committee:** Susan Wisner (chair); Gayle Keaney

**Membership Committee:** Gerry Mirus and Sonya Wilson

**Tournament Committee:** A.J. Stephani (chair); Patti English, Gerri Mirus, Potter Orr, Gayle Keaney, Barb Levinson, and Mike Lipp

**Unit Recorder:** Potter Orr

**Disciplinary Committee:** A.J. Stephani (chair); ad hoc committee formed as needed

**Marketing and Promotions Committee:** Steve Moese, Susan Wisner, A.J. Stephani

**CBC Sanction Holder Communications:** Potter Orr and Ron Manne

**CBA Nomination Committee and CBA Board Elections:** Joe Muenks (chair)

**CBA Coordinator:** Mike Lipp

**CBC Supplies Coordinator:** Debbie Cummings

**CBC Facilities Coordinator:** Don Etson

**Unit Secretary:** Mike Lipp

**CBA Website:** Potter Orr and Steve Moese

**Mentor Mentee Game:** Bob Fisk and Barb Levinson

**Librarian:** Gayle Keaney

**ALERT Editor:** Steve Moese

**CBA Awards Party:** Everett Kitchen (Save the Date! April 2, 2013)

**CBA Holiday Party:** Diane Thaller and Melanie Onnen

Of course, this list doesn't include the volunteers at the Northern Kentucky Bridge Club, the Anderson Bridge Club, or any of our other sanctioned clubs in the Unit, our teachers, our directors, our special events coordinators, our tournament chairs, our CBC sanction holders, our members who hold District-level positions, and everyone else who I may have forgotten. We'd love to add you to the list, so let us know if you're willing to help out in one of these areas.

Finally, special thanks go out to Amit Raturi, who is stepping down as ALERT editor. As I recently told Amit, I have long and publicly maintained that he has created, BY FAR, the best Unit newsletter in the District, and almost certainly among the best in the nation. In my personal opinion, it's better than our District-based Midwest Monitor. He has left the ALERT in the able hands of Steve Moese – please continue to provide Steve with the great material you've compiled

in the past as he builds on the existing ALERT platform.

See you at the Bridge Table!

A.J. Stephani  
CBA Board President

## And so it goes, and so it goes...

By Amit Raturi

The Billy Joel song moves you so...

*In every heart there is a room*

*A sanctuary safe and strong*

*To heal the wounds from lover's past*

*Until a new one comes along.*

I cannot tell you all what a positive difference editing Alert has made in my life over the last four years. I got to meet some of the brightest minds, saw their hard work come together in symphony-like ways with every issue, and together we served you seventeen outstanding issues of Alert. But it's time for me to move on and so with a heavy heart....Adieu.

I want to thank all of you for the wonderful feedback you gave on the newsletter over the years. It's very important you continue to encourage our writers....every issue requires a 3-5 hour effort by 12-14 writers and a 20-30 hour marathon by the editor. Without your feedback, the whole effort is pointless. And it's a small price to pay for 2-3 hours of reading enjoyment that every issue provides to you.

Several other people made the task of editing easy and I want to thank all those who have helped me over the years – Mike Lipp, Nancy Sachs, Joe Lutz, Mike Purcell, Patti English, John Burpee, Jane Burpee, Potter Orr and of course, AJ Stephani stepped up to help me at all times.

And to each and every writer a BIG THANK YOU. Joe and Amy, you two were the strongest one-two punch every time. Mike M, your articles, especially those with Dick Naber were great. Steve, thanks for sharing the notes you and Mike P have so carefully put together. You will have fun with Alert, I guarantee that. Potter, thanks for the director's corner, and the pdf conversions and uploads of the newsletter. Gayle, thanks for the book reviews and the treasure's reports. Pat and Nancy, thanks for the several "nasty" problems. To Rob W who has started some really interesting articles in the Alert --- thanks for taking us

from mediaeval England to Charlie Brown....keep up the innovativeness. And to Eugene, the young grand old man of bridge in Cincinnati....the Polish need to learn from Cincinnatians too...why not? Thanks, man.

Finally I want to thank the two individuals who redefined the bridge writing landscape of the world from a city where everything happens 10 years later. Yes, I mean the Felson-Brown duo. I remember one night after editing the Alert, I woke up laughing loudly. My wife thought I was going crazy....no it was the Divagations and the Albatross together....I really think their articles are gems that I will treasure for a long time. Try re-reading some if you think I am kidding. The emails of our writers are below: do write to them:

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 Thanks all, and see you around....

Amit R

### Changing Times by Steve Moese

e-mail: [moesefamily@aol.com](mailto:moesefamily@aol.com)

Hats off to you Amit! Well done gathering the better part of the CBA's creativity and insight, crafting a compelling read every quarter. Thanks for setting the bar high and for encouraging a full range of contribution from our members. 4 Years under your leadership saw many additions – new authors, new ideas, new content, and an entertaining range of topics - always fun and always in good stead.

Well done, friend!

Thank you, Amit, for your help in our transition. We will continue to make the Alert a centerpiece for Unit 124 and the CBA. You certainly leave big shoes to fill.

So who am I? If we haven't had the pleasure to meet at the bridge table, let me introduce myself. I'm married with 3 children and 1 grandchild. My wife Laura and I both work for P&G. I learned bridge as a freshman in college. In Late October 1969 a buddy took me to the local duplicate game in the basement of a YMCA in central New Jersey. I knew enough to stay out of trouble. We did well enough to win 0.14 master points - hooked for life. I was lucky to play in the San Francisco area in the mid 70's. P&G hired me to Cincinnati in April, 1976. I married Laura in 1978 and gave up duplicate bridge for more than 20 years. I have my good friend Joe Pike to thank for getting me back in the game in 1999, and my friends and great partners for keeping me coming back. I enjoy playing tournaments – the tougher the competition the better. Better still, I enjoy reading, writing and speaking about bridge. Mike Purcell and I write a weekly CBA 99er Newsletter, and we have published over 120 articles in Learning Points<sup>®</sup> on the [cincybridge.com](http://cincybridge.com) website. Most of all I enjoy the people I've met and friends I've made at the table.

So what can we expect? We will continue to improve the Alert with great articles and useful news. We will make a concerted effort to engage the many clubs and sanction holders across our Unit. This is your newsletter. Share news of general interest with the entire Cincinnati Bridge Community! Look for the **Club Corner** celebrating the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Newcomer Program at the CBC. Check out the update from our growing **Youth Bridge Program**. Look for upcoming Unit Tournaments. Play more bridge!

We will engage our readers in **Letters to the Editor** – we encourage sharing your voice in our bridge community. We welcome your questions and viewpoints on issues important to the Unit 124 Community. E-mail me! We want your feedback. Have an article you want published? Send it along.

"Come writers and critics  
 Who prophesize with your pen  
 And keep your eyes wide  
 The chance won't come again  
 And don't speak too soon  
 For the wheel's still in spin  
 And there's no tellin' who  
 That it's namin'  
 For the loser now  
 Will be later to win  
 For the times they are a-  
 changin'." – Bob Dylan

Questions for the Editor? Send an e-mail. Want something new? Just let us know.

You've probably noticed we've **updated Alert's style** with this issue. We've chosen a font that is easy to read in print or on screen – most of our readers now enjoy the Alert electronically. We have updated the logo and moved to a two-column format – all to make reading easier. We will provide word templates for all aspiring authors that want one. The **Alert** publishes on a regular schedule – last day of January, April, July, and October. Contributors submit their content by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

This quarter's issue is chock-full of great news and features. AJ brings news of the CBA Board, Amit says good-bye to a successful 4-year tour as Alert editor. Amy shares how rules and feelings don't often pull in the same direction. Potter leads us through leads out of turn. Steve Felson searches for the meaning of life (let me know when he finds it) in an other-worldly look at +400 the hard way. Robert Brown offers some eclectic ideas how to increase membership and broaden the appeal of Bridge (don't write me, write him! – and bring your dictionary...). Dean Congbalay shares irony and revelations from the Columbus Sectional in Wow! I love this Game. Rob Weidenfeld conjures Peanuts and trump endplays to succeed at an impossible contract. Pat Dutson offers a challenging Nancy's Nasty about combining chances in a complex hand (Read this one twice – it's a gem). Otto Walter shows us it's the simple things that matter for winning bridge. We take a look at recent innovations in 2/1 Game Forcing - Yes, that's right – **the times they are a changin'**. Innovation continues at the highest levels of bridge. Yauheni Siutsau brings challenging problems from the Polish Bridge Magazine. What a great way to sharpen skills. Enjoy!

*Steve*



CORNER

## Saturday Newcomer Game News

By Mike Purcell

This February will be the one year anniversary for the Saturday Newcomer Game. We started this game to address the needs of our newer players for a relaxed duplicate environment and a chance to play even if they do not have a partner. Along the way we have taken cues from our players to improve the experience with weekly newsletters



where we write up hands from our game and let folks know about upcoming games/classes/etc. Currently we are developing coordinated seminar series throughout the year covering key topics like Bidding, Defense and Play of the Hand to help our members learn the basics of the game while they play. Most of all we try to keep things fun and as Phyllis says "Smile More". I am still working on that one.

This small game has been a gateway to our club with many of our players moving on to play in other games at the CBC. The success of our game would not be possible without Phyllis Bishop who has given so much of her time and Pat Hoffman who is always willing to fill in to help us avoid the dreaded 2½ table Howell movement. Volunteers like Potter Orr, Steve Moese and Bob Fisk as well as support from our directors Kay Mulford and Annease Comer have also been invaluable. As we enter year two, I am excited to see how we can make our game even better. If you know of new players or experienced non-duplicate players looking for a good game to play in, send them our way. I guarantee they will not be disappointed!

Mike Purcell, CBA Education Chair  
513 702 4007 [mikpur@cinci.rr.com](mailto:mikpur@cinci.rr.com)

### Nancy's Nasties by Pat Dutson

Normally, the hands in my articles are

#### NORTH

♠ 32  
♥ 854  
♦ A7632  
♣ AKQ

#### SOUTH

♠ AKQJT95  
♥ AQ  
♦ -----  
♣ 8732

taken from the Advanced Two Over One Classes taught by Nancy Sachs. Nancy is currently teaching



bridge on a Caribbean cruise. Tough work, but someone has to do it.

Without my mentor and reviewer, instead of writing about one of Nancy's hands, I have decided instead to write about one of my favorite topics: "playing the odds". This article comes from William Root's book "How to Play a Bridge Hand".

As South, you are in a 7♠ contract and the opening lead is the ♦K.

You have two possible losers (the ♥Q and a ♣) and one of them can be discarded on the ♦A -- but, which one? How do you play the hand and why did you select your line of play? [\[Answer on p. 11 \]](#)



## FEBRUARY 23 IS YOUTH DAY AT THE CINCINNATI BRIDGE CENTER!

We've got pockets of youth bridge blossoming all over the Tristate – it's time to get together and meet everyone!

The Cincinnati Bridge Center is hosting a special Youth Duplicate Game on Saturday, February 23, from 12:30 - 3:30. Don't worry if you're just learning the game – if you can follow suit and know what a trump is, you're invited!

We'll provide the pizza and drinks, followed by a mentored duplicate bridge game. It's totally free, and parents and friends are welcome.

**Who:** Ages 5-20

**Where:** Cincinnati Bridge Center, 2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241

**When:** February 23, pizza at 12:30, game starts at 1:00

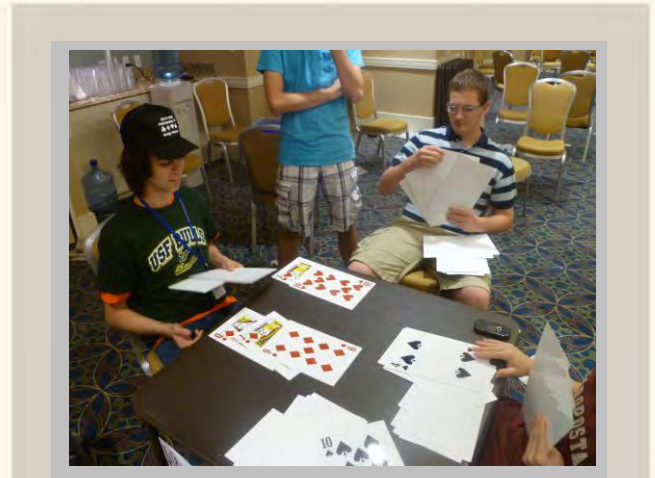
## SCHOOL BRIDGE CLUBS IN GREATER CINCINNATI

These clubs may be open to students in other schools – please contact the person below for more information:

**Indian Hill** (Mondays, 2:45-4:30): Susan Wisner (513.561.3156) or Cliff Pleatman (513.543.1423)

**St. Xavier** (Mondays, 3:15-5:15): A.J. Stephani (513.313.0488)

**Lakota West** (Mondays, 2:50-4:00): Peter Rice (513.677.6606)



ONE OF OUR CINCINNATI YOUTH PLAYING IN A GRAND SLAM AT THE 2012 ACBL YOUTH NATIONAL IN PHILADELPHIA

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR CINCINNATI YOUTH BRIDGE PLAYERS

**April 20:** Gatlinburg Youth Championship

**May 18-19:** Cincinnati Non Life Master Tournament at the Cincinnati Bridge Center – Half Price Entry Fees for Youth! (Sat Pairs at 10AM and 3PM – Sun Team Game at 10AM)

**June 7:** Cincinnati Youth Championship at the Sharonville Convention Center – Free! (7PM)

**August 1-3:** 2013 ACBL Youth National Championship (Atlanta)

**August 4-11:** 2013 World Open Youth Bridge Championships (Atlanta)

If you're interested in attending the National or World Youth Bridge Championships in Atlanta, please let us know – we'll get details out soon. This is a tremendous opportunity and a great time!

**Law 66 - Inspection of Tricks**

*A. So long as his side has not led or played to the next trick, declarer or either defender may, until he has turned his own card face down on the table, require that all cards just played to the trick be faced.*

*---ACBL Laws of Duplicate Bridge, 2008 Revised Authorized Edition*

## **Amiable Bridge: How to deal with Law 66: Inspection of Tricks**

by Amy Fisher

Because bridge is a self-policing game, it lends itself to many difficult situations at the table. Major sports competitions like football, basketball, and baseball, have referees watching every move that is made. Individual sports like gymnastics and swimming, still have judges that watch the competition closely. But in bridge, our director does not stand over our table watching our every move. We must, instead, call attention to any infraction of the rules by our side or our opponents. In the process, egos get bruised and feelings get hurt. As a result, rules are not uniformly administered, the end result being a competition that does not have equal playing conditions for its competitors. A few weeks ago, I witnessed an exchange at my table concerning Law 66A, stated above. The declarer had already turned her card to the trick when she asked a defender to reface his card since she hadn't registered what he had played. He told her what he had played and he also reminded her that she wasn't supposed to ask. That began a situation that only worsened. The declarer was miffed (Isn't it a friendly game?), and the defender had been put in a no-win situation where he either had to break a rule and give unfair advantage to the opponents at the table or be accused of being too competitive. Unfortunately, he ended up doing all of those.

At a tournament game in Lexington recently, I was defending and was asked to reface my card after the declarer had already turned his. I smiled and said, "Sorry, too late." The declarer grunted and went on to play the hand. No more social

amenities happened at that table! I ended up feeling conflicted. Again, should I break the rules just so people will be nice to me?

Two tables later, we played against a young, beginning player. I could see the way he struggled trying to process all the information he needed to make a difficult hand. He couldn't and didn't. But not once did he ask us to reface cards even though that might have helped him. Not once did he ask for any unfair advantage, even though he was a beginner. We had obviously scored good boards against him and he wished us luck at the end of the round. How many matchpoints he could have recovered by asking for that unfair advantage each time he had lost the discipline to look at the cards played to a trick? How many matchpoints did other players take away from him by taking that advantage?

We are all obligated to play by the rules. The game is still a friendly game if all the rules are followed. In fact, it would be a friendlier game if all the rules were followed by everyone. As far as Law 66A is concerned, let's try to smile and accept the answer, "Sorry, too late," to the request of refacing a card after we have turned our own. And, better, let's try not to ask for that advantage when we know it was too late to begin with!



**Count? Plan? Analyze? I thought this was a game!**

## A Lead Out of Turn by Potter Orr

We all know (or should know) that when we are making the opening lead for the play of the hand, we make that lead with our card facedown and wait for confirmation that it is our lead and that everybody is ready before turning the card up. In addition, once our card is placed face down on the table, we should ask our partner if they have any questions about the auction. If they do, they may now ask the partner the person who made any particular bid what it meant.



Sometimes in spite of these precautions, the opening lead is made by the wrong defender. The rules of duplicate bridge cover this particular infraction in great detail but the enforcement of the rule should always be made by the director. If the lead is made out of turn, call the director and let them explain the rule and the options available.

The director will point out that there are actually 5 options available for this particular rule infraction and will explain them to the player who is supposed to be declarer for the hand. Deciding which option to choose is the sole decision of the person who should be the declarer. Understanding all of the options available is not a simple task and is made more difficult when the decision must be made reasonably quickly at the table. Below I will describe the options available and attempt to provide some guidance as to which one might make the most sense.

1. Declarer may accept the lead from the improper defender. If he does so, he may ask that the dummy be placed on the table before he plays his card on the trick. If declarer chooses this option, there are no further penalties or restrictions in the play of the hand.
2. Declarer may accept the lead from the wrong defender and choose to put his hand on the table as dummy and let his partner play the hand. Again, if this option is chosen, there are no further penalties or restrictions in the play of the hand. Note that if declarer exposes 1 or more of his cards after an improper lead, the lead is deemed to be accepted, declarer becomes dummy and his partner plays the hand.
3. Declarer may require the lead (one time only) from the proper defender of the suit that was improperly led. The penalty card may be picked

up and returned to the hand of the defender who led out of turn.

4. Declarer may forbid the lead from the proper defender of the suit of the improperly led card. If declarer chooses this option, the penalty card may be picked up and returned to the hand of the defender who led out of turn. The prohibition of leading the suit of the exposed card remains in effect for as long as the opening leader retains the lead. For example, if the exposed card was a hearts and is forbidden, the opening leader may not lead a heart until he has lost the lead. He could not, for instance, lead the ace of a different suit winning the 1<sup>st</sup> trick and then lead a heart to the 2<sup>nd</sup> trick.
5. Declarer may allow the proper defender to lead any suit he wants to the opening trick. In this case the exposed card remains on the table as a penalty card and must be played at the 1<sup>st</sup> legal opportunity. That means that the 1<sup>st</sup> time the suit of the exposed card is led, the exposed card must be put on that trick. If the defender with the exposed penalty card is unable to follow suit, the penalty card must be played. If the defender with a penalty card on the table is on lead, the penalty card must be led. If the partner of the player with a penalty card on the table retains or regains the lead, the director should be called back to the table because options 3, & 5 apply.

Note that if the improper leader was mistakenly informed by an opponent that it was his lead, the lead may be withdrawn with none of the above penalties. A lead out of turn by the declaring side can never be accepted.

Declarer must choose among these options and is allowed to choose whichever one he decides is most to his advantage. How might you decide?

**Case 1:** If you think dummy might have a good holding in the suit improperly led, choose 1 and let dummy play the last card on the trick. You get a free finesse.

**Case 2:** If your partner is a better declarer player, you can choose to let them play the hand. If you think partner has a stronger hand, it might be better to let them be declarer. If you think partner stuck you in a turkey of a contract...

**Case 3:** You have a good holding or a vulnerable holding in the suit improperly led, require the lead

from the proper side of the suit lead. You get to play last.

**Case 4:** You really did not want to see this suit lead first. Choose this option and the suit cannot be lead until after the proper opening leader has lost the lead.

**Case 5:** If you think the leader out of turn might have an honor in the suit lead and you want prevent them from playing the card on the first trick of that suit, chose this option. The proper leader can lead what they want but you can later take advantage of the required play of the penalty card. For example, if the penalty card is not trump and you are worried about that defender ruffing early, they would have to play the penalty card instead.

## EPISODE 6: THE MEANING OF LIFE, PART II

by Steve Felson

Phrases to remember if you play with Brown and become despondent:



- (1) *"If at first you don't succeed, do nothing – something good might happen all by itself."*
- (2) *"The itsy-bitsy spider etc." In other words, you're never absolutely positively washed out, probably.*
- (3) *"Never give up. Never surrender." [Galaxy Quest, 1999]*
- (4) *Oy, vey – not again?*

We were playing in two electronic regionals at the same time while heading to Falangia to play a third in person. Electronic bids and card plays were flooding in so fast I couldn't remember which opponents were playing a Weak Klingon Club and which were playing a Reverse Polish System.

I sat West. Bob East. Unpronounceable (*several soft clicks*) sat North and Unpronounceable's Brother (*several more soft clicks*) sat South.

Naturally, the more the confusion, the more likely Bob is to engage in Star Trek bridge: "Going where no bidder has gone before." [Star Trek, 2d Pilot, 1965] Hence this sequence:

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Dbl	Redbl
All Pass			

Stayman seems borderline, even with intermediates, although 3NT makes as the cards lie. I took Bob's double as lead directing, meaning he had some length as well as honors. South's redouble hit the table so fast I felt a breeze, and these guys were a zillion light years away.

I'm thinking fast . . . They're close to a NT game in HCP, but with Bob's trump strength we might set them in clubs – better than minus 600. Of course we could also go for 1560 (2♣ XX+2).

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



East Leads  
the ♦ J

Running to ♦s with the junk in my hand? We've got to have at least as many clubs as diamonds, as I've said to myself probably a thousand times playing with Bob only to find out I was wrong, wrong, wrong, sometimes by several cards. And what was South redoubling on? A club doubleton?

But . . . trust your partner, right? Never Surrender to Prior Experience. I passed.

When North got in with the ♦Q he could have finessed the ♠10, then come back in trumps to finesse spades again. Instead he drew 2 rounds of trumps and finessed the ♠Q, and we ended up with 2 ♠ tricks, a ♦, a ♥, the ♣A and a ♦ ruff by East for down one. There wasn't an E-W pair in the galaxy anywhere near +400. Another top board, this time over 17,000 N-S pairs.

I tried to ask partner what he was thinking but he beat me to it. "I read that weak players don't double enough. So watch out from now on."

*[Editor's Note: Steve still refuses to tell us what this has to do with the meaning of life. If this continues, we'll have to name these episodes appropriately.]*



## RUMINATIONS<sup>1</sup>

By Robert S. Brown

Four score and seven years ago, Harold Stirling Vanderbilt brought forth to this Nation a new Bridge scoring system dedicated to the proposition that its risks and rewards should be equal. Nothing much has happened since and for more than seven decades the popularity of the Game has waned.<sup>2</sup> Surely the time has come for some thoughtful revisions which would both attract new players and enhance the Game's appeal to its existing devotees. To these ends, I advance some modest proposals:



- The Triple (limit one per month) – may be used to punish an egregious bid by opponents. If deployed unwisely, may lead to a “sextuple” (3x2) or even a “triple squared” (3x3) response.
- The Token<sup>3</sup> (moves clockwise after use) – allows holder when sitting as opening bidder to pass and retain a fourth seat bid position for tactical purposes.
- The Eight Level Overbid<sup>4</sup> – opponents have bid a Grand Slam which you believe is cold. With favorable vulnerability and the belief you will only go down 5, you confidently bid 8 Diamonds.

<sup>1</sup> Given that even the Albatross is now a Life Master, any further reference to the Author's status would be flummerious.

<sup>2</sup> Vide Anne Sexton, HURRY UP PLEASE ITS TIME (1972):

Interrogator: Why talk to God?

Anne: It's better than playing Bridge.

The poem's title doesn't (as commonly thought) derive from T.S. Eliot's bar scene [THE WASTE LAND, Chapter II, A *Game of Chess* (1922)] but rather captures the quotidian remonstrations of an overwrought Director trying to get home in time for Leno. Did this lead to Ms. Sexton's tragic end two years later? Was her sister in sorrow and poesy, Sylvia Plath, similarly motivated? Confer THE BELL JAR (1963):

What was there about us, in Belsize" [mental asylum], Esther wonders, "so different from the girls *playing bridge* and gossiping and studying in the college to which I would return? Those girls, too, sat under bell jars of a sort.

(Emphasis added). But I digress . . .

<sup>3</sup> Suggested (somewhat wistfully) to the Author by A.F.

<sup>4</sup> To accommodate this bid and the Triple *infra*, some bidding box expansion will be required.

- Strip Bridge<sup>5</sup> – each overtrick by declarer requires an apparel divestiture by defenders; every trick set requires this action by declarer and dummy.

The Author will pursue these proposals with the CBC Board; hopefully the first Strip Bridge tournament can be scheduled with the advent of warmer weather.

## PEPPERMINT PATTY FORCES THE DEFENSE

By Rob Weidenfeld

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Peppermint Patty was not known for her bridge exploits, but when you are a free spirit, you enjoy the social aspects of life, and playing bridge at the club was one way to express her enthusiasm for life. She tended to not do very well when playing with her favorite partner, Charlie Brown, but she relished the opportunity to play with him because it always made her feel so much better by comparison. As she approached the table where Luci and Pigpen were already seated, she tried to remain upbeat. But it was hard playing against Pigpen who was not used to indoor sports and Luci, who on the surface was nice to her, but they each knew how little regard they had for one another.

Peppermint Patty was the dealer and picked up: ♠J9, ♥A10, ♦A102, ♣AQJ932. She knew she was supposed to open with her best suit clubs. But she did have 16 points and her hand looked pretty balanced. She decided to open 1NT.

Pigpen remained silent and Charlie Brown bid two hearts, a transfer to two spades. Luci remained silent as well. Patty had to bid as she was requested, and after she bid two spades Charlie Brown rebid three hearts. Of course she thought, just like Charlie to be long in the suits where I am short. But being a people pleaser she decided show her preference for partners suits and bid 3S.

<sup>5</sup> The prevailing age and physical condition of bridge players make this variation suitable only for the strong of stomach or visually impaired.

Charlie was only too happy to raise to four. Now Luci, who had been lying in waiting with a spade suit of KQ1064 behind the spade bidder could no longer restrain herself. She said "Double!" as she flashed that devilish grin familiar to all in the neighborhood. Here was the full auction:

<u>Patty</u>	<u>Pigpen</u>	<u>Charlie</u>	<u>Luci</u>
<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>
1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠ !!	Pass	4♠	Dbl
All Pass			

Because Pigpen had learned at an early age never to lead a singleton trump, he made a passive diamond lead. Patty hated the thought that Luci would get the best of her. How should she proceed? Set up the clubs? That didn't seem right if as she suspected that Luci had a boatload of trumps. For the same reason she didn't think that trying to draw trumps would be successful. She had once heard that a forcing game was a great way to make a player lose control of the suit. Make the long hand trump early and soon you will establish control of the hand. Oddly, she was a bit confused. This was a technique the defense was supposed to use against declarer.

Who could imagine playing a forcing game against a defender? But undaunted by misplaced axioms of bridge, Patty went about forcing the defender to ruff! She won the diamond lead in hand with the ace. She played three rounds of hearts pitching a diamond as everyone followed. When she played the heart nine from dummy, she was surprised to see Luci follow suit. She shrugged her shoulder and ruffed with the nine. It held! Now she played a diamond to the king and played another diamond ruffing with the jack. Everyone followed! When she played the club ace, she had captured the first eight tricks! She now led the club Q and when Pigpen covered, the

ruffed with the 3. Luci over-ruffed and was on lead here:

East to Charlie Brown

Play ♠ A 8 7 5  
♥ ---  
♦ ---  
♣ ---

Luci led the spade king but Patty ducked! She led the spade queen for her third trick but Patty ducked again! When she then realized that she was endplayed and had to surrender to the wretched, happy – go – lucky Peppermint Patty, she blew up. "PigPen" she yelled, next time I double and you're on lead, lead your singleton trump! "Pigpen brushed off her comment as though it were another clump of dirt, smiled and said "Who dealt the next one?"

Pigpen

♠ 2  
♥ ---  
♦ Q  
♣ 8 7

Luci

♠ K Q 10 6  
♥ ---  
♦ ---  
♣ ---



Patty

♠ ---  
♥ ---  
♦ ---  
♣ J 9 3 2

South Deals

Charlie Brown

♠ A 8 7 5 3  
♥ K Q 9 7  
♦ K 7 4  
♣ 4

Pigpen

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

Luci  
♠ K Q 10 6 4  
♥ J 6 5 3  
♦ J 9 8  
♣ 10

Patty

♠ J 9  
♥ A 10  
♦ A 10 2  
♣ A Q J 9 3 2

West Leads the ♦5

## Wow! I love this game!

By Dean Congbalay, e-mail: [deancong@aol.com](mailto:deancong@aol.com)

The Swiss team event at the conclusion of the Columbus Sectional yesterday reminded me why I keep coming back for more:

\* Rob, my partner du jour and a good egg I have known since I was 15, told me that luck was not on his side all weekend. During the first two days of the bridge tournament, he never pointed. Skunked! "Everything will change today!" I assured him.

\* Before the shuffling even began (We were still eating donuts!), Rob dropped his name badge on the tile floor -- and then couldn't find the magnetic backing. We both searched to no avail. It was an omen.

\* Our teammates reported to me that they had played together only once before. We all know what that can be like. Hmmm...

\* On the very first round, I called the director when the declarer failed to state his line of play while claiming, and I thought that my queen of clubs would take a trick. "Oh, I didn't know I was playing at a kids' table!" the declarer remarked angrily. The director curtly ordered him to chill.

\* He didn't. Two boards later, I was in an improbable slam contract when he became irate after I mistakenly thought he discarded a good card. "Will you tell your partner that I didn't throw away my ace of diamonds?" he said to Rob in disgust. When the director appeared, he was still fuming, which prompted his partner to intervene: "You know it's bad when your own partner tells you to calm down," his wife said to him with an icy stare.

\* For the record, we beat Mr. Congeniality and his teammates, who proved that birds of a feather really do poop together. I was so glad that Rob's tournament was no longer pointless!

\* Around lunchtime, our opponents were two students from Ohio State. Hygiene was not their strong suit. One kept coughing without covering his mouth or turning away (I'm so glad I got my flu shot!). His partner failed to shave that morning, and my bet is that his shower wasn't turned on, either.

\* Shortly after that, our teammates came to our table to compare scores and apologized for being tardy -- but one of their opponents took a crying break after she believed her partner was berating her. Gee, and I thought there was no crying in bridge!

\* When I sat down near the end of the afternoon, my LHO -- who was visiting from Cleveland -- asked me what country I was from. After I told her that I was born in the Philippines, she informed me that her best friend was a Filipina -- and asked me if I knew her. (I think I've been to Cleveland twice in my life; I haven't been to the Philippines since I was 2.)

\* On the final round, we played against friends who hadn't won a single match all day (Their names will not be mentioned to protect the innocent.). I almost felt guilty when we tallied the numbers and came out ahead.

\* In all, we won three of seven matches -- not even close to being in the money.

"Hey, we didn't exactly set the world on fire today," I told Rob before heading out. "But I had a fun afternoon! Thanks!"

Oh, one more note: When it was all over, Rob reached in his pocket and found -- you guessed it! -- the magnet for his name badge...

## Nancy's Nasty by Pat Dutson The Answer

There is no need to rush and make a decision on the first trick. Learn more about the hand and then "play the odds".

Finesse	= 50%
Suit split 3-3	= 36%
Suit split 4-4	= 33%

Let's consider the odds: So, armed with these probabilities, your immediate thoughts are probably that you will

take the heart finesse since that has the highest probability. Not so fast!! Can we combine alternatives to result in a higher probability solution?

Let's look at the alternatives available to us. The alternatives are:

1. Clubs split 3-3 and our fourth club is a winner--a 36% probability. If that happens, we can discard the ♥Q on the ♦A.
2. Diamonds split 4-4 (a 32% probability) and we can pitch our losing club on the 5<sup>th</sup> ♦ and the ♥Q on the ♦A.
3. If all else fails, we can pitch our losing club on the ♦A and finesse the ♥Q--a 50% probability.

William Root's recommendation as to the best line of play: " Here is the best play to cater to all the chances: Play a low diamond from dummy, ruffing the first trick in your hand; then lead four rounds of trumps, discarding two *hearts* from dummy. Next lead a club to dummy, ruff a diamond, lead another club to dummy, and ruff another diamond with your last trump. The remaining cards are →

### North

♠ --  
♥ 8  
♦ A7  
♣ A

### South

♠ --  
♥ AQ  
♦ --  
♣ 87

Lead a club to ♣A. If the ♣8 is good, discard the ♥Q on the ♦A and claim. Otherwise, discard your club on the ♦A, Now there are only two cards left: If the ♦7 is good, claim: otherwise, take the heart finesse *unless* East's last card is known to be a club or a diamond--then play the A♥."

*[Editor's Note: The recommended line of play has about a 33% + (67%)[36%+ 50%(64%)] = ~79% Probability of success! Combining chances is much better than any single chance.]*

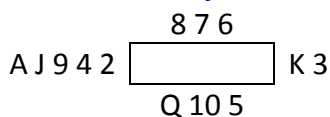
## Winning bridge consists of doing the little things correctly

By Otto Walter, [owalter@fuse.net](mailto:owalter@fuse.net)

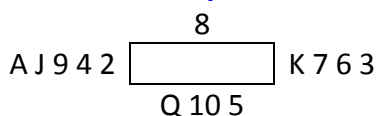
One of these is helping partner to know if a suit is ready to be cashed out when defending against a NT contract.

### THIRD HAND LEAD/RETURN vs. NT

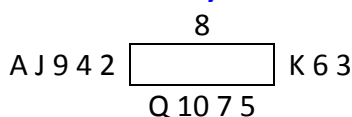
#### Suit layout 1



#### Suit layout 2



#### Suit layout 3



**Problem:** Above are 3 possible distributions of a suit. You are on lead against a 3NT contract and lead the 4. Your partner wins the K and returns the suit. In all 3 hands, declarer plays the 10 at trick 2 and you win the J. How do you continue the defense? Obviously, in #1, you play the A because you know the Q will fall. But what about layouts 2 and 3? Is this simply a guess?

**Solution:** When returning partner's "long suit opening lead vs. NT", return original second best from an original 2 or 3 card suit and return original 4<sup>th</sup> best from an original 4 + card suit. Thus, in Hand 2, return the 3 (original fourth best). After winning the Jack, West will count East as holding 4 cards and will know that it is right to continue by playing the Ace. In Hand 3, return the 6 (original second best). Now West will count partner as holding 2 or 3 cards and will know that the Queen will not drop under the Ace.

Example hands: For all 3 hands the bidding is:

<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>
1NT	Pass	3N	All Pass

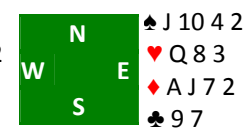
West leads the ♥2. East plays the ♥Q and declarer wins the ♥A. Needing 2 ♦ tricks to make the hand, declarer plays the ♦K at trick 2 and East wins the ♦A. East plays the ♥8 (original 2<sup>nd</sup> best

from 3 cards), declarer plays ♥9 and West wins the ♥10. West knows not to continue ♥s because to do so will set up declarer's ♥J. Any switch happens to work here and declarer will lose at least 5 tricks. If West had tried to cash out the ♥ suit, declarer would score 2 ♥ tricks and make the contract.

South Deals

♠ A 9 7  
♥ 6 4  
♦ 10 9 5 3  
♣ A Q 6 4

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



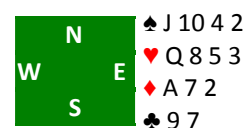
♠ K 7 6  
♥ A J 9 5  
♦ K Q  
♣ K J 10 3

Here West leads the ♥2, East plays the ♥Q and declarer the ♥A. Declarer plays the ♦K and East wins the ♦A. This time East plays the ♥3 (original 4<sup>th</sup> best), declarer the ♥9 and West wins the ♥10.

South Deals

♠ A 9 7  
♥ 6 4  
♦ 10 9 5 3  
♣ A Q 6 4

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



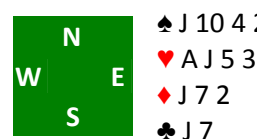
♠ K 7 6  
♥ A J 9  
♦ K Q J  
♣ K J 10 3

Knowing that East started with 4 ♥s, West can play the ♥K and the last ♥. On this hand, this defense holds declarer to 9 tricks. If West does not cash out the ♥ suit, declarer scores 10 tricks.

South Deals

♠ A 9 7  
♥ 6 4  
♦ 10 9 5 3  
♣ A Q 6 4

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



♠ K 7 6  
♥ Q 9 8  
♦ A K Q  
♣ K 10 9 3

Again, West leads the ♥2. This time East wins the ♥A and returns the ♥3 (original 4<sup>th</sup> best). West wins this trick and knows that declarer only has 1 more ♥. Thus, West continues ♥s and the defense holds declarer to 9

tricks.



# Can Cincinnatians do Better?

By Yauheni Siutsau

All problems are from Polish Bridge Magazine

## IMPs

♠ 8 7 2  
♥ A 7 2  
♦ A 4 2  
♣ 10 6 5 4



♠ A K Q J 10  
♥ K 7  
♦ K 6  
♣ K 7 3 2

4♠ (S). Lead : ♣8. E plays ♣A and ♣Q. Plan your play.

**Solution :** We don't see ♣9 and ♣J. Let's think about opening lead. It cannot be made from 89 unless opponents lead low from doubletons; therefore **W** has singleton ♣8 or J98. If we play ♣K at trick two and **W** is out of clubs we will have to lose two more clubs (J and 9) and we'll be down one.

Solution is simple: **Don't cover ♣Q.**

Let's look at the full deal. If **E** continues ♣s we will cover ♣J but will duck ♣9. In any case it will be the last trick for defense.

♠ 8 7 2  
♥ A 7 2  
♦ A 4 2  
♣ 10 6 5 4

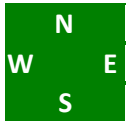
♠ x x x  
♥ Q x x x  
♦ Q x x x x  
♣ 8

♠ x x x  
♥ J x x x  
♦ J x x  
♣ A Q J 9

♠ A K Q J 10  
♥ K 7  
♦ K 6  
♣ K 7 3 2

## IMPs

♠ 8 3  
♥ 9 8  
♦ Q 10 x x x  
♣ Q x x x



♠ A K Q 2  
♥ K Q J 10 7 6 2  
♦ ---  
♣ x x

4♥(S). Lead: ♦A. Plan your play.

**Solution :** We have to lose 2 clubs and ♥A; that's why we cannot afford to lose a spade trick. We should ruff ♦A, cash ♠A, ♠K and ruff small ♠ with ♥8. However, our problem is not over yet. Let's say opponents follow ♠ suit 3 times. If we play trumps at trick 5 and defender with ♥A has last ♠ - our ♠Q will be ruffed. Look at the full deal. Since we have nice trump spots (98) we can afford to **ruff 2 ♠s** in dummy. We should ruff another ♦ at trick 5 and ruff ♠Q with ♥9. It looks like we could've made our contract by playing 3 rounds of top ♠s and ruffing last ♠. This line will

♠ 8 3  
♥ 9 8  
♦ Q 10 x x x  
♣ Q x x x

♠ x x x  
♥ x x  
♦ A K J x  
♣ A x x x

♠ J 10 x x  
♥ A x  
♦ x x x x  
♣ K J x

♠ A K Q J 2  
♥ K Q J 10 7 6 2  
♦ ---  
♣ x x

fail if **E** has doubleton ♠; ♠Q will be ruffed and we still have 2 ♣s and ♥A to lose.

## IMPs

4♠ (S). Opening lead : ♣J. Plan your play.

**Solution:** At first glance, we can make game only if **W** has ♦K or somebody has singleton or doubleton ♥A (and we will find it); otherwise we will lose 2 ♥s and 2 ♦s. So, our **plan A** is ♦K inside (**W** has it). What if ♦K is offside? We can make 4♠ if **E** has ♥A as well.

♠ Q J x x x  
♥ Q x x  
♦ Q x x  
♣ A x

♠ A K x x x  
♥ K x x  
♦ A x x  
♣ K x

Let's look at the full deal :

We should win first trick with ♣K, draw two rounds of trumps, play ♣A and **small heart from dummy to the ♥K.**

♠ Q J x x x  
♥ Q x x  
♦ Q x x  
♣ A x

♠ x x  
♥ j 10 x x  
♦ J 10 x  
♣ J 10 9 x

♠ x  
♥ A x x  
♦ K 9 x x  
♣ Q x x x

♠ A K x x x  
♥ K x x  
♦ A x x  
♣ K x

If **W** has ♥A we should hope for our **plan A** (actually we have small extra chance that **E** has exactly ♦Kx, since we can eliminate ♥s before playing ♦A and small diamond to the ♦Q - **E** will be endplayed).

If **E** has ♥A, our ♥K will hold and we should play small ♥s from both hands next. If defenders will play third heart - **E** will be endplayed. If **W** will hold second ♥ trick and will shift to a ♦ we should play small from dummy, win with ♦A and play third ♥ - **E** will be endplayed again.

## New Thoughts for 2/1 Game Force – Major Suit Auctions

by Steve Moese



Whether you subscribe to Lawrence, Bergen, Hardy, or Rodwell & Grant, duplicate players are familiar with some version of 2/1 Game Force. The objective of any approach is to define 1) values for game, 2) fit, 3) controls in side suits and 4) sufficient key cards for slam. If you think that bidding theory and analysis has been stagnant, be ready for a surprise. This is a very brief overview of some cutting-edge thinking and expert practice.

### DEFAULT AGREEMENTS

Let's look at our preferred style of 2/1:

**Lawrence Style:** Opener's 2M Rebid shows a minimum hand and only promises 5 trumps. Reverses and 3-level new suits show extra values.

With ♠AK432 ♥K2  
♦84 ♣K1092 and  
1♠ - P - 2♦:  
Lawrence: 2♠  
Bergen: 3♣ (or 2N)

2N promises stoppers/honors in the unbid suits.

**Bergen Style:** Opener's 2M rebid shows 6+ card suit. Opener's 2N rebid is default for balanced minimums and promises no specific holding in unbid suits. Reverses and 3-level rebids promise no extra values. Responder's 2M rebid promises 3 cards. Partner can pattern out so 2N usually shows 5422, and 3 shows 3/4 cards in a 5431 5440 pattern. NT bids are often wrong sided.

With ♠Q2 ♥K32 ♦864 ♣AKQ102  
in 1♠ - P - 2♣ - P - 2♦ - P :  
Bergen Style: 2N (some 3♦)  
Lawrence Style: 2♠

**Lawrence**  
Responder's 2M rebid can be on Ax, Kx, or Qx in the major,

allowing the pair to right side NT.

Showing 6-card suits early has a major advantage. Knowing we have a 9 or 10 card fit enables better constructive and competitive bidding. The need to right-side NT is important. Knowing when opener has extra values matters. Can we have the benefit of knowing partner's 6-card suit without sacrificing stoppers for 2N and extras for reverses (high reverses – 3-level rebids)? You bet!

### 1) HOW OPENER SHOWS A 6-CARD MAJOR<sup>1</sup>

Opener's simple rebid of 2 of their major shows 6 or more cards in Bergen's style. In some sequences this might not be clear until the 3 or 4-level in Lawrence's approach. Here's how 6-card suits and extra values

Defaults	Lawrence	Bergen
2M rebid	Min 5+ cards	6+ card suit
2N rebid	Min with H in unbid suits	Bal min, side H TBD
Opener's 2♠ Reverse	Extra Values	Shape Only, no extras
3-level simple new suit	Extra values	Shape Only, no extras
Responder's 2 Major rebid raise	2-card minimum, Ax/Kx/Qx	3-card support

can be shown:

#### Option 1 – The Schuler Shift:

- Allow a 2 level rebid on all 5 card suits in minimum range, including balanced 5332's with or without stoppers in unbid suits. Include any hands with a 6-card major that is willing to play 3N (say, ♠AQ6543 ♥4 ♦98 ♣KQ32, in the auction 1♠ - P - 2♦ should rebid 2♠ not 2N).
- Assign the rebid 2N to show any hand with 6+ card suit that will play better in 4 of the Major than 3N.

This suffers from potentially missing minor suit contracts when opener holds ♠3 ♥AKJ872 ♦K32 ♣QJ2 and the auction is 1♥ - P - 2♦ - P - 2N(6♥s) - P - 3N - P - ?? Could we be missing a slam in ♦s? A lot depends on what 2♦ means.

#### Option 2 – The Martel Switch:

- Opener's simple rebid of the next strain (Step 1 rebid) show all minimums with 5-card suits or 6 cards holdings unsuitable for play in NT. 1♠ - P - 2♣ - P - 2♦ says nothing about ♦s, but guarantees a minimum hand with 5 or 6 trumps.
- Responder's bids the Step 1 strain to ask which (5-card minimum or 6+ Cards). 1♠ - P - 2♣ - P - 2♦ - P - 2♥ asks. 2♠ shows 6+ cards while 2N shows flawed minimum hands with only 5 cards in the Major.
- Responder's rebid of the Major now takes the place of the Step 1 suit! So 1♠ - P - 2♣ - P - 2♠ shows ♦s, the bid that the 2♦ artificial rebid had eliminated ← the MARTELS SWITCH!

### 2) RESPONDERS STRONG BALANCED HANDS<sup>1</sup>

Current practice has us bidding 1NT with a balanced 11-12, 3N with a balanced 13-15 and a 4-card minor with 16+ HCP. Sometimes we have to make due with 2♣ on a 3-card suit (Partner opens

1♠ and you hold ♠KJ2 ♥KQJ9 ♦AJ3 ♣K32 you will likely call 2♣ then jump to 3N or 4N). Why not put all balanced GF hands in 2♣, freeing 3N for other duty? 2♣ shows ♣s or balanced GF. This has the benefit of keeping the auction low and allowing more space for exploration. This also allows 2♦ by responder to promise a 5-card suit. To do this:

- Opener rebids 2♦ on 5 and 6-card minimums. Responder then shows a GF balanced hand by rebidding 2N or real ♣s by rebidding anything else.
- Some simplify the 1NT forcing bid by including the 3-card limit raise in the 2♣ response (optional). Thus when opener rebids 2♦ (waiting), responder can rebid 2♠ to show the limit raise hand. This does not allow the rebid on 2 cards, but gains other advantages. Now opener can safely pass 1N with many minimum hands.
- Typically opener's balanced 12+-14's and 18-19 rebid 2N while 15-17 rebids 3N. If you have 20+ HCP you don't have a bidding problem 😊.

### 3) MINI – MAXI SPLINTERS BY RESPONDER<sup>12</sup>

Since 2♣ response shows all balanced game forces to 1♥/♠, what do we do with 3N? The best idea is to fine-tune our splinter raises. We can now afford to show 9+-11 HCP splinters and 12-14 HCP Splinters. Holding fewer HCP we want to share less specific information with defenders. Holding more strength (approaching Slam) we can be more overt. NOTE: The HCP ranges assume all are WORKING – do not count singleton HONORS EVER!

- Bid 3N with 4 trumps, a singleton or void, and no worse than 7 losers. All HCP must be working (NO SINGELTON HONORS). If partner has enough to consider slam they will ask for the short suit by bidding 4♣ (responses show the suits up the line: ♣, ♦, Other Major).
- Bid 3♠, 4♣, 4♦, 4♥ with the stronger hands. This makes it very easy for partner to assess slam potential
- With 15+ WORKING HCP and 4-card support, start with a 2/1 bid then continue strongly.
- With a stiff A/K/Q, be sure to hold the HCP range in the other 3 suits – do not count the stiff honor.

### 4) FIT JUMPS REPLACE WEAK JUMP SHIFTS<sup>23</sup>

Weak Jump shifts? They wrong-side the contract and give defenders a clear blueprint for an effective attack. Andrew Robson made an important contribution to constructive and competitive bidding advocating fit jumps. A fit jump shows invitational or better values, is forcing at least one round, and

promises 1) 4-cards trump support for opener's Major and a 5+ card 1-loser suit. If partner opens 1♥, a minimum 3♣ response would look like ♠32 ♥Q742 ♦KQJ54 ♣Kx. Responder can have more, so the Fit Jump is forcing 1 round. If opener or responder rebids a new suit, it is a control bid and forces game / seeks slam. Fit Jumps show source of tricks raises, complementing Jacoby 2NT (Balanced) and 3-suit GF Raises (Splinters).

### 5) FAST ARRIVAL AND PICTURE BIDS<sup>1</sup>

Experts play fast arrival in suits and slow arrival (jumps show extras) in NT. One important refinement is to not allow either partner to make a fast arrival jump to game if partner is UNLIMITED (partner has not narrowly limited their hand). 1♠ – P – 2♣ – P – 2♦ – P – 4♣ is not Fast arrival. Rather it is a good raise with prime values in the bid suits and NO CONTROLS in the unbid suit (honors or singletons). Something like ♠KJ84 ♥98 ♦104 ♣ AKJ64. Picture bids help opener assess slam opportunities. Does this mean there are no fast arrival bids? No, we just delay them 1 round. 1♠ – P – 2♣ – P – 2♦ – P – 2♠ – P – 3♣ – 4♣ = fast arrival! Experts also use responders Jump Raise as a serious slam-try asking partner to begin to control bid: 1♠ – P – 2♣ – P – 2♦ – P – 3♠ set ♠s and asks for control bidding. Opener's single/double jump shifts show shortness (you decide whether min/max or singleton/void).

These expert approaches are gaining adherents. Consider adopting what you find worthwhile. Remember to **ALERT!**

With any new convention, discuss them in detail with partner including 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> round rebids and areas of ambiguity before adopting any new method.

References:

- [www.bridgewinners.com](http://www.bridgewinners.com) – Andrew Gumperz and Kit Woolsey;
- [www.bridgebaseonline.com](http://www.bridgebaseonline.com)
- Andrew Robson & Oliver Segal, *Partnership Bidding at Bridge*, Faber and Faber (1993) ISBN-10: 0571164323 ISBN-13: 978-0571164325.

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**“Be the Partner with whom you want to play!”**

## Unit 124 at the Cincinnati Bridge Center:

Day/Time	Club	Director	Telephone	
<b>Monday</b>	11:00 am	Deschappelles (private)	Pat Newman	513-469-7172
	7:00 pm	Limited duplicate	Mike Lipp	513-467-8054
<b>Tuesday</b>	11:00 am	Tuesday AM Stratified (Last Tues. of month, Team Game)	Annease Comer	513-281-2027
	7:00pm	CBA Stratified*	Potter Orr	513-271-6318
	7:00 pm	99ers	Potter Orr	513-271-6318
<b>Wednesday</b>	11:00 am	Homestyle*	Kay Mulford	513-631-8070
<b>Thursday</b>	11:00 am	Thursday Stratified	Agnes DeLany	513-777-2587
	7:00 pm	0-299 section & Open game* Team Game 2nd, 3rd	Annease Comer	513-281-2027
<b>Friday</b>	11:00 am	Finesse Club	Kay Mulford	513-631-8070
<b>Saturday</b>	1:00 pm	Saturday Stratified (1st/3rd/5th)	Annease Comer	513-281-2027
		Saturday Stratified (2nd/4th)	Kay Mulford	513-631-8070
		Saturday 0 - 30 novice	Mike Purcell	513-702-4007

The following UNIT 124 games are held at other locations in SW Ohio and Northern Kentucky.  
Please call the director for directions.

Day/Time	Club	Director	Telephone	
<b>Monday</b>	10:00 am	Boone Cty Bridge Club Florence Sr Activ Center	Trisha Blackwell	859-647-0137
	1:00 pm	Mt Pleasant Retirement	Fred Sigler	513-932-9140
	7:00 pm	Oxford Duplicate (Knolls of Oxford)	Janet Newman Mike Broida	765-935-4263 513-523-8008
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 am	Boone Cty Bridge Club	Trisha Blackwell	859-647-0137
	10:00 am	Nor KY Club Elsmere Center	Sheila Dippel	859-283-0471
	11:30 am	Anderson Bridge Club	Helen Ogle	513-232-2240
	11:00 pm	Springboro *	Fred Sigler	513-932-9140
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00 pm	Lake Waynoka(2/05 Suspended)	Charles Slater	937-446-2790
	11:30 am	Anderson Bridge Club	Helen Ogle	513-232-2240
	12:00 pm	Otterbein Sen Ctr, Lebanon	Fred Sigler	513-932-9140
	6:30 PM	Northern KY Club – <b>Open &amp; 199'er game</b>	Sheila Dippel	859-283-0471
	10:00 am	Sycamore Creek C.C. reservations reqd call Lynda	Lynda Walker 4th Wednesday only	937-748-5440
<b>Friday</b>	12:30 pm	Erie Ave Belles (private)	Don Duritsch	859-689-5743
	10:00 am	North KY Club Elsmere Ctr 1st Friday 99'er game as well	Sheila Dippel	
<b>Saturday</b>	6:30 pm	Boone Cty Bridge Club Stringtown Village	Trisha Blackwell	859-647-0137
	11:30 am	Boone Cty Bridge Club Stringtown Village	Trisha Blackwell	859-647-0137
<b>1st Thursday</b>		Inter-Club Swiss Teams (private)	Pat Newman	513-469-7172

\* - indicates a standby partner is available

Please send updates to Ron Manne, CBA Board of Directors. [rmanne@cinci.rr.com](mailto:rmanne@cinci.rr.com)





# All Points Silver!

**10:00AM**

**2:30PM**

**7:00PM**

**Monday 2/18**

Open Pairs (Note: **11:00AM** regular start time)

NLM & Open\* Pairs

**Tuesday 2/19**

Open & NLM‡ Pairs

Open Pairs

Open & NLM‡ Pairs

**Wednesday 2/20**

Open & NLM‡ Pairs

Open Pairs

**Thursday 2/21**

Open & NLM‡ Pairs

Open Pairs

Open & NLM‡ Pairs

**Friday 2/22**

Open & NLM‡ Pairs

Open Pairs

**Saturday 2/23**

Open & NLM‡ Pairs

Open Pairs

**Sunday 2/24**

**1:00PM Single Session Swiss**

\*Open Section Attendance Permitting

‡NLM Section Attendance Permitting

**The Spring STaC is a little early!**

**Join us at the CBC during the week of February 18-24**

**Extra Games Most Days**

**Note 10:00AM morning start times (except Deschappelles Game)**








**All Games \$9 Entry**



# Cincinnati Flying Pig Regional

**New Date!**

**Sharonville Convention Center June 4-9, 2013**

	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
<b>Tuesday June 4</b>	 <b>GOLD RUSH and OPEN PAIRS</b>  Miss Piggy Knockout (Round 1) Open Pairs Side Series I <b>99er Pairs</b>	 Miss Piggy Knockout (Round 2) Open Pairs Side Series I Piglet Single Session Swiss <b>99er Pairs</b>	Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 1) Open Pairs Evening Side Series Piglet Single Session Swiss <b>299er Pairs</b>
<b>Wednesday June 5</b>	<b>Pig in a Poke Open Pairs (2 sessions)</b>		
	Miss Piggy Knockout (Round 3) Baby Back Knockout (Round 1) Open Pairs Side Series I <b>299er Pairs</b>	Miss Piggy Knockout (Round 4) Baby Back Knockout (Round 2) Open Pairs Side Series I Piglet Single Session Swiss <b>299er Pairs</b>	Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 2) Hogwash Evening KO (Round 1) Open Pairs Evening Side Series
<b>Thursday June 6</b>	 <b>GOLD RUSH and OPEN SWISS TEAMS</b>  Baby Back Knockout (Round 3) Open Pairs Side Series I <b>99er Pairs</b>	Baby Back Knockout (Round 4) Open Pairs Side Series I Piglet Single Session Swiss <b>99er Pairs</b>	Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 3) Hogwash Evening KO (Round 2) Squeaky Clean Compact KO (1-2) Open Pairs Evening Side Series <b>299er Pairs</b>
<b>Friday June 7</b>	<b>Hog Wild Open Pairs (2 sessions)</b>		
	Porky Pig Knockout (Round 1) Open Pairs Side Series II <b>299er Pairs</b>	Porky Pig Knockout (Round 2) Open Pairs Side Series II Piglet Single Session Swiss <b>299er Pairs</b>	Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 4) Hogwash Evening KO (Round 3) Squeaky Clean Compact KO (3-4) Open Pairs Evening Side Series <b>Second Annual Cincinnati Youth Bridge Championship</b>
<b>Saturday June 8</b>	 <b>GOLD RUSH and OPEN PAIRS</b>  Porky Pig Knockout (Round 3) Pig Out Compact KO (Rnds 1-2) Open Pairs Side Series II <b>99er Pairs</b>	Porky Pig Knockout (Round 4) Pig Out Compact KO (Rnds 3-4) Open Pairs Side Series II <b>99er Pairs</b>	Hogwash Evening KO (Round 4) Open Pairs Evening Side Series <b>299er Pairs</b>
	<b>3 Little Pigs Open Swiss (2 sessions)</b>		
<b>Sunday June 9</b>	<b>Flying Pig Stratiflighted Swiss Teams (2 session playthrough)</b>		

- ♥ **Tournament Highlights** ♥  
**Only Regional in the Nation!**  
 Tons of Playing Space  
 Free Parking  
 Easy Access to I-75 and I-275  
 Wine and Cheese Hospitality  
 Great Restaurants & Hotels  
 15 Minutes from Downtown
- ♠ **Tournament Chairs** ♠  
 Patti English  
 pbenglish@yahoo.com  
 (513) 328-8666
- Gerry Mirus  
 gerrylee517@hotmail.com  
 (513) 543-8044
- ♦ **Partnerships** ♦  
 Lorna Davis  
 nons@cinci.rr.com  
 (513) 777-1760
- ♣ **Hotel Information** ♣  
 LivINN Suites  
 11385 Chester Road  
 Cincinnati OH 45246  
 (513) 772-7877  
 \$59/Night \$280/Week  
 Ask for "Flying Pig" Rate  
 Reserve by May 4, 2013
- ♥ **Newcomers and Youth** ♥  
 0-5 MPs and U21:  
 Half Price at All Events  
 Cincinnati Youth Championship:  
 Free!



Newly Crowned Life Masters are Engraved on our Pigasus Trophy!



**Cincinnati Bridge Association**

**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 (Stratified by average masterpoints)

**Sharonville Convention Center**  
 11355 Chester Rd.  
 Cincinnati, OH 45246

**Friday Night 7:30 PM Cincinnati Youth Bridge Championship - Free!**



# Cincinnati Non Life Master Sectional

May 18-19, 2013



New to the Cincinnati Bridge Center?  
Give Us a Try!

## Saturday, May 18

10:00 AM 0-500 Single Session Pairs\*  
0-20 Single Session Pairs

3:00 PM 0-500 Single Session Pairs\*  
0-20 Single Session Pairs

## Sunday, May 19

10:00 AM Two Session Swiss (team game)  
Lunch included!

Take a Break and Join  
Us for Some Bridge!

Cincinnati Bridge Center  
2860 Cooper Road  
Cincinnati OH 45241  
cincybridge.com

Tournament Co-Chairs:  
Sonya Wilson  
wilson76@aol.com  
(513) 235-2460  
Gerry Mirus  
gerrylee517@hotmail.com  
(513) 543-8044

Need a Partner? Call:  
Stephanie Richardson  
stefphd1@mac.com  
(513) 919-9438

\* Stratifications: 0-50, 50-200, 200-500 (NLM)



- Game Fees: \$10/session
  - Youth: \$5/session
- Fantastic Hospitality!

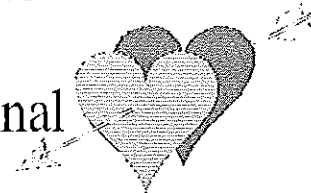
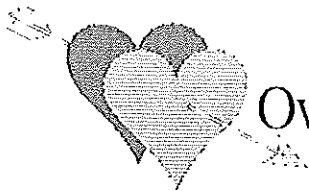
# SWEETHEART SWISS

*Once Again!*

Owensboro Sweetheart Swiss Team Sectional

ACBL Sanctioned S1302037 • Unit 193

February 9 and 10, 2013



## SAME SITE

Homebuilders Association Conference Center  
3515 Wathens Crossing, Owensboro, KY 42301

Bright, comfortable environment

Easy access off US60

Lots of Parking

Close to Lodging

## TOURNAMENT CHAIRPERSON

**Doris Mills**

**(270) 929-6835**

owensboro3600@yahoo.com

## DIRECTIONS FROM:

### Natcher Parkway

Exit at Owensboro US60 W.

Go 4 miles on US60 W.

Exit at Carter Rd. at Exit #12

Go Left on to Carter Road

Take 2nd Left on to O'Bryan Blvd.

Then Left on to Wathens Crossing

### Audubon Parkway

Exit at Owensboro US60 E.

Go 2 miles on US60 E.

Exit at Carter Rd. at Exit #12

Go Right on to Carter Road

Take 2nd Left on to O'Bryan Blvd.

Then Left on to Wathens Crossing

### US 60 East of Owensboro

Enter US60 W.

Go 7 miles on US60 W.

Exit at Carter Rd. at Exit #12

Go Left on to Carter Road

Take 2nd Left on to O'Bryan Blvd.

Then Left on to Wathens Crossing

## EVENTS

CST

### Saturday, February 9, 2013

Refreshments

Swiss Teams .....10:30 A.M.

Victory Points

(2nd Session 4:00 P.M.)

### Sunday, February 10, 2013

Muffins and Coffee

Swiss Teams .....10:30 A.M.

Victory Points

(Playthrough: Light Lunch Included)

### All Sessions Stratified\*

C ..... 0-500

B ..... 500-1500

A ..... 1500+

\*Team Average

There Will Be A 0-200 Game If  
Attendance Warrants.

## Partnerships

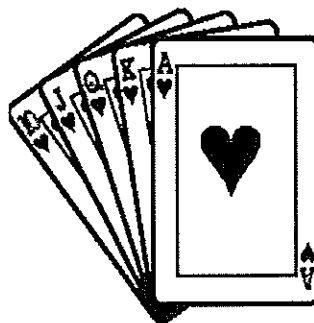
**Carol Krehbiel**

**(270) 926-8979**

**Alternate: Doris Mills**

**(270) 929-6835**

owensboro3600@yahoo.com



## ENTRY FEES

Saturday, Feb. 9th Swiss Teams - 2 Sessions ..... \$80.00

Sunday, Feb. 10th Swiss Teams - 2 Sessions ..... \$92.00

(Light Lunch Included)

*Additional \$1.00 for each session for non ACBL members  
and unpaid ACBL members*

*Visit Our Webpage: [www.freewebs.com/okdbcl](http://www.freewebs.com/okdbcl)*

## HOST HOTEL

**Hampton Inn**

615 Salem Dr., Owensboro, KY

Call: 270-926-2006 by 1/19/2013

\$88.00 - Ask For "Bridge Rate"

## OTHER HOTELS

Marriot Courtyard 866-539-0036

Fairfield Inn 270-688-8887

Sleep Inn 270-691-6200

Comfort Suites 270-926-7675

Super Eight 270-685-3388

Holiday Inn Express 800-465-4329





**2013 LOUISVILLE  
WINTER SECTIONAL**



**FEBRUARY 15-17, 2013**



**FRIDAY**

**Stratified Open Pairs** (Single Sessions) – 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:30 pm

Strat A 1500+; Strat B 500-1500; Strat C 0-500

**199er Stratified Pairs\*** (Single Session) – 10:00 am, 2:00 pm

**Novice Pairs\*** (0-20MPs) (Single Session) – 10:00 am, 2:00 pm

**SATURDAY**

**Handicapped knockouts** (3 sessions) ... 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:30 pm

**Stratified Pairs\*** (Single Sessions) ..... 10:00 am, 2:00 pm

**IMP Pairs** (Single Session) 7:30 pm

Strat A 1500+; Strat B 500-1500; Strat C 0-500

**Novice Pairs\*** (0-20 MPs) (Single Session)..... 2:00 pm, 7:30 pm

\*All pair events Stratified by average MP's of teammates

**SUNDAY**

**Stratified Swiss Teams**.....10:00 am

Event stratified by average points of teammates

**Free coffee and baked goods all day Friday and Saturday.**

**Dinner on Sunday** (included in entry fee).

**Free Parking every day!**

The Ramada Plaza  
(502) 491-4830

Take I-64 to the Hurstbourne Exit to 9700 Bluegrass Parkway.

As you make your reservations please mention the  
Bridge Tournament so that we receive credit with the hotel.

Tournament Chair: Carolyn Carpenter [carpentercarolyn@bellsouth.net](mailto:carpentercarolyn@bellsouth.net)

Partnership: Vangie Smith [vangie125@aol.com](mailto:vangie125@aol.com)