

# ALERT

## Quarterly Newsletter



Cincinnati  
Bridge Association



UNIT 124

April 2015 XL Number 2

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

### From the President's Desk



We're just a month away from our **Flying Pig Regional** at the Sharonville Convention Center (June 1-7). This year's Regional kicks off on Monday at 2:30 with a **Pro-Am Pairs**. You must pre-register to play in this event. See

our web site for registration details ([www.cincybridge.com](http://www.cincybridge.com)). **Registration closes 5/22.**

The **Mentor-Mentee** program kicks off the 2015 campaign in May. **Tuesday May 12** at Elsmere Bridge Center and on **Wednesday May 27** at the CBC (Cincinnati Bridge Center). Registration information and the rest of the Mentor-Mentee schedule is on our web site.



Join us at the CBC



June 22, 2015

**Monday June 22** will feature a special schedule for the "The Longest Day" in support of the Alzheimer's Association. **Open games at the CBC at 10:00 AM, 2:30PM and 7:00PM.** Debbie

Cummings and Mike Lipp are donating their directing services for this event and others are donating food for the event and the CBA is paying the rent to the CBC for the games. This means that 100% of the \$10.00 entry fee will go to the Alzheimer's Association. Nancy Luetge is again setting up an silent auction to benefit the Alzheimer's Association. Contact Nancy if you have items or services to donate to the silent auction.

The week of July 6 - 12 is the Summer STaC. Extra games at the CBC and lots of **SILVER** master points available. Get your favorite partners and play often. Top performers win District-wide overall awards.

B11 Summer STaC

July 6-12, 2015

at participating Clubs



### Features

Features	Pg	Author
From the President's Desk	1	John Meinking
The Journey Begins with the 1st Step	2	Steve Moese, Ed
CLUB ♣ CORNER	3	Gregory Brinker
CBA Education News	4	Mike Purcell
Need Help Finding a Partner?	4	Joanne Earls
Mentor Mentee Kick-Off	5	Bob Fisk
Forget the Captain, Pls Play the K	5	Dean Congbalay
Be Nice to Yourself	6	Amy Fisher
Have You Exposed Yourself Lately?	6	Potter Orr
Q: Can Cincinnatians Do Better?	8	Yauheni Siutsau
Revenge of the Blockhead	8	Rob Weidenfeld
Episode 12: Rational Bridge	9	Steve Felson
Ruminations	10	Robert S Brown
Unit Awards Celebration	11	Staff Reporter
New Coins of the Realm	13	Cliff Pleatman
What's Up in Unit 124?	13	Steve Moese
Better Preempts: Upside? Part III	14	Andrew Gumperz
A: Can Cincinnatians do Better?	16	Yauheni Siutsau
Save the Dates/Inspirations	17	
Unit 124 Mentor Mentee Kick Off	18	Bob Fisk
Pro-Am Pairs	19	Margaret Young
Cincinnati Flying Pig Regional	20	AJ Stephani
The Longest Day	21	Clendening/Luetge
NKy Summer Getaway Sectional	22	

### Summer Getaway Sectional

July 31 - Aug 2, 2015



Finally, mark your calendars for the **Second Annual Summer Getaway Sectional July 30 – 31, and Aug 2.** Enjoy great bridge and Northern Kentucky hospitality.

The CBA has purchased a trailer to store our tables, etc. needed for the Regional. This will replace the need to rent storage and will reduce our setup and tear down time for the Regional. We need several volunteers to setup tables and section signs on Monday morning June 1. Contact AJ Stephani or any Board Member to volunteer.



John Meinking  
President, CBA Board of Directors

## The Journey Begins with the 1<sup>st</sup> Step

Time to spring into action – have you played an extra game or two lately? We look forward to lots of fun things to do these next few months.

To help you keep your Bridge calendar full, we have updated the Unit website ([www.cincybridge.com](http://www.cincybridge.com)) and offer you greater detail so you can choose to play more often in the events you really like. Thanks to the Sanction Holders across our Unit for getting together to plan a full year of events ahead. This helps us get you what you want to know. Please contact **Nalin Mehta** with any event details, updates or changes.

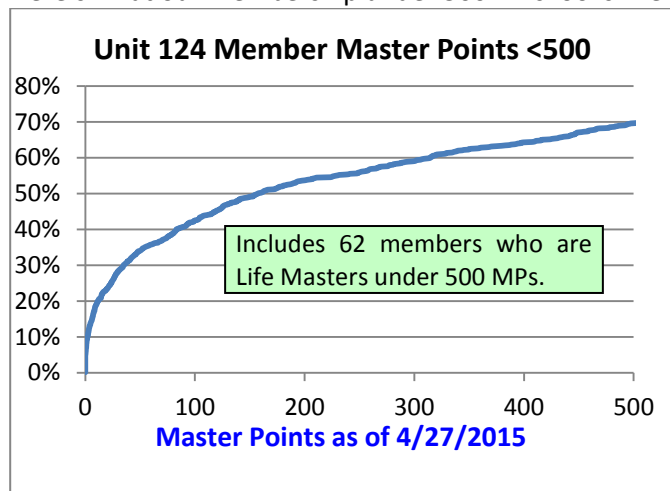
**John Meinking** outlined major bridge events in our Unit for May through July 2015. There's lots to do, so don't miss out on the fun. If you need a partner, here's how to get help:

- ❖ Sign up at the CBC for partners at CBC Games
- ❖ Call Joanne Earls for a long term partner
- ❖ Call the game director where you want to play to find a compatible partner.
- ❖ Avail yourself of the tournament partnership desk to find someone compatible to play with
- ❖ Register online with the ACBL On-Line Partnership Desk (More later this issue).

Have you ever thought about our Unit 124 membership? Do you think our Unit is mostly Life Masters? You might be surprised to learn that:

- 1) We have 946 members in our unit.
- 2) 597 (63%) are Non-Life Masters!
- 3) 70% of our membership have less than 500 MPs.
- 4) 50% have less than 158 MPs.
- 5) 25% have fewer than 24 MPs.

Here's what our membership under 500 MPs looks like:



So, most of us are just starting our Bridge Journey. Your Unit Board and many able volunteers are working

hard to create a supportive learning environment tailored to your needs.

The Unit's Education Committee offers many ways to learn to all our members. We have:

- ❖ An extensive lending library with the best bridge books for all levels.
- ❖ Bridge Classes offered by fabulous teachers during the Fall, Winter and Spring,
- ❖ New2Duplicate and New2Bridge events throughout the year,
- ❖ On-line content about bidding and play (it's free!),
- ❖ Links to Fred Gitelman's learn to play bridge software (It's free).
- ❖ Lectures Friday and Saturday Morning and Ad hoc Q&A "Let's Talk Bridge" Tuesday Evenings.
- ❖ The highly popular Supervised Bridge Saturday's 10 AM- Noon.

We urge you to explore your own learning plan. Check out our website! By the way, the more you play the more fun you have and the more you learn. Can't beat that combination. We also urge you to bring your friends and family so they can learn to play too!

If you haven't already given us your e-mail address please do so. More than 240 members do not have e-mail addresses on file. We work hard to keep you informed about the great bridge opportunities in our area. We will not abuse your e-mail. We take your privacy seriously. You may opt out of our e-mail service or the electronic Directory at any time. We've implemented the new ACBL policy for personal information. You can find the UNIT 124 standards and ACBL Policy on the CBA website at [http://www.cincybridge.com/Policies\\_procedures.html](http://www.cincybridge.com/Policies_procedures.html) Update your directory information any time at: [http://www.cincybridge.com/forms/Directory\\_Change/Directory\\_Change.php](http://www.cincybridge.com/forms/Directory_Change/Directory_Change.php)

Our contributors to this **ALERT** offer much for your enjoyment. We are lucky to have many high quality authors who make this newsletter worthy of your attention. **Greg Brinker** reports on Club News from Northern Kentucky and **Helen Ogle** from Anderson. **Mike Purcell** updates us on the popular growing Supervised Bridge program. **Bob Fisk** invites us to join the Unit Mentor/Mentee Program. **Amy Fisher** shares thoughts about being good to ourselves. **Joanne Earls** outlines the ACBL Partnership Desk and how to use it. **Potter Orr** continues his excellent series on bridge rules discussing the exposed card. **Rob Weidenfeld** brings Charly Brown back for another delightful look at card play in a not so hopeless situation. **Robers S Brown**

takes bridge rules to the very edge with the latest Ruminations. Not to be outdone, **Steve Felson** delights with Star Wars Episode 12. **Eugene Siutsau** gives us two interesting bridge problems from the Polish Bridge Magazine. We report on the 2014 Unit 124 Awards Night (April 7, 2015), offer you an overview of the updates to the Unit website, and continue the excellent series on preempts by Andrew Gumperz.

Be sure to check upcoming events and plan to play more!

See you at the tables,

*Steve*



Editor, The **ALERT** [alert@cincybridge.com](mailto:alert@cincybridge.com)

**CLUB CORNER**  Send Club News to the Alert  
Editor: [alert@cincybridge.com](mailto:alert@cincybridge.com)

by Gregory Brinker  
NKBC NEWS

### Recent Club Champions

**January 27** Rick O' Connor and Vern Goetz

**February 17** Gerry Mirus and Rick O' Connor

**February 25** Romeo Bodrogi and Steve Felson

**March 27** Howard Simon and Donna Batchelder

### ATTENTION ALL MEN !!

What are you doing on Monday? NKBC has a new bridge game on the second and fourth Monday of the month. It starts at 11:30 AM, and all men and women are invited.

### NKBC 2015 SUMMER GETAWAY SECTIONAL

Plans continue for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Summer Getaway Sectional on July 31, August 1 and 2 at the CVG Airport Doubletree Hotel . Several luncheon lecturers will soon be confirmed. After Friday's afternoon game, a shrimp, wine, and cheese reception will take place. After Saturday's afternoon game, the hospitality suite will feature beef sliders, wine and cheese balls. The hotel will offer lunches each day .

### MEMORIES

Who taught you to play bridge? Who was your first regular partner? Who was your favorite? Where did you play those first games?

My grandparents , Alphonse and Alberta taught me to play bridge . Those are two German names! Grandpa was called "Fonzie " way before Henry Winkler on "Happy Days". Grandma was somebody who was always fun to be around. They had open house everyday at 4PM. Family, friends, and neighbors were

all invited for a cocktail, conversation, and hopefully a card game.

Fifteen people might show up on a Sunday afternoon. Grandma taught us Canasta , and Hand and Foot. But our favorite was May I, also called Shanghi Rum. We always played for money, nickels and dimes. As kids, we would show up without any money, and she would get out her change purse to ante up for those without money. When was the last time you saw a change purse? Hers is red, white, and blue and I am lucky to have it as a keepsake. As the game wore on, she usually won back her money. She did love to win! Then came a devilish little giggle and you had to laugh with her.

When we played bridge, the ante was 25 cents, Go backs, not making your bid, cost you and your partner a nickel. If you won the rubber, you each received a dime and we switched partners. At the end of the night, the person with the high score got the rest of the money. As grandpa got older, 90 something, he would get mad when he did not get good cards. I remember him throwing all his 2's, 3's, and 4's on the table and complaining "who can win with these lousy cards! Grandparents make grand memories.

Hopefully you have some wonderful memories about playing cards. You are welcome to share them in the **ALERT**.

### ANDERSON BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

By Helen Ogle

OUR GAMES ARE EVERY TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY AND START at 11:30 a.m. SHARP. WE HAVE GRASS ROOTS FUND GAMES ALL MONTH (EXTRA MASTER POINTS!

DOROTHY WIERWILLE AND JEAN ALLREAD WON THE UNIT GAME IN MARCH GREAT JOB LADIES!!

We particularly welcome beginners as we all started where they are now at one time and none of us has forgotten what it was like. Our playing site is :

Anderson Senior Center  
7970 Beechmont Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45255  
(behind the firehouse)

If you need a partner call Helen Ogle at 232-2240.

### MIDDLETOWN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

March 30, 22015. Reported by John and Jane Burpee. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GINNY!** Friends, and friendly competitors were on hand in late March to celebrate



Virginia Getter's birthday. Her 99th!! A special luncheon preceded Fred Sigler's Monday game. Ginny, and partner Lou Gaker finished in the middle of the pack. Considered the "Matriarch of Middletown Bridge" Ginny is a former bridge teacher, and still drives herself to area games. Not surprisingly, she lives in her own home, and only last year gave up golf!



L to R: Fred Sigler, Ginny Getter, and Lou Gaker  
Rule of 99, anyone??!!

## CBA Education News

By Mike Purcell,  
Education Committee Chair

### Spring Changes for Saturday Supervised Play

Informal Saturday Morning Supervised Play continues to be a big hit with our membership. Drawing up to 6-8 tables, this event gives new players through 99ers a chance to improve their game at their own pace with help as needed from volunteers. This spring we look to improve the experience for attendees with a series of 20 minute bridge seminars series starting at 9:30 covering Play of the Hand, Defense, and Bidding. We are also offering learning tools players can check out to improve their game. To help attendees become comfortable playing in our duplicate games, there will be periodic practice events at a duplicate pace to ease the transition into our regular games.

Game fees for Saturday Morning Informal Supervised Play are \$3 per person and you do not need a partner to play. For non-ACBL members we are offering a special promotion of five free Sat morning plays and one free duplicate game play with a new ACBL membership. If you have friends that play bridge but are not yet ACBL members please invite them to Sat Supervised Play!!!

Check out what's new at [www.cincybridge.com](http://www.cincybridge.com) today!



## New ACBL Partnership Desk On-Line - MyACBL

By Joanne Earls, Partnership Chair

The ACBL recently introduced a new online partnership desk. Here's the scoop:



"It has been said that it's easier to find a compatible spouse than a bridge partner – until now. Introducing the ACBL Partnership Desk, the newest member benefit, that connects players for club, tournament and online play.

From MyACBL, members can post requests and search for partners by club location or tournament. Profiles already contain rank and masterpoint information with options to add a picture, preferred systems and more.

Want to visit a new club? Are you traveling or new to an area? Need some gold master points but your partner isn't available for tournament travel? Use the ACBL Partnership Desk and never miss a game again!"

For local games, try the sign-up calendar near the door at the bridge center. Just write your name, your contact info, the time of the game you are interested in (if applicable), the number of points you have and the system you prefer (Goren, STAM, 2/1, for example) and see who contacts you. The more players use this system, the more successful it will be. Give it a try!

You can also call the director of the game you want to play in (see the schedule on the website) or call me for help finding a partner.

Joanne Earls 513-772-4395 or [jolman@fuse.net](mailto:jolman@fuse.net)

**Need a CBA Name Tag? Contact Joanne Earls.**

**Your Name Here**  
Cincinnati Bridge Association

**\$4 each. (1<sup>st</sup> one FREE! to New Members).**

"Each step you take reveals a new horizon. You have taken the first step today. Now, I challenge you to take another."

— Dan Poynter

"Dream big dreams, but start small. A journey of thousand steps begins with a step."

— Israelmore Ayivor, Shaping the dream

## MENTOR MENTEE 2015 KICKOFF

By Bob Fisk, Mentor/Mentee Program Chair



Spring is here! Of course that means lots of rain, flowers, rain, returning snowbirds, rain, and of course, the beginning of the mentor/mentee program. Those of you who've participated in the past, either as a mentor or an advancing player, know the drill and will (I'm sure) enthusiastically return to the fold.



For those of you who haven't taken part in the program, here's how it works in as few words as possible.

Experienced players and advancing players (non-life masters for the most part) pair up for a series of games over the Spring and Summer. Many players form partnerships on their own, but for those of you who don't, we'll make every effort to pair you up with an appropriate partner. You can read more about the program (p.18) and sign up online at [www.cincybridge.com](http://www.cincybridge.com). For those of you unable to access our website, there'll be paper sign-up sheets available in the bridge center.

The first official game is Tuesday May 12 10 AM NKy Elsmere, and Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM At the CBC. Sign up soon—the earlier the better!

## Forget the Captain. Please Play the King.

By Dean Congbalay

Barbara looked a little rushed as she sat down in her customary corner chair.

"I can only play for an hour!" she said. "The captain is speaking about a shipwreck at 3, and I want to be upstairs to hear him!"

"Ah, no problem," I said. "When you're ready to take off, just let me know and I can sit in for you."

This was on the fourth day of my maiden voyage as the bridge director of a cruise ship. My duties were simple enough: On days at sea, I taught a short class in the morning and conducted a duplicate game in the afternoon.

A forest fire kept us from visiting one port, and 60 mile-an-hour winds prevented us from tendering to another.

So in all, we played eight times during the two-week journey from Santiago to Buenos Aires. It was a blast! Nearly an hour after we started our game that sunny day, I peered outside and saw the amazing remains of the cargo vessel Capitan Leonidas, which has been abandoned since 1963 in the frigid, remote waters of the majestic South American fjords.

"That must be it!" I declared.

But my bridge players continued concentrating on their game. Nobody budged from their seats.

At 3:07, our Holland America Zaandam started to make a turn to get a glimpse of the shipwreck from another angle. Barbara and the rest kept playing. Then it was 3:10, and then 3:15. More intriguing views outside the window, more intriguing bridge hands to play inside.

As the game was concluding at about 3:40, I started picking up supplies. Barbara stopped me and chuckled.

"I really wanted to go upstairs to hear the captain, but I just couldn't leave," she said. "I was having so much fun!"

I couldn't hide my smile.

The trip provided many special moments. I'll never forget the sweeping views from atop San Cristobal Hill in Santiago, rounding Cape Horn at the crack of dawn, being surrounded by penguins in the Falkland Islands, a beautiful tango show in Buenos Aires, or even singing



along night after night in the ship's piano bar to a very enthusiastic piano player -- who grew up in Hamilton and is a huge Reds fan!

But something about jamming a card room to capacity with new friends, from novices to Life Masters, and watching them learn a few tips and then enjoy

playing the game so many of us love made this trip incredibly cool -- and very special.

Have a bias toward action - let's see something happen now. You can break that big plan into small steps and take the first step right away.

— Indira Gandhi

## BE NICE TO YOURSELF

By Amy Fisher

I have written articles on being nice to your partner, your opponents, even the director. It's about time we all considered also being nice to ourselves.



1. Am I always apologizing to my partner? My partner agreed to play with me; I didn't coerce her into playing with me. She probably knows just how well or poorly I play, and she still agreed to play with me. From now on, I will give one short apology per mistake and happily play on.
2. Frank Stewart believes that there was always a way to have known, whether it's a bid, a defensive play, or a declarer play. If I somehow lose my way in a hand, I will mark that hand and see if there had been a way for me to have known. If not, then maybe my game will improve by experience and the next time there will be a way. In the meantime, I will try not to get defensive when partner says, "Why didn't you shift to a club?" When I get defensive, it takes away from my concentration for the next hand, and I just don't like how I feel when I'm defensive!
3. Do I always beat myself mentally for my mistakes? I will try to redirect all that mental energy to do better on the next hand. My granddaughters would sing, "Let it go....."
4. Do I continue to play with a partner that is always negative and pulls me down? At the end of the next session, I will try to say, "Let's give our partnership a break for a while. You don't seem to be enjoying our game together, and I'm not either. I value our friendship. Let's try playing again in a few months."
5. Would I like to play with a new partner? How do I go about asking someone to play? When I was new to Cincinnati, I gathered up some nerve to ask a woman if she would play with me. No, she was too booked and had no time for a new partner. Now that I know that, truly, many people are too booked for a new partner, I would simply ask someone else. Then, I just figured that she didn't want to play with me. I didn't ask anyone else, but I did get a standby partner now and then. Some of them worked out to be continuing partners, most didn't. Our directors know many people that would be most happy to play with a new partner. If a prospective partner turns me down, I might ask

that person if they know someone they could recommend.

## Have You Exposed Yourself Lately?

by Potter Orr

Fortunately, we have no known incidents of exposure at the bridge center involving clothing. Instead, I would like to review the rules surrounding exposed cards.



An exposed card in bridge is just what the name would lead you to expect - a card placed in the position where it **could** be seen by the exposer's partner. It does not matter from the rules point of view whether the card was exposed accidentally (for example, pulling 2 cards at once) or whether the exposure was intentional (lead out of turn, prematurely played, or retracted when a revoke is discovered before it is an established revoke). Whether the offender's partner saw the card or not is not relevant. If the card could have been seen, it is considered an exposed card.

Declarer and dummy incur no penalties or restrictions as a result of an exposed card. First, all of the dummy's cards are exposed upon the opening lead. Since declarer is completely in control of all cards in both his hand and the dummy's, exposing a card can only benefit the opponents and declarer has no penalty and may return any exposed card to his hand. The one exception is that if declarer intentionally exposes **all** of his remaining cards that is considered a "claim" and those rules apply.

The situation for defenders is quite different. The partner of the player exposing a card gains unauthorized information by seeing that card. As with most ACBL rules, the exposed card rules are primarily designed to restore equity for the non-offending side. Following these rules occasionally does result in a "penalty" for the offending side. **ALL** exposed cards from a defender must remain face up on the table until played according to the rules below.

Some definitions are needed to understand the rules:

Honor for most ACBL rules is a jack or higher, a 10 is not an honor.

For defenders the rules describe 2 kinds of penalty cards: Major and Minor penalty cards. Major and minor in this context have nothing to do with the suit of the penalty card.

**Major penalty Card:** All honor cards are major penalty cards no matter how they are exposed. A card of any rank (honor or not) is a major penalty card if it is pulled from a defenders hand on purpose. A lead out of turn, a failure to follow suit, a card played out of turn or even a single card pulled by mistake are all major penalty cards. If a defender has 2 or more penalty cards at the same time, all are considered major penalty cards.

**Minor penalty Card:** A minor penalty card is any card below the rank of honor exposed **accidentally** by a defender. For practical purposes, “accidentally” means that 2 or more cards were pulled out at once and both were exposed.

When a player has a **major penalty card** the following rules apply:

- ❖ The card must be played at the first legal opportunity. If the player with a major penalty card is on lead, they must lead the penalty card. If they cannot follow suit to a trick, they must play the penalty card. If a player has 2 or more penalty cards and would have to play one of them, declarer is allowed to determine which one shall be played.
- ❖ If a player with a penalty card forgets to play that card as required, declarer may accept the card incorrectly played. If declarer does not accept, offender must then play the original penalty card and the card they put down instead becomes a new penalty card.
- ❖ If partner of the player with a penalty card is on lead, declarer has options regarding the lead. Declarer may require the lead of the suit of the penalty card or declarer may forbid the lead of the suit of the penalty card. If declarer exercises either of those options, the exposed card is picked up and returned to the hand of the player who had the exposed card. If the defender has two penalty cards and their partner is on lead, declarer may apply his require or forbid options to either penalty card, but not both at the same time.
- ❖ Knowledge of the existence of the penalty card and the requirements for its play are considered authorized information for all players. Other information derived from seeing the penalty card is unauthorized information to the partner of the player with exposed card. If declarer believes that he was damaged by use of that information, he may apply to the director for an adjusted score. For example, if seeing a penalty card were to clarify the

count in a suit for the defenders partner, that information would be authorized.

When a player has a **minor penalty card**, different rules apply. Since this card will become a penalty card strictly by accident and is below the rank of honor the requirements for its play are somewhat less stringent.

- ❖ Defender may not play any other card below the rank of honor in the suit of the minor penalty card before playing the minor penalty card.
- ❖ Defender may play an honor in the suit of the minor penalty card with the penalty card itself remaining on the table.
- ❖ Declarer does not have lead restriction or requirement options when the partner of a player with a minor penalty card is on lead.
- ❖ If a player has a minor penalty card and then incurs a 2<sup>nd</sup> penalty card, both of them become major penalty cards.

It is rare but not unheard of for a card to be exposed during the bidding (before the final pass). The rules for handling this exposed card are as follows:

- ❖ The exposed card or cards must remain face up on the table for the duration of the bidding.
- ❖ If the exposed card is a result of a premature lead (a lead before the bidding was actually over), the card remains face up on the table **and** the offenders partner must **pass** once at their next turn to bid.
- ❖ If there is only one exposed card and it is below the rank of honor and was not the result of a premature lead, the card remains face up on the table and no further penalty is incurred.
- ❖ If 2 or more cards are exposed, the offenders partner must **pass** at the next turn to bid regardless of whether the cards were honors are not.
- ❖ At the end of the bidding, if the exposed card or cards belong to declarer, they may be picked up and returned to declarer’s hand. If they belong to dummy, they remain exposed as part of the dummy with no restrictions.
- ❖ At the end of the bidding, if the exposed card or cards belong to a defender, they continue to be penalty cards subject to all of the rules above.

Even if you are willing to read this article several times, I suggest that in the event of an exposed card that you



call the director. We spent hours and hours learning this rule and generally don't have too much to do during a game. We will be delighted to come and help you sort this out.

## Can Cincinnatians Do Better?

By Yauheni Siutsau

All problems are from the Polish Bridge Magazine.

### Problem 1:

IMPs ♠Ax  
#1 ♥109x  
♦K87xxx  
♣xx



Contract: 3NT(S).

♠K10  
♥AJ8x  
♦AQ  
♣AK9xx

Opening lead : ♠6 (4<sup>th</sup> best).

**Plan your play**



### Problem 2:

IMPs ♠AQ102  
#2 ♥AKJ  
♦A10xx  
♣Jx

Contract: 3NT(S).

Opening lead : ♠7  
(4<sup>th</sup> Best).



♠853  
♥Q109  
♦xx  
♣A98xx

**Plan your play.**

## Revenge of the Blockhead

By Rob Weidenfeld [elianadad@gmail.com](mailto:elianadad@gmail.com)

Charlie Brown had become so despondent over his failed attempts at kite flying, baseball, and kicking the football, he decided to turn his attention to something he thought might be a bit easier: bridge. He had gathered 3 of his erstwhile companions and was cautioning everyone that he believed that the tables were going to turn in his favor very soon, and he believed that this could be his day. He was partnering the Red Baron, aka Snoopy and his opponents were Lucy and Linus. The auction developed and terminated quickly. The Red Baron



opened 1NT, Linus bid 3S, and Charlie thought about the red-haired girl. He was holding this hand: ♠A4 ♥KQ54 ♦KQ54 ♣KQ4. He was cognizant enough to ask for aces, a convention he had recently learned if not misused. When he learned his partner had all the aces and one king, He knew there were 11 tricks off the top and that only accounted for 15 of the possible 17 points that partner had. He also thought that for every jack he holds outside of spades, that is one more trick. Any decent break in one of the other suits would also provide an extra trick. Filled with the kind of enthusiasm he often felt at that first kick of the football

North	East	South	West
Snoopy	Linus	Charlie	Lucy
Red Baron		Brown	
1N (15-17)	3♠	7NT!?!?	Double

season, he bid 7NT! Lucy, looking at three other suits (that partner had not bid) and knowing that declarer could only take 9 tricks in those suits, and aware that Linus pre-empted as carefully as he played Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata, said, "Double you Blockhead!"

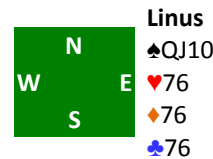
Here was the hand:

**Red Baron**  
**Snoopy**

♠K32  
♥A32  
♦A32  
♣A432

As Snoopy tabled the dummy, he declared that Charlie had forgotten to Alert his INT bid. What is it?, all declared, including Charlie. "It is a Red Baron NT...honors and a lot of spaces!" No one laughed, especially Charlie. Noticing the paucity of jacks he saw that he needed two of the

**Lucy**  
♠5  
♥J1098  
♦J1098  
♣J1098



**Linus**  
♠QJ109876  
♥76  
♦76  
♣76

**Charlie**  
**Brown**

♠A4  
♥KQ54  
♦KQ54  
♣KQ4

suits to break 3-3 because he only had 11 tricks off the top. Lucy led her singleton spade and smiled proudly when Linus's 6 forced the ace.


One thing that Charlie remembered from his recent lessons is never to play a 7-card fit in NT until later in the hand. Maybe someone will make a mistake and discard a winning trick before you play it. Here he only had three suits and they were all 7-card fits. So he postponed the inevitable and played another spade! Suddenly the smile had disappeared from Lucy's face. During the same lesson, Luci had learned not to discard from a 4-card suit, but that was all she had left! She had to pick one so she picked the suit for which dummy



had only 3 cards, all hearts.

Winning the spade king in dummy and hoping that she had made a mistake, Charlie played 3 rounds of hearts ending in hand. Delighted to find out that his last heart was good he played it. Here was the end position:

<b>Red Baron</b>			
<b>Snoopy</b>			
♠ 3			
♥ -			
♦ A32			
♣ A432			
<b>Lucy</b>		<b>Linus</b>	
♠ -		♠QJ109	
♥ -		♥ -	
♦ J1098		♦ 76	
♣ J1098		♣ 76	
<b>Charlie Brown</b>			
♠ -			
♥ 4			
♦ KQ54			
♣ KQ4			

Lucy once again thought “Drat that blockhead...he had 4♥s! I hope he doesn't have 4♦s” as she discarded a ♦ and Charlie discarded the ♠3 from dummy. He thought, “I hope she made another mistake” as he proceeded the play his now good 4♦ and then his 3 good ♣s, making 7!

Charlie beamed as he mistakenly turned to Lucy and said, “Don't you know not to discard from a 4-card suit! After she knocked him out of the chair she yelled, “That's all I had, blockhead!”

The Red Baron had the concluding comment: “Doesn't anyone know a progressive squeeze when they see one?”

## EPISODE 12: RATIONAL BRIDGE – CAN'T WE BE AVERAGE PLUS JUST THIS ONCE?

By Steve Felson

*“One of the things that you've got to understand is that we've got to develop a continuity in order to relate to exacerbate those whose curiosity has not been defended, yet the information given can no longer be used as allegoric because the defendant does not use the evidence which can be substantiated by.”— Prof. Irwin Corey, The World's Foremost Authority, b. 1914.*

Prof. Corey's wise advice certainly applies to bridge, but before I comment upon his continuity theory – if I ever do – I must make a personal point. In the last episode of “The Albatross Strikes Back” I let slip an astonishing amount of high-level praise for my long-time friend and partner, Robert S Brown: He “has some good qualities;” he is “one of the fastest bidding and

most optimistic bridge-heroes of our time;” he is “a theoretician who puts his ideas into practice;” he is a “first-string individualist” on the level of Arnold Schoenberg, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Robert Frost;” his bidding on the deal reproduced in that episode “gave us every match point from Tipoca City to Timbuktu;” and, the ultimate compliment about that deal, “Fabulous bid, partner.”

Naturally, it was painful to be so positive when he has given me so much grief over the years, including the nickname which continues to burden me like a Thermian encephalopod wrapped around my neck – “The Albatross.” He even created an Albatross web site

[http://cams.allaboutbirds.org/channel/41/Laysan Albatross/](http://cams.allaboutbirds.org/channel/41/Laysan%20Albatross/)

which everyone apparently knows about, as I am routinely greeted by hilarious laughter, cries of “are you a blunt-skull albatross or a conehead albatross?” [See “Coneheads” (Dan Ackroyd, Jane Curtin, 1993)], and other such banalities.

On the other hand, passing out all that praise actually left me feeling *better* than when I used to complain all the time, not only about my low aviary status, but also about about Bob's sub-standard bidding, weak defensive play, unfathomable opening leads, obscure signaling, and spotty declarer play. In fact, praising him made me feel so good that I went out and bought several gallons of SpaceLine Chili (“Upgrade to a Six-Way”), a barrel of Colchamiro Chocolate Chip (“17 Points of Flavor”), and a couple of cases of California Gran Verdano Sauvignon Blanc 2042 for our next bridge trip. It set me back plenty, but I really can't complain about money while traveling around free in Bob's purple Bentley spacecruiser, which costs more to run than the entire yearly budget of your typical small planet.

Speaking of money, Bob opens so light in third seat that I finally had to start fining him five Universal Space Dollars every time such a lead gave us a bad board. This worked for a few weeks until he could stand it no longer. He picks up a hand, sees two passes, reaches into his pocket and says: “By the way, here's the five bucks I owe you” and bids 1♠ on 10 HCP and K-J-x-x.

Ah, yes, chili and ice cream washed down with a great wine – we traveled in style from Tipoca City to the Terra Pontis regional, where it was rumored that Eric Rodwell was playing with a low-level client and might even be among our opponents. Imagine playing against someone with 480,000 space points and still going

strong. Too bad about his old partner Meckstroth, who wouldn't use anti-aging cream because he said it made him look like a bum on a street corner.

Both ♠ AKQ853  
 Vul ♥ 8653  
 North ♦ K4  
 Deals ♣ 3

♠ -	N	♠ 1074
♥ AQJ9	W	♥ 1074
♦ J1052	E	♦ A9
♣ KQJ82	S	♣ A10965

♠ J962  
 ♥ K2  
 ♦ Q8763  
 ♣ 74

We never drew Rodwell but we did pick up a hand which gave my partner yet another chance to show off his unusual bidding skills against a pretty aggressive pair from Garotsiana, one of several Italian-speaking space colonies.

The bidding:

North	Steve	South	Bob	
1♠	P	3♣*	X	Bob's first double showed ♣s without
4♠	5♣	P	P	taking up bidding space –
5♠	P	P	6♣	marvelous improvement,
X	P	P	XX	Bob, you are the

[\*4-card spade support, 6-9 HCP] saying it!

North's 4♠ was troublesome – will we get even one club trick in defense? On the other hand, my partner is probably void in spades so I'm thinking offense. I take a chance on 5♣, reasoning that my newly praised partner will not simply jump to 6♣ as he might have in the old days – a few months ago, for example – but instead will pass for a possible average-plus, the holy grail of my space travels. To my poker-faced relief, he passes.

Now, for all his recently acquired bridge skills, patience, and clear reasoning, Bob is, unlike many Universal Bridge League members, human, or at least humanoid. This means that when challenged his adrenaline kicks in and he fights back, which may possibly explain his bidding 6♣ over North's 5♠. If only space travel could kill the territorial instinct we would all be better bridge players, but can that even happen given the *homo sapiens* genes we carry? No, concludes Edward O. Wilson in "The Social Conquest of Earth" (2013). Luckily for survival in the 22<sup>nd</sup> century, there is suddenly lots of empty territory and therefore war is pretty much obsolete except in cards, in sports, and in the Middle-East.

North's double of 6♣ may have been a little rash, but the old Robert Brown is known on the circuit and perhaps the double referenced past overbidding indiscretions. Plus North may have expected 1 trick in ♠s and one in ♦s plus something from his partner.

Without the double we may still be above average – and as I keep saying, when playing with Bob this is the promised land.

But do I really want a life which is merely average-plus or do I toast and exalt his redouble? Did he know I had the ♦A and so could hold on until a long ♥ became available for my other ♦? Did he anticipate 13 easy tricks and a galaxy-top 2230? Of course he did, and I absolutely toast and exalt the redouble, the Bentley, and the man himself. Way to crush 'em into dark matter, partner.

## Ruminations

### LAWS OF DUPLICATE BRIDGE

16 B. Extraneous Information from Partner.

- After a player makes available to his partner extraneous information . . . by an unexpected\* alert or failure to alert, . . . the partner may not choose from among logical alternatives one that could demonstrably have been suggested over another by the extraneous information.
- A logical alternative is one that, among the class of players in question and using the methods of the partnership, would be given serious consideration by a significant proportion of such players, of whom it is judged some might select it.

\*i.e., unexpected in relation to the basis of his action.

"I cannot help recalling a saying of William James about certain passages of Hegel: that they were no doubt written with a passion of rationality; but that one cannot help wondering whether to the reader they have any significance save that the words are strung together with syntactical correctness."

Judge Learned Hand, Eulogy of Thomas Walter Swan, 57 Yale L.J. 167, 169 (1947)

### FACTS

Everyone passes to the Albatross sitting in the fourth seat. He bids 1♠ and, without interference, I bid 2♣ showing 3♠s and invitational values. The Albatross fails to alert my bid and bids 2♠.

During the 5 years that we have played Reverse Drury, the Albatross and I misplay it about one-third of the

time; however the opener has never correctly responded to this convention without first alerting it.

Therefore, I know my partner has at least 6♠s and a legitimate opener and game is at hand.

### ISSUE

Apparently, the ethics of the Game, including the Law quoted above and its Law 73(C) counterpart, require me to pass and accept my bottom board gracefully. I choose, however, to bid and make the 4♠ Game. How can I defend my action to the Director who has been indignantly summoned by my irate opponents?

### ARGUMENT

I begin with a rudimentary exposition on the distinction between ethical and moral conduct. Ethics are rules of conduct prescribed by an external body without regard to their morality. For example, the ethics of the legal profession require a lawyer to vigorously defend a known serial killer even when an acquittal is likely to spawn future casualties. In these circumstances, a lawyer who turns on his client to ensure his conviction will be disbarred – but nevertheless has acted morally.<sup>1</sup>

Here I bid what I believed to be the optimum contract, undeterred by ethical proprieties or the Albatross's inability to remember his seat position – shouldn't that be the goal of any bridge player? Whom have I harmed? My opponents know the Albatross's hand as well as I – indeed they furtively, perhaps inadvertently, exchanged knowing looks when he failed to alert my artificial bid. What are the long-term implications? I suggest that allowing me to scramble and rectify my partner's errors is almost an act of redemption – teaching the higher lesson that no blunder is hopelessly fatal.

### CONCLUSION

I have modified our convention card to indicate, with scrupulous accuracy, that we play Drury only when alerted. To the Director, whose sacerdotal intervention would fault our honesty, I say "Shame".

Respectfully submitted,<sup>2</sup>

Robert S Brown



<sup>1</sup> I eschew delving into the deontological vis-a-vis utilitarian nuances of morality – relying that the common sense of most of my readers rails against the senseless slaughter of innocents.

<sup>2</sup> I recognize that this column lacks the prolific and obscure footnoting that is its most endearing charm to many readers. Rest assured that "below the line" otiose atticism will return in my future efforts.

## We're Gonna Celebrate and Have a Good Time!

*Celebrate good times, come on! (Let's celebrate)  
Celebrate good times, come on! (Let's celebrate)*

*There's a party goin' on right here  
A celebration to last throughout the years  
So bring your good times and your laughter too  
We gonna celebrate your party with you*

*Come on now, celebration  
Let's all celebrate and have a good time  
Celebration*

*We gonna celebrate and have a good time*

*It's time to come together  
It's up to you, what's your pleasure?  
Everyone around the world come on!  
- Kool and the Gang (1980)*

On Wednesday April 8, 2015 Unit 124 celebrated member accomplishments for 2014. There are many who helped make the evening's festivities happen with style and aplomb. We thank Ev Kitchen for his many years of service coordinating the awards. Ev hands off the baton to Cliff Pleatman who jhelped orchestrate this year's celebration. Thanks goes out to Reeta Brendamour for helping with the food, Kay Neal for tending bar, and AJ Stephani for creating the announcements and directing the club championship game that capped the evening. Many more helped make the night special. We thank all who volunteered and congratulate all who celebrated their achievements.

### New Life Masters for 2014

Jane Duncan    Martin Petersen    Gail Schimpf



Not Shown: Gary Busch Barton Jacobs Patricia Leikhim





**Ace of Clubs Winners**

- William T Atteberry
- Richard P Horvitz
- Robert L Roark
- Pam S Campbell
- Howard L Simon
- Mr Vernon N Goetz
- Lawrence J Newman
- Mr W Mike Glatt
- Ms Peggy E Annon
- Mrs Lorna R Davis
- Mr Amitabh Raturi
- Mr William M Higgins
- Mr Norman D Coombs

**Mini-McKenney Winners**

- William T Atteberry
- Carol R Markham
- Martin J Gibler
- Pam S Campbell
- Howard L Simon
- Vernon N Goetz
- Lawrence J Newman
- Vijay K Vasudevan
- Robert D Fisk
- Lorna R Davis
- Amitabh Raturi
- William M Higgins
- Matt Granovetter

**Ace of Clubs**

R: Salty Roark, Pam Campbell, Vern Goetz  
 F: Larry Newman, Lorna Davis, Norm Coombs, Howard Simon



**“The first step is you have to say that you can.”**  
 — Will Smith

**Mini McKenney**

R: Pam Campbell, Martin Gibler, Vern Goetz, Bob Fisk  
 F: Larry Newman, Lorna Davis, Howard Simon, Veejay Vasudevan



**ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: Martin Gibler**

Player starting with fewer than 50 master points who wins the most master points in the year

**FIRST MASTER OF THE YEAR Howard Simon**

**SECOND MASTER OF THE YEAR Pam Campbell**

The two players starting with more than 50 points, but not yet life master at the end of the year who win the most master points during the year.

**JANE WARD MEMORIAL AWARD**

**NOVICE: Terry Ruf**

**EXPERIENCED: Yauheni Siutsau**

The novice and experienced players who earn the most master points at the Cincinnati sectional tournament.

**MANNY ISRALSKY AWARD Yauheni Siutsau**

Player winning the most total master points at all CBA Sectional tournaments.

**JAN WEYANT AWARD Yauheni Siutsau**

Player winning the most master points at the Cincinnati Regional

**DON WALKER AWARD Matt Granovetter**

Player winning the most master points in the year

Ace of Clubs		Mini-McKenney	
<b>0-5 MPs</b>			
<b>William T Atteberry</b>	<b>39.64</b>	<b>William T Atteberry</b>	<b>55.97</b>
Joan F Simon	27.80	Barry Wauligman	45.15
Reeta Brendamour	23.75	Reeta Brendamour	31.16
<b>5 to 20 MPs</b>			
<b>Richard P Horvitz</b>	<b>18.67</b>	<b>Carol R Markham</b>	<b>22.15</b>
Carol R Markham	17.18	Richard P Horvitz	21.93
Jim Tewel	14.59	Evelyn L McCarthy	17.34
<b>20 to 50 MPs</b>			
<b>Robert L Roark</b>	<b>33.79</b>	<b>Mr Martin J Gibler</b>	<b>73.58</b>
Sharon K Koster	29.23	Robert L Roark	62.85
Terry A Raulin	28.59	Mrs Sharon K Koster	59.75



Ace of Clubs		Mini-McKenney	
<b>50 to 100 MPs</b>			
<b>Pam S Campbell</b>	<b>54.25</b>	<b>Pam S Campbell</b>	<b>151.43</b>
Susan Stacy Vanstone	41.75	Susan Stacy Vanstone	126.41
Kwang Cha Hurley	40.63	Lisa P Eisenstein	97.65
<b>100 to 200 MPs</b>			
<b>Howard L Simon</b>	<b>91.50</b>	<b>Howard L Simon</b>	<b>153.63</b>
Daniel V Koppenhafer	72.48	Daniel V Koppenhafer	148.94
Nancy Sage	36.19	Isaac Stephani	122.82
<b>200 to 300 MPs</b>			
<b>Vernon N Goetz</b>	<b>69.21</b>	<b>Mr Vernon N Goetz</b>	<b>121.89</b>
Donna L Batchelder	61.49	Joyce M Tedrick	110.10
Barton J Jacobs	44.16	Barton J Jacobs	102.31
<b>300 to 500 MPs</b>			
<b>Lawrence J Newman</b>	<b>79.64</b>	<b>Lawrence J Newman</b>	<b>241.45</b>
Gregory A Brinker	75.60	Susan D Wisner	115.21
Betsy F Bradley	57.57	Mr Gregory A Brinker	113.35
<b>500 to 1000 MPs</b>			
<b>W Mike Glatt</b>	<b>95.82</b>	<b>Vijay K Vasudevan</b>	<b>372.58</b>
David W	94.65	Dennis D Schultz	245.68
Joe P Pike	91.52	David W Dressman	194.59
<b>1000 to 2500 MPs</b>			
<b>Peggy E Annon</b>	<b>159.94</b>	<b>Robert D Fisk</b>	<b>546.66</b>
Cliff Pleatman	146.92	Stephen A Moese	302.81
Margaret B Young	134.40	A J Stephani	277.15
<b>2500 to 5000 MPs</b>			
<b>Lorna R Davis</b>	<b>147.01</b>	<b>Lorna R Davis</b>	<b>333.97</b>
Nancy H Luetge	100.86	Anton S Habash	190.66
Jackie L Toth	95.20	Barbara S Levinson	162.09
<b>5000 to 7500 MPs</b>			
<b>Amitabh Raturi</b>	<b>68.23</b>	<b>Amitabh Raturi</b>	<b>262.10</b>
		Tim M Crank	98.72
<b>7500 to 10,000 MPs</b>			
<b>William M Higgins</b>	<b>195.35</b>	<b>William M Higgins</b>	<b>656.17</b>
Yauheni Siutsau	188.13	Yauheni Siutsau	639.72
		Nancy Z Sachs	212.49
<b>Over 10,000</b>			
<b>Norman D Coombs 115.01</b>		<b>Matt Granovetter</b>	<b>1333.72</b>
		Pamela Granovetter	1277.61
		Norman D Coombs	523.65

The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide that you are not going to stay where you are.

— Chauncey Depew

## NEW COINS OF THE REALM

By Cliff Pleatman

Young writers are advised to Experience Life so they will have stories to tell. Bridge players can sit on their backsides and, while exercising their brains, acquire fodder for a host of amusing tales to spin out over drinks and a postmortem, the latter, often more entertaining and enlightening than the game itself. I am aware of no other game that lends itself to so much in the way of stories in general and comedy in particular, only to be appreciated by the cognoscenti.

Bridge has its own lexicon, some of which is meant to inform and amuse, like quacks, short for queens and jacks. I would like to introduce a couple new ones. The following auction has plagued me virtually every time it has occurred. 1S-P-4H-P-P-P. The result is a Dead Hand Walking as we play our opponents 12 card heart fit. Use this term whenever you're in a ridiculous contract that is sure to net you 0-1 MPs. Toast your Pyrrhic victory as you net 2 tricks more than you bloody well deserve. It's still a 0, a Dead Hand Walking.

And how many times have you found yourself in a hopeless 3NT contract, only to find your opponents (perhaps me), set up a couple undeserved tricks to get you to your blessed ninth? I call this Reversing the Dummies, plural, to be distinguished from reversing the dummy, a declarer technique you heard about in your Bridge 101 class.

Shakespeare coined thousands of words for the English language. Keep a lookout. Maybe you can come up with your own for our favorite pastime.

## What's UP in Unit 124?

By Steve Moese

Lots of work came together through the Fall and Winter to improve how we serve you, our members. About 18 months ago we created a monthly flyer that would outline special games for any club in the unit that wanted to participate. Anderson, CBC and Northern Kentucky stepped right up to the plate.

The Cincinnati Bridge Center Sanction Holders (and the CBC Operations Committee) took a cue from the Northern Kentucky Bridge Center, and with Debbie Cumming's leadership, contributed a complete event plan for the Cincinnati Bridge Center for 2015. Helen Ogle contributed her plan for Anderson. Shiela Dipple and Cordell Coy provided the NKy plans.

Now we had to figure out how can to get the plans into your hands in an easy and sustainable way.

Google Calendar seemed ideal. A Unit Board Member can manage the Unit Calendar independent from the web site. The web site simply publishes the calendar to you every time you go there. We tailor calendar entries to the sanction holders & special event needs and can even offer links to results posted to our website. (Yes, we are considering eliminating the current results calendar and using this new application from Google, but that decision lies in the future).

Google™ Custom Search Search X

Join Now! My CBA Learn/Improve Play/Result

**Cincinnati Bridge Association Unit**  
2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241 (513) 563 2

Apr 23 Future Master Newsletter - April Flowers Have you checked out the Spring Bridge Classes?

Popular Links

Click to return to today's date Click to change date day by day Click to change date by Calendar Click to Print the Calendar

Intermediates: Beyond the Basics

**ACBL Unit 124 Events**  
Today Wednesday, April 29 Print Week

Wednesday, April 29

11:00am	CBC Homestyle, NLM, 0-10 MP Pairs
11:30am	Anderson Bridge Club
12:00pm	Lebanon DBC - Kings Activity Center
8:30pm	CG - NKBC Open and 10der Games

Thursday, April 30

11:00am	CBC Thursday S
11:30am	CG - NKBC Ope
12:30pm	Erie Avenue Belles (Invitation Only)
7:00pm	CBC Thursday Evening Open Pairs

Friday, May 1

10:00am	GR - NKBC Open Pairs
11:00am	GR - CBC Finesse Club

Saturday, May 2

Click Title for Event Details

**Major Events**

Flying I

2015 Pro-Am Pai  
Monday June 1 @ 2:30  
Reserve by May 22

NEWS

Cincinnati Openir Center

Simply go to the date you want to play and click on an event. Here we click on the 1 PM game for Saturday May 2. All the relevant detail is provided including a link for the results (when posted after the game, of course!).

**ACBL Unit 124 Events**  
Today Saturday, May 2 Print Week Mor

Saturday, May 2

10:00am	CBC Supervised Play
1:00pm	CBC Saturday Open & NLM Pairs

When Sat, May 2, 1pm - 4pm  
Where Bridge Center of Cincinnati, 2880 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241, United States (map)

Description Stratified Open Pairs, NLM and 0-10 (attendance permits)  
[Results](#)

Kay Mulford - kmulford@cinci.rr.com and 513-631-8070  
[more details](#) [copy to my calendar](#)

Monday, May 4

11:00am	CBC Deschappelles Club (Invitation Only)
12:00pm	Middletown DBC

You can expand the details by clicking “more details” or copy the event to your Google calendar by clicking “copy to my calendar”. Click on the game title to close the section.

At the bottom you can click “**Expand Calendar to Full Screen**” to see the current month at one time. There are other navigation opportunities on that page too. There is also a

Wednesday, May 6

11:00am	CBC Homestyle, NLM, 0-10 MP Pairs
11:30am	Anderson Bridge Club
12:00pm	Lebanon DBC - Kings Activity Center

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time [Google Calendar](#)

[Expand Calendar to Full Screen](#)  
[View Special Game Codes & Masterpoint Awards](#)

link to the shorthand explaining the special games run throughout the year – “**View Special Game Codes and Master Point Awards**”

Unit 124 Sanction Holders and Board Members should get any updates to special events in the Unit to **Nalin Mehta**, who manages this calendar. We hope that making the opportunities available to you, you choose to play more often with more partners.

Let us know what you think!

**Interested in improving your game?  
Check out these links:**

**Learn to Play Software (Free – Windows PC):**

[Learn Bridge Basics](#)

[Intermediates: Beyond the Basics](#)

**New to Bridge? Check Out these Bridge Resources:**

[CBA Unit 124 Bridge Class Schedule](#)

[CBA Unit 124 Newcomers Page](#)


[Improve Your Bridge Page](#)


[CBA Unit 124 Learning Guide](#)

## Better Preempts: What is the upside? part II

by Andrew Gumperz Nov 8, 2012

[www.bridgewinners.com](http://www.bridgewinners.com)

 Andrew Gumperz is a part-time bridge professional based in the SF bay area. This article is reprinted with the author's permission from the Gump's Tips series on Bridgewinners.com. See Andrew's articles on Bridge Winners!



<http://bridgewinners.com/article/view/better-preempts-what-is-the-upside-part-iii/>

Last time we discussed how the progress of the opponent's constructive auction affects the upside to preemption. We focused on fits, both express and implied. This week, we will look at auctions where opponents may already know their level.

Any time that one opponent has made a tightly limited call, chances are good the other knows the correct level. We have already seen one example, the limited single raise. Limited bids of NT are another common auction after which level is often known before you can make a preemptive jump overcall. After a limit bid,

preempts should in general be sound, as in all of the following auctions:

1♣ -- (P) -- 1NT (8-10) -- ?

1♦ -- (P) -- 2NT (11-12) -- ?

1NT (15-17) -- ?

2NT (20-21) -- ?

### Comparing 1NT in Different Auctions

Let's look at a few similar-sounding auctions to see how preemptive opportunity can change based on how limited a call really is.

1♣ -- (P) -- 1NT (8-10) -- ?

This is a poor time to preempt. RHO's strength is well defined, and he has denied a major. LHO usually already knows what level to play, and he can rule out playing in a major, so he will usually also know the strain. Preempts should be sound.

1♦ -- (P) -- 1NT (5-10) -- ?

This is a better time to preempt. RHO can have a wide ranger for his 1NT response to 1♦ than in our last auction, and his shape is less constrained. RHO might have been forced to bid 1NT with length in the other minor, but too weak for a 2/1 response, e.g., ♠Axx, ♥x, ♦xxx, ♣Kxxxx

1♠ -- (P) -- 1NT (forcing) -- ?

This is an even better time to preempt. RHO could have 5-11 HCPs, and he could have almost any shape. Contrast that with the preceding auctions where he has denied a 4-card major.

W	N	E	S
1♣	P	1N	?

♠xx ♥KQ109xx ♦x ♣xxxx	1N = 8-10 Pass. LHO will often already know whether the hand belongs in game. 3♥ is much too risky.
--------------------------------	---

W	N	E	S
1♦	P	1N	?

♠xx ♥KQ109xx ♦xxxx ♣x	Pass. Still too risky.
--------------------------------	------------------------

W	N	E	S
1♠	P	1N	?

♠xx ♥KQ109xx ♦x ♣xxxx	1N = Forcing 5-11 3♥. Good chances of disrupting the opponents.
--------------------------------	--

### One Major Openings

Not all opening bids are equally limited. Sometimes, the opponents system provides an advantage to them in dealing with preemption.

1♠ (Two-over-one, 11+ HCP) -- ?

This is a good time to preempt. RHO has show his longest suit, but his strength is largely undefined.

1♠ (Precision, 10-15 HCP) -- ?

Interestingly enough, a limited opening bid such as a Precision one-of-a-major presents only a fair time to preempt. RHO has shown his suit and limited his strength. Much of their work is already done, and the preempt won't do as much damage as in the preceding case, since the responder is already in a good place to judge whether to compete, pass or double.

### Reverse Flannery Convention

The [Reverse Flannery Convention](#) also provides significant preemption protection. If you have not heard of this convention, responder's jump shift into a major after a one-minor opening shows both majors and limited values. (i.e., 1m -- (P) -- 2M)

1♣ -- (P) -- 1M -- ?

This is a good auction to preempt. Both LHO and RHO are virtually unlimited, and game could exist in any strain.

1♣ -- (P) -- 2♥ (5♠, 4+♥ and 5-8 HCP) -- ?

1♣ -- (P) -- 2♠ (5♠, 4+♥ and 9-11 HCP) -- ?

Two terrible auctions to preempt. Both Reverse Flannery jump shifts are tightly-limited and describe shape precisely. The upside for preemption is negligible. If you preempt at this point, your preempts must be sound.

W	N	E	S
1♠	P	2♥	?

♠x ♥xx ♦KQ109xxx ♣xxx	Pass. 4♦ is a big risk and there is not enough upside to justify it.
--------------------------------	--

W	N	E	S
1♣	P	1♥	?

♠x ♥xx ♦KQ109xxx ♣xxx	3♦ or even 4♦. Automatic to preempt.
--------------------------------	--------------------------------------

### Strong Club

1♣ (Two-over-one/Standard) -- ?

This is a good time to preempt. Opener can have a wide range of values and the strain is completely unknown.

1♣ (16+ any shape) -- ?

This is a great time to preempt. Opponents do not have any shape information, and RHO is strong, meaning game+ their way is likely. Disrupting their Precision auction with a preempt will get in the way of them finding the best strain and level.

W	N	E	S
		1♣	?

♠KQ109xx ♥x ♦xx ♣xxxx	1♣ = Two-over-One/Standard 2♠ or 3♠ if you need a swing. You can justify either call.
--------------------------------	---

♠KQ109xx ♥x ♦xx ♣xxxx	1♣ = Precision, 16+ HCP 3♠. Very easy. On this auction you must stick it to them.
--------------------------------	--

The same principle applies in all of the above auctions: *The more unlimited the opponents's hands (in high cards and shape), the greater the preemptive opportunity.*

### 1NT Opener

As previous discussed, you would much rather preempt a 1-minor than a 1NT opening, since 1NT is so well-defined.

W	N	E	S
		1NT	?

♠KQ109xx ♥x ♦xx ♣xxxx	Bid 2♠. LHO will often already know whether the hand belongs in game.
--------------------------------	---

Since RHO's shape has been described accurately, LHO will often know which strain to play, or may have have reduced the possibilities to a choice between two strains. Further, LHO has a much better chance of

judging accurately when to penalize you. 3♠ is much too risky.

W	N	E	S
		1♣	?

♠KQ109xx ♥xxxx ♦x ♣xx	1♣ = Two-over-One/Standard Bid 3♠. RHO has made a nebulous 1♣ opening.
--------------------------------	---

Your preempt will be very destructive and the opponents will have a tough time deciding when to penalize you. They don't want to collect +500 when they were due +1430. Preempting after an unlimited opening like 1♣ both reduces the risk and increases the reward, when compared to preempting after a narrowly-defined 1NT opening.

### Conclusion

Two factors determine whether a preempt offers good chances for a reward:

- Whether or not LHO knows the suit in which the opponents hold a fit.
- Whether or not LHO knows the correct level.

The reward for preemptive calls of all kinds varies enormously based on how much information the opponents have already exchanged. In some auctions, preempts are largely pointless unless you strongly believe you have a cheap sacrifice. In other auctions, the reward is so high you should preempt as often as possible. The amount of information they have already communicated drives how desirable a preempt is in the given auction.

## Can Cincinnatians Do Better?

From Page 8

**Solution Problem #1 - 3NT(S).**

Opening lead : ♠6 (4<sup>th</sup> best).

We have 8 tricks : 2 spades, 1 heart, 3 diamonds and 2 clubs. If diamonds are 3-2 we can take 11 tricks easily. If diamonds are 4-1 (or 5-0) we can try to set up clubs (hoping for 3-3 break) or we can try to double hook hearts (hoping that E has at least one honor). Double hook is better line but we need 2 entries to dummy.

In order to maximize our chances we should **win 1<sup>st</sup> trick with ♠K, cash ♦A, play ♦Q to the ♦K, overtaking.**



Now, if ♦s are 3-2, we can play another ♦ establishing 5 tricks (♠A is an entry). If ♦s are 4-1 we should hope for 3 tricks in ♥s and duck ♥10 to W.

IMPs	♠Ax			
#1	♥109x			
	♦K87xxx			
	♣xx			
♠Q9764		N	♠Jxxx	
♥Qxx		W	♥Kxx	
♦J109x		E	♦x	
♣x		S	♣QJ10xx	
	♠K10			
	♥AJ8x			
	♦AQ			
	♣AK9xx			

Defense will win ♥Q and play another spade. Now we can **take second finesse playing ♥9** from dummy. We will end up with 2 spades 3 hearts 2 diamonds and 2 clubs. It would be easier to find this line having ♦Ax ☺

### Solution Problem #2

3NT(S). Opening lead : ♠7 (4<sup>th</sup> best). The full deal: We should use **rule of 11** here. 11-7 (opening lead) = 4 (number of cards higher than ♠7 in N-E-S hands). Since we can see all 4 cards (AQ108) our decision is easy: **play ♠2 at trick one and later take two more finesses.** We will take 4♠s, 3 ♥s, 1 ♦ and 1 ♣.

IMPs	♠AQ102			
#2	♥AKJ			
	♦A10xx			
	♣Jx			
♠KJ974		N	♠6	
♥xxx		W	♥xxxx	
♦QJx		E	♦K98x	
♣xx		S	♣KQ10x	
	♠853			
	♥Q109			
	♦xx			
	♣A98xx			

## SAVE THE DATES

### Pro AM Pairs

Kick Off the Flying Pig Regional June 1, 2014

**MUST REGISTER BY May 22 TO PLAY –**

Pros: Nancy Luetge 513 793 2337

Ams: Margaret Young [margyoung@msn.com](mailto:margyoung@msn.com)  
513 284 5731

Pair assignments 1:30 PM - Game Starts 2:30 PM

**Flying Pig Regional** June 1-6. Sharonville Convention Center

**The Longest Day** June 22, 2015. Various clubs

**D11 Summer STaC** July 6-12 @ participating clubs.

**NKy Summer Getaway Sectional** July 31-Aug 2

**ACBL Calendar May:** Grass Roots Fund Games

**ACBL Calendar June:** NAP Qualifiers Begin

June 5/6 World Wide Pair Contest

**ACBL Calendar July:** NAP Qualifiers Continue

July 15 International Fund Game

The **North American Pairs Qualifiers** are June - August at designated qualifying games in District 11. Check the Unit 124 Calendar for dates and times near you. For more information go to [http://www.district11bridge.com/District\\_11\\_NAP\\_FAQ.html](http://www.district11bridge.com/District_11_NAP_FAQ.html)

## Inspirations – FIRST STEPS

“The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide that you are not going to stay where you are.”

— Chauncey Depew

“They say it is the first step that costs the effort. I do not find it so. I am sure I could write unlimited 'first chapters'. I have indeed written many.”

— J. R. R. Tolkien

“I cannot help fearing that men may reach a point where they look on every new theory as a danger, every innovation as a toilsome trouble, every social advance as a first step toward revolution, and that they may absolutely refuse to move at all.”

— Alexis de Tocqueville

“Getting organized in the normal routines of life and finishing little projects you've started is an important first step toward realizing larger goals. If you can't get a handle on the small things, how will you ever get it together to focus on the big things?”

— Joyce Meyer

“Be kind. It's worthwhile to make an effort to learn about other people and figure out what you might have in common with them. If you allow yourself to be somewhat curious - and if you get into the habit of doing that - it's the first step to being open minded and realizing that your points of view aren't totally opposite.”

— Viggo Mortensen

“If confusion is the first step to knowledge, I must be a genius”

— Larry Leissner

“I thank God I live in a country where dreams can come true, where failure is sometimes the first step to success, and where success is only another form of failure if we forget where our priorities should be.”

— Harry Lloyd

## Welcome to the 2015 Mentor/Mentee Program!

By Bob Fisk

Opening morning is Tuesday May 12, 10 AM at NKy Elsmere. Opening night is Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the Cincinnati Bridge Center. Mentees are asked to bring a snack item to share with everyone as a thank you to all of the Mentors who are donating their time and talents.



### Guidelines:

- ❖ We suggest you play Bridge together at least 4 times.
- ❖ Designated Mentor/Mentee dates at the CBA in Cincinnati (M/M pairs play at half price, and one stratification lower than the mentor)

Wednesday May 27, 7:00pm

Sunday June 14, 1:00pm

Wednesday June 24, 7:00pm

Sunday July 19, 1:00pm

Wednesday July 29, 7:00pm

Sunday August 9, 1:00pm

Wednesday August 26, 7:00pm

Sunday September 13, 1:00pm

- ❖ Designated Mentor/Mentee dates in Northern Kentucky at the Elsmere Senior Center (you'll play in the Mentee strat and pay the going table fee).

Tuesday May 12, 10:00am

Thursday May 28, 11:30am

Friday June 12, 10:00am

Wednesday June 17, 6:30pm

Thursday July 2, 11:30am

Monday July 13 (Picnic), 11:30am

Wednesday August 5 (Junior Fund), 6:30pm

Thursday August 20 (Junior Fund), 11:30am

- ❖ None of the above games are mandatory, but are usually fun, educational and enjoyable.

### Responsibilities of the Mentee:

- ❖ Contact your mentor to arrange dates for playing Bridge. Do this as soon as possible. Do not wait until the last minute.
- ❖ Tell your mentor what you would like to work on to improve your play. Ask your mentor for input/suggestions. Be willing to negotiate/compromise.

### Responsibilities of the Mentor:

- ❖ Be kind and patient with your mentee. Usually mentees are newer players and are looking to you for guidance.
- ❖ The "extent" of your mentoring is up to you. Be willing to share what you know and direct the mentee to any other resources he/she might find helpful. CBA has a great library available!

If you have any questions, please visit our website at <http://www.cincybridge.com/CBAMentoringProgram.html>

You can register on line at:

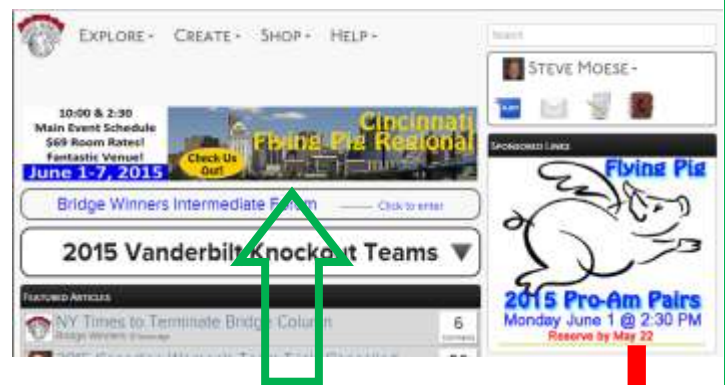
<http://www.cincybridge.com/forms/mm2013.php>

Paper forms will be available at the Bridge Center/Clubs. Or contact:

Bob Fisk [bobsbbcards@gmail.com](mailto:bobsbbcards@gmail.com) (513)379-5252

Barb Levinson [bsl@fuse.net](mailto:bsl@fuse.net) (513)258-8216

NKy: Cordell Coy [cordellcoy@gmail.com](mailto:cordellcoy@gmail.com) (859)466-1835



Yes, we've advertised the Flying Pig Regional on Bridgewinners! (No, we did not advertise the Pro AM – We want YOU for the Pro AM. Register NOW!)



# Flying Pig Pro-Am

Sharonville Convention Center

1:30 Partner Draw  
2:30 Game Start

June 1, 2015

## What Is a Pro-Am?

A pairs event scheduled for the first session of the Flying Pig Regional (Monday) - newer players (the "Ams") are randomly selected to play with advanced players (the "Pros") for a fun-filled bridge session. The winning Am receives a trophy, and the winning Pro receives bragging rights.



## Do I Qualify?

To qualify as an Am, you must have at least five (5) points and no more than 299 masterpoints. To qualify as a Pro, you must be a life master. Everyone is welcome regardless of home Unit.

## Reception Afterwards

Hand records will be distributed after the game, and everyone is invited to attend a reception next door at the LivINN Suites - wine and cheese will be provided. If the Am wishes, the Pro will be happy to review the hands and discuss the things done well and those areas that might encourage some fine tuning.

## When Is It?

Monday, June 1. Please show up at 1:30 for the partner draw. The game starts at 2:30. Ams -make sure to bring 2 copies of your favorite convention card so you and your Pro can discuss it for a few minutes prior to the start of the game.



## RSVP

Be sure to sign up for the Pro-Am. Reservations must be made before **May 22nd**. Ams - please RSVP to Margaret Young at 513-284-5731 or at margyoung@msn.com. Pros - please RSVP to Nancy Luetge at 513-793-2337.





# Cincinnati Flying Pig Regional

**Monday 2:30 Pro Am!**

**Sharonville Convention Center June 1-7, 2015**

	10:00 AM	2:30 PM	7:30 PM
<b>Monday June 1</b>		<b>Pro Am Pairs</b> Call Nancy Luetge to reserve your place (513) 793-2337	Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 1) Open Pairs Evening Side Series
<b>Tuesday June 2</b>	<b>Hog Wild Gold Rush Pairs and Open Pairs (2 sessions)</b>		Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 2) <b>Hogwash Horizontal Swiss (Round 1)</b> Open Pairs Evening Side Series <b>NLM 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 <b>Piglet Single Session Swiss</b>	
<b>Wednesday June 3</b>	<b>Pig in a Poke Gold Rush Pairs and Open Pairs (2 sessions)</b>		Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 3) <b>Hogwash Horizontal Swiss (Round 2)</b> Open Pairs Evening Side Series
	Miss Piggy Knockout (Round 3) Baby Back Knockout (Round 1) Open Pairs Side Series I <b>NLM Pairs</b>	Miss Piggy Knockout (Round 4) Baby Back Knockout (Round 2) Open Pairs Side Series I <b>Piglet Single Session Swiss</b>	
<b>Thursday June 4</b>	<b>Hog Heaven Gold Rush Swiss Teams and Open Swiss Teams (2 sessions)</b>		Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 4) Squeaky Clean Compact KO (1-2) Open Pairs Evening Side Series <b>NLM Pairs</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	
<b>Friday June 5</b>	<b>Curly Tail Gold Rush Pairs and Open Pairs (2 sessions)</b>		Squeaky Clean Compact KO (3-4) Open Pairs Evening Side Series Fourth Annual Cincinnati Youth Bridge Championship
	Porky Pig Knockout (Round 1) Open Pairs Side Series II <b>NLM Pairs</b>	Porky Pig Knockout (Round 2) Open Pairs Side Series II <b>Piglet Single Session Swiss</b>	
<b>Saturday June 6</b>	<b>Road Hog Gold Rush Pairs and Open Pairs (2 sessions)</b>		Open Pairs Evening Side Series
	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>Three Little Pigs Open Swiss Teams (2 sessions)</b>		
<b>Sunday June 7</b>	<b>Flying Pig Stratiflighted Swiss Teams (2 session playthrough)</b>		<b>Swiss Teams in Red</b> <b>NLM Events in Blue</b>

**♥ Tournament Highlights ♥**

Tons of Playing Space  
Free Parking  
Easy Access to I-75 and I-275  
Wine and Cheese Hospitality  
Unbelievable Hotel Rates

**♠ Tournament Chair ♠**

A.J. Stephani  
ajstephani@gmail.com  
(513) 313-0488

**♦ Partnerships ♦**

Lorna Davis  
(513) 777-1760

Bob Fisk  
bobsbbcards@gmail.com

**♣ Hotel Information ♣**

LivINN Suites  
11385 Chester Road  
Cincinnati OH 45246  
(513) 772-7877  
\$69/Night  
Ask for "Flying Pig" Rate  
Reserve by May 4, 2015

**♥ Youth ♥**

U20: Half Price at All Events  
Cincinnati Youth  
Championship: Free!

**More Info: [cincybridge.com](http://cincybridge.com)**



Newly Crowned Life Masters are Engraved on our Pigasus Trophy!



Sharonville Convention Center  
11355 Chester Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH 45246



**Joint Events with Evansville Gold Rush Pairs and Open Pairs 10 and 2:30 Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat**



**Stratifications**

- ♥ Open Pairs & Side Games (w/o Gold Rush): 0-750/750-2000/2000+
  - ♣ Open Pairs & Swiss (with Gold Rush): 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+
  - ♦ Gold Rush Pairs & Swiss: 0-100/100-300/300-750
  - ♠ Stratiflighted Swiss: B/C/D 750-1500/300-750/0-300 A/X 3000+/0-3000
- All events stratified by average MPs  
KO events may be handicapped





## The Longest Day

Join us at the CBC



June 22, 2015

On **Monday, June 22, 2015** our Unit is once again participating in "The Longest Day", an annual fundraiser to raise awareness and funds for the care, support and research efforts for the Alzheimer's Association of Cincinnati. This is a nationwide event and many Units are holding similar sessions across the country.

Almost everyone has been touched by this disease and our club wanted to help support this day by holding this fundraiser.

### Cincinnati Bridge Center Plans

There will be **three open pairs sessions** at the Cincinnati Bridge Center on June 22. **The morning session begins at 10.00am, afternoon at 2.30pm and the evening starts at 7.00pm.** All directors will donate their time and the Unit is donating the rent. The entry fee for the Longest Day Games will be \$10.00 a session. If you are unable to join one or more sessions please consider contributing that amount to this worthy cause.

There will be a **silent auction** that day as well. If you would like to donate one or more items, please contact **Nancy Luetge, silent auction chair: Phone 513-793-2337.**

If you have friends that play socially, invite them to come and play the afternoon session at our club. We will make sure we have tables set up for them. The Morning session will offer donuts, fruit and any donated food items; sandwiches in the Afternoon; and the Evening session will have pizza, wine, beer and soft drinks.

I hope you will make time and join us for at least one session or all of them.

For more information please contact **Jusie Clendening at 513-793-1920 or [jclendening@cinci.rr.com](mailto:jclendening@cinci.rr.com)**

# Summer Getaway Sectional

*July 31 & August 1-2, 2015*

## SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY

Stratified Open Pairs	10 a.m., 2:30 p.m.
Stratified NLM Pairs	10 a.m., 2:30 p.m.
Open Swiss Teams	10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY

Stratified Open Pairs	10 a.m., 2:30 p.m.
Stratified NLM Pairs	10 a.m., 2:30 p.m.
Bracketed Compact KOs	10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m. (may be handicapped)

### SUNDAY

Stratiflighted Play-Through Swiss Teams	10 a.m. (lunch may be purchased)
---	-------------------------------------



Stratified pairs: 0-750, 750-2000, 2000 +  
Stratiflights: A / X = open / 0-2500

B / C / D = 750-1500 / 300-750 / 0-300

Sunday teams with any player with 1500 + must play A/X

All events stratified by average master points



Top-shelf  
Hospitality Hour  
5:30 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday



Concessions on sale  
each day



\$10 entry fee;  
half-price ages 20  
and under

(\$3 additional per person for  
non or unpaid ACBL members)



## CONTACTS

**Tournament Chairs:** Elaine Jarchow,  
859-816-4581, ejarchow@yahoo.com;  
Cordell Coy, 859-466-1835,  
cordell.coy@fuse.net

**Partnerships Chair:** Cindy Tretter,  
859-653-4400, cgrammy@yahoo.com

For more information, visit

**www.NKYbridge.org**

## VENUE & DIRECTIONS

### **Doubletree by Hilton at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport**

2826 Terminal Drive, Hebron, KY 41048  
859-371-6166; www.doubletree.hilton.com

Ask for **\$92** NKY Bridge Club rate, or use online code KBC

### **FREE PARKING in hotel lots**

**Directions:** Take I-275 **Exit 4** (4B if westbound; both 4.5 miles west of I-71/75) onto Terminal Drive toward airport. Hotel is directly in front of air terminals. Follow **Hotel** signs and exit left onto hotel access road.