



Quarterly Newsletter



Cincinnati
Bridge Association



UNIT 124

VOL XLIII No. 2 April 2018

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

From the President's Desk

Unit 124 Members,

Spring is here, at least that is what the calendar says. Lucky for us the weather doesn't affect our bridge events. First up is the awards party on the evening of Tuesday May 1st. We had 19 members reach the rank of life master in 2017!! See the flyer on the web site for more information and the names of all 19 new life masters. The Mentor/Mentee program kicks off during May. There are special games at the CBC and in Northern Kentucky for Mentor/Mentee pairs. Mentor/Mentee pairs can purchase discount coupons for entries into all regular games at the CBC.

Then the week of June 11 is the 2018 edition of the Flying Pig Regional. Before the regional begins we will have renowned bridge teacher Robert Todd at the CBC for a two-day seminar. Our regional schedule has three events that you won't find in any other regional. Monday starts the tournament with the Pro/Am game. Thursday and Friday evening has a two session Eight is Enough swiss teams paying GOLD POINTS!! Friday and Saturday is the 4 session Flying Pig Pairs Championship. Time to make your games. See the tournament flyer for all the details and the full schedule.

This year we will be replacing the carpet at the CBC during the Flying Pig Regional. This is the third wave of major renovations at the CBC. I want to thank Karen Kendall's husband (KC) for the customized card holders and Sandy and Potter Orr for the artwork that decorates the CBC.

See you at the tables,

John Meinking
President Unit 124



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Unit 124 Club Games

Day	Time	Event
Mon	AM	CBC* 11:00 Inv
	Aft	MIDM 1:00
	PM	CBC 7:00 (Limited) - OXF 7:00
Tue	AM	NKY 10:00
	PM	CBC 11:00 MIDS 11:00 SP 2:45PM CBC 7:00* NLM (Open Coming 3/23)
Wed	AM	CBC* 11:00 - SCC* 10:00 - AND 11:00
	Aft	MIDL 12:00
	PM	NKY 6:30
Thu	AM	INT* 9:00 - CBC 11:00 - NKy 11:30 AM
	Aft	WHC* 12:00 - EAB 12:30 SP 2:45
	PM	CBC 6:30 "8 is ENOUGH" Swiss Teams 1&3
Fri	AM	NKY 10:00 - CBC 11:00
	PM	
Sat	AM	CBC 9:30AM-Noon Supervised Play (SP)
	Aft	CBC 1:00

Bring Us Your Time & Talent!

by Steve Moese

Last issue I mentioned the wealth of resources at your fingertips to enjoy bridge in our area, and to improve your game as you see fit. I'd be remiss if I failed to

congratulate our Education Committee (Larry Newman, Chair, Dan Koppenhafer, Elaine Jarchow, Jane Duncan, Mike Lipp, and John Meinking) for their continued effort to 1) provide more learning options and more teachers across a broad range of ability, and 2) improve the reach and impact of class offerings with an eye toward increasing the number of people playing (duplicate bridge) in our area. There have been 4 Olli Osher Lifetime Learning Classes through the University of Cincinnati Olli Program. We've filled the classes to maximum capacity. Now we look to bring these new players into rubber and duplicate bridge. They are at the stage where they will know the fun bridge delivers and will want to play more. Duplicate competition and tournaments can come later.

With that in mind, the Board adopted a few changes to our offerings for beginning players. First and foremost we will offer a number of "Come and Play" opportunities focused on playing rubber or Chicago style bridge. For only \$3 players can come and play for a few hours during designated times. There will be an experienced player available to answer basic questions, but no coaching and certainly no teaching per se. Look for Come and Play announcements at the CBC in May.

We are also redirecting our Supervised Play Games. The Saturday Morning event has grown very popular and with this growth has deviated from the original purpose for this learning session. The original purpose was for area beginning players to have a place to come and practice what they learned in their bridge lessons. The Board adopted a mission statement proposed by the Education Committee and voted to return the Saturday Supervised Play to its original intent. We are also raising the entry fee to \$5 effective immediately. While not specifying a date, the Board declared its intention to have supervised play match the \$7 table fee near term.

The remaining change consistent with the mission is that starting mid-September, the Unit Sponsored Supervised play will be limited to players who have less than 50 Master Points.

This leaves our more mature players several options for coached play: 1) Organize themselves and hire one or more teachers to provide them the practice they desire; or 2) Take advantage of existing NLM games and spend time reviewing hands afterwards, 3) Play in the Come and Play games where talking about hands is allowed during the play (no Masterpoints ®).

There are several considerations in this decision. Some 1/3 to 1/2 of the supervised play tables have over 50 MP players. These players are too advanced for their 0-50 counterparts and require separate attention. These players, having amassed 50 MPs playing in club games, have played dozens if not hundreds of duplicate games. We appreciate their need for practice, and we hope that teachers will take them up on their need. Typical supervised play with a very experienced teacher for intermediate players usually goes for \$10 per session. You see we want to help players, but we also want to help teachers and club managers. By helping intermediate players build demand for and advanced supervised play with experienced teachers we believe we are doing both.

Check out the classes and excellent teachers available for your bridge journey:

http://www.cincybridge.com/CBA_Lessons_3.html

Now, about your time and talent – we need volunteers for many opportunities throughout the year:

- May 1 / Support the Unit awards Party Celebration. Reeta Brendamour is organizing the party.
- Jun 11 – 17/ Flying Pig Regional. Many opportunities to help. Why not volunteer to help set up or take down the tables? Contact AJ Stephani. How about providing a stellar hot dish for the afternoon hospitality event? Contact Joy Singerman (513) 531-5882 Debbie Wiest (513) 847-4822 Carol Scovic (302) 256-2190. Hospitality has a big effect on how much people like their regional experience.
- If you have a professional skill you are willing to donate, let a Board member know (e.g., Tax specialists, Lawyers, Financial Experts, marketing & Advertising).
- Can you help with hospitality for our sectional or the NAP District Finals in November?
- Would you like to be an author or reporter for the ALERT?

Have a skill that you think might help the Unit? Step right up! We are always looking for volunteers. Our key work has committees appointed and they are always looking for help. Check out

<http://www.cincybridge.com/Committees.html>

And see what strikes your fancy.

Have a good idea about making bridge more fun or finding new players? Tell a Board Member. We are always looking for good ideas and people to help carry them out.

We continue to see a 1-2% decline in tables and members. The “snowbird” effect hits our winter months harder each year. The ACBL has made recruiting new members a top priority. If you know someone who might be interested and want to bring them into the game of bridge, get in touch with Steve Messinger and his Membership Committee (Steve Messinger, Chair Pam Campbell, Elaine Jarchow, Carol Scovic, Robert (Salty) Roark, Sharon Kreitzer, Reeta Brendamour). They would be more than happy to help you bring your friend or family aboard!

In fact, you can point your friend or family member to the ACBL’s new Temporary Membership – for \$7.99 you get two months of the Bulletin and a provisional membership number, with the entire amount credited to an annual membership fee if they choose to continue. Now that’s a good value. These temporary memberships are not for lapsed or current members.

Success at providing high quality bridge in our area depends on YOU – our volunteers. Please consider giving the gift of your time and talent.

We have many contributions this month to keep you entertained. Joyce Tedrick, Rob Weidenfeld, Potter Orr, Dean Congbalay, Robert S Brown, and Steve Felson make this issue another rich read. You will also find a note on Bridge Ethics, as well as a view to the updates on our Unit Website. We all hope you enjoy!

Wishing You Good Bridge and Good Luck,

Steve



Editor, The ALERT moesefamily@aol.com

CLUB CORNER  Send Club News to the Alert Editor: moesefamily@aol.com

70% Games JAN-APR 2018

Date	Game	Name	Name	%
4/16	CBC Mon Eve Ltd	John Altman	Debbie Wiest	75.00
2/14	CBC Wed AM 4 Engh	Carol Wilson	Pam Campbell	71.13

<http://www.cincybridge.com/Seventy%20Percent.htm>

Don’t forget – June, July and August are North American Pair Qualification Game months. For an extra \$1 (going toward supporting pairs who qualify for the Finals at the Spring NABC, you get extra masterpoints® half black and half red. You qualify as an individual in the flight for which your master point holding as of May 6 2018 applies. See the District 11 FAQ page for details. http://www.district11bridge.com/District_11_NAP_FA_Q.html

Partnerships!

By Joanne Earls

If you’re looking for a partner for a single game, call the director of the game you want to play in - s/he’s the first to know about others who are available for that game. You can find directors’ names on the cincybridge.com website. Another great way to meet prospective partners is at lessons or during supervised play. Unsure about an appropriate game? Call me!

If you’d like a regular partner, give me a call or send an email telling me about your game and your interests. How many master points do you have? What system/conventions do you play? Are you a ferocious competitor or a more relaxed player? Which games are you available to play in, and when can you start? I’ll do my best to find someone who’s also looking for a standing game.



Joanne Earls
772-4395

jolman@fuse.net

Name Tags

Contact Joanne Earls – 772-4395; jolman@fuse.net

Your Name Here
Cincinnati Bridge Association

First nametag FREE to new members!
Otherwise \$4 each.

Suddenly,

By Dean Congbalay

dcongbalay@comey.com



Suddenly, the conversation turned to fun and games.

“So, Dean, I hear that when you play bridge, you pay to play, right?” my friend Marilyn asked.

“Yes,” I replied. We had stopped by Jack and Judy’s after breakfast at the Blue Dolphin up the road from me on Longboat Key; Marilyn was visiting until they drove back to Wisconsin.

“And if you win, you don’t get any money?” she said.

“Uh, no,” I said. I knew where this was going. All duplicate players have had this conversation with non-

**NORTHERN KENTUCKY BRIDGE CLUB NEWS**

Northern Kentucky Bridge Club Officers for 2018 are **Cindy Tretter**, President; **Brenda Mehalko**, Vice-President; **Ron Jarchow**, Treasurer; **Bart Jacobs**, Secretary; **Sheila Dippel**, Club Manager; **Courtney Thurman** and **Iris Libby**.

This year President **Tretter** selected a number of national DAYS for us to celebrate, either with food or with some special activity. We celebrated National Spaghetti Day on January 4; National Popcorn Day on January 19; and National Writing Day January 23. February 2 was National Ground Hog Day; February 8 was National Boy Scouts Day; February 20 was Cherry Pie Day, and Feb 23 was Banana Bread Day. For the month of March we celebrated National Peanut Butter Lovers Day, March 1; National Oreo Cookie Day, March 5, where we feasted on various flavors of Oreo cookies; National Chip and Dip Day, March 23, where six members brought various kinds of dip. National Sorry Charlie Day, National Siblings Day, National Animal Cracker Day, and National Pretzel Day rounded out our April celebrations. One of our unique activities took place on National Pi Day where members had to write as many numbers as possible for Pi. **John Taylor** was the free game winner by extending 3.14 to 30 digits.

Recent Club Champions are **Sheila Dippel** and **Cordell Coy** (Tuesday), **Mike Purcell** and **Paul Pschesang** (Wednesday), **Jack Mehalko** and **Bart Jacobs** (Thursday), and **Mary Ann Boyle** and **Tim Martin** (Friday).

At the Annual Club Awards Day (May 29), **Peg Ammon** and **Dave Dressman** were recognized for scoring five above 70% games (hereafter BGs for Big Games). Peg also teamed with **John Taylor** and **Cordell Coy** for BGs. **Rick O'Connor** posted two BGs – one with **Dave Tollison** and one with **Henry Jackson**. Henry recorded another one with **Mike Glatt**. Other BG accomplishers were **Bart** and **Mary Ann Jacobs**, **Mary Smith** and **Cindy Tretter**, **Larry Klein** and **Norm Coombs**, and **Jodie Kiefer** and **Gerry**

Mirus. The highest BG of 77.98% was scored on the Longest Day by **John Taylor** and **Steve Moese**.

Additional Club awards for MPs scored during 2017 at NKBC went to:

Lonnie Ingram – 5-10 Rookie
Cathy Schreiber – 5-20 Junior Master
Schwarna Mohan – 20-50 Club Master
Dorothy Caster – 50-100 Sectional Master
Joan Simon – 100-200 Regional Master
Dave Tollison – 200-300 NABC Master
Gail Zimmer – 300-500 Non Life Master
John Taylor – 300-500 Life Master
Howard Simon – 500-100 Bronze Life Master
Dave Dressman – 100-1500 Silver Life Master
Peg Ammon – 1500-2500 Ruby Life master
Margaret Young – 2500-3500 Gold Life master
Norm Coombs- Distinguished Life Master

Winners of the March 30 Pro/Am game, organized and directed by **Joe Pike**, were **Don Durirsch** and **Imogene Enzweiler** (NS) and **Cindy Tretter** and **Jack Ammon** (EW).

Through an unfortunate oversight on my part, this thoughtful and fun article from the Northern Kentucky bridge Club was erroneously omitted from the April 2018 ALERT. This page will be inserted in the online electronic version, and will be printed for distribution in NKy, CBC and Anderson BCs. We will also reprint it in the July 2018 edition.

I apologize to Elaine Jarchow and the NKy BC Leadership and members for my error.

Steve

Steve Moese
Editor, The ALERT

bridgers countless times.

“So what do you get?” she asked.

“Well, when we do well, we get what are called master points,” I said.

“Master points?”

“Yes, master points.”

“And what are they good for?” she inquired.

I started chuckling. “It’s really a big scam,” I replied. “You can’t do anything with them!”

Marilyn pursed her eyebrows (This was before she showed us her new Coach purse, which she paid for with U.S. dollars, not master points.).

“The points just accumulate,” I said. “Some people think that the more points you have, the better player you are. That’s not always the case, of course, but such is life.”

“Oh,” she said. She didn’t look terribly impressed. “And this place where you play, you said people don’t smile?”

“Uh, no,” I said.

“Nobody?”

“Well, maybe 5 percent do,” I said. “There are lots of cranky people there!”

I yanked out my phone and showed her a picture I snapped a few years ago of a room of hundreds of people playing here in Sarasota.

“Hmm,” she said. “You’re right. Nobody’s smiling!”

“Nope!”

“But it’s fun?”

“I love it!” I said.

We chatted about a few other things — the weather, supper, politics. I declined an offer for a strawberry Twinkie. Then I stood up, smiling. It was time to shower — and drive to the bridge center!

2017 UNIT 124 AWARDS

By Steve Moese

The Unit 124 Board of Directors wishes to extend their congratulations and best wishes to the following members to be recognized during the Awards Night and Game May 1, 2018:

2017 New Life Masters:

Charlie Kobida	Nancy Cameron
Liz Lin	Martin McTighe
Jan Polk	Albert Venosa
William Atteberry	Terry Brausch
Mark Berliant	Reeta Brendamour
Judith Lubow	Janet Hansen
Janet Venosa	Mary Ann Marx
Gail Zimmer	Linda Pretz
Carol Byrne	Alice Price
	Isaac Stephani

2017 Unit Masterpoint Awards:

	Ace of Clubs	Mini McKinney
0-5	Elaine Rothstein	
5-20	Kathy Rice	Brad Sharp
20-50	Stephen Messinger	
50-100	Stephen Vogel	
100-200	Joy Singerman	
200-300	Carl Tollison	Barry Wauligman
300-500	Terry Brausch	Reeta Brendamour
500-1000	Howard Simon	Pam Campbell
1000-1500	Dave Dressman	Dennis Schultz
1500-2500	Peggy Ammon	Peggy Ammon
2500-3500	Margaret Young	Bob Fisk
3500-5000	Lorna Davis	
5000-7500	Amitabh Raturi	
7.5-10K	Yauheni Siutsau	
>10K	William Higgins	Norman Coombs

See “Members on the Move” at

<http://www.cincybridge.com/RankPromotions.html> for all rank changes this past year!

Congratulations to all on their achievements in 2017!

Louise and Sarasota

By Joyce Tedrick



This past winter, I was a snowbird in the Sarasota area. I loved it, especially the perfect weather. In the golf community where I lived, there are a few weekly non-sanctioned duplicate bridge games scheduled, with 5 to 12 tables. I thought it would be good opportunity to meet people, but it was more social than competitive. I’m not known

to have a poker face, but I tried. After a few somewhat frustrating games with various partners, I played with Louise, a 70 year old artist from Boston. She had just joined ACBL a couple of months earlier, and had a copy of 25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know. She seemed very capable and willing to learn something beyond Stayman and transfers.

After a couple of successful games (winning money instead of points!), I asked her if she wanted to play in



her first sanctioned game, at the Sarasota bridge center. Dean Congbalay had graciously played with me there. It's a very nice club, and everyone loves Dean (of course).

So Louise and I went, playing in the open section, and she got her first black points! A couple of weeks later, we went to the Sarasota Regional, and she got some red points! (I saw Joe Fisher there).



Louise found some sanctioned games to play back in Boston. I look forward to playing with her next winter. Did I mention the perfect weather?



(Dean took our picture the last time we went to the Sarasota bridge center, encouraging /nagging me to write this article.)

Rules That Come Up

By Potter Orr

Gatlinburg was this week and I have directed 4 games this week with one more to go. While there have not been a lot of director calls, the issues that have come up are worth a quick review.



Bidding Boxes When the ACBL promoted the use of bidding boxes in duplicate games, they added rules for their use. One of the overlooked rules deals with a player pulling out the wrong bid. What is a mechanical error? For example, reaching for a 2 ♠ and pulling out a 2 ♥ bid. Pulling a 1♣ bid and only then seeing that right hand opponent bid 1 NT. Mechanical mistakes are limited to just this. Mechanical errors are also limited to either the top section (bids) of the box OR the bottom section (pass, double, redouble).

If you make a true mechanical error, you are allowed to correct it without penalty until your partner bids. This includes even AFTER your left hand opponent has bid – as long as partner has not bid. If you wish to correct your bid, you should call the director immediately. This is much easier than trying to convince your opponents yourself.

1 NT Opening Many players are aware of the recent change in allowable 1 NT opening bids. Rules consider a 1 NT opening to be natural even if it contains a singleton as long as that singleton is an Ace, King or Queen. If it contains a singleton, it may not also contain a doubleton. If the 1 NT hand does not meet this criteria, the bid is considered a psych. Repeated use of this psych would constitute an illegal partnership agreement.

Asking the Meaning of Bids In all forms private agreements of the meaning bids is not allowed. This is especially important in duplicate where many, many conventions are used. The convention chart requires that certain bids must be “alerted” at once by the partner of the bidder – for example, Jacoby 2 NT over an opening bid. Other more common conventions must be “announced” by partner – for example, transfer bids over strong NT openings.

In addition, a player may ask the meaning of an opponents bid – by asking their partner. There is a protocol for these inquiries:

- You may ask about a previous bid only when it is your turn to bid.
- If the bidding is over, the player about to make the opening lead may ask about bids before selecting their lead.
- There is one exception. When it is your turn to bid but your pass will end the bidding, you should not ask unless you are seriously considering making a bid other than pass. The reason for this is that your question may be perceived as a suggestion about your partner's lead. See next point.

- When you are on lead, select your card and place it FACE DOWN on the table and ask partner if they have questions. Since your lead is chosen (and cannot be changed), your partner may now ask the question they skipped earlier. It also prevents leading out of turn!

There is also some strategy involved in asking for explanations. Unless you are considering a bid and need to know, it is usually best to hold questions to the end. You will have a chance then as described above. The reason for waiting is that you do not want to alert the opponents about a misunderstanding they may have had.

When you do ask the partner of the bidder, they are obligated to explain their partnership understanding about the meaning of the bid. If they give the explanation by naming the convention (it was a kamikaze overcall) and you are not familiar with the convention, you may ask them for clarification. Finally, if opponents ask your partner about the meaning of your bid and partner gets the explanation wrong, you may not correct them at the time of the explanation. If your side wins the bid, you MUST explain the mistaken explanation before the opponent chooses his opening lead. If your side ends up on defense, you MUST WAIT until the end of play to explain the incorrect explanation.

Penalty Cards: When a defender (there are no penalty cards for declarer or dummy) exposes a card that is retracted (see below), that card becomes a penalty card. It is best to call the Director but here are the rules:

- Lead out of turn is complicated and requires the director but the card lead may become a penalty card.
- Failing to follow suit and realizing your error before offender OR his partner play to the next trick can be corrected. The erroneously played card becomes a penalty card and a card from the correct suit is played.
- If a defender inadvertently pulls 2 cards at once, one of them must be played and the other one will become a penalty card. Call the director on this one.

While there is one or more penalty cards on the table, special rules apply:

- The penalty card must be played at the first legal opportunity
 - If the player with a penalty card is on lead, they must lead the penalty card.

- If the suit of the penalty card is lead, the player must follow suit with the penalty card (special rules for one of two cards pulled at once)
- If the player with a penalty card cannot follow suit, the penalty card must be played.
- If partner of the player with a penalty card on the table is on lead, the declarer has rights:
 - Declarer may forbid the lead of the suit of the penalty card. If he does, the card is picked up and partner must lead some other suit for as long as he holds the lead.
 - Declarer may require the lead of the suit of the penalty card. If he does, the card is picked up and partner must lead that suit. If he does not have that suit, he may lead any card but the penalty card is still picked up.

JOE BTFSPLK GETS A REPRIEVE

By Rob Weidenfeld

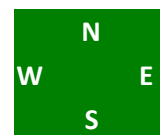


Many of our younger readers (in the bridge world, that could only mean people who have not yet started to depend on Medicare) may wonder about the derivation of the hero of our story today. Long-time fans of the comics of yore will fondly recall the strip named “Li'l Abner.” Written by Al Capp, the memorable feature included Li'l Abner, Daisy Mae, and Mammy Yokum. Less remembered was Joe Btfsplk, who was always seen with a dark cloud over his head. He brought bad luck to others and himself wherever he went. It came to affect his entire personality.

We've all met the equivalent at our bridge club. “I got no hands today and I hate defense.” “My partner played like a novice today; you won't believe what he did on Board 12.” “Why do all of my finesses lose to a doubleton queen offside?”

Joe was playing in a team game when a hand came up which at first seemed to reverse his misfortune, then threw him into despair, and finally showed him a path to escape a lifelong morass of depression. Here was his hand and his partner's:

Joe		Partner
♠ A10972		♠ KQJ8
♥ K1086		♥ AQJ95
♦ AKQ		♦ J109
♣ Q		♣ K



The auction was a bit of a challenge as the opponents, as you can see had a lot of clubs and they made their fit quite obvious during the auction. But discretion being the better part of valor, which is to say when you are seriously outgunned (as in 5 high card points[HCP] vs. their 35), players sometimes lose their entrepreneurial spirit. Here Joe and his partner arrived at the ironclad contract of 6♠.

Joe got the lead of the ♦8 and proudly admired the dummy and his chances. First, getting a powerful playing hand was quite uncustomary for him, let alone getting to an easy to play slam. He wanted to claim, but he wanted to enjoy the moment.

Playing routinely he called for a card from dummy and won the ♦ in his hand as he started to put a trump on the table. "Wait a second, Joe...it's not your lead, said his right hand opponent (RHO). Awakened from his fantasy, he gasped "WHAT?" His RHO said " I don't have any ♦ and I trumped it."

Sinking into his seat he watched as his RHO led back a ♣ to his partner's ace and the inevitable ♦ was returned beating Joe's contract by 2 tricks.

"This is the ultimate indignity," Joe wailed. "I have 2 nine-card fits, 35 HCP and we are minus 300. How could this happen and how will I explain this to our teammates?" he said in his familiar tortured voice.

His teammates returned to the table and started comparing scores. Not much happened until they got to the board in question. Joe hung his head and apologized for his failures on this failed slam. His teammates asked about the score and upon hearing they lost 300 proudly proclaimed that they had just won the match! We bid and made 7 clubs doubled on our 5 HCP and they couldn't do a thing! Here was the complete layout and auction at the other table:

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth." — **Muhammad Ali**

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." — **Elizabeth Andrew**

"If our hopes of building a better and safer world are to become more than wishful thinking, we will need the engagement of volunteers more than ever." — **Kofi Annan**

Contract: ♠ -
7♣ X !!! ♥ -
Lead: Any!! ♦ 8765432
♣ A109753

♠ A10972	N W E S	♠ KQJ8
♥ K1086		♥ AQJ95
♦ AKQ		♦ J109
♣ Q		♣ K

♠ 6543
♥ 7432
♦ ---
♣ J8642

West	North	East	South
1♠	2NT*	3♣**	6♣
6♠	7♣	DOUBLE	All pass

*Unusual for the minors

** strong ♠ raise

And yes the double was mentioned as strongly as it appears.

No matter what the opponents led against 7♣, one hand would ruff if, draw one round of trump and set up the diamonds with 3 ruffs and make 7♣. All on 5HCP, while the opponents could only make 4 with 35 HCP!

Many thought that this hand might finally turn Joe around, but the very next day he was heard to be complaining about the weather.

EPISODE 22: TABLE TALK

By Steve Felson

Talkin' is cheap, people follow like sheep.

From "Silence is Golden" (1964), written by Bob Gaudio and Bob Crewe of the American band The Four Seasons and covered more successfully in 1967 by the English band The Tremeloes.



In our overlong lives Bob and I have had many experiences with table talk. No, we are not quite old enough to remember King Arthur, but more recently – 1970 to be exact – we did get a chance to talk around a table with Kissinger and Nixon just before the Paris Peace Talks. We were the only ones who called Henry "Hank the Prank" to his face, always getting a laugh from Tricky Dick, as you can see from this photo.



Dick Nixon was a poker player, barely acquainted with bridge, but as you can tell from the position of his hands he always had an ace up his sleeve. Bob and I briefed him from the other end of this table to ensure that there are still no photographs of us on the job.

Paris was quite an adventure. We couldn't actually sit at the conference table but we did get in early to wire it. As to helping with the negotiations, we never met Le Duc Tho, head of the North Vietnamese delegation, but once we managed to make our views known to one of his top aides. In fact, Bob slapped the lipstick right off him. Regrettably this didn't help Henry; he had intended to crush the North Vietnamese with 19th-century logic and power politics but, after all the talking at the table in the photo, he came home empty-handed.



Oh, yeah, and let's not forget how we bugged those radicals at the Algonquin Hotel Round Table in Manhattan. There wasn't as much communist intrigue as we'd expected, but J. Edgar Hoover loved the story Dorothy Parker told Harpo Marx and the rest of the crowd about getting kicked out of elementary school at the Convent of the Blessed Sacrament for characterizing

the Immaculate Conception as "spontaneous combustion." That's her sitting in the photo, with Harpo standing in the center. George S. Kaufman, the best bridge player in the bunch, is not pictured, but lives forever in my mind through his pre-bidding-box quip: "I'd like a review of the bidding with all the original inflections."



And what about that table in the forest west of Ivanjica (now in Serbia) with Marshal Tito and Comrade Stalin, circa 1944. We called Stalin "Uncle Joe" and he sort of smiled every time.



Hey, those guys had body language you could understand, not like the quivering blobs of bridge-playing jelly I'm going to describe below. And they were funny too, always talking about how bridge players were mostly "cosmopolitans" and how we could get "lead poisoning" from playing too much cards, all the while tossing down the vodka and planning Eastern Europe's post-war boundaries. Very likable fellows, although what we found out later about cosmopolitanism and

lead poisoning was a little scary, as were their photographs.



But now to the main table talk story – finally!

After collecting some particularly low duplicate scores for several weeks, and still chasing the coveted Space Master plaque, we dropped in at a club game, personal attendance required, on the planet Oxycontinia. One reason these out-of-the-way clubs do not allow remote intergalactic participation is that they are full of beginners easily overwhelmed by point-heavy outsiders, even if those points are only the result of many years of mediocre play, as might be said of the Felson-Brown partnership by unfriendly observers. We ought to dominate such competition, but, sadly, we've been held back by certain problems with Bob's bidding, play, general defense, opening leads, and signaling. However, we do have other tools, and we used one of them on board 7, where we table-talked our way to a top score. Here's how it worked: we sit down and I see that my LHO, covered in floating scales but otherwise not unattractive, is highly agitated. Before I can ask, it starts moaning about the character and conduct of the Supreme Leader of the Federation and her henchmen. "What if she fires so-and-so, how did this idiot ever get elected, she's not fit to be President, will the Overlord Council kick her out," etc. You know the narrative.

Bob picks up the theme and we start trading stories about some of the crazier leaders we have known over the years and how we handled them: Uncle Joe, Sun Yat-sen, Tito the Supreme Partisan, Hank the Prank, Mao

Zedong, Danny (the Red) Cohn-Bendit, Zhou Enlai, Syngman Rhee, Oliver Twiddledee, etc. We commiserated, we empathized, and it – meaning my LHO – was slurping up every word.

In the middle of all this patter, Bob, sitting West and dealing, hits his pass button. North does the same and so do I, all the time bouncing our memories back and forth without pause. Lo and behold, LHO, holding the following hand, also passes, and right in tempo too:

♠ K Q 10 8 2
♥ 4
♦ A Q 7
♣ A Q J 8

With North having jack fourth of spades and a couple of kings, every South player in the room made 10 or 11 tricks while the pass by our friend on my left gave us an uncontested top score.

The moral: who needs bridge technique when you have fast-moving Felson-Brown table-talk?

RUMINATIONS

By Robert S Brown

"Bridge is other people."¹



The Albatross and I have largely abandoned any hope of advancing our game through diligence and study. We are unwilling to adopt any new conventions other than those we invent for our own amusement². Instead we have decided to improve our performance by exploiting the avenues of gamesmanship as yet unperturbed by the ACBL'S relentless expansion of ethical and disciplinary rules³.

In particular, we have noted that while the current bridge ethos requires players to fully disclose their own bidding and playing style, there is nothing restricting a pair's right to engage in appropriate opposition research to determine opponent vulnerabilities. Indeed our clandestine forays into the "dark web" have allowed us to secure psychographic profiles of the opposing pairs we normally encounter on our regular play schedule⁴.

¹ Confer SARTRE, *No Exit* (1944).

² *Exempli gratia*: Leading low from red doubletons and DUM from a worthless three card suit.

³ Vide CBA website, "ACBL District 11 – Proprieties and Ethics Handbook" (February 2017).

⁴ The Albatross and I normally play on Monday and Thursday nights and Saturday afternoons in deference to my regrettably unretired status, and, in the case of the Saturday game, my appreciation of the exceptional provender

The LHO described by the Albatross in Episode 22 (*supra*) had been assessed on the five-factor model (“FFM”) of personality traits⁵ with high scores in Neuroticism, Extraversion, and Agreeableness. Neuroticism set the stage for LHO’s overriding concern about the body politic in which we feigned an interest. The Oxycontian’s high Extraversion indicated talkativeness and a desire for the company of others to which we played. LHO’s high Agreeableness score (“trusting and cooperative”) made our ploy to talk her out of opening a seventeen-point hand child’s play.

I realize many of you are skeptical of both my veracity and the scientific effectiveness of our tactics. Accordingly, apart from the results of the last Presidential Election, I direct you to the Monday night results column on the CBA website. Three of the last four games I played with the Albatross and finished first (4/2, 4/9, and 4/23). The other Monday (4/16) I played with Reeta, a far superior player but untutored in the arts of psychological manipulation, and couldn’t even scratch.

Abandon Facebook or face defeat – you have been warned.

ON ETHICS

By Steve Moese

More hurt feelings and disenchantment occur from infractions and bad behavior, and their impact at the Bridge Table. I find that many players have a poor grasp of ethics as it applies to bridge. No, I don’t mean they don’t understand the basics. We tend to have a weak understanding how our own personal sense of ethics and the rules and regulations of Bridge intersect.

This topic is a flashpoint for many. I intend to take a very different tack than many of you have seen.

Let’s first get clear on what we mean by Ethics:

From the Dictionary:

provided by P.C. when she directs, ably supplemented by K.M.’s brownies.

⁵ Two aquatic acronyms, “OCEAN” and “CANOE” are commonly employed as a mnemonic link to:

Openness to Experience
Conscientiousness
Extraversion

1-- plural in form but singular or plural in construction : **the discipline dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation**
2a : a set of moral principles : a theory or system of moral values

the present-day materialistic ethic

an old-fashioned work ethic

—often used in plural but singular or plural in construction

an elaborate ethics

Christian ethics

2b : plural in form but singular or plural in construction : **the principles of conduct governing an individual or a group**

professional ethics

2c : a guiding philosophy

2d : a consciousness of moral importance

forge a conservation ethic

3 plural : a set of moral issues or aspects (such as rightness)

debated the ethics of human cloning

We choose meaning 1 and 2b above others for the sake of our conversation. 2a is what we individually bring to the game

“Dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation”.

“The principles of conduct governing an individual or a group”.

Now let’s add some perspective. Bridge is first and foremost a game, with a highly defined set of laws that are common globally, and a body of regulations that vary by regulating authority. The ACBL is the regulating authority for Canada, Mexico and the USA. So that means we use the ACBL Convention Charts (New Charts due November 2018) and ACBL Regulations including conditions of contest.

If you have travelled the world, you know that human culture is diverse and that values vary wildly across

Agreeableness

Neuroticism

Beginning in the 1980’s, these five characteristics have been generally recognized as the dominant determinants of behavior. *Vide SAVILE & HOLDSWORTH LTD., Occupational Personality Questionnaires Manual (1984)*

cultures. What authorities have provided us however is a clear mandate about Bridge itself that does not depend on the many different value systems that span bridge players worldwide. Think of it as a common basis for ethics and appropriate behavior.

So how does Bridge eliminate the varying attitudes that different cultures bring to our game? How do we reconcile the legality of playing to win by any legal means with stealing tricks (legally) by false signals or misleading bids?

The answer is a very carefully crafted set of Laws and Regulations. This body of work is far from stagnant or dormant. On the contrary there is constant effort to update and improve laws and regulations to enable a fair competition. (Please see <http://web2.acbl.org/documentlibrary/play/Laws-of-Duplicate-Bridge.pdf> for a recent copy of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge).

The first point to appreciate is LAW 72A:

LAW 72

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

A. Observance of Laws

Duplicate bridge tournaments should be played in strict accordance with the Laws. The chief object is to obtain a higher score than other contestants whilst complying with the lawful procedures and ethical standards set out in these laws.

What is very easy to miss (and is almost never taught to new players) the final sentence of 72A. The key element is subtle, and perhaps even counter-intuitive. **Because Bridge is a game, all ethical behavior is completely defined by the Laws** (and by extension, the rules and regulations including conditions of contest as promulgated by the ACBL).

You may choose to disagree with this, and if you do, this article is for you.

The logical consequence of this is not so obvious. Often our personal sense of fairness does not properly coincide with LAW.

Whoa, Steve, what do you mean? Let's take a look at several mini scenarios to see if you can check your beliefs and feelings against ethics in this game.

1. Jane and Bill have been arguing quietly until you get to their table. All of a sudden a nasty verbal fight breaks out. They snarl at you to butt out

while they resolve their bridge differences. You are long-time friends with both and decide to respect their wishes.

2. Steve, a good friend, sits at the table and is about to bid when his cell phone rings. He excuses himself and walks away to take the call, returning in 2 minutes with a shut off phone. You mention to Steve that he shouldn't have a phone on at the table.
3. During the course of play against novice players, you have a nothing hand xx QJxxxx xxxx x You choose to open 1♥ in 3rd seat. The opponents fail to get to their game. The opponents call the director.
4. During the course of play, you fail to follow suit on a trick that your side lost. Your revoke isn't established until the end of the hand when you play the last card. No one, even you, notices the revoke. After the round, partner pulls you aside and asks if you revoked? You realize you did. What does the LAW require you do now?
5. You and the opponents are engaged in a very complex competitive auction. After 6 rounds of bidding you are at the five level and pause to take stock. When you pass, partner finds the winning bid. The opponents call the director claiming there was Unauthorized Information and they've been damaged. What do you do here?
6. Unsatisfied with a director's ruling in your favor an obviously agitated if not angry player from another Unit says your play was cheating. You try to calm the situation but to no avail. Is there anything more you should do?

(Continued on Page 13 – consider your reactions)

UNIT WEBSITE UPDATES

By Steve Moese

We have made several minor adjustments to the CBA Homepage to improve your navigation experience. Please see the appended user guide for detail.

Also we've added the Google Calendar User Guide. You can expand the calendar to full screen and navigate easily through the several views available. The month by day view is the start. Use the agenda

view for a list. See the Calendar User Guide in the appendix.

SAVE THE DATES



Join the Fun!
 New Life Masters (2017) play for free.
 Come for the drinks and snacks and stay for the Club Championship Game.



During the Week of May 7, all club games in District 11 will charge \$1 more so that we help build funds for the 2020 Spring NABC tournament in Columbus OH. Extra Master Points. Sectional Rating (2X).

JUN 10-11 2018

Announcing the Annual Flying Pig Seminar by Robert Todd! Robert is a professional player and lecturer and considered by many to be one of the top young bridge teachers in North America. Robert holds a wide range of bridge events, from 8-12 player workshops up to 150-200 player large seminars. This seminar is at Cincinnati Bridge Center, 2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241)

Reserve on or before May 28 - No drop ins please. See [FLYER](#) for details.

Sunday, June 10th

9:00AM: Doubles – The Key to Competitive Bidding

Noon: LUNCH

1:15PM: Trick Showing Bids

Monday, June 11th

9AM: Defensive Strategies and Tools

Noon: LUNCH

2:30PM: Join us at the Flying Pig Pro Am! (1:30 for partnership assignments)

****All seminars will feature prepared hands that illustrate the seminar topic!****



Qualify to compete for the District Finals in Cincinnati on November 14, 15 2018. Top Pairs represent D11 in the Spring NABC in Memphis 2019. See

http://www.district11bridge.com/District_11_NAP_FA_Q.html



Summer StaC is a great opportunity to earn SILVER POINTS at the participating Club game near you!

ON ETHICS - Discussions

1. Jane and Bill have been arguing quietly until you get to their table. All of a sudden a nasty verbal fight breaks out. They snarl at you to butt out while they resolve their bridge differences. You are long-time friends with both and decide to respect their wishes.

Zero tolerance is part of the bridge regulations. Arguing at the table, no matter how little or by whom, is unacceptable. Instead of letting this pair skate, call the director. It's the director's job to determine what happened and to assess any rectification if warranted. It is not our job to act in the director's place. When we let two people behave poorly against the ZERO TOLERANCE regulations, we are acting in the place of the director. Often our personal sense of fairness overrides what the Bridge Laws say we should do. Unless you are the director, don't make a ruling, and never based on your feelings (See Law 10A and Law 11A & 11B).

2. Steve, a good friend, sits at the table and is about to bid when his cell phone rings. He excuses himself and walks away to take the call, returning in 2 minutes with a shut off phone. You mention to Steve that he shouldn't have a phone on at the table.

We all know how distracted we can become when playing. I have often forgotten to turn off my cell phone when playing at the club. In tournaments, the phone must not only be off but it must be out of view (no wearing it on a belt or on a lanyard folks). It's tempting to let the infraction slide. The rules say you shouldn't. I'll leave this one up to you, but calling the Director is not only permissible it is expected. Yes, you would be uncomfortable if someone called the director on you and your cell phone, but they are behaving ethically within the rules.

3. During the course of play against novice players, you have a nothing hand xx QJxxxx xxxx x You choose to open 1♥ in 3rd seat. The opponents fail to get to their game. The opponents call the director.

Whether we like it or not, psyching is NOT ILLEGAL. Psyches are an intentional major deviation from one's agreements intended to fool one's opponents. In Bridge we are allowed to fool one's opponents. However, we are not allowed to have partner KNOW when we are psyching. That's right – we have to fool both partner and the opponents. If partner is aware of our psyche

through past experience, we have created an implicit agreement, one that is illegal because the bid made was grossly different from the natural bid based on standards outlined in the regulations.

Many clubs have a "No Psyching" policy, but that is not supported in bridge law. However Clubs do have the right to manage their games without oversight. Bucking the "No Psyching" policy at a club is difficult if not impossible because even the ACBL does not oversee how clubs are administered. (The only oversight from outside the club is for cheating accusations).

4. During the course of play, you fail to follow suit on a trick that your side lost. Your revoke isn't established until the end of the hand when you play the last card. No one, even you, notices the revoke. After the round, partner pulls you aside and asks if you revoked? You realize you did. What does the LAW require you do now?

I will wager that everyone I know who hasn't read bridge law would say that that pair is obligated to report the error and seek rectification for the other side, no matter what. I respect you and your opinion if that is how you feel. Indeed, there is nothing wrong with doing just that. The Laws do limit what rectification is possible, but in every case if you choose to act, please talk with the Director.

However, under Bridge Law it is equally ethical to do nothing! That's right. Bridge law unburdens any pair from having to report any undiscovered irregularity their side caused. Here is the citation:

LAW 72

B. Infraction of Law

1. A player must not infringe a law intentionally, even if there is a prescribed rectification he is willing to accept.
2. In general, there is no obligation to draw attention to an infraction of law committed by one's own side (but see Law 20F for a mistaken explanation and see Laws 62A and 79A2).
3. A player may not attempt to conceal an infraction, as by committing a second revoke, concealing a card involved in a revoke or mixing the cards prematurely.

LAW 62

CORRECTION OF A REVOKE

A. Revoke Must Be Corrected

A player must correct his revoke if attention is drawn to the irregularity before it becomes established.

LAW 79

TRICKS WON

A. Agreement on Tricks Won

1. The number of tricks won shall be agreed upon before all four hands have been returned to the board.
2. A player must not knowingly accept either the score for a trick that his side did not win or the concession of a trick that his opponents could not lose.

So you see, the pair in this scenario has no ethical obligation under the rules of bridge to report anything. If their opponents discover the infraction later, they must act.

5. You and the opponents are engaged in a very complex competitive auction. After 6 rounds of bidding you are at the 5 level and pause to take stock. When you pass, partner finds the winning bid. The opponents call the director claiming there was Unauthorized Information and they've been damaged. What do you do here?

It's very important to understand what information is authorized and what is not. A full discussion of Unauthorized information would take several pages. Let's focus on this point. If a break in tempo occurs, the first step is for the non-offending side to mention that they noticed a break. If the other side disagrees, they (the other side) must call the director (Law16B2). Otherwise bidding and play continue with the non-offending side reserving the right to call the director at the end of the hand. Key here is that a tempo break by itself is not a violation. The violation occurs only if the tempo changer's partner chooses an action indicated by the change in tempo. Need an example of using information? Consider you and partner are bidding in a slam sequence with ♠ as the agreed trump suit. Partner bids 4N (Keycard Blackwood). You respond 5♣ showing 1 or 4 Keycards. Partner now breaks tempo and bids 5♠ very slowly. You look at your hand and see extra values so you decide to bid 6♠. If your 6♠ bid was demonstrably suggested by partner's hesitation and some other call (say, Pass) is a logical alternative, then you must use Pass (regardless of prior intent)! Of course, if you bid 6♠ anyway, the director will return the contract to 5♠ making 6. (This is the very famous "Hesitation Blackwood" scenario). The key to this scenario is to know that breaks in tempo (FAST or SLOW) are not violations per se. Use by partner of any information conveyed by the tempo break is an irregularity that the Director will address at the right time. The right time is at the end of the hand and not during bidding or play.

Yes, you can have tempo breaks during play too. These also require that you ignore information from the break in tempo. Any information from partner's break in tempo is authorized to opponents, but they use it at their own risk.

Please note that purposeful attempts to use breaks in tempo to deceive opponents are illegal and punished severely (Code of Disciplinary Regulations):

E10 Hesitate with an intent to deceive; use intonations and mannerisms that may deceive opponents or help partner (CDR 3.1, 3.2 and 3.7)	1 year Probation and/or up to 1 year Suspension (NOTE 2)	0-25% of Disciplined Person's total masterpoint holding.
--	--	--

6. Unsatisfied with a director's ruling in your favor, an obviously agitated if not angry player from another Unit says your play was cheating. You try to calm the situation but to no avail. Is there anything more you should do?

This unfortunate scenario outlines one of the most severe infractions when playing bridge. No one may accuse another player publicly of cheating. No one. This is an absolute prohibition that will be dealt with by discipline committees severely. Punishments are severe.

C10 Publicly accuse another player of unethical bridge behavior (CDR 3.4 and 3.7)	180 days Probation and/or up to 180 days Suspension
---	---

So you see, you should always call the director when an irregularity occurs. Never make your own rulings at the table. Allow the director, and not your personal sense of ethics and fairness, decide if an irregularity occurred and what rectification if any is warranted. This isn't to say we shouldn't be nice at the table. We should. However we need to understand that there is a big difference between charity and ethics. In Bridge, the Rules define ethical behavior, not the players.

One final thought. ACBL's Active Ethics is limited to four areas of the laws: Principle of Full Disclosure, Social Behavior, Slow Play, and Statement on Conventions. http://www.acbl.org/tournaments_page/ethics-and-discipline/active-ethics/ Active Ethics doesn't allow players to make exceptions to any Laws or regulations, no matter how charitable it seems, or how your personal sense of fairness informs you. If something is amiss,

CALL THE DIRECTOR! PLEASE!



Presents the Annual Flying Pig Seminar



Robert Todd

www.advinbridge.com

We're proud to welcome Robert Todd to Cincinnati's Flying Pig Regional and the Annual Flying Pig Seminar! Robert is a professional player and lecturer and considered by many to be one of the top young bridge teachers in North America. Robert holds a wide range of bridge events, from 8-12 player workshops up to 150-200 player large seminars.

SCHEDULE

(to be held at Cincinnati Bridge Center, 2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241)

Sunday, June 10th

9:00AM: Doubles – The Key to Competitive Bidding

Noon: LUNCH

1:15PM: Trick Showing Bids

Monday, June 11th

9AM: Defensive Strategies and Tools

Noon: LUNCH

2:30PM: Join us at the Flying Pig Pro Am!

****All seminars will feature prepared hands that illustrate the seminar topic!****

Doubles – The Key to Competitive Bidding

The most important part of competitive bidding is finding a fit, and the primary tool for doing so is double. Here we will look at a variety of different types of doubles and how to make use of them to help you make better competitive bidding decisions.

Trick Showing Bids

Using High-Card Points is a good way to evaluate many hands, but highly distributional hands with long strong suits are often far more powerful than their points suggest. These hands can take a lot of tricks! We will look at how to describe these powerful trick-taking hands to partner so that you can reach a good final contract.

Defensive Strategies and Tools

As defenders, it's important to know our options for how to defend a hand. We apply defensive strategies in a variety of different situations – before the opening lead, after winning a trick in the middle of the hand, or when partner signals us. We will look at some defensive strategies so you can become a more dangerous defender!



Sign Me Up! To register, please submit your payment to Cecilia Kloecker no later than: **Monday, May 28th**
(make checks payable to CBA)

_____ \$65 Sunday, June 10th (includes "Doubles" and "Trick-Taking Bids" Seminars. Box Lunch, Handouts)

_____ \$35 Monday, June 11th (includes "Defensive Strategies" Seminar. Box Lunch, Handouts)

_____ **\$80 BOTH DAYS**

All Seminars to Be Held at CBC

Name _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Vegetarian Lunch Preferred _____

If you wish to be seated with a partner or group, please let us know:



Questions? Email Cecilia at ceciliakloecker@gmail.com



CINCINNATI

Home of
The Flying Pig!

June 11-17, 2018



Two-Day Flying Pig Pairs
Championship Friday-Saturday
Our Famous T-Shirt Prize Desk

Ramada Plaza Sharonville
11320 Chester Road
Cincinnati OH 45246
(513) 771-2080
\$79/Night Room Rate



More Info: cincybridge.com

EVENT SCHEDULE

2018 Cincinnati Flying Pig Regional

Bold - Multiple Session Event

Swiss Teams in Red

NLM Events in Blue

KOs in Green

* Grass Roots Game

	10:00AM	2:30PM	7:30PM
Monday June 11		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pro Am Pairs* (reservation required – see event notes) • Open Pairs "Side Series A" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass Roots Piglet Side Swiss* • Grass Roots Open Pairs "Side Series B"*
Tuesday June 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hog Wild Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions) • Hog Wild Open Pairs (2 sessions) • Porky Pig KO (Rounds 1 and 2) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 1) • Open Fast Pairs "Side Series B" • NLM Pairs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Pairs "Side Series A" • 199er Pairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Pairs "Side Series A" 	
Wednesday June 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pig in a Poke Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions) • Pig in a Poke Open Pairs (2 sessions) • Road Hog KO (Rounds 1 and 2) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 2) • Open Fast Pairs "Side Series B" • NLM Pairs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Porky Pig KO (Rd 3) • Open Pairs "Side Series C" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Porky Pig KO (Rd 4) • Open Pairs "Side Series C" • 199er Pairs 	
Thursday June 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hog Heaven Gold Rush Swiss Teams (2 sessions) • Hog Heaven Open Swiss Teams (2 sessions) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Eight Is Enough" Hogwash Horizontal Swiss (Round 1) • Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 3) • Open Fast Pairs "Side Series D"
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Hog KO (Round 3) • Open Pairs "Side Series C" • NLM Pairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Hog KO (Round 4) • Open Pairs "Side Series C" • NLM Pairs 	
Friday June 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flying Pig Pairs Championship (2 Session Qualifying) • Curly Tail Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions) • Miss Piggy KO (Rounds 1 and 2) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Eight Is Enough" Hogwash Horizontal Swiss (Round 2) • Pig in Mud Evening KO (Round 4) • Open Fast Pairs "Side Series D"
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Pairs "Side Series E" • 199er Pairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Pairs "Side Series E" 	
Saturday June 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flying Pig Pairs Championship (2 Session Final) • Three Little Pigs Gold Rush Pairs (2 sessions) • Three Little Pigs Open Pairs (2 sessions) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Fast Pairs "Side Series D"
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss Piggy KO (Rd 3) • Open Pairs "Side Series E" • NLM Pairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss Piggy KO (Rd 4) • Open Pairs "Side Series E" 	
Sunday June 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pig Out Stratiflighted Swiss Teams (2 session playthrough) 		

Spotlight Events

Mini-Soloway KOs

- All KO Brackets Run as 2-Session Swiss or Round Robin For Rounds 1-2
- Top 4 Teams in Each Bracket Qualify for Semifinals (No Carryover)
- Top Qualifier in Each Bracket Chooses from 3rd and 4th Place Team as Semifinal Opponent

Why You'll Love This Format

- ♣ KO Teams Guaranteed Two Sessions of Play Every Day
- ♣ No More Side Swiss!
- ♣ Increased MP Awards for Small Brackets
- ♣ No Unlucky First Round Draws
- ♣ More Balanced Brackets



Eight is Enough!

Thur-Fri Evening Swiss

- Players are assigned a point value based on MP
- A team may not have more than 8 points of players
 - 1 Point: < 400 Masterpoints
 - 2 Point: 400-1500 Masterpoints
 - 3 Point: > 1500 Masterpoints
- 5 or 6 player teams are permitted, but no team may field a team with more than 8 points of players in any round

Stratifications

- ♥ Open Pairs & Side Games (w/o Gold Rush): 0-750/750-2000/2000+
- ♦ Gold Rush Pairs & Swiss 0-100/100-300/300-750
- ♣ Stratiflighted Swiss A/X 3000+/0-3000 B/C/D 750-1500/300-750/0-300
- ♠ Open Pairs & Swiss (with Gold Rush): 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+

All players in events with upper MP limit must be under limit
All events stratified by average MPs
KO events may be handicapped



Flying Pig Pairs Championship

Looking for a Regional Event Worth the Trip?

The Only Two-Day Championship Pairs Event in the Midwest

Friday, June 15: 2-session Qualifying
Saturday, June 16: 2-session Final

The quality of the competition was exceptional!

William Toutant, Louisville KY

... as much excitement as a National open pairs event (picture playing in the Blue Ribbon pairs) and it was in our own backyard!

Bob Fisk, Cincinnati OH

... the most challenging and fun regional pairs event that I have experienced.

Ryan Schultz, Dayton OH

... as close as I'll ever get to winning a major championship.

John Hinton, Greenwood IN

Excellent event! Two days of top matchpoint competition not available at most Regionals

Jim Olson, Charleston WV



We're pleased to accept all major credit cards for entry fees! Please make sure to have your credit card ready when you buy your entry.

2018 Flying Pig Regional

Flying Pig Pro-Am

What Is It?

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.

Do I Qualify?

The only qualification for Ams is that you cannot yet have achieved Life Master status. To qualify as a Pro, you must be a life master. Everyone is welcome regardless of home Unit. Pairs are matched randomly before the event -- we're sorry, but we cannot accommodate requests for specific players.

When Is It?

Monday, June 11. Please show up at 1:30 to meet your partner. 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.

Hand records will be distributed after the game. Hang around for a few minutes when you're done! 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.

RSVP

Be sure to sign up for the Pro-Am. Reservations must be made before **June 4th**.
Ams - Please RSVP to Peg Ammon at ammonfarm@gmail.com or John Taylor at johntaylorjtt@gmail.com or (859) 739-0457
Pros - Please RSVP to Patty Eber at opieeb@gmail.com or 513-658-9056



Newly Crowned Life Masters at the Flying Pig Are Engraved on our Pegasus Trophy!

♠ Tournament Chair ♠

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

♦ Partnerships ♦

Steve Messinger
smessinger9063@gmail.com
(513) 441-8858

♣ Pro Am Pairs ♣

Reserve by June 4
Joanne Earls
jolman@fuse.net
(513) 478-2033

♥ Hotel Information ♥

Ramada Plaza
11320 Chester Road
(513) 771-2080
\$79/Night Double or King All Week Long
Ask for "Flying Pig" or "Bridge Tournament" Rate
Reserve by June 4, 2018

Annual Pegasus Seminar

Get Ready for the Flying Pig!



Robert Todd

Tune up your game before the Regional! The Cincinnati Bridge Association is pleased to host renowned bridge teacher Robert Todd for a daylong Sunday and Monday morning seminar. Watch for details and signup info coming soon!



Terrific Caddies!



Winners from Our Famous T-Shirt Prize Desk!



More Info: cincybridge.com



Google Site Search Bar. Search the CBA site for bridge content!

Site Navigation Menus (Click)

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Join Now! My CBA Education Play/Results Websites Milestones Tournaments CBA Board

Cincinnati Bridge Association Unit 124

2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241 (513) 563 2218 cincybridge124@gmail.com

Popular Links: 2018 Results Members Directory ALERT Unit Wide Game Site Map Partnerships Unit Board NameTags Web User Guide

Links to Improve Your Game

New to Bridge? Check out Unit 124 resources:

- Newcomers
- Bridge Classes
- Learn to Play Software (Free - Windows (PC): Bridge Basics
- Improve Your Bridge Learning Guide
- Saturday Supervised Play Schedule
- Beyond the Basics

CALENDAR USERS GUIDE

ACBUnit 124 Events

Today Sunday, April 29

Monday, April 30	
11:00am	CBC Deschapelles Club (Invitation Onl
12:00pm	Middletown DBC
6:00pm	Oxford DBC
7:00pm	4 is Enough Pairs
Tuesday, May 1	
10:00am	GR - NKy Bridge Club
11:00am	CBC Tuesday AM Stratified Pairs
11:00am	GR - Anderson Bridge Club
2:45pm	CBC Supervised Play
7:00pm	CBA 0-500 Includes LM <500
Wednesday, May 2	
11:00am	4 is Enough Pairs
11:00am	CBC Homestyle Bridge
11:00am	GR - Anderson Bridge Club
12:00pm	Lebanon DBC - Kings Activity Center
6:30pm	GR - NKBC Open and 199er Games
Thursday, May 3	
11:00am	CBC Thursday Stratified
11:30am	GR - NKy Bridge Club
12:00pm	Erie Avenue Belles (Invitation Only)
1:00pm	Thursday Bridge Club (Invitation Only)
6:30pm	CBC 8 is Enough Swiss Teams
Friday, May 4	
10:00am	GR - NKBC Open Pairs
11:00am	GR - CBC Queen City Club-Open.NLM
Saturday, May 5	
Cinco de Mayo	
9:30am	CBC Supervised Play
1:00pm	GR - CBC Saturday Open Pairs
Monday, May 7	
11:00am	CBC Deschapelles Club (Invitation Onl
12:00pm	Middletown DBC

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time

Google Calendar for Unit Games (see Calendar Use Guide)

Unit Wide News Follows!

Major Events -

Unit 124 Awards Party Celebrate! May 1, 2018

Cincinnati Flying Pig REGIONAL JUNE 11 - 17, 2018

D11 Summer STaC Jul 9-15, 2018

Atlanta NABC Jul 26 - Aug 5, 2018

Popular Links for this site (click)

Unit 124 Major Events Click an ICON for more information

NEWS

New to Bridge or the area? Click to Contact the Unit

Contact us

Welcome to the CBA

Click to read our welcome letter



This is perhaps the most popular program offered in the Unit. Advise a compatible Mentor. You will play 4 or more times between May and parts of your game where you want help. Don't miss this chance to help the better players in our Unit. The first session in NKy is May 17 and May 30. Register NOW so you are assured a partner!

AJ Stephani's Report to District 11 from the Philadelphia Board Meeting and Steve Moese's Governor's Meeting are now available. [D11 Report Archive.](#)

Check out the new Spring/Summer Bridge Classes! Go directly to our [Bridge Teachers](#) Page.

CONGRATULATIONS! CBA MEMBERS ON THE MOVE- WELCOME! New Members: Charlene Randolph, Jeffrey Randolph, Dylan Ryman, Danah Te...

NEW GOLD LIFE MASTER - Jack Mehalko

NEW Bronze Life Master - Gretchen Sherman

New Life Master - Barry Wauligman

Members with promotions: Greg Chrzanowski, Christine Heekin, Rod Kaplan, Rohrer, Pete Williams, Terry Shotwell, Swarna Mohan, Darleen Young, Joy Singerman. Promoted March 31, 2018. See [Milestones - Members on the Move](#) for details!

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday Evening May 1, 2018 - Join us at the annual Game at the CBC. We honor New Life Masters, Ace of Clubs and Mini Masters play for free. Contact Reeta Brendamour to volunteer - your help is needed for the Open and NLM Sections. Details in the [FLYER](#). Carpool and alternative transportation available.

6:00 - 6:45 PM: Drinks and Appetizers
6:45 - 7:00 PM: New Life Master Presentation
7:00 - 10:30 PM: Bridge and remaining awards

Attention all Unit Members - Participating Clubs offer North American Pairs Qualifying Games throughout the months of June, July and August. This grass roots pairs event culminates in the NAP District finals. \$1 more and you earn extra Masterpoints. District 11 Qualifiers earn a stipend and the right to represent the District in the National Competition at the Memphis NABC in March 2019. Participating Clubs offer North American Pairs Qualifying Games throughout the months of June, July and August. This grass roots pairs event culminates in the NAP District finals. \$1 more and you earn extra Masterpoints. District 11 Qualifiers earn a stipend and the right to represent the District in the National Competition at the Memphis NABC in March 2019. [Frequently Asked Questions.](#)

Announcing the Annual Flying Pig Seminar by Robert Todd! Robert is a professional player and lecturer and considered by many to be one of the top young bridge teachers in North America. Robert holds a wide range of bridge events, from 8-12 player workshops up to 150-200 player large seminars. This seminar is at **Cincinnati Bridge Center**, 2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241) Reserve on or before May 28 - No drop ins please. See [FLYER](#) for details.

Monday, June 11th

9:00AM: Doubles - The Key to Competitive Bidding

Noon: LUNCH

1:15PM: Trick Showing Bids

9AM: Defensive Strategies and Tools

Noon: LUNCH

2:30PM: Join us at the Flying Pig Pro Am! (1:30 for partnership assignments)

****All seminars will feature prepared hands that illustrate the seminar topic!****

District 11 NAP/GNT Questionnaire - Please Respond with your input. Our new District GNT/NAP Coordinator Ryan Schultz is looking for your input to help make these important events more appealing. [Take the Survey.](#)

Here is your copy of the:

JAN 2018 ALERT (Large File 2.6 MB Use high Speed Connection for best Results)

Oct 2017 D11 Midwest Monitor (Large file 6 MB - Use high speed connection for best results)

See this Bridge Video: For card loving bridge players, attracting youth is ultimate puzzle. CBC News Clip on

All links on this site will show up **Bold with a Yellow Background** when you **hover your cursor** over them. Icons might be links, and often have a help bubble that shows when you **hover your cursor** over them.

Please contact the web masters with comments: Steve Moese moesefamily@aol.com Potter Orr potter@orrcomputer.com

Special Club Games offer additional Masterpoint® opportunities. Click to learn more about each game type. Abbreviations are used in the Google Calendar

SITE MAP

Site Map: See all the menu choices at once! Use with browsers not supporting JavaScript menus.

Join Now! Welcome to the CBA ACBL Member Benefits & Rates Join the ACBL MyACBL Member Log-In Renew My Membership	MyCBA Need a Partner? Map to the Bridge Center Map to Unit 124 Clubs Newsletters Youth Bridge For Newcomers Member Directory Member Profiles Past Event Photos	Play/Results Club Game Results 2018 Unit Wide Game Results	Milestones Members on the Move Photos & Awards 70% games Member Master Points CBA Life Master Honor Roll Unit 124 Power Ratings Top 5000 Power Ratings Photos & Awards 70%Games Plan Your Campaign Mini McKenny Ace of Clubs	CBA Board Board Members Nomination Form Board Meetings & Minutes Education Master Plan Committees & Key Roles CBA Life Master Honor Roll CBA Constitution Policies-Procedures Board Resources CBA Financials Contact the CBA How Unit 124 Works ACBL BoD & BoG Reports
Education Education Home Supervised Play For Newcomers CBA Mentoring Program Improve Your Game CBA Learning Guide Learning Points New to Duplicate? Bridge Class Schedule Bridge Teachers Bridge Library ACBL Alert Chart	e-mail the CBA E-mail the Webmaster e-mail the ALERT Editor	<i>Past Year Results</i> Club Game Results 2017 Club Game Results 2016 Club Game Results 2015 Club Game Results 2014 Club Game Results 2013 Club Game Results 2012 Club Game Results 2011 Club Game Results 2010	Tournaments Cincinnati Flying Pig Regional Cincinnati NLM Sectional NKy Getaway Sectional Cincinnati Fall Spooktacular Sectional Winter STaC Spring STaC Summer STaC D11 North American Pairs D11 Grand National Teams	
	Recipes Bridge Quotes	Websites Anderson DBC Deschappelles DBC Mikes Games at the CBC Middletown DBC Northern Kentucky DBC Sycamore Springs DBC Springboro Womens Interclub District 11 ACBL	D11 Future Tournaments ACBL Calendar D11 Tournaments ACBL NABC Tournaments	

TOP

CONTACT THE CBA

This dialog box appears when you click on the "Contact Us" Icon (See page one). Please fill out the form. Follow the directions on the form. The asterisked fields are required in order to send the request.


Contact The Cincinnati Bridge Association

Welcome to the Cincinnati Bridge Association (CBA). We represent Unit 124 of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) and serve the game in the greater Cincinnati area. Please visit our website (www.cincybridge.com) for more information.

The items with a star (*) are required.

Please indicate your level of bridge experience, what you would like and how you heard about us. You will receive an email confirming that your inquiry was received.

Sincerely,
John Meinking
CBA President



Idiots on the internet scan websites using Robot programs filling in forms with nonsense. The only way we can prevent this is to ask humans to answer a question that robots cannot. In order to submit the form you MUST enter the number of Kings and Jacks in the picture. Thanks

Count

Bridge Experience: (Choose among)

- New to Bridge
- New to Duplicate but play bridge for fun
- An ACBL Member new to Cincinnati
- A returning CBA Member

What I would like:

- Learn Bridge
- Learn to play Duplicate
- Improve my bridge skills
- Find a Partner
- Join the ACBL

How did you hear about us

- Friends/Family
- Newspaper
- Billboard
- Website/Google
- ACBL Website
- Other

The CBA Unit 124 Website updates about twice weekly. Please get your comments/questions to the webmasters. The site has rich content to serve people new to bridge and players of all experience levels. Content on this site complements and does not duplicate the content from the ACBL (<http://www.acbl.org>).

The Unit Club Google Calendar shows Unit Club activity for clubs who choose to report. Tournament activity is shown under the tournament drop-down menu and NOT in the Unit Club Game Calendar.

District 11 Web Page: <http://www.district11bridge.com>

District 11 Tournament Schedule at: http://www.district11bridge.com/District_11_Tournament_Calendars.pdf

For additional tournament information go to the ACBL tournament page: http://www.acbl.org/tournaments_page/

Submitted Respectfully,
Steve Moese, Unit 124 Webmaster

29 APR 2018

Welcome to the NEW! Unit 124 CBA Event Calendar (powered by Google)

CBA Unit 124, ACBL	
Today	Thursday, March 5
Thursday, March 5	
10:00am	CBC STaC Open & NLM Pairs
11:30am	NKBC STaC Open Pairs
12:30pm	Erie Avenue Belles (Invitation Only)
2:30pm	CBC STaC Open Pairs
7:00pm	CBC STaC Open Pairs
Friday, March 6	
10:00am	CBC STaC Open & NLM Pairs
10:00am	NKBC STaC Open Pairs
2:30pm	CBC STaC Open Pairs
Saturday, March 7	
10:00am	CBC STaC Open & NLM Pairs
10:00am	CBC Supervised Play
2:30pm	CBC STaC Open Pairs
Sunday, March 8	
1:00pm	STaC Swiss (Single Session)
Monday, March 9	
11:00am	CBC Deschappelles Club (Invitation Only)
11:30am	NKBC Open Pairs
1:00pm	Mt Pleasant Retirement Pairs
7:00pm	CBC Limited Duplicate
Tuesday, March 10	
10:00am	NKy Bridge Club
11:00am	CBC Tuesday AM Stratified Pairs
11:00am	Springboro
11:30am	Anderson Bridge Club
12:00pm	Otterbein Senior Center Pairs
6:30pm	CBC Let's Talk Bridge
7:00pm	CBC CBA Open Stratified & 149ers Pairs
Wednesday, March 11	
11:00am	CBC Homestyle NLM 0-10 MP Pairs

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time

View Special Game Codes and Masterpoint Awards

Google account, you can even copy the game to your Google calendar by clicking the "Copy to my calendar" link.

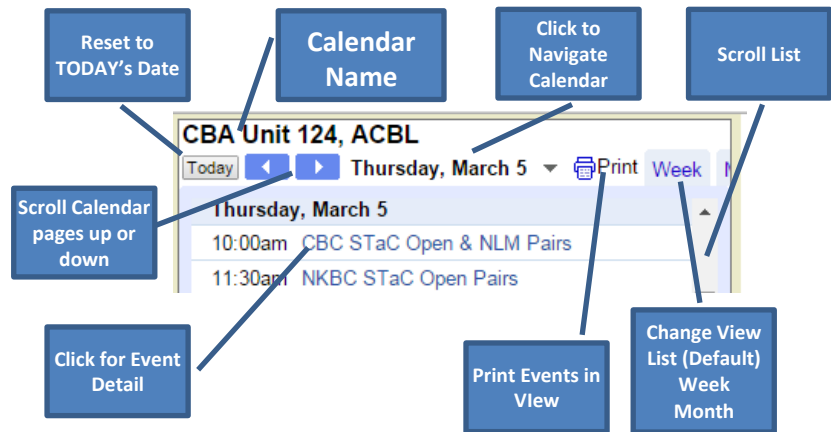
Clicking the event title a second time closes the detail view.

Club games will have the director name and contact information.

From now on you have access to the latest offerings for events at the Unit Games on our home page. The CBA Unit 124 calendar shows key events by date and start time. Click on the title of the event (blue) and get even more detail:

- Is this a Special Game (Extra MPs)?
- Director & Contact Information
- MP Limits

You can navigate to future games too! Here's how to use all the features of the Calendar:



Calendar Name: This is the Unit 124 Calendar of events for all public games in the Unit.

Event Detail

Click on the CBC STaC Open & NLM event title. The line expands to show the event detail:

The Detail shows when the game occurs, where it occurs and a map link if available. If you have a

CBA Unit 124, ACBL	
Today	Wednesday, March 4
Wednesday, March 4	
10:00am	CBC STaC Open & NLM Pairs
When	Wed, March 4, 10:00am – 1:30pm
Where	Bridge Center of Cincinnati, 2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241, United States (map)
Description	STaC Open & NLM Pairs (Attendance Permitting) more details» copy to my calendar
11:30am	Anderson Bridge Club STaC
2:30pm	CBC STaC Open Pairs
6:30pm	NKBC STaC Pairs

Special Games

There are 20 different special games, each paying a range of extra master points, as well as **silver**, **red** and **gold** pigments throughout the year. Anderson, Northern Kentucky and the Cincinnati Bridge Center share their special games here. We post other unit game special events as we receive notice from the sanction holders.

The **Event Title** will usually start with a special game flag (for example, STaC or CC for Club Championship) followed by location and game type (stratification and pairs/teams). A link to the special game types is on the website just under the calendar, or go to the [Unit 124 Special Game Key](#). For more detail go to [ACBL Special Games](#).

Here's an Example set of Event Titles and their explanation:

CC-NKBC Open Pairs

Club Championship at NKy for Open Pairs

STaC – AND Open Pairs

STaC at Anderson for Open Pairs

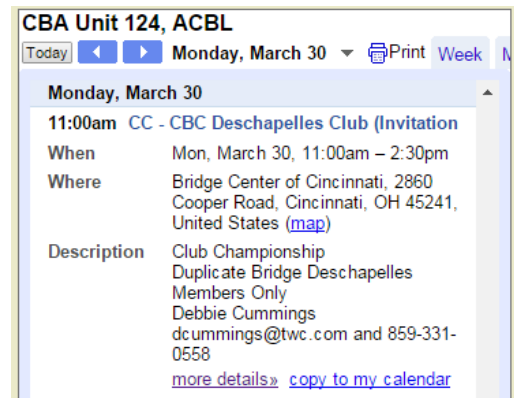
IF – CBC Finesse Club

International Fund Game at CBC Finesse Club (Open & NLM).

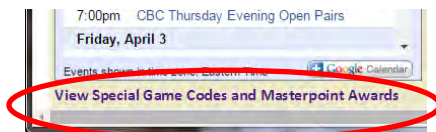


See the 11 AM Game on March 27 is a Club Championship at the CBC for the Finesse Club. Can you see the other 2 Club Championship games in this view?

Click on the Monday March 30 11:00 AM CC-CBC Deschappelles Club (Invitation Only) link to see



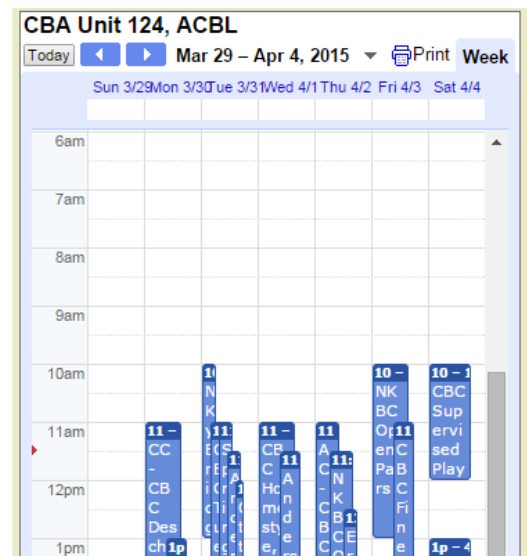
the event detail. You find it is a Club Championship. Debbie Cummings is directing. Debbie's contact information is prominent. Want to find out how many masterpoints you might win? Go to the bottom of the calendar and click the link "View Special Game Codes and Masterpoint Awards."



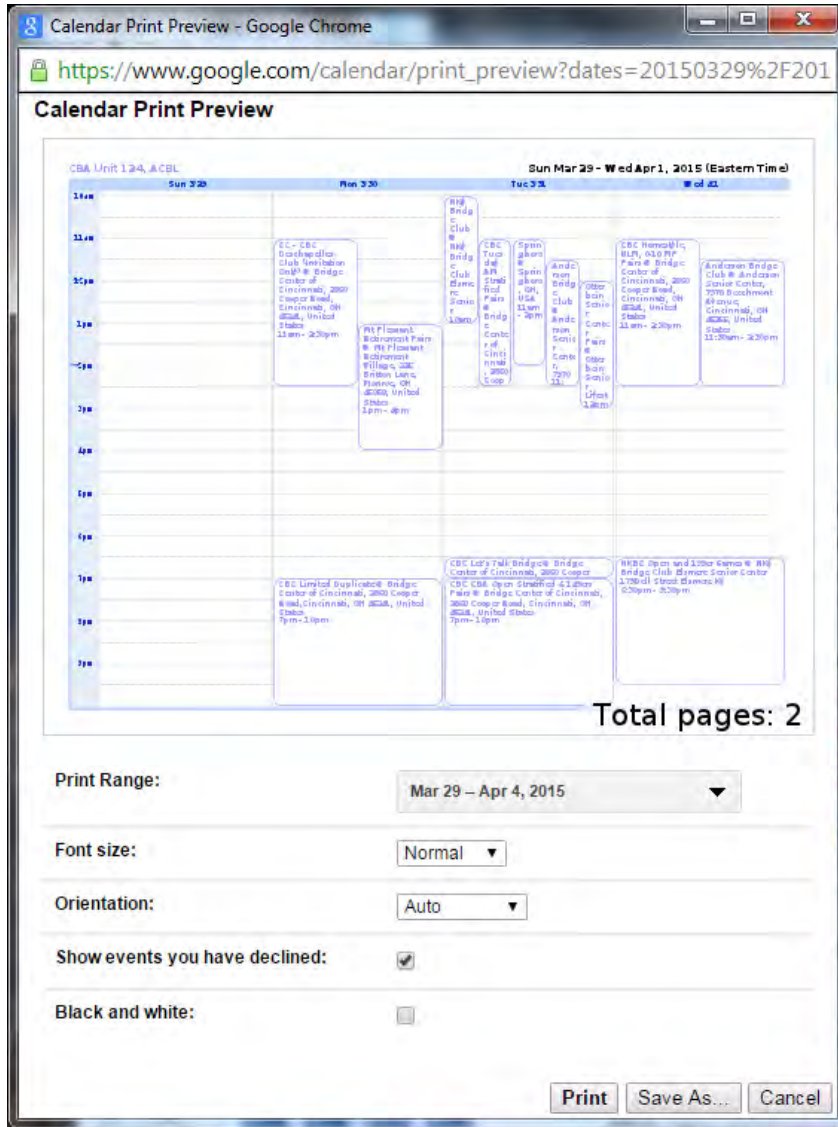
Changing the Calendar View

The default view is the **LIST**. We recommend using the list because the **week** and **month** views are too compressed and unreadable in the home page. However if you want to print a page that shows the upcoming week or month, you want to select that view before printing.

To select the week view, simply click on the **Week** tab in the upper right hand corner of the calendar. The week view will appear. Notice that this view is very unreadable as is. However when you click on the print icon the print dialog box



offers a readable view of the weekly calendar and the number of pages that will be printed. The print facility will print only the information that is in focus on the home page.



When you print the pages you will be able to read the week view. The same is true for the month view.

Yes, you can increase the range of dates you print, but you will be responsible for the amount of paper you use to do that!!

To reset the calendar to the preferred list view, simply reload the home page by clicking the page reload button on your browser (circular arrow).

This **CBA Unit 124, ACBL calendar** is owned and operated by Unit124 (CBA) to communicate Unit events to our membership. We do so as a convenience for our members, and to promote greater participation in Unit duplicate games. The quality of the information contained in this calendar is a direct result of what the Sanction Holders share with us in the event planning process. Event details will change from time to time. Regardless of what is published in this calendar, the Sanction Holder has the final say in what their game will be on any given day.

Steve Moese
CBA Vice President
Co-Web Master & Communications Chair
March 4, 2015