



Quarterly Newsletter



VOL XLIII No. 4 October 2018

2860 Cooper Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45241 (513) 563 2218

From the President's Desk

Unit 124 Members,

We are approaching the end of my 4th year as President of the CBA.



I hope all of you will join the CBA board and attend the Membership meeting and bridge game on Tuesday November 13 at 5:30PM. Free dinner at 5:30 and free bridge at 7PM. Please join me on this special occasion to thank all the members that do the real work that make the Cincinnati Bridge Association and the Cincinnati Bridge Center successful operations.

We completed the last of a three-year complete renovation of the CBC with the replacement of the carpet and the entrance awning. Just to review: 2016: Painted the walls, replaced the ceiling and renovated the women's restroom. Also, the parking lot was resurfaced and the common area restrooms renovated. Our lease extended to 2027. 2017: Renovated the kitchen area. 2018: Replaced the carpet and awning.

The three-year cost for these renovations was around \$57,000. The Units assets have actually increased by \$20,000 during this three-year period even with the \$57,000 renovation expense. This would not be possible without the dedication of all those involved in CBA events and operations.

Not all the physical changes around the CBC are as obvious as the renovations. Thanks to Potter and Sandy Orr for the artwork that decorate the walls and seem to magically change. Also to Robert Frey for the defibrillator unit. Let's hope it never gets used.

Not all the changes around the CBC are physical in nature. Those that play on Tuesday and Thursday see a lot of new faces entering the building at the end of the games. The OLLI beginner bridge lessons and CAP programs have continued to bring new players to the CBC. We can use some more volunteers to assist with

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Lou Lex Regional	20	Nov 5-11, 2018
Matt Granovetter Class	22	Dec 7, 2018
Unit 124 Holiday Party	23	Dec 15, 2018

our newest new player programs. Contact any member of the Education Committee if you want to help.

See you at the tables,

John Meinking, President Unit 124

Unit 124 Club Games		
Mon	AM Aft PM	CBC*11:00 Inv MIDM 1:00 CBC 7:00 (Limited) - OXF 7:00
Tue	AM PM	NKY 10:00 CBC 11:00 MIDS 11:00 SP 2:45PM CBC 7:00* NLM (Open Coming 3/23)
Wed	AM Aft PM	CBC* 11:00 - SCC* 10:00 - AND 11:00 MIDL 12:00 NKY 6:30
Thu	AM Aft PM	INT* 9:00 - CBC 11:00 - NKy 11:30 AM WHC* 12:00 - EAB 12:30 SP 2:45 CBC 6:30 "8 is ENOUGH" Swiss Teams 1&3
Fri	AM PM	NKY 10:00 - CBC 11:00
Sat	AM Aft	CBC 9:30AM-Noon Supervised Play (SP) CBC 1:00

GROWTH!

The ACBL is coming to grips with a strong need to grow. The focus is on new members, more tables, and more classes/students/teachers.

The Education Foundation is a separate 501c3 charity that is actively funding projects for recruiting people to bridge and supporting teachers.

This ALERT carries strong messages from our **Membership** and **Education Committees** and their Chairpersons. Please read their reports closely and decide how you will volunteer to help their efforts.

We can always use more teachers, especially for new bridge players. The ACBL now emphasizes Best Practices Teachers Workshop (replacing the TAP certification). This certification teaches competent bridge players the skills necessary to engage adults in a fun, self-directed learning experience. Help new players make bridge their own!

If you are interested in teaching beginners at bridge please contact Larry Newman ljnewman@gmail.com.

You might want to know more about the demographics of our Unit. You'll find a few facts in support of Steve Messenger's efforts and the Membership Committee's priorities. Ask Steve Messenger for more details.

As always, this issue is chock full of entertaining offerings by our talented cast of authors. We welcome David Albrecht as a new contributor.

We cover the results of the recent North American Pairs District Finals. Top Pairs will represent District 11 in Memphis in March 2019.

There are many exciting events coming up in the next several weeks. Be sure to mark your calendars so you can be on top of all the ones you want! Many clubs will be celebrating the Holiday Season in December. Take advantage and enjoy as many club parties as you can.

We all thank our tireless volunteers. They make everything you enjoy happen. Beyond the Board and our Committees, there are dozens of people who pitch in to make bridge thrive in the tri-state area.

We thank our tireless contributors for making these pages worth the read. Here's wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays, and a Prosperous New Year.

You can also make someone less fortunate happy for the holidays – donate a usable winter coat or sweater.

Wishing You Good Bridge and Good Luck,

Steve

Editor, The ALERT moesefamily@aol.com



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2018 Jerry Steuernagle Award



Jerry Steuernagle (1940 - 1971) was one of Cincinnati's most liked and respected bridge players, known particularly for his sense of humor and for always being a gentleman at the bridge table.

The **Jerry Steurenagle Award** is presented annually to the duplicate bridge player best exemplifying the principles of ethics, kindness, and high character in bridge. This award is based on 4 factors: 1) Contribution to the promotion of duplicate bridge, 2) Action in setting high ethical standards, 3) Compassion, sportsmanship and sense of humor, 4) Willingness to help less experienced players. Please send nominations for the Jerry Steuernagle award to

Debbie Cummings dcummings@twc.com or
John Meinking jokingme71@gmail.com

2018 Patty Eber Award

The **Patty Eber Award** is given to an individual demonstrating extraordinary service to the Unit and to Duplicate Bridge. Please send your nomination to any Unit Board Member.

Please have your nominations in by December 2018.

Unit 124 News

Unit 124 / CBA
Membership Mtg

**NOV
13**

5:30 PM @ CBC
FREE Food & Bridge!

FREE PIZZA – FREE BRIDGE

November 13, 2018

Tuesday Evening, we will hold the Annual Membership Meeting. Come at **5:30 PM** to talk with your Board of Directors, get your questions answered and your ideas

heard, and propose motions for the Board of Directors to consider (Motions require a quorum present). Enjoy a Club Championship Bridge Game with **EXTRA MASTER POINTS** (Open and NLM at 7:00 PM) and **FREE PIZZA** for all. The pizza, soft drinks, and bridge are free to all Unit 124 Members. Don't miss this fun evening.

Saturday December 15, 2018 the Unit will celebrate the Holidays. All members are encouraged to reserve ahead of time (food planning requires this). Please see the flyer in this issue. You can contact Pam Campbell 513-720-2621 or campbell.ps.54@gmail.com with your reservations or with partnership requests. This will be a Championship Game with extra Masterpoints. Celebrate the Season with a favorite friend or partner. Don't forget the desserts are provided by your Board of Directors. **Reserve NOW!**



Center one you'll be proud of.

Have you noticed the new awning over our main entrance from the parking lot? Thank Nalin Mehta and Pam Campbell for getting the awning designed and installed. We want to make your experience at the Cincinnati Bridge



Many thanks to Bob Frey and the Frey Family Foundation for donating a new the **ZOLL® AED Plus® Defibrillator with Standard Size Cabinet** to the Cincinnati Bridge Center. That's right. We have an automatic defibrillator installed on the wall at the director's desk. Bob and his family deserve a vote of thanks for their very thoughtful and caring donation to

the health of our players. When you see Bob playing in Northern Kentucky Bridge Club, be sure to thank him.

Bob's life was saved by one of these devices and he wants to pay this forward to all his bridge friends. Bob, we thank you profoundly.

CLUB CORNER

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

70% Games Aug-Oct

Date	Game	Player	Player	%
9/6	Erie Avenue Belles	Melanie Onnen	Sandy Orr	70.96
8/15	Anderson	Bill Higgins	Eugene Siutsau	70.99

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

ACBL events taper off in the last quarter of the year. There is the ACBL Wide International Fund Game on Monday December 17 at participating clubs in the Unit.

Be sure to look for the many holiday celebrations at all the clubs throughout the unit.

**2018 Unit 124
Holiday Party**



Reservations Required

15 Dec 2018

What do you call permanent snowbirds? **Elaine and Ron**

Jarchow send their regards to all their friends in the Unit. They've moved to Florida and have already found their new Bridge home!



Venice Nokomis DBC, 751 US 41 Bypass
South Venice, FL 34285

PS – They have a game or two every day of the week.

Unit Elections Nov 1-3, 2018. Potter Orr, Peter Outcault, and John Williams are the candidates. There is a ballot issue to change the CBA Constitution. Results will publish on the website and in the January 2019 ALERT.



Yep. You guessed it – That’s Dean Congbalay. He seems to be in more places than Carmen San Diego!!!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Steve Messinger

While the decline has been slight, it is a trend that we must reverse to ensure the game and club that means so much all of us remains vibrant. As you would expect, our Board is on top of this issue. We formed a new Membership Committee, tasked it with reversing this trend and pledged to provide it with adequate resources. And now we’re it! Your Membership Committee members are **Steve Messinger (Chair), Carol Scovic, Sharon Kreitzer, Salty Roark, Jim Barrett and Pete Outcalt.**



Increasing membership is not easy, since many perspective members just want to play social bridge, while others take to heart what Groucho Marx said about clubs – “I refuse to join any club that would have me as a member.” So where do we go from here? We started by analyzing our membership data so we could identify and resource the issues that need the most attention. One issue immediately jumped out. Our new and less experienced players are significantly underserved. I’ll bet you had no idea that 23.5% of our members have 0-20 MPs. How many of these newer players do you know? How many do you think have become frustrated and quit playing?

What current options does the CBA provide for new players? The 0-500 game on Friday is the only game limited to NLMs. And playing against experienced NLMs, many of whom are intense and use sophisticated bidding and playing tools can be quite intimidating to newer bridge players. After all, many inexperienced players are still adjusting to the clock and learning to use

basic conventions. Clearly our 0-20 players as the new players we recruit need a safe landing – one or more games where they can develop and improve their duplicate skills in a competitive yet supportive environment. Working with the Education Committee and our Directors to address this need will be one of the top priorities of the Membership Committee.

Our Education Committee does an excellent job attracting players interested in bridge with the OLLI classes, but many of those players are not only new to bridge, but also to playing cards – so the leap to duplicate is quite large. Come and Play, which the Education Committee also has done a great job supporting, is a great place for new players to start, but additional training will be necessary to prepare them for duplicate – perhaps a class that prepares them to begin playing in a 0-20 or 0-50 game. The Membership and Education Committees will need your support to make this happen, whether it is as a teacher, coach, or mentor to make this happen. We will need you to step up and volunteer. Please be patient. It will take time to develop and support new duplicate players, but the effort will make us a stronger club.

After the infrastructure is in place to support new members, we will put additional focus on recruiting new members. In the meantime, one of the most effective ways to recruit new members is to do it one at a time, with personal invitations. This is how we have frequently recruited new members in the past; they were invited by, or came to play with members they knew socially. And the members supported and encouraged them. Please reach out to those contacts you feel would enrich our membership. We are retaining most of our experienced members, although every year we lose some due to health-related issues and relocation. We will continue to retain our experienced members if we all strive to make their bridge experience positive and rewarding.

I’ve focused on what we believe is the most important membership issue for our club. The Membership Committee is just getting started, but we are exploring several additional ideas to recruit or retain new members. These include the following:

- Welcoming new members; providing them with a new member packet that contains a free play, convention card, information on educational opportunities as well as an introduction to the CBA website.

- Developing a mentor program for newer players that uses NLMs as mentors for newer players.
- Identifying local social Bridge clubs that might provide a source of new members.
- Following up with the ACBL to identify clubs that are increasing membership so we can contact them and identify best practices
- Determine how we can make better use of Free Play to increase membership.
- Reach out to our members pro-actively on a regular basis rather than counting on them to visit our website.

Here's what you can do to help.

- Volunteer to mentor and staff Come and Play and classes developed by the Education Committee. The Education Committee must have more volunteers to support additional classes.
- Help us identify local social bridge clubs.
- Drop off old copies of your "Bridge Bulletin" – we use those in packets we provide to OLLI graduates. (we will take your names off of the bulletins before distributing)
- Encourage your bridge contacts to come and play at the CBA.

Please reach out and share your ideas on member satisfaction, retention, recruitment, successfully on-boarding newer players. Contact any of us at the club or email me a smessinger9063@gmail.com and I will share your ideas with the committee. Thank you in advance for your support.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

By **Larry Newman**

As I've mentioned previously, in the recent past, we've had many good instructors offering lessons, but no formal curriculum, and only modest consistency. For the past 2 ½ years the Education Committee (EC) has been working on developing and implementing a somewhat new structure for education at the Cincinnati Bridge Association (CBA). With the help of marketing through the University of Cincinnati's OLLI program, we have seen 60 new bridge students annually, and continue to have essentially full enrollment to our quarterly offering



of Bridge 101 (Bridge for the person totally new to the game). Bridge 101 classes can be followed by 102 and 103 courses all based on the ACBL "Bridge in the 21st Century" curriculum and texts. Current teachers are Amy Gerowitz, Jane Duncan, John Meinking and Larry Newman. (With the aid of many assistants who have volunteered their time - THANKS to all of you ... you know who you are!)

Additionally, the EC has initiated a "CAP" program (**Come And Play**) that hopefully will continue to grow. This offers a place for new bridge players to meet, and just play bridge in a non-competitive environment. We want them to feel comfortable coming to the CBC (Cincinnati Bridge Center). We expect a format in which they will have someone available to help provide assistance when they reach dilemmas in their bidding or play will help promote this, And will provide a bit of instruction to keep them on a forward path. So far, this is only available on Tuesday afternoon (2:45 - 5:00), but we are hoping to expand this in the near future.

We are also proud to announce a new class for the advanced-intermediate to expert level bridge players in our community taught by Matthew Granovetter. This will begin in December 7, Friday at 9:30 – 10:30 for 8 weeks. Details will be posted at the CBC. Cost will be \$77pp for 8 lessons. You can sign up with Matthew Granovetter or Larry Newman.

We are in need of teachers for our beginning courses, particularly those willing to make a bit of commitment to help organize the classes. Criteria: solid knowledge of bridge basics combined with good people and teaching skills. If interested, you are encouraged to contact Jane Duncan, Amy Gerowitz or me to discuss this in more detail.

We'd love for you to continue to spread the word, and help make the CBC the place to go to learn and to play bridge.

Please feel free to contact me at my personal email: lin.newman@gmail.com.

Thanks.

See you at the tables!

Larry Newman, Chairperson
CBA Education Committee

For all CBA Classes, please go to:
http://www.cincybridge.com/CBA_Lessons_3.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](http://www.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.

Play Nice!

By Dean Congbalay
dcongbalay@comey.com



From the first time we ever play bridge, we learn Rule #1: Don't let partner revoke! So when the kind person sitting across the table doesn't follow suit in hearts, we reflexively say, "No hearts, partner?" Sometimes we are succinct: "No more?" Or even folksy: "None of them?"

Then there's my longtime fave: "Heartless?"

My buddy Steve -- never The Albatross but often The Coolest Partner in the Room -- took it one step further. "Cruel?" he said.

"Mean!" I replied. "Heartless and mean!"

Since then, we have expanded our lexicon to encompass all suits.

If I can't follow suit in spades, he quickly asks: "No gardening tools?"

For clubs: "Caveman's nightmare?"

And for diamonds: Of course, "Burglar's nightmare?"

Without missing a beat, we even got a bit more creative with hearts: "Cardiologist's surprise?"

Now, if we could just figure out what to do with the cards we're dealt!

Play nice!

THE BIGGER YOUR FIT, THE BIGGER YOUR REEVALUATION

By Rob Weidenfeld



Vul: None	♠ A9832
Dlr: N	♥ AQ3
4♥	♦ 10842
Lead: ♣K	♣ 9

♠ Q1074	N	♠ KJ
♥ 872	W	♥ 5
♦ Q3	S	♦ K765
♣ AK76		♣ QJ8752

♠ 65
♥ KJ10964
♦ AJ9
♣ 43

N	E	S	W
P	P	2♥	P
P	3♣	P	P
3♥	P	P	4♣
4♥	AP		

Having high card points makes playing bridge fun, but having a fit makes the game much more interesting.

This deal was played at the Cincinnati Bridge Center on Cooper Road in Evendale about 10 years ago. The deal illustrates the power of having a fit. A fit normally refers to the added value of your hand in combination with your partner when you collectively hold eight or more cards in that suit. As the

number of cards held moves beyond eight, the greater the playing strength of your hand.

This deal was played eleven times in the course of one evening and few North players appreciated the power of their fit with South. When South started the auction with a weak two bid many North players passed allowing East to get into the auction. When North then competed with three hearts, many Wests showed their fit by bidding 4 clubs and their partner had no trouble making four clubs, losing only a spade, heart and a diamond.

Only a two players in the North seat competed to the four level and were amply rewarded. Best defense against four hearts is to lead a trump. South wins in hand and leads a club. West should win in order to lead another trump. South must overtake the queen with the king in hand and lead the club, ruffing with dummy's last trump. Then a diamond to the nine allows West to continue with a high club. South ruffs, draws the last trump, leads a spade to the ace and finesses in diamonds again. South makes four hearts losing only one spade, one diamond and one club. When both sides have fits, both sides can take a lot of tricks.

EP 24: LOST VIRTUE

By Steve Felson

"Few men have virtue to withstand the highest bidder."—George Washington, Letter to Major-General Robert Howe, Tuesday, August 17, 1779



Bob Brown and I have played *on* many moons *for* many moons and I know him well. I am accustomed to his face. I am accustomed to the tune, he whistles night and noon, his smiles, his frowns, his ups, his downs. Therefore, while I may be affronted, I am never taken aback when Bob wrenches a cold slam out of my hands, rips it into a tangled mess like a crow dismembering a rabbit, shakes it about, and produces a fine gemstone.

Here, however, he made it doubly difficult. Even though I exercised the soundest of judgments, Bob still outbid me, and when he realized his error he outbid me again. And I, like the father of our country facing a scabies epidemic at Valley Forge, soldiered on.

Why do I always soldier on? (I hear you ask) Because, from an excess of virtue long ago and far away, I promised his parents – surprisingly solid citizens considering their issue – that I would never abandon their wayward first-born. Even though *"virtue's steely*

bones look bleak i' the cold wind" (*All's Well That Ends Well, Act I, sc. 1*), still must I soldier on.

Okay, so we've signed up for an in-person pairs event on Persnick, a photogenic moon of Arbus, where the bridge tables float on antigravity fluid and our first East-West opponents, like most of the locals, are covered with tiny flaps of an amphibian nature. Since we know from the aphorisms of Confucius that a picture is worth 1000 words (百闻不如一见, pǎi wén bù rú yī jiàn), here's a photograph:



[Nothing to worry about – they growl occasionally but never risk the harsh UCBL penalties for munching on opponents.]

I pick up the first hand and it soon becomes clear that the only impediment to glory will be Robert Brown. While Bob may have some knowledge of the King James Bible, he has apparently rejected the wisdom of Acts 20:35: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." As everyone knows who has played with or against him, Bob doesn't much care for defending and he certainly has no interest in traveling to distant galaxies just to turn cards in dummy and say (when he remembers),

Vul: EW

Dlr: S

4♥

Lead: ♣K

♠ AKJ4

♥ 1074

♦ 732

♣ 1092

ME

♠----

♥ AQ9832

♦ KQJ1054

♣ 8

♠ Q97632

♥ K65

♦ 96

♣ 65

BOB

♠1085

♥ J

♦ A8

♣ AKQJ743

"No hearts, partner?"

Does this preference for declaring generally result in high scores?

No. Does it occasionally produce a top score? Yes, as Bob invariably points out when I raise the

matter. And now, here we go again, the latest test of my virtue, as I am faced with one of the highest bidders of all time and space.

Bob opens 1 club and I respond 1 heart, happily counting only three losers plus a whole bunch of tricks. On the negative side, I smell a partnership bidding war – stand by me George – but I take care not to show emotion; our opponents have antennae and who knows what they can pick up.

Bob jumps to 3 clubs and I respond 3 diamonds, assuming, without historical basis, that Bob will sense at least a pretty good two-suiter and act accordingly. I'm afraid to look across the table for fear of seeing that rhinoceros-in-heat smile which I described in Episode 21.

I can't count on Bob's cue bidding, and I see no reason to stop short of a small slam in Diamonds, so I bid it. After a brief hesitation, Bob hits the 6NT button. (He loves NT no matter what the context.)

Could anyone have resisted doubling 6NT with the lead and two top tricks (which would have turned into 6)? Should the scaly one on my right not have suspected that, if he did double, (1) South must have a Club suit to run to, and (2) North's spade holding might not be that friendly to the Ace and King of Spades in a suit contract? Do all such beasts have rhino emotions like my partner, so that they simply cannot help themselves? In any event, we are suddenly in 6NT doubled, and I have a funny buzz in both ears, as if my Universal Space Stock is about to plunge from 1190 (my 6 diamonds making 7) to a very large margin call.

If I possessed the steely virtue of a General Washington I would bid 7 diamonds, but I don't and therefore I didn't. All I can do is swallow hard and look virtuous. George, be proud of me, wherever you are.

Bob hardly hesitated before pulling to 7 clubs. West had to double or lose face with his fellow Persnickians down at the floating bar after the session. And so, instead of allowing me my rightful 1190, or going down 6 undoubled, Bob chalks up +1630, an absolute top among the 950 North-South pairs, almost 200 of which were more-or-less Homo sapiens.

The full bidding:

Did Bob offer an excuse for his 6NT bid or did he follow the advice of the First President:

S	W	N	E
1♣	P	1♥	P
3♣	P	3♦	P
3N	P	6♦	P
6NT	X	P	P
7♣	AP		

"It is better to offer no excuse than a bad one"? (Letter to His Niece, Harriet Washington, Sunday, October 30, 1791.)



Here's what he looked like as he claimed, after making sure that the clubs were no worse than 4-1:

No need to add even one word.

GOOD SANTA, BAD SANTA

By David Albrecht



The Bridge Club is having its annual Christmas Party and Bridge Extravaganza, and the place is packed. The gag gift exchange has concluded. The most appreciated gifts received were, (1) a set of name imprinted green pass cards, (2) a doll who speaks when its string is pulled, "Nice play, partner," and, (3) a tee which confesses, "Can't get the post mortem correct, either,"



Some of the gang are camped out in Bucksnot's Beverage and Chocolate Café. Knight In Shining Armor has just finished a story in which he told of

the time when he and his father caught Mama kissing Santa Claus. Responds Red, the auburn hair beauty who looks so fine in riding hood and knee high boots, "What the song doesn't disclose is how Santa is such a good kisser!" In a candid moment, Damsel In Distress, Chicken Little, and Farmer's Wife, all quickly nod in agreement.

Says Little Bo Peep, "I heard Santa is going to play in the duplicate tonight, after he gets done hearing everyone's wishes. I know it's true that he's made a list and checked it twice, but do you think he truly knows who's been naughty or nice?"

Bricks, the smart pig who builds houses that a even a howling wolf can't blow down, answers, "Yes, and yes. He's going to hand out gifts throughout the duplicate session to everyone he plays against. He's a good

Santa to those who have been good, and a bad Santa ..."

Farmer's Wife groans, "Oh, great. I'm playing with Bo Peep who lost all her sheep."

"Hush! No one knows about that," pleads Bo.

"Bo, there's a nursery rhyme about it."

Little Bo Peep receives her gift from Santa

It's predictable, I suppose, that Bo would meet Santa early in the duplicate movement. Santa and a pretty elf are North-South against Little Bo Peep and Farmer's Wife.

"Hello Santa, hello Elf" chime the girls.

"Hello, girls."

"Did you get my wish list? I'll be ready on Christmas Eve," says Farmer's Wife.

"Excellent, I'll be by at about ... 11:43?" "Perfect!"

Bo Peep is looking at:

♠ A Q 4 ♥ 4 ♦ A K Q 7 2 ♣ A 9 8 4

She thinks, *17 HCP and shape. Is this my gift?* "One diamond." [Author note, Bo Peep sometimes errs in adding up her points.]

The Elf has an ideal hand for Michaels, "Two diamonds."

Farmer's Wife is thinking, *Oh crap. Bo has no idea what any of my responses might mean. If I bid, she'll just screw it up again. A pass might cause the least damage. I can bid when the auction gets back around to me,* "Pass."

Santa passes instead of bidding a major suit. Bo Peep's mind, frozen solidly in neutral, follows suit with a green pass card. Observers would later agree she tried to take it back, but the director-in-charge wouldn't let her do it.

Farmer's Wife leads the ♣K (0-1), switches to the ♦J (0-2), and follows with a low diamond. Bo Peep draws the outstanding trumps with ♦A (0-3), ♦K (0-4) and ♦Q (0-5). Being able to remember the opening lead, she plays the ♠A (0-6) and a low club to FW's ♣Q (0-7), ♣10 (0-8), and ♣5 (0-9). Farmer's Wife cashes her ♠K (0-10), and leads a low spade to Bo's ♠A (0-11), ♠Q (0-12) and trump (0-13). No tricks for the offense means down eight, for 400. Farmer's Wife and Little Bo Peep would have scored higher by bidding slam or game in diamonds or clubs, so 400 is a cold air bare bottom.

Bo Peep asks, "Does this mean a lump of coal in my stocking, again?" Santa nods his head in answer.

CBA PROGRESSIVE SECTIONAL

The Cincinnati Bridge Association offered a Progressive Sectional at the Cincinnati Bridge Center. This Sectional was run at normal game times during two separate weeks of the year – February 26 to March 4, 2018 and October 1-5, 2018. Those finishing at or above 50% in the Feb/March week played in the Final Session held on Saturday Morning October 6. Those who qualified during the October week played in the afternoon final on Saturday October 6.

Clubs throughout the CBA had the option to participate.

The tournament committee is pondering whether to offer the event next year. Northern KY has expressed interest in joining this time.

Congratulations to all winners from Flights A, B, and C, as well as those earning master points in the finals. Well done!

	North (Santa)			
D: E	♠ 9 3 2			
V: None	♥ K 7 6 3			
	♦ 10 6 5 3			
	♣ 6 2			
	West (Farmer's Wife)		East (Little Bo Peep)	
	♠ K 8		♠ A Q 4	
	♥ 10 5 2		♥ 4	
	♦ J 9 8		♦ A K Q 7 2	
	♣ K Q 10 5 3		♣ A 9 8 4	
	South (Elf)			
	♠ J 10 7 6 5			
	♥ A Q J 9 8			
	♦ 4			
	♣ J 7			
	W	N	E	S
	<i>FWife</i>	<i>Santa</i>	<i>Bo</i>	<i>Elf</i>
			1♦	2♦
	p	p†	p††	
	†	gift offer		
	††	gift acceptance		

Cincinnati Progressive Sectional - March Morning Finals

Sec	Dir	Pr#	Name	Name	Strat	OAA	OAB	OAC	SecA	SecB	SecC	Tot	%	MPs
A	EW	6	Amitabh Raturi	Robert Sulgrove	A	1			1			171.30	63.44	6.19(OA)
A	EW	4	Bob Fisk	Cliff Pleatman	A	2			2			169.95	62.94	4.64(OA)
A	NS	10	Judy Ruehl	Dennis Schultz	B	3	1		1	1		169.75	62.87	3.53(OB)
A	EW	8	Howard Ringel	Peggy Barrett	B	4	2		3	1		162.05	60.02	2.65(OB)
A	NS	2	A J Stephani	Lorna Davis	A	5			2			158.75	58.80	1.96(OA)
A	EW	2	Mike Ma	Vijay Vasudevan	B	6	3		4	2		149.80	55.48	1.99(OB)
A	NS	6	Margaret Young	Jackie Toth	A				3			147.70	54.70	1.21(SA)
A	NS	3	Robert Roark	Sharon Koster	C		4	1	4	2	1	142.70	52.85	1.95(OC)
A	NS	7	Mercer Reynolds	Joel Bromley	C		5	2		3	2	139.75	51.76	1.46(OC)
A	EW	10	Joy Singerman	John Williams	B					3		138.25	51.20	0.72(SB)
A	EW	9	Joan Mehl	Richard Koch	C			3			1	128.25	47.50	1.10(OC)
A	EW	3	Debra Chavez	Carolyn Murray	C			4			2	112.67	41.73	0.82(OC)

Cincinnati Progressive Sectional - October Afternoon Finals

Sec	Dir	Pr#	Name	Name	Strat	OAA	OAB	OAC	SecA	SecB	SecC	Tot	%	MPs
A	NS	5	William Higgins	Yauheni Siutsau	A	1			1			180.5	66.85	4.81(OA)
A	EW	3	Amitabh Raturi	Robert Sulgrove	A	2			1			178.5	66.11	3.61(OA)
A	NS	6	A J Stephani	Stephen Lonski	B		NE		2	1		166.5	61.67	1.69(SA)
A	EW	5	Barbara Levinson	Peggy Barrett	A	3			2			164.5	60.93	2.71(OA)
A	EW	1	Michael Lipp	Pam Campbell	B	4	1		3	1		160	59.26	2.89(OB)
A	NS	1	Jackie Toth	Terry Brausch	A	5			3			159.5	59.07	1.52(OA)
A	EW	2	Ambrish Bansal	Arun Gupta	B	6	2		4	2		147	54.44	2.17(OB)
A	NS	11	Judy Barron	Judith Lucas	C		3	1	4	2	1	146.5	54.26	1.63(OB)
A	EW	8	Amy Heilbronner	Debra Chavez	C		4	2		3	1	137	50.74	1.22(OB)
A	EW	7	Carol Macksey	Justina Clendenen	B		5			4		130.5	48.33	0.91(OB)
A	NS	4	Judy Ruehl	Barbara Boswell	B					3		129.5	47.96	0.72(SB)
A	EW	10	Joan Mehl	Richard Koch	C			3			2	128.5	47.59	0.90(OC)

D11 NAP FINALS

This year District 11 and Unit 124 teamed up again to present the North American Pair Finals. This is the premier grass roots ACBL Wide Matchpoint Pairs event. District 11 finals decide who will represent the District in the NABC Finals held in Memphis TN in March 2019.

This year the GNT/NAP Chair and the Cincinnati NLM Regional put their heads together and came up with a unique offering for Flight C players (Non Life Masters). In September we offered a Kaleidoscope Tournament for NLMs. Friday was a sectional with Silver Points, Saturday an NLM Regional with Red and Gold Points, and Sunday was the Flight C D11 NAP Finals – for Gold, Red and Green points. That’s right – the top 4 finishers get money either from the ACBL or from the District on proof of participation in Memphis.

The Kaleidoscope event was well received. Here is a note from Cecilia Kloecker:

Dear Board,

The Kaleidoscope was an over-the-top success in every possible way.

1. FUN
2. Attendance
3. Positive Energy in room
4. Geographical success! I met folks from Charleston, WV; Lexington, Louisville, NoKY, Kentucky, Indianapolis, and north of INDY, IN; Dayton and Columbus, OH; etc!
5. Well-attended hand analysis sessions done by Bob Fisk.

In thanking Pam she gave a lot of credit to AJ, who spearheaded getting this approved by the District. Thanks, AJ! I also know that Pam did a tremendous amount of prep before and during!

Now if AJ can convince the District that CBA is THE location for this annual event that will be a GRAND SLAM!

thank you for saying Yes! to this event.

having fun
Cecilia

Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning. - **Benjamin Franklin**

Growth is painful. Change is painful. But, nothing is as painful as staying stuck where you do not belong. - **N. R. Narayana Murthy**

Conformity is the jailer of freedom and the enemy of growth. - **John F. Kennedy**

All growth depends upon activity. There is no development physically or intellectually without effort, and effort means work. - **Calvin Coolidge**

	MPs	Place	Total		
Flight A	32 G	1	309.61	Isaac Stephani Cincinnati, OH	A J Stephani Cincinnati, OH
	24 G	2Q	304.9	Douglas Simson Columbus, OH	Shan Au Westerville, OH
	18 G	3Q	301.8	Yauheni Siutsau Loveland, OH	William Higgins Cincinnati, OH
	13.5G	4Q	301.65	Ryan Schultz Dayton, OH	Peter Whipple Mason, OH
	10.67 G	5	297.53	Stephen Moese West Chester, OH	Mike Ma Cincinnati, OH
	9.14G	6	283.68	Gregory Potts Portsmouth, OH	Charles Kopp Columbus, OH
	8G	7	283.26	Bob Lyon Fishers, IN	John Hinton Greenwood, IN
	7.11G	8	282.68	Jim Bachelder Columbus, OH	John Stubbe Jr Dublin, OH
Flight B	22.5G	1Q	437.71	Larry Newman Blue Ash, OH	Dennis Schultz Harrison, OH
	16.88 G	2Q	430.06	Charles Seelbach Lexington, KY	R Blaine Mullins Frankfort, KY
	12.66 G	3Q	418.18	Terry Brausch West Chester, OH	John Williams Cincinnati, OH
	9.49G	4Q	411.54	Max Mohan Arora Carmel, IN	Rahul Kapur Indianapolis, IN
	7.5G	5	411.46	Paul Coulter Louisville, KY	Matthew Just Louisville, KY
	6.43G	6	402.44	William Harris Georgetown, KY	Paul Moss Millersburg, KY
	5.63G	7	386.92	John Bowen Charlestown, IN	Frank Bowen Charlestown, IN
	5G	8	385.14	Nalin Mehta Cincinnati, OH	Bhupen Joshi Cincinnati, OH
	4.5G	9	384.64	Bill Gottschall Dayton, OH	Joseph Keim Dayton, OH
	4.09G	10	380.37	Bradley Martin Middletown, OH	William Hartung Bellbrook, OH
	3.75G	11	380.11	Don Byrkett Oxford, OH	Paula Byrkett Oxford, OH

Sec	Dir	Pair#	Player	Player	OA Rank	OA %	OA Total	Carryover	Sec Rank	Sec Score	Sec %	MPs
B	EW	5	Penni Brodey	Judy Sosin	1	59.33%	608.74	314.50	1	294.24	57.36	10.00G/R
A	NS	2	Kevin Henry	Julian Kurtzman	2	59.28%	608.26	330.50	3	277.76	54.14	7.50G/R
A	NS	9	Charles Thompson Jr	Joseph Hammann	3	58.50%	600.26	298.50	1	301.76	58.82	5.63G/R
A	EW	9	Judy Barron	Mike Burns	4	58.07%	595.79	318.00	5	277.79	54.15	4.22G/R
B	EW	6	Anirudh Pandit	Arun Pandit	5	56.35%	578.11	299.50	4	278.61	54.31	3.33G/R
A	EW	7	Edward Poe	Kathryn Garrity	6	54.66%	560.82	316.50		244.32	47.63	2.86G/R
B	EW	9	James Dearwester	Joel Bromley	7	54.22%	556.32	279.00	7	277.32	54.06	2.50G/R
A	EW	8	Betty Ann Wernet	Joe Wernet	8	54.12%	555.24	270.50	3	284.74	55.50	2.22G/R
B	NS	9	Carol Wilson	Carol Scovic	9	53.58%	549.76	294.50		255.26	49.76	2.00G/R
B	NS	1	Peter Outcalt	Richard Koch	10	53.35%	547.39	286.50		260.89	50.86	1.82G/R

NEW BRIDGE MAGAZINE – It's FREE! If you like to see a variety of bridge topics in a substantial publication by experts from around the world, this e-magazine is for you. Home Page: <http://www.newbridgemag.com/>
Magazines: <http://www.newbridgemag.com/magazines.html>

"Welcome to A NEW BRIDGE MAGAZINE, a new completely FREE magazine brought to you by editor Mark Horton and his team including: Ron Tacchi in charge of layout along with contributors, David Bird, Brian Senior, Larry Cohen, Alex Adamson & Harry Smith, Sally Brock, Julian Pottage, Liz McGowan and Kit Woolsey. We hope to have many new articles by other well-known bridge personalities in the very near future, including features from some well-known bridge entities."



A1 - A. J. & Isaac Stephani



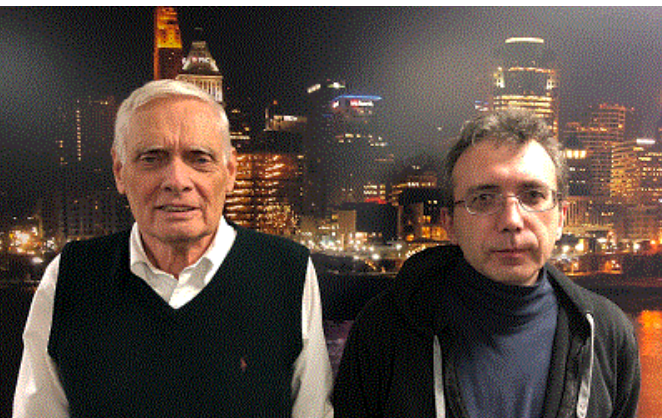
B1-Larry Newman & Dennis Schultz



A2-Shan Au & Douglas Simson



B2-Charles Seelbach & Blaine Mullins



A3-Bill Higgins & Yauheni Siutsau



B3-Terry Brausch & John Williams

There are no great limits to growth because there are no limits of human intelligence, imagination, and wonder. - **Ronald Reagan**

Strength and growth come only through continuous effort and struggle. - **Napoleon Hill**

The strongest principle of growth lies in the human choice. - **George Eliot**

Growth and comfort do not coexist. -
-**Ginni Rometty**

The project you are most scared to do is the one that holds your greatest growth. - **Robin S. Sharma**



C1 - Penni Brodey & Judy Sosin



C2-Julian Kurtzman & Kevin Henry



C3-Charles Thompson Jr & Joseph Hammann



C4 - Mike Burns & Judy Barron

NEW CONVENTION CHARTS !!!

By Steve Moese

Starting **November 22, 2018** the existing Convention Charts – General, Mid Chart and Super Chart – will be replaced by a set of 4 new convention charts. You can find the new convention charts at: <http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/about/181AttachmentD.pdf>

From the introduction - The 4 new convention charts are listed in order from least to most permissive: the **Basic Chart, Basic+ Chart, Open Chart, and Open+ Chart.**

The **Basic and Basic+ Charts** are intended for limited master point events. These Charts are written in manner similar to the old charts -- by listing permitted methods.

The **Open and Open+ Charts** are intended for events with no masterpoint limits (or high limits). In contrast to the Basic and Basic+ Charts, methods are generally allowed unless they are expressly prohibited within the Chart.

A comprehensive Definitions section is included In addition to the Charts. Any word that is capitalized on a Chart is included in the Definitions section.

An Examples section follows the Charts for cases where a rule might be ambiguous. Both the Definitions and the Examples should be included with the Charts. Any Definition or Chart Rule marked with three asterisks (***) has 1 or more examples in the Example section.

Tournaments

PAIR EVENTS AND NON-KO TEAM EVENTS

Basic Chart: Applies in any event where the upper limit per player is 750 or less.

Basic+ Chart: Applies in any event where the upper limit per player is 3000 or less.

Open Chart:

At a **Sectional** : applies in any event with no masterpoint limit, and any event with a masterpoint limit above 3000;

At a **Regional** (including regional events at an NABC):

- applies in any 1-session event with no masterpoint limit;
- applies in any restricted event with a masterpoint limit above 3000;
- applies in any 2-session event with no masterpoint limit if there no 2-session event with a masterpoint limit on the same day

Nationally Rated Events: applies in any NABC event with an upper masterpoint limit between 3001 and 6000.

Open+ Chart:

At a **Regional** (including regional events at an NABC):

- applies in any 3+-session event w/no masterpoint limit;
- applies in any 2-session event with no masterpoint limit as long as there is a 2-session event with a masterpoint limit on the same day

Nationally Rated Events: applies in any NABC event with no masterpoint limit, and any NABC event with an upper masterpoint limit above 6000.

KNOCKOUT EVENTS

A 1-bracket knockout always uses the Open Chart. For knockouts with more than one bracket, the Open Chart is used in most brackets with these exceptions:

- **Basic Chart:** Any bracket where the highest team averages less than 250 masterpoints per player;
- **Basic+ Chart:** Any bracket where the highest team averages 251 to 1000 masterpoints per player;
- **Open+ Chart:** Top bracket (regardless of team masterpoint holdings), and any other bracket where the lowest team averages more than 3000 masterpoints per player.

In all types of events, when the directors allow a team to play in a higher bracket than its masterpoint holding would qualify the team for, that team's masterpoint total is ignored in determining which Chart applies.

CLUB GAMES

The **Open Chart** is recommended for most open club games. Particularly advanced clubs may prefer to use the **Open+ Chart**, while clubs that mainly cater to newer players may prefer the **Basic+ Chart**. The **Basic** and **Basic+ Charts** are recommended for masterpoint restricted games at clubs.

PRE-ALERTS AND WRITTEN DEFENSES

Two classes of methods are particularly difficult to defend against, and these methods are allowed only in

events governed by the Open+ Chart, and then only in segments of six boards or longer. These methods require both a pre-alert and a written defense.

DEFINITIONS

A group of four numbers separated by equal signs (=) denotes an exact suit distribution. For example: 5=4=3=1 denotes 5 spades, 4 hearts, 3 diamonds, and 1 club. A group of four numbers separated by hyphens (-) denotes any of the exact distributions matching that general pattern. For example: 4-3-3-3 represents: 4=3=3=3 or 3=4=3=3 or 3=3=4=3 or 3=3=3=4.

Definitions #1-4 below have specific meanings that may vary from commonly understood meanings or may not have previously been defined.

Definitions #5 and higher likely match common understandings of the term, but are still defined here for specificity and clarity. Definitions #5 and higher appear alphabetically.

1. Hand strength :

- a. **“Weak”:** A hand that contains less than Near Average Strength.
- b. **“Near Average Strength” :** A hand that has at least 8 HCP or meets the “Rule of 17”.
- c. **“Average Strength” :** A hand that has at least 10 HCP or meets the “Rule of 19”.
- d. **“Strong”:** A hand that contains:
 - i. at least 15 HCP; or
 - ii. at least 14 HCP and meets the “Rule of 24”.
 - iii. at least 5 Control Points and is within one trick of game assuming suits break evenly among the other hands.
- e. **“Very Strong”:** A hand that contains:
 - iv. at least 20 HCP; or
 - v. at least 14 HCP and is within one trick of game assuming suits break evenly among the other hands.

2. * “Natural” :**

- a. Any opening bid, response, or overcall in a suit at the 1-level showing 4 or more cards in the suit bid, except as provided in 2(f) and 2(g).
- b. Any opening bid at the two-level or higher showing 5 or more cards in the suit bid.
- c. Any response or rebid in a minor at the two-level or higher showing 3 or more cards in the suit bid
- d. Any response or rebid in a major at the two-level or higher showing 4 or more cards in the suit bid.

- e. Any suit overcall at any level showing 4 or more cards in the suit bid.
 - f. A 1C opening bid showing 3 or more clubs. This opening may also include exactly 4=4=3=2 shape.
 - g. A 1D opening bid, overcall, or response showing 3 or more diamonds.
 - h. A NT opening bid or overcall that contains no voids, no more than one singleton, which must be an ace, king, or queen, and that does not contain 10 or more cards in two suits combined.
 - i. A call is still Natural if it also shows distribution in another suit.
 - j. A pass, double, or redouble is Natural if it suggests the current contract as the final contract.
 - k. After the opening bid any bid is Natural if it suggests the contract bid as the final contract.
3. *** **"Quasi-Natural"** :
- a. A minor suit bid that is either Natural or shows a pattern that meets the definition of a Natural NT opening.
 - b. Any opening bid at the two-level or higher showing 4 or more cards in the suit bid.
4. *** **"Purely Destructive Initial Action"** :
- An opening bid or an overcall that satisfies none of the following:
- a. 4+ cards in a known suit.
 - b. 5+ cards in one of two possible suits.
 - c. 5+-4+ distribution in any two suits.
 - d. An either/or combination of any two of a, b, or c (which may be the same option twice).
 - e. A Three-suited hand.
 - f. At least Average strength.
 - g. Any Natural or Quasi-Natural opening bid.
-
- 5. **"Advancer"**: Overcaller's partner.
 - 6. **"Agreement"**: Partnership understandings of methods adopted by the partnership that are reached explicitly by discussion or implicitly through the mutual experience or awareness of the players. This applies to all calls, allowed and disallowed.
 - 7. **"Artificial"** : Any call that is not Natural or Quasi-Natural.
 - 8. **"Balancing Seat"** : After the bidding has been opened, a player who would end the auction if that player passed.
 - 9. **"Bid"**: A call that names a level and a denomination (suit or notrump).
 - 10. **"Call"**: Any bid, pass, double, or redouble.
 - 11. **"Control Bid"**: A bid showing first or second round control of a suit.
 - 12. **"Control Points"**: An alternate evaluation method where an Ace=2 and a King=1
 - 13. **"Cuebid"**: A bid of a suit that an opponent has bid Naturally or Quasi-Naturally or a suit in which an opponent has shown 4 or more cards.
 - 14. **"Direct Overcall"**: An immediate overcall by the left hand opponent of Opener.
 - 15. *** **"Encrypted Signal"**: An encrypted signal is one where the ordering of the cards for the signal is dependent on information known only to the defenders. It is not an encrypted signal to have the type of signal (attitude, count, suit preference) dependent on information known only to the defenders.
 - 16. **"Forcing"** : A call that, by partnership Agreement, may not be passed if the intervening opponent passes.
 - 17. **"High Card Points (HCP)"** : The total number of points in a hand based on honors, counting 4 for an Ace, 3 for a King, 2 for a Queen, and 1 for a Jack.
 - 18. **"Invitational"** : A hand sufficiently strong to indicate that partner should bid game unless partner has a minimum.
 - 19. **"Length"** : Unless otherwise specified, "showing Length in a suit" or "showing a suit" means at least four cards in the suit.
 - 20. **"Opener"**: The first player to make a bid in the auction.
 - 21. **"Overcall"**: The first bid made by the pair that does not consist of Opener and Responder.
 - 22. **"Preempt"**: A jump bid (by either pair) that does not promise at least Average strength.
 - 23. *** **"Psych"** : A call that intentionally and grossly misstates the strength and/or suit length of one's hand.
 - 24. **"Psychic Control"** : Any Bid that conveys that a prior Bid was a Psych.

25. *** **“Range”** : One more than the difference between the highest number of HCP a bid can be and the lowest.
26. **“Responder”**: Opener’s partner.
27. *** **“Rule of N”** : A method of determining hand strength computed by adding the High Card Points of the hand to the number of cards in the two longest suits. To meet the “Rule of N”, this total must be at least N. *
28. **“Takeout”**: A call that shows support for two or three suits and/or a strong hand .
29. **“ Three-Suited”**: A hand with 4-4-4-1, 5-4-3-1, or 5-4-4-0 shape.

The changes to the charts themselves are very detailed. For most club players there is little difference. For many tournament players you will find differences in advanced methods. In general the changes are more permissive, not less. Note the important effort to define natural, quasi-natural, hand strengths, purely destructive bids, and psychs in very objective and specific ways.

Here’s a quick peek at example openings and overcalls. Consult the link to the ACBL website for the specifics on each chart.

OPENINGS

1. **[Restriction 1]** (Quasi-)Natural opening bids at the 1 level must, by Agreement, have at least 8 HCP or meet the Rule of 17. Artificial opening bids at the 1 level must, by Agreement, have at least 10 HCP or meet the Rule of 19.
2. **[Restriction 3]** Transfer openings, such as those found in the “Little Major” or “Moscito” systems, are not permitted in segments of fewer than six boards. Transfer openings at the 1 level are Artificial and therefore must show at least Average strength.
1. **[Restriction 4]** Hands with 9 or fewer HCPs cannot be upgraded into any NT range. This does not apply to a psych. To be considered a psych, the hand must contain at least 4 HCP less the minimum.
2. **[Restriction 5]** An Agreement to open 1NT showing 11-15 is permitted, but actually showing 10-15 is not. If your agreed NT range is 11-15, you cannot upgrade 10 HCP hands or downgrade 16 HCP hands. This does not apply to a psych. To be

- considered a psych, the hand must contain at least 4 HCP less the minimum.
3. **[Open+ 8-10]** A Multi 2D(weak in either major) is permitted in segments longer than 5 boards. A 2H opening showing a weak 2-bid in either hearts or spades is not permitted in segments of any length.
4. **[Open+ 8-10]** Opening 3S to show a long solid minor is permitted, assuming it meets the Rule-of-17 because it is not considered a Preempt.
5. **[Open+ 9]** Opening 2NT to show a major-minor 2-suited hand is not permitted.
6. **[Open 9/Open+ 11]** Mini-Roman type openings must show at least 10 HCP or meet the Rule of 19. These openings require a minimum of 11 HCP if 4-4-4-1, and 10 HCP if 5-4-3-1 or 5-4-4-0.
7. **[Open 10/Open+ 12]** A 2H opening bid showing spades and another suit that might have less than Average Strength is not permitted. A 2H opening bid showing spades and a minor is permitted (since it does not contain hearts, the suit opened).
8. **[Open 11/Open+ 13]** In first and second seat, you may not agree to open a Natural 2-bid with a Range of 10 HCP or more (unless the hand is always at least Average Strength).
9. **[Rule Exception 2]** It is legal to open a Quasi-natural 1D bid with xxxx KQxx Kx xxx in 3rd or fourth seat. It is not legal to open a natural 1NT with KQ109 KJ109 xxx xx in any seat.

OVERCALLS

[Restriction 1] Cuebids are not considered to be new suits. For example if a 1H opening showed both hearts and spades, then a 1S overcall could have any meaning.



ABOUT US

by Steve Moese

No Fake News here. This is in support of Steve Messenger and Larry Newman and the efforts of the Membership and Education Committees.

“Just the Facts, Ma’am” – Joe Friday, Dragnet.

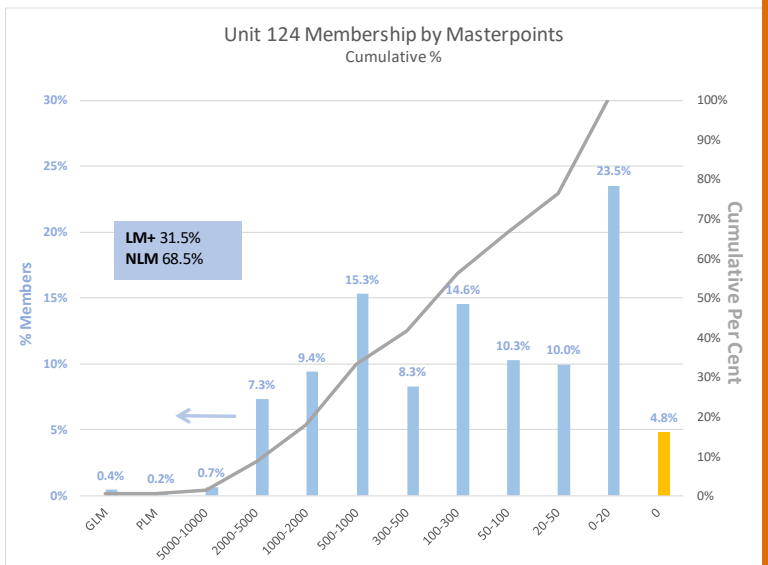
Some demographics:

We have 935 members in our Unit.

Our membership has fluctuated somewhat over the past 3 years but is declining perceptibly in the range of **-0.5 to -0.7%** per year. 3 years ago we lost 13 more members than we gained. 2 years ago we gained 7 more members than we lost. This year we are even. Our District is losing members at about **-2%** per year compared to the ACBL at **-1.2%**.

We retain **64.7%** of our new members for 2 years, slightly better than the rest of District 11 (**63.9%**) and strongly better than the ACBL as a whole (**60.5%**). Unfortunately our retention rate ranks 121 out of 295 Units in the ACBL. We have a lot of room for improvement.

Our members have a long relationship with the ACBL, averaging **20.1** years. The District is **20.5** and the ACBL is **18.5**.



- Would you believe that 52.3% of our members have fewer than 200 master points?
- ...and that Non Life Masters (NLMs) are almost 70% of our members?
- ...and that 4.8% of our members have NO MASTERPOINTS at all. NONE!

Did you know that our average member age in the Cincinnati Bridge Association is **72.3** years old?

Would you believe our **average membership age** is increasing 3 months every year? Were we recruiting many 50+ and recent retirees, average age would be decreasing, not increasing. Our ageing membership parallels both the District and the Unit.

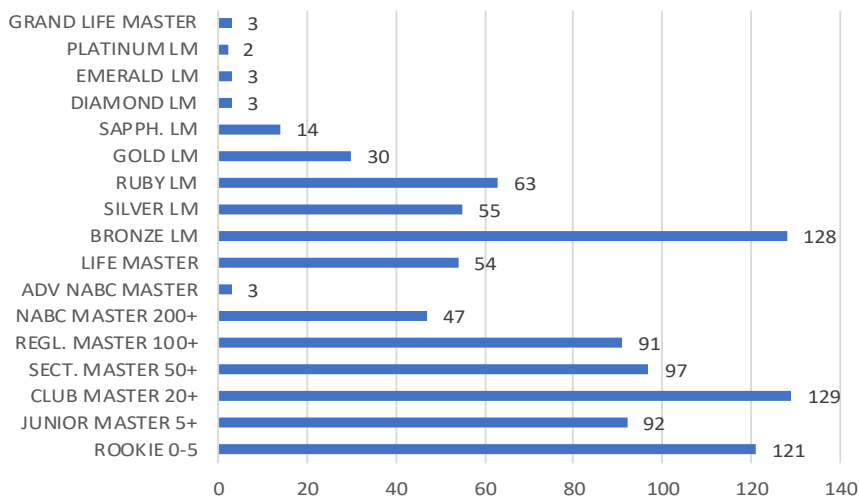
This identifies the larger groups our current sanction holders serve. This also represents the groups we'd like to see play more often.

That 0-20 MP players represent 23.5% of our membership suggests more games for them than we have today. (By the way, the Unit offers free rent for 0-20 MP Games held at the CBC).

Let's look at how often people play based on their MP holdings. One big source of data we have is the data from games at the Cincinnati Bridge Center. Thanks goes to Mike Lipp for providing the play frequencies by player for calendar year 2018 – almost 10 month's worth.

The data is stunning but not surprising. Our less experienced members (large in number) are playing

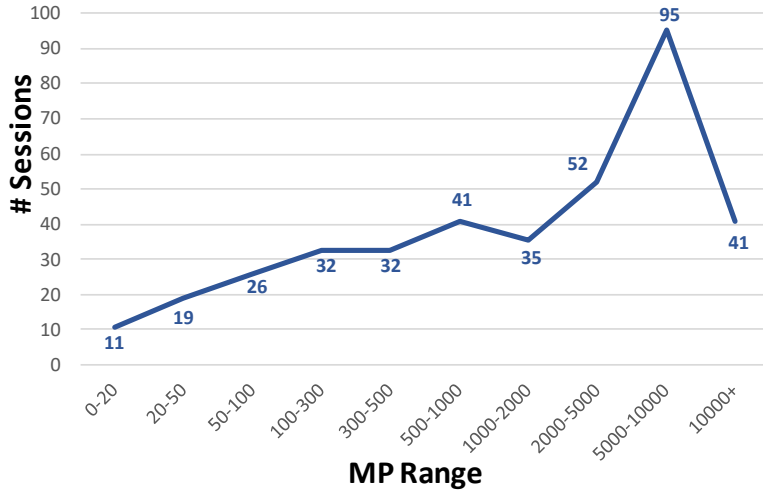
Cincinnati Bridge Association October 2018 Membership



Here is what Unit 124 looks like by ACBL Rank:

And here is what we look like by master point range.

Sessions / Player
Cincinnati Bridge Center



help getting to the Bridge Center, etc.) and mitigate or eliminate them.

We find that 490 players have played at the CBC in 1978 – that’s better than 50% of Unit membership.

So the data speaks – Newer players need encouragement to play more often. This means we all engage them and encourage them. If they start once every other month, get them to play once a month. If they play once a month, how about twice? Then they can get to 3-4 times a month as they meet new partners. Maybe even twice a week.

The 45 or so members that do not even have even a fraction of a masterpoint would be a great place to start.

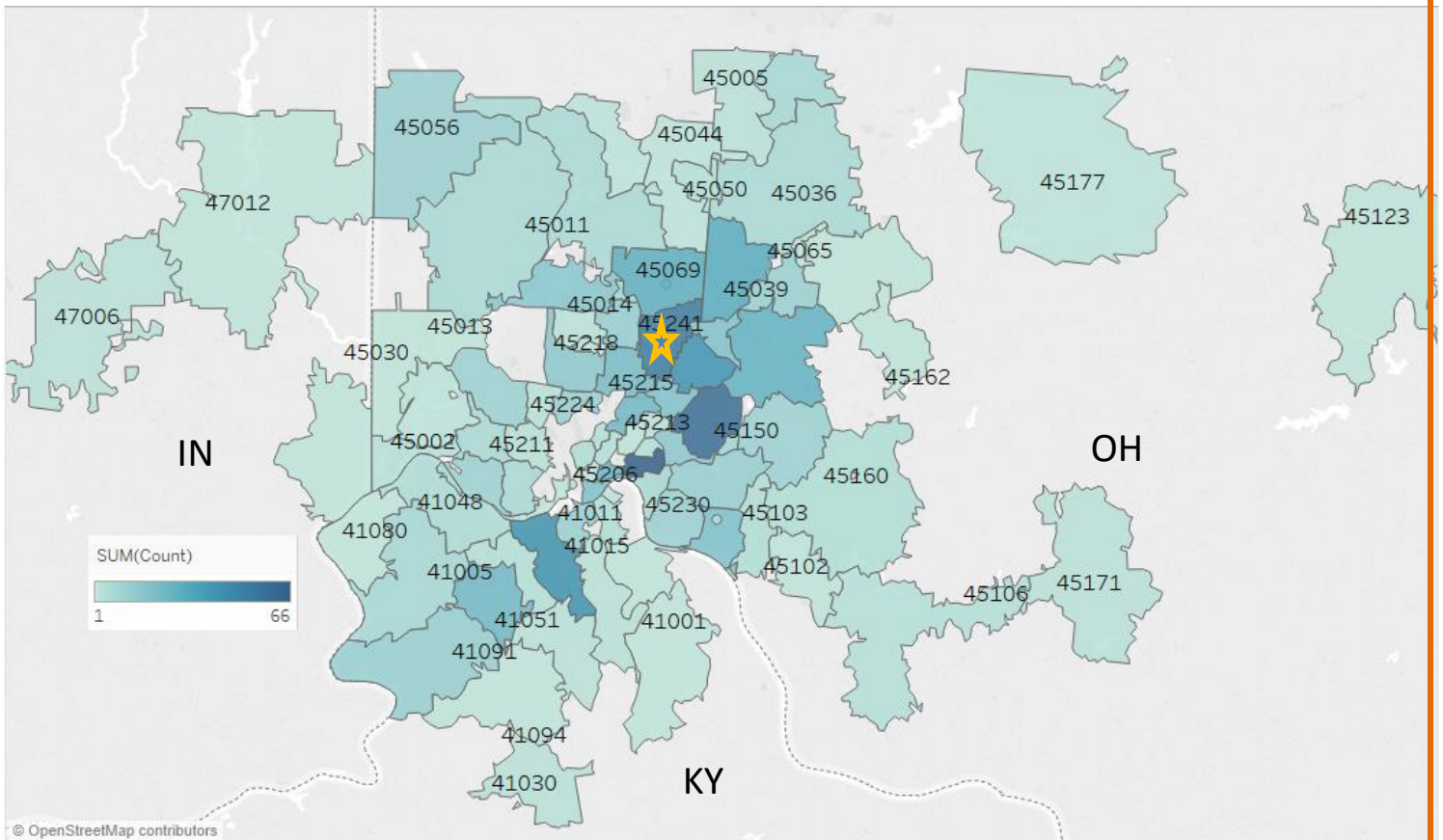
much less frequently than our more experienced members (small in number).

Said differently, our less experienced members are playing less than their “fair share” of games at the CBC compared to our more experienced members.

Our job is to find what the barriers are to playing more frequently (need a partner, need more practice, need

This certainly bolsters the value of a central bridge center.

Our Bridge center is well located too. Check out the Unit 124 “Heat Map” by Zip Code. We are very close to our major customers.



SAVE THE DATES

CINCINNATI
SPOOKTACULAR
SECTIONAL
 THUR - FRI - SAT
Nov 1 - 3, 2018



Regional Tournament
Nov 5 - 11, 2018

HORSESHOE CASINO
 11999 Casino Center Drive
 Elizabeth IN 47117

Unit 124 / CBA
Membership Mtg
NOV
13
 5:30 PM @ CBC
 FREE Food & Bridgel

Don't miss the Annual Unit 124 Membership Meeting. The Meeting starts at 5:30 PM. Take advantage of the opportunity to talk with your Board of Directors, get your questions answered and your ideas heard. With a quorum

of members in good standing, you may make motions for membership to vote and have the Board act on them. There will be free food and drink and free bridge (a Championship Game with Extra Points) Open and NLM sections if attendance warrants.

Honolulu
Aloha
2018
Nov 22 - Dec 2
N A B C



That's right – This year at the Spooktacular Sectional you will have the ability to elect 3 new trustees to the Board, and to decide an amendment to the Unit Constitution. **VOTE!**



Dec 7, 2018

Matt Granovetter's Series: "Trick One and Beyond"

Friday Mornings at the Cincy Bridge Center 9:30-10:30A Starts first Friday in December (12/7) for 8 Fridays

Tricks one and two are crucial. They often steer the course of the entire hand in favor of the declarer or defenders. We'll study it from both sides and learn what to think about.

2018 Unit 124 Holiday Party

Brunch 11:30 AM



Unit Champ 1:00 PM

Reservations Required

15 Dec 2018

District 11
Winter STaC
Dec 26 - Jan 1
 Click for ACBL results



Get ready for the **Winter Coat donation drive**. Collection baskets for usable winter coats & sweaters are available at the **Cincinnati Bridge Center Now through January 15, 2019**. All donations go to charity in the Cincinnati Area. Let's make this winter a bit warmer for those in need. Questions? Contact Nalin Mehta nhmehta@cinci.rr.com



Fourteenth Annual **LOUISVILLE – LEXINGTON**

REGIONAL

November 5 – 11, 2018

At HORSESHOE CASINO

11999 Casino Center Drive

Elizabeth IN 47117

(Across the River from Louisville KY)

Smoke Free - Indiana Law

For reservations call:

1-866-766-2671

Specify Group Code S11LLB8

\$92 Double: Sunday – Thursday

\$112 Friday/Saturday

FREE PARKING

Deadline for Bridge Rate October 28, 2018

Additional Motel: Best Western Plus

411 West Spring Street, New Albany IN 47150

(812) 945-2771 - \$92.00 - Free Breakfast

ASK for Louisville/Lexington Bridge Tournament

Deadline for Bridge rate: October 21, 2018

PurplePass

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.

**NEW TEAM GAMES START DAILY
GOLD RUSH EVENTS TUE – SAT**

Pair games every session
Door Prizes and Hospitality

Questions?

Louisville: Hanna Davis 502-767-5589 or
Lexington: Sondra Holt 859-312-7785

Partnerships?

Louisville: Verna Goldberg 502-459-3848 or
Lexington: Terrell Holt 859-351-2023

FEATURING

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 Semi-finals (No Carryover)
- Top Qualifier in Each Bracket Chooses from 3rd and 4th Place Team as Semi-final Opponent

Why You Will Love This Format

- ♣ KO Teams Guaranteed Two Sessions of Play Every Day
- ♣ No More Side Swiss during Prime Time
- ♣ 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** ♦ **Gold Rush Pairs & Swiss**
(w/o Gold Rush) 0-100/100-300/300-750
0-750/750-2000/2000+
- ♣ **Stratiflighted Swiss** ♠ **Open Pairs & Swiss**
A/X 3000+/0-3000 (with Gold Rush)
B/C/D 750-1500/300-750/ 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+
0-300

All players in events with upper MP limit must be under limit

All events stratified by average MPs

KO events may be handicapped

NLM and 199er games stratified at Director Discretion



GAME SCHEDULE

2018 Louisville – Lexington
Horseshoe Regional

BOLD – Multiple Session Event

SWISS Teams in RED

NLM Events in Blue

KO's in Green

	10:00 AM	2:30 PM	7:30 PM
Monday NOV 5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alysheba Stratified Swiss Teams (2 Sessions) • Sir Barton Open Pairs (2 Sessions) 	
		• Open Pairs "Side Series A"	• Open Fast Pairs "Side Series B"
Tuesday NOV 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Triple Crown Gold Rush Pairs (2 Sessions) • Triple Crown Open Pairs (2 Sessions) • American Pharoah KO (Rounds 1 and 2) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real Quiet 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 	• Open Pairs "Side Series A"	
Wednesday NOV 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • War Admiral Gold Rush Pairs (2 Sessions) • War Admiral Open Pairs (2 Sessions) • Barbaro KO (Rounds 1 and 2) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real Quiet Evening KO (Round 2) • Open Fast Pairs "Side Series B" • NLM Pairs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Pharoah KO (Rd 3) • Open Pairs "Side Series C" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Pharoah KO (Rd 4) • Open Pairs "Side Series C" • 199er Pairs 	
Thursday NOV 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeneland Gold Rush Swiss Teams (2 Sessions) • Keeneland Open Swiss Teams (2 Sessions) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Eight is Enough" Silver Charm Horizontal Swiss (Round 1) • Real Quiet Evening KO (Round 3) • Open Fast Pairs "Side Series D"
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbaro KO (Round 3) • Open Pairs "Side Series C" • NLM Pairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbaro KO (Round 4) • Open Pairs "Side Series C" • NLM Pairs 	
Friday NOV 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat Gold Rush Pairs (2 Sessions) • Secretariat Open Pairs (2 Sessions) • Citation KO (Rounds 1 and 2) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Eight is Enough" Silver Charm Horizontal Swiss (Round 2) • Real Quiet Evening KO (Round 4) • Open Fast Pairs "Side Series D"
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Pairs "Side Series E" • 199er Pairs 	• Open Pairs "Side Series E"	
Saturday NOV 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle Slew Gold Rush Pairs (2 Sessions) • Seattle Slew Open Pairs (2 Sessions) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Side Swiss Teams • Open Fast Pairs "Side Series D"
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smarty Jones Compact KO (Round 1) • Citation KO (Round 3) • Open Pairs "Side Series E" • NLM Pairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smarty Jones Compact KO (Round 2) • Citation KO (Round 4) • Open Pairs "Side Series E" 	
Sunday NOV 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Churchill Downs Swiss: AXY Stratified/BCD Bracketed (2 Session Playthrough) • 5000+, 3000-5000, 0-3000/BCD 0-2000 		

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Tricks one and two are crucial. They often steer the course of the entire hand in favor of the declarer or defenders. We'll study it from both sides and learn what to think about.

Syllabus

The opening lead choice; "robot leads" method; clues from the bidding

Mental preparation for the defenders upon seeing the dummy

Declarer's choice of strategy

Third hand's play or signal; passive or aggressive

Inferences and hypothesis

Declarer's advantages; discovery plays, assumptions, concealment

Defenders strive for clarity

Dummy strives to remain calm

Matchpoint goals versus team goals

Cost: \$77 for 8 lectures - All materials included -

Sign up with Matt at granovetterm@gmail.com (also for inquiries)

Or sign up with Larry Newman at the club

Pay by check, cash or paypal (granovetterm@gmail.com)

2018 Holiday Party

HAPPY  HOLIDAYS

Unit Championship—EXTRA POINTS!

Reservation Required

Stratified Open and 0-20 Game Available

When: Saturday, December 15, 2018

Where: Cincinnati Bridge Association, 2860 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241

Time: Brunch 11:30 and game starts @ 1:00

Choose one option (Deadline 12/1/2018)

- Brunch Only-\$15.00
- Duplicate Game Only-\$10.00
- Brunch and Bridge-\$25.00

Brunch provided by Hammann's Catering-Wine, Beer and soft drinks included

Please return this form with payment to Pam Campbell, 2360 Henesy Lane, Fairfield, OH 45014. Any questions, contact campbell.ps.54@gmail.com or 513-720-2621