

Newsletter

of the

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

May 2003

♠ ♠ It's a Party ♠ ♠



♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ Bridge House ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠

Friday, May 9th

6:30 p.m.

Pot luck Entrée provided

Be sure to contact all those bridge buddies who seem to have dropped out. We want them back. Let's work together to get them out for the party and for the sectional coming up.

We hope to see you all there. ♠

Negotiating a Minefield

Gerald Koonce

Sometimes when you are declaring a hand, you have to wind your way through a minefield of potential pitfalls to make your contract.

Here is such a hand, from a recent Swiss Teams event.

Dir.: North

Vul.: All

♠K Q 9
♥A T 9 8
♦A Q 4 3
♣A 7

♠8 5
♥J 7 4 3
♦2
♣J 9 6 4 3 2

♠A 10 8 2
♥Q
♦K T 8 6
♣K Q T 5

♠J 6 4 3
♥K 6 5 2
♦J 9 7 5
♣8

N	E	S	W
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Opening Lead: ♦ 2

The first opportunity for a misstep came on the opening lead. At first glance, it seems normal to let the lead come around to my hand, but on this auction, the ♦2 was an obvious singleton. Ducking would have resulted in a quick down one after a high ♦ return, ♠ to the ♠A and another ♦ ruff. So I rose with the ♦A, then led a trump to my hand.

East's Q♥ gave me pause for thought, and now presented me with potential misstep number two, which I dodged by following the Law of Restricted Choice, finessing on the second round of trumps.

OPEN GAMES

MONDAY	11:00 A.M.
TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.
THURSDAY	11:00 A.M.
THURSDAY 0-300	7:00 P.M.
FRIDAY	7:30 P.M.
SATURDAY	12:30 P.M.
SUNDAY	1:30 P.M.

All games are stratified when possible.

All games are non-smoking. ↔

The 4-1 split meant I had a lot of work to do, as I needed to set up both my side suits before I could finish pulling trumps. If I tried to tackle ♦s first, East would have the A♠ as an entry so that he could give his partner two ruffs, so I called for the K♠ off the board. East won the A♠, and played the K♣, which I won in dummy.

I still couldn't pull trumps, though, because now the ♣s would run when I knocked out the K♦, so I played the board's Q♦. East won his K♦ and fell from grace by continuing ♣s (not that he could defeat the contract now). I ruffed in hand, finessed in trumps again, pulled the last trump with the A♥ and claimed, with an overtrick in a contract that was defeated at the other table. ♥

MAKE TRAVEL PLANS

Check *The Bridge Bulletin* published by the ACBL or the ACBL web site at www.acbl.org for details on these and other upcoming tournaments.

NATIONALS (NABC)

July 17–27, Long Beach, CA
November 20–30, New Orleans, LA

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS TO CONSIDER

May 12–18, Oklahoma City, OK
June 9–15, Tulsa, OK
June 16–22, Jackson, MS
June 23–29, Las Vegas, NV
June 30–July 6, Fort Lauderdale, FL
June 30–July 6, San Antonio, TX
July 7–13, Rosemont (Chicago), IL
July 28–August 3, Birmingham, AL
July 28–August 3, Baton Rouge, LA
August 11–17, St. Louis, MO
August 16–September 1, Fort Worth, TX
August 17–September 1, Atlanta, GA

NEARBY SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

May 9–12, Metairie, LA
May 15–18, Gulfport, MS
May 16–17, Birmingham, AL (199ers)
May 23–26, Little Rock, AR SEE PAGE ___
June 6–8, Fort Worth, TX
July 3–6, Metairie, LA
July 18–20, Gulfport, MS (0-200)
July 18–20, Tyler, TX

Board-A-Match

David Siebert

On Sunday of the Little Rock Sectional Tournament (May 25) we will be having a Board-A-Match team game that will be stratified. A lot of you haven't ever played in a board-a-match team game. This was the type of team game we had on Sundays before Swiss Teams was introduced. I think you will find this event a lot of fun. It is quite a bit different than Swiss Teams and the strategy is just like match points in that overtricks and No-trump versus suits, etc. make a big difference in the outcome of a board. Here is how it's played.

Let's say they have two 13-table sections. That means there are 13 teams entered. You may start at Table 1 North/South in Section A and your teammates will start at Table 1 East/West in Section B. You and your partner will play Boards 1 and 2 against the East/West players in Section A, whose teammates will be playing your teammates at Table 1, Section B. You do not compare until you have played 26 boards against 13 teams (2 boards per team). Here is how you compare. Go back to the above example. At Table 1 on Board 1 you and your partner get to 3NT making 4 and in Section B they get to 3NT making 3. Your team wins 1 point. On Board 2 you make +140 but the pair in Section B makes +170—your team gets 0 points. On the next board (against a different team) you make +650 and your opponents in Section B make +650, so your team gets 1/2 point.

As you can see from this, there are 26 points available and 13 is the average score. A good score is usually 17 or 18. Overtricks are very important, just like in match points.

Be sure and try this event. I think you will like it. Hope to see you at the Tournament. ♠

Lost Our Lease!

The lease on the Bridge House is about to end. We can renew, but at a greatly increased rental. LRDBC will hold a meeting on Sunday, May 4, to review our options and give the Board direction on how to proceed. Bring a dish to share for a potluck lunch and join in the discussion. Bridge will follow the meeting. ♥

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SAVE OUR CLUB MEETING & POTLUCK

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 12:30 P.M.; GAME (PAIRS, NOT TEAMS) AT 1:30 P.M.

BEGINNING BRIDGE LESSONS AND GAMES

MONDAY, MAY 5, 12, & 19, 7:00 P.M.

CLUB TOURNAMENT GAMES

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 11:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 12:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 7:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 1:30 P.M.

WE'VE BEEN MISSING YOU PARTY

FRIDAY, MAY 9, PARTY 7:00, GAME 7:30 P.M.

Bring snacks

BOARD MEETING

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 12:15 P.M.

BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 1:30 P.M.

LRDBC members with birthdays in May play free

INTERNATIONAL FUND GAME

1/2 RED POINTS & 1/2 BLACK POINTS!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 7:00 P.M.

LITTLE ROCK SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

BRIDGE HOUSE CLOSED

FRIDAY, MAY 23—MONDAY, MAY 26

Master Solvers' Club

The *Bridge World* is a monthly magazine founded in 1929 by Ely Culbertson. One of its regular features is the Master Solver's Club. This explanation is taken from the magazine's web site (www.bridgeworld.com):

"Each month, the Master Solvers' Club contest, to which there is no entry fee, poses eight problems, typically seven on bidding and one on opening lead. All *Bridge World* subscribers (and their spouses, who may enter separately) are invited to become Master Solvers."

Spending "way too much" time working on the problems

each month during 2002, Gerald Koonce made the Honorable Mention list for the year, finishing 25th overall. Congratulations, Gerald! ♣

Don't Miss the Tournament of Roses Friday May 23 to Monday May 26, Little Rock Expo Center

Tournament Report

Gatlinburg MABC Regional

Marilyn Biegler, Cindy Devish, & teammates—4/10 in BAM Teams (84 teams)

David Siebert & teammates—2nd in KO 1 (16 teams); 3/4 in KO 1 (16 teams)

Shreveport "Rockin' In The Red" Sectional

Jeanne Lloyd & partner—5/7 in Open Pairs (38 pairs) ♦

Club Series Graduates

On March 3 "Better Bidding" (formerly The Club Series) by Audrey Grant graduated 20 members of our Club. The series was presented by Jim Awalt every Monday night for 8 weeks. Most of the graduates have elected to continue their bridge education on Monday nights by attending an educational series based upon the Easybridge! Series.

The new Monday night sessions consist of a half hour presentation of a bridge topic and then 2 hours of bridge. During the bridge game the players have an opportunity to discuss the bidding and play to reinforce their learning experience. As time progresses the game will evolve into a regular duplicate game with the emphasis on learning and gaining experience in a relaxed, fun atmosphere.

All novice players are invited to attend the Monday night sessions, which start at 7:00 p.m.

The recent graduates are:

♠ Kristen Agar ♣ Rusty Baltz ♦ Phyllis Baltz ♥ April Chadick ♠ Lynn Christie ♣ Annadel Fowler ♦ Fred Fowler ♥ Bill Hawkins ♠ Val Hawkins ♣ Patricia Holifield ♦ Richard Johnson ♥ Ned Knapp ♠ Sandra Morris ♣ Diana Nagel ♦ Betty Ourso ♥ Pat Riley ♠ Carolvn Valdez ♣ Ralph Williams ♦

Tournament Hospitality

Edna Savoy

An important part of an enjoyable bridge tournament is great hospitality—good and plentiful food and drinks between and after sessions. As Hospitality Chair for the Little Rock Sectional Tournament (May 23—26) it is my goal to offer EXCELLENT hospitality. To accomplish this I need volunteers. I also need money. \$5 from each member of LRDBC will provide enough money for sandwich meals after each 10:00 a.m. session and snacks and drinks after each evening session plus a full meal during the Swiss Team event on Monday. We never make money on our tournaments. We always spend a lot on food but not more than we collect. Please help make this a great tournament for everyone by donating your \$5. Call me at 758-9852. ♠

**\$5 Needed From
Everyone! This Means
You!**

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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