

Newsletter

of the

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

September 2003

Monday Night Game

Dick Heil

We started a series on Standard American Yellow Card ("SAYC") for the 0-50 group the week of August 25. Classes will continue for 8 to 10 weeks. We will cover each section of the convention card, and go through each of the SAYC conventions including standard no trump openings, Stayman, Jacoby transfers, 5-card majors, Jacoby 2 no trump, limit raises, splinters, weak and strong opening 2-level bids and the standard responses, negative doubles, weak jump overcalls, pre-empts, Michaels, no trump overcalls, unusual no trumps, Cappellitti/Hamilton, and, finally, defensive carding signals. (Maybe if I have to teach it I'll learn to do it better!!!!) ♣

Unit 161 Board Election

Louis Agnew, President of Unit 161

Thank you for the hospitality that your club showed me when I played bridge in your new location. I was very impressed with how your club worked together in

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OPEN GAMES

MONDAY	11:00 A.M.
MONDAY 0-50	LESSON 6:40 P.M.; GAME 7:00 P.M.-9:30 P.M.
TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY (STARTING SEPTEMBER 24)	9:30 A.M.-12:30 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. <->

New Wednesday Day Game

On September 24th, we are beginning a "FUN GAME" which will meet on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to approximately 12:30 p.m.

The format will be low-key with an emphasis on just having fun.

You do not have to commit to being there every Wednesday. Of course, we hope you'll like it so much you'll try to be there each time.

It's better to bring a partner, but if you don't have a regular partner, one will be provided.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, call Ann Lewis at 666-6632, Missy McCain at 666-5309, or Ann Ferrill at 664-7941.

The game will be "stratified" so you will have a chance to earn masterpoints based on how well you do compared with other players in your "strat." A stratified game is a type of game movement where all players are assigned to a group (strat) based on their current masterpoint holdings. Each contestant plays against players of all point ranges. Masterpoints are awarded to leaders of each strat. If a Strat C player scored better than one of the leaders in Strat B (a higher ranked strat), the C player will be awarded the points for Strat B. ♦

Siebert Classes?

David Siebert is considering holding classes for intermediate players and is open to suggestions on the topics to cover—play of the hand, defense, conventions, etc. Classes will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday of each week he is in town. The cost is \$10 for each lesson you attend. Notes are distributed after each class. If you are interested call David at 312-9538. Several have already signed up, but David needs 15 to make a class. ♣

making this look like an A-ONE club.

Unit 161 has an election for half of their present board members this coming October 31—November 2, 2003. Little Rock has two board members in which one seat is coming up for election.

If any person wants to be a candidate for this position feel free to put your name in the hat. This position is open to all ACBL members living in the Little Rock and surrounding areas that are in good standing.

To qualify for this position you must present a petition with 20 signatures of members in good standing, that live in the Little Rock area, 30 calendar days prior to our annual meeting at the DeGray Tournament, October 31, 2003.

This term is for 2 years.

If you are interested and want to discuss this with me please call Lou Agnew at 502-922-4206. ♦

August Board Minutes

Jo Blanchard, Secretary

August 10, 2003

Ann Ferrill called the meeting to order. The attendees were Jo Blanchard, Ann Ferrill, Dick Heil, Margaret Kelly, Lou Morris, Mike Porta, Diane Tait, and a guest, Lou Agnew.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, approved, and seconded.

A formal treasurer's report was not provided for this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Jonesboro tournament has been cancelled.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was entered and approved to participate in the week-long charity STaC game September 22–28. All regularly scheduled games during this week will be STaC games.

Dick suggested we research and consider posting bridge classes in the Arkansas Extended Learning Center (AELC) bulletin. The next session is January 2004.

The board discussed the need for more directors and

ways to encourage members to help take care of the club and cleanup after games.

A grid will be posted on the bulletin board for members to volunteer and signup to bring the cake for the Sunday birthday game each month.

The meeting was adjourned. ♥

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)

November 20–30, 2003, New Orleans, LA
March 18–28, 2004, Reno, NV

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS TO CONSIDER

September 15–21, Tunica, MS
December 26–31, Kansas City, MO
December 26–31, Reno, NV

NEARBY SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

September 5–7, Pineville, LA
September 20–21, Muskogee, OK
October 2–4, Gulfport (Moss Point), MS
October 10–12, Oxford, AL
October 10–12, Monroe, LA
October 11–12, Fort Worth, TX (0–300)
October 23–26, Nashville, TN
October 24–26, Kimberling City, MO
October 24–26, Oklahoma City, OK
October 24–26, Richardson, TX
October 31–November 2, Lake DeGray, AR
November 7–9, Huntsville, AL
November 8–9, Baton Rouge, LA (0–NLM)
November 14–16, Shreveport, LA
November 14–16, Lake Charles, LA (0–300)
November 15–16, Jackson, MS (0–300)
December 5–7, Baton Rouge, LA
February 27–29, 2004, Little Rock, AR

ACBL's Instant MP Game

The 2003 ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game will be held at bridge clubs across the country on Wednesday evening, September 10.

The contest features a gold point for section top winners (each direction). The game also features a

booklet with complete analyses of the deals by many-time national champion Richard Pavlicek. The ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game is the only club event awarding gold points.

There will be two contests—an Open Championship and a Secondary Contest. The Open Championship is for games with at least five full tables run in a Mitchell movement. All pairs in the Open Championship games must play exactly 24 boards to be eligible for the prizes. Open events with 14 or more tables may split into games of at least seven tables each and award gold points to section winners in each direction.

Other awards are half red, half black. In stratified games, only those pairs placing first in the “open” field are eligible for gold points. Invitational games will be considered secondary contests and will award .80 gold points for section-top winners in Mitchell movements of five or more tables.

The Secondary Contest must have at least six pairs. All games with half tables are considered secondary games. Howell movements will also be considered secondary contests. Howell winners will be considered to be in the North-South field. ♠

Tournament Report

Champaign of the South, Baton Rouge, LA

- Jean Grimes, Margaret Kelly, Barbara Miles, & Liz Parry—3/4 in Bracket 2 Knockout (9 teams); 5/8 in Bracket 2 Knockout (16 teams)
- Jean Grimes & Barbara Miles—1st in A/B/C in Side Game Open Pairs (12 pairs)

St. Louis Regional, MO

- Ben Allen, Al Childs, Ann Clay, Dane Clay, & Russ Jones—2nd in Bracket 1 Knockout (9 teams)
- Norma Campbell, David Cockcroft, Mike Compton, Jane Dickey, Ann Ferrill, & Jeanne Lloyd—5/8 in Bracket 3 Knockout
- David Cockcroft & Ann Ferrill—2nd in B in Open Pairs (94 pairs)
- Mike Compton & Jane Dickey—6th in B in Side Game Open Pairs (37 pairs)
- Ann Lewis, Diane Lord, Margaret Mathews, & Frances Westermann—1st in C in Swiss Teams (78 teams); 5/8 in Bracket 4 Knockout (16 teams)

- Allan Siebert & partner—1st in A in Open Pairs (94 pairs)
- Allan Siebert & teammates—3rd in Swiss Teams (70 teams); 3/4 in Bracket 1 Knockout (9 teams); 1st in Bracket 1 Knockout (9 teams); 2nd in Stratiflighted A/X Swiss (41 teams)

National Masterpoint Races

As of August 7, 2003, four LRDBC members were ranked nationally in masterpoint races:

- Al Childs—#180 Lifetime Top Masterpoints.
- Alex Phillips—#31 Youth of the Year.
- Allan Siebert—#14 Barry Crane Top 500; #25 Lifetime Top Masterpoints; #12 Mini-McKenney Grand Life Master of the Year; #35 Senior of the Year.
- David Siebert—#61 Barry Crane Top 500; #34 Lifetime Top Masterpoints. ♣

Director's Corner

Deb Phillips

During the game one recent Thursday, Director Peggy Jett gave a new insight into the troubles of directing a bridge game. Peggy announced that no one should move until she called the round, quoting the universal director's motto: “No one is a higher authority, except God, when I am directing.” Fast players are just as irritating as the slow players, and both are irritating.

Hovering about because you finish a round early is as much a distraction to the game as being the last to finish a round. Please try to maintain a tempo to your play that does not delay the game. And, conversely, please remain in your seat until the director announces the move. Be assured, the director will call the move.

Remember also that the directors come an hour early to set up the game. They are the first to come and the last to leave. They set up the coffee, set out the ice, fill the water jugs, make sure the room is ready, take out the trash, take the money, enter the names, enter the scores, run off your personal recaps, post the scores, clean up the room, take out the trash, etc., etc. But they are not your maids. Be sure to clean up your own messes. Your spilled food, empty cups, and pulled out chairs should not have to be the work of the director. If you kibitz, be sure to return your chair to its proper

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SWISS TEAM GAME

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1:30 P.M.

CLUB TOURNAMENT GAMES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 11:00 A.M.

ACBL INSTANT MATCHPOINT GAME

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 7:00 P.M.

BOARD MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 12:15 P.M.

BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1:30 P.M.

LRDBC members with birthdays in September play free

SECOND FRIDAY PARTY NIGHT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, PARTY 7:00, GAME 7:30 P.M.

Bring snacks

NORTH AMERICAN 49ER PAIRS CLUB QUALIFYING GAME

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 7:00 P.M.

STAC GAMES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 11:00 A.M.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 7:00 P.M. 0-300

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 11:00 A.M.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 7:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 12:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1:30 P.M.

MASTER/NOVICE GAME

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 7:00 P.M.

place. Please help the directors in these regards. You could also show your appreciation to these hard workers by helping take out the trash, empty the coffee grounds, and picking up the trash (that of course no one will be leaving now). Remember also that the director has a whole room of people to keep happy. Do not complain constantly to the director. It is tiring to deal with difficult people. There is always someone who is

too hot and someone who is too cold, someone thinks the rounds are going too slow while someone thinks the rounds are going too fast, someone can't stand it because they are being cheated of their time for the next round because they are playing against a slow player, and someone thinks they are being cheated of their time because they have a slow player coming to their table. If you are a slow player and can't stand the noise as you are finishing your last hand, play faster!!

And if you don't like the fact that we usually have playing directors, become a director. We would love to have you as a director. You can see how much fun it is! A new directors course is starting soon—sign up now. See the back page for more information. ♠

Local Leaders

2003 Under-300 Totals Through Late August

Total Masterpoints	Name	Points
Less Than 10	Charlotte Davis	5.21
Less Than 50	Gregg Sterne	9.35
Less Than 100	Ann Lewis	18.07
Less Than 300	Norma Campbell	44.27

2003 Overall Through Late August

Peggy Jett	79.98
Ann Ferrill	76.58
Ruth Gilliam	71.98
Tommye Davis.....	70.85
Helen Abbott.....	63.39
David Cockcroft	61.41
Bonnie Melchior.....	48.71
Edna Savoy	46.52
Madalyn Reinhardt.....	45.88
Bernice McNutt.....	45.00

STaC Games September 22-28

"STaC" is an abbreviation for a special kind of sectional tournament know as a Sectional Tournament at Clubs. It offers sectional rating and is played in a number of clubs in a specific area over a period of several days. The results of all games are sent to one location, which is manned by the director-in-charge of the event. Overall pair game awards are determined by comparing the results of all games conducted at a particular session just as if all of the games were played at one

site. The masterpoints awarded in this type of tournament are silver points. All games the week of September 22–28 will be STaC games. ♥

Club Director Course

Peggy Jett will coach a group in studying the ACBL's *Club Directors Handbook*. ACBL offers any member the opportunity to become an ACBL-rated Club Director in order to run a local club-level sanctioned game and award masterpoints. This title can be achieved through a self-study course or by attending a Club Director course and successfully completing a test. (Peggy says her students always pass the test.)

The Bridge House needs more directors. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A LIFE MASTER TO BECOME A CLUB DIRECTOR.

Call Peggy at 666-7103 for more information. The number of classes and the meeting times will be tailored to the schedules of the students. Participants must pay for the *Handbook* but there will be no other charge. ♦

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club
Tanglewood Shopping Center, Suite 122
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Little Rock, AR 72207

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

LITTLE ROCK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

BRIDGE HOUSE

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(501) 666-9841

Officers

Ann Ferrill 664-7941 (H)	President ferrill38@aol.com
Margaret Kelly	Vice President
Jo Blanchard	Secretary
Rick Lowens	Treasurer
Don Gattinger	Past President

Board of Directors

<i>One Year</i>	<i>Two Years</i>
Mike Compton	Leah Lasley
Dick Heil	Lou Morris
Mike Porta	Burla Sims
Jan Trotter	Diane Tait
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