

Newsletter

of the

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

December 2003

Be Tolerant of Zero Tolerance

Dick Heil

As we all know, the ACBL has enacted a Zero Tolerance Policy at all of their Tournaments. Our Club has frequently reviewed the implementation of this Policy for our Club and so far has chosen not to enact this policy. I do not know if we should or should not have a ZT Policy, but I do know that at least 10 novices have been lost because they were poorly treated at a regular game or they witnessed rude behavior by some of the "Senior Members".

Every organization has 10% of its members that are less than cordial; unfortunately, this minority can sometimes give a bad reputation to the entire organization. I am sure each one of us can think of a few of our members who could use some lessons in cordial behavior. Who is going to take the responsibility for telling this minority that their behavior is unacceptable? Should we place that responsibility on the shoulders of the Game Director? Should we tell our

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Christmas Party at the Bridge House

The Christmas Party at the Bridge House will be held Sunday, December 7. Reservations are required because the meal will be catered and our space is limited. At publication date 72 reservations had been made—which means 8 more bridge players can be accommodated. If you haven't done so yet, get a partner and sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board. ♥

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 0-300	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. ↔

Board of Directors that it is their responsibility? No, I believe not. Each of us should take the responsibility—regardless of our masterpoint count or our experience level—to take the offender aside and let them know how you feel about their behavior. We are all adults and have had many life experiences, each of us has earned the right and has the duty to make our Club better. If we just stand on the sidelines and do not get involved, we all will suffer because of the rude minority.

This will not be easy. It will take some courage to walk up to an intolerant person and suggest that his or her behavior is not acceptable. But we cannot shirk our duty to the rest of the members, each of us must act for the betterment of all. There is a saying “If it is going to be; it is up to me.”

Hopefully, most of you reading this will agree with me. If you do not agree with me, let us discuss it.

Each of us need to ask ourselves “Am I one of the 10%er’s ?” ♦

Tournament Report

Derby City Regional, Louisville, KY

- Allan Siebert & teammates—1st in Swiss Teams (40 teams), 1st in Bracket 1 Knockouts (10 teams), 1st in Bracket 1 Knockouts (12 teams), & 1st in A/X Swiss Teams (25 teams)
- Allan Siebert & partner—1st in Flight A/X Pairs (32 teams)

DeGray Sectional, Bismark, AR

- Al Childs, Kathy Childs, Ann Clay, & Dane Clay—2nd in A in A/X Swiss Teams (13 teams)
- Betsy Berry & Ruth Gilliam—5/6 in A in Open Pairs (44 pairs)
- Marilyn Biegler & Cindy Devish—3rd in B/2nd in C in Open Pairs (44 pairs)
- Marilyn Biegler, Cindy Devish, & teammates—2nd in Bracket C Knockouts (7 teams)
- David Blanchard & Jo Blanchard—3rd in A/1st in B in 299er Pairs (10 pairs); 6th in A/5th in B/3rd in C in 299er Pairs (24 pairs)
- Norma Campbell, Mike Compton, Jane Dickey, & Bonnie Fincher—5th in C in B/C/D Swiss Teams (23 teams)

- Norma Campbell, Mike Compton, Jane Dickey, & Edna Savoy—1st in Bracket B Knockouts (7 teams)
- Norma Campbell & Jane Dickey—3rd in A/1st in B & C in Open Pairs (30 pairs)
- Ann Clay & Dane Clay—1st in A in Open Pairs (40 pairs)
- Tommye Davis & Peggy Jett—5/6 in A in Open Pairs (44 pairs)
- Tommye Davis, Betsy Berry, Ruth Gilliam, & Peggy Jett—5th in A in A/X Swiss Teams (13 teams)
- Walter Ely & Kathy Miller—2nd in A in Open Pairs (40 pairs)
- Ann Ferrill & Lou Morris—3rd in A/2nd in B in Open Pairs (23 pairs)
- Ann Ferrill, Johnnie Owen, Norman Owen, & Edna Savoy—2nd in A in B/C/D Swiss Teams (23 teams)
- Carl Gray, Alex Phillips, Jane Teed, & Jan Trotter—2nd in Bracket D Knockouts (7 teams)
- Carl Gray, Alex Phillips, Deb Phillips, & Burla Sims—1st in Bracket B Knockouts (8 teams)
- Jean Grimes & Barbara Miles—5th in A/2nd in B & C in Open Pairs (30 pairs)
- Jeanne Harlan & Bobby Morgan—5th in A/2nd in B in Open Pairs (40 pairs); 4th in B in Open Pairs (22 pairs)
- Jean Harney & Frances Westermann—4th in B/3rd in C in Open Pairs (44 pairs); 5th in B/1st in C in Open Pairs (40 pairs)
- Margaret Kelly & Liz Parry—6th in B/2nd in C in Open Pairs (40 pairs)
- Ann Lewis & Diane Lord—2nd in B in 299er Pairs (10 pairs)
- Jeanne Lloyd & Suzanne Siebert—4th in A in Open Pairs (22 pairs)
- Kay Loss, Alex Phillips, Deb Phillips, Burla Sims, & Joyce Thornton—3/4 in B in B/C/D Swiss Teams (23 teams)
- Kay Loss & Joyce Thornton—3rd in C in Open Pairs (40 pairs)
- Johnnie Owen & Norman Owen—6th in A/3rd in B in Open Pairs (40 pairs)
- Deb Phillips & Burla Sims—4th in A/1st in B in Open Pairs (40 pairs)
- Allan Siebert, David Siebert, & teammates—1st in

Bracket A Knockouts (8 teams); 1st in Bracket A Knockouts (7 teams); 1st in A in A/X Swiss Teams (13 teams)

Fall North American Bridge Championships, New Orleans, LA (results through Saturday, November 29)

- Ann Clay & Dane Clay—3rd in A in Mixed Pairs (112 pairs)
- Mike Compton, Jane Dickey, & teammates—1st in Bracket 12 Knockouts (12 teams); 1st in Bracket 7 Knockouts (16 teams)
- Alex Phillips & teammates—2nd in Zip Swiss (20 teams)
- Alex Phillips, Deb Phillips, & teammates—1st in Bracket 7 Knockouts (16 teams); 2nd in Bracket 8 Consolation Knockouts (8 teams)
- Allan Siebert & David Siebert—3rd in A in Open Pairs (88 pairs)
- Allan Siebert, David Siebert, & teammates—5/8 in National Senior Knockouts (32 teams)
- Suzanne Siebert & partner—4th in B in Stratified Pairs (112 pairs) ♣

National Masterpoint Races

As of November 6, 2003, six LRDBC members were ranked nationally in masterpoint races:

- Al Childs—#178 Lifetime Top Masterpoints.
- Mike Compton—#27 Mini-McKenney Regional Master of the Year.
- Jane Dickey—#29 Mini-McKenney NABC Master of the Year.
- Alex Phillips—#24 Youth of the Year.
- Allan Siebert—#15 Barry Crane Top 500; #24 Lifetime Top Masterpoints; #11 Mini-McKenney Grand Life Master of the Year; #51 Seniors.
- David Siebert—#75 Barry Crane Top 500; #34 Lifetime Top Masterpoints. ♠

More Tolerance

The LRDBC Board is considering adoption of the ACBL's Zero Tolerance Policy. Board members want to hear what you think about this. The full policy is printed in this issue of the *Newsletter*. Speak up! ♥



Zero Tolerance Policy

Be cool! Bridge is fun.

The ACBL Board of Directors and Management are committed to improving acceptable player behavior at all times. In accordance with Laws 74, 80F, 81C4, 90A, 91, and 92A (Laws of Duplicate Bridge) the following policy outlines what is expected of all players during NABCs and other ACBL sponsored events, as well as in the playing area before and after each session.

The ultimate purpose of the Z-T policy is to create a much more pleasant atmosphere in our NABCs. We are attempting to eradicate unacceptable behavior in order to make the game of bridge more enjoyable for all. Below are some examples of commendable behavior, which, while not required, will significantly contribute to the improved atmosphere:

- Being a good 'host' or 'guest' at the table.
- Greeting others in a friendly manner.
- Praising the bidding and/or play of the opponents
- Having two clearly completed convention cards readily available to the opponents (This one is a regulation, not just a nicety)

The following list are some examples of behavior which will not be tolerated:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CHRISTMAS PARTY—RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, MEAL 12:15 P.M., GAME 1:30

STAC GAMES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 11:00 A.M.

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

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 11:00 A.M.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 7:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 7:30 P.M. (SECOND FRIDAY PARTY NIGHT—BRING SNACKS AT 7:00)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 12:30 P.M.

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

BOARD MEETING

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

BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

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

LRDBC members with birthdays in December play free

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 11:00 A.M.

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 24 & 25

BRIDGE HOUSE CLOSED

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, PARTY 7:30 P.M., GAME 8:00

- Badgering, rudeness, insinuations, intimidation, profanity, threats, or violence.
- Negative comments concerning opponents' or partner's play or bidding.
- Constant and gratuitous lessons and analyses at the table.
- Loud and disruptive arguing with a director's ruling.

If a player at the table behaves in an unacceptable manner, the director should be called **immediately**. Annoying behavior, embarrassing remarks, or any other conduct which might interfere with the enjoyment of the game is specifically prohibited by Law 74A. Law 91A gives the director the authority to assess disciplinary penalties.

The following procedures have been given to the tournament directors for implementation.

1. At the start of each event, the director shall make an announcement that the tournament will be observing ZERO TOLERANCE for unacceptable behavior. It is requested that the director be called whenever behavior is not consistent with the guidelines outlined above.
2. The director, when called, shall make an assessment of the situation. If it is established that there was unacceptable behavior, an immediate $\frac{1}{4}$ board disciplinary penalty (3 IMP in team games) shall be assigned to all offenders. This may involve any one or all four players at the table irrespective of who initiated the unacceptable behavior. If both members of a partnership are guilty, the penalties are additive ($\frac{1}{4}$ board EACH = $\frac{1}{2}$ board!). The Board of Directors strongly believes that assignment of disciplinary penalties will improve the overall behavior at our tournaments.
3. If it is determined that a second offense has occurred in the same event, then the offender(s) shall be ejected from future competition in that event. An offender removed from an event shall be deemed to have not played in the event, no masterpoints will be awarded and no refunds will be made. In the case of a serious offense and in the case of multiple offenses (three) during a tournament, a disciplinary committee may be convened to determine whether the offender(s) should be allowed to play in other events at the tournament and/or whether additional sanctions may be appropriate.
4. Warnings are strongly discouraged and will be given only when there is no clear violation or in cases where the facts cannot be determined. Offenders are to receive immediate penalties. Regardless of who may have initiated unacceptable behavior, ALL offenses are punishable. Retaliatory behavior is a punishable offense. Frivolous accusations will also be considered as offenses under this policy.
5. In accordance with the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, a director's decision to impose a disciplinary is final; however, all such decisions may be appealed. An

appeals committee may not overturn the director's decision, but could recommend that the director reconsider the imposition of a penalty. It should be noted that the committee may feel that the penalty assessed was not severe enough and may refer the matter to a disciplinary committee.

6. A Zero Tolerance Report Form shall be available for players to report incidents which occur away from the table; and for directors to document complaints and action taken. The DIC shall provide a summary report of all behavioral penalties to the Tournament Chairman and/or Recorder. ♦

Transplant Plea

Don Gattinger had kidney failure this past summer and is presently on dialysis 3 times a week. He is waiting for a cadaver kidney, which could take 3–5 years. If he can find a live donor, the wait is in months and there is a greater chance of a successful transplant. The donor must be under 60, in excellent health, blood type O (positive or negative). Anyone interested in helping can call Joanie, transplant nurse at Baptist Transplant Center (in confidence) at (501) 202-1500, or call Don at (479) 936-5855. ♣

Unit 161 Races

As of November 6, 2003, LRDBC members held first place in several masterpoint races in Unit 161:

- Al Childs— Ace of Clubs Grand Life Master of the Year.
- Mike Compton— Mini-McKenney Regional Master of the Year.
- Dane Clay— Mini-McKenney Diamond Life Master of the Year; Ace of Clubs Diamond Life Master of the Year.
- Jane Dickey—Mini-McKenney NABC Master of the Year.
- Ann Ferrill—Mini-McKenney Bronze Life Master of the Year.
- Barbara Miles—Mini-McKenney Sectional Master of the Year.
- Allan Siebert—Mini-McKenney Grand Life Master of the Year. ♠

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.

2004 NATIONALS (NABC)

March 18–28, Reno, NV
July 17–27, New York, NY
November 18–28, Orlando, FL

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS TO CONSIDER

December 26–31, Kansas City, MO
December 26–31, Reno, NV
January 12–18, Honolulu, HI
January 19–25, Biloxi, MS
February 23–29, Houston, TX

NEARBY SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

December 5–7, Baton Rouge, LA
January 2–4, Memphis, TN
January 9–11, Jackson, MS
January 9–11, Oklahoma City, OK
January 16–18, St. Charles, MO
January 15–18, Metairie, LA
January 29–February 1, Richardson, TX
February 6–8, Gulf Shores, AL
February 6–8, Bartlesville, OK
February 13–16, Huntsville, AL
February 13–15, DFW Airport, TX
February 20–22, Hattiesburg, MS
February 27–29, Buchanan, TN
February 26–29, Birmingham, AL
February 27–29, Branson, MO
March 5–7, Gulfport, MS (0–200)

March 12–14, Hot Springs Village, AR

March 12–14, Nashville, TN
March 19–20, Birmingham, AL (0–200)

April 16–18, Little Rock, AR

November Board Minutes

Jo Blanchard, Secretary

November 9, 2003

Ann Ferrill called the meeting to order. The attendees were Diane Tait, Jo Blanchard, Margaret Kelly, Rick Lowens, Jan Trotter, Mike Porta, Lou Morris and Bobby Morgan.

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

A treasurer's report was provided for this meeting. The year to date net earnings through October 31, 2003 is \$872. Two bills, totaling around \$600, were recently received and are not reflected on this accounting,

OLD BUSINESS:

Copies of the Zero Tolerance Policy rules were distributed and discussed. The ultimate purpose of the Zero Tolerance Policy is to create a more pleasant playing atmosphere. The Board did not formally adopt the Zero Tolerance Policy but discussed ways to promote and encourage a more pleasant playing atmosphere in our club. The Board is scheduled to revisit this topic again in three months.

The following are scheduled to be presented as nominees for the 2004 Board at the Christmas Party:

- President — Margaret Kelly
- VP — Mike Compton
- Sec — Jo Blanchard

Tres — Rick Lowens

One Year Members

- Leah Lasley
- Lou Morris
- Burla Sims
- Diane Tait

Two Year Members

- Norma Campbell
- Barbara Miles
- Tommye Davis
- Art Pfeifer

Others may be nominated from the floor before the club votes (at the Christmas Party).

After considering the club's operating expenses and future needs, a motion to increase playing fees to \$3.50 per game for members and \$4.50 for non-members was made, seconded and approved. The increase is effective January 1, 2004.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made to provide free coffee during play but was not approved.

A motion was made to charge for play at the Christmas Party and was approved.

The meeting was adjourned. ♥

Play of the Hand

Do you want to make more contracts?
Is "Eight Ever, Nine Never" Correct?



When do you use the Hold-up Play?

"To pull trumps, or not to pull trumps, that is the question!"



**Monday Nights starting
January 12, 2004, 6:30 p.m.**

Eight weeks – 2 hour lesson + 1 hour supervised play
\$5 per session (+ \$15 for book) Based on Audrey Grant's "Diamond Series"

**Presented by Dick Heil
Reservations Requested 753-3097**

Local Leaders

2003 Under-300 Totals at November 30

Total Masterpoints	Name	Points
Under 10	Bert Turner	9.70
Under 20	Bert Turner	9.70
Under 50	Diana Nagel	14.99
Under 100	Diana Nagel	14.99
Under 300	Norma Campbell	68.87

2003 Overall at November 30

Peggy Jett	121.07
Ann Ferrill.....	104.17
Ruth Gilliam.....	99.82
Helen Abbott.....	96.57
Tommye Davis	93.63
David Cockcroft	79.04
Bonnie Melchior.....	75.49
Madalyn Reinhardt	70.54
Norma Campbell.....	68.87
Bernice McNutt.....	62.33

LITTLE ROCK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

BRIDGE HOUSE

Tanglewood Shopping Center, Suite 122

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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

Board of Directors

One Year *Two Years*

Mike Compton Leah Lasley

Dick Heil Lou Morris

Mike Porta Burla Sims

Jan Trotter Diane Tait

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED