

Newsletter

of the

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

A Zero Tolerance Club

October 2005

We're Invited

It's a party! Allan Siebert is hosting a party at his house on Saturday night, October 15, from 7:00 until ????. Everyone is invited together with spouse or significant other. Allan lives in Little Rock at 44 Chenal Circle. To get there turn west off Chenal Parkway onto Chenal Valley Drive (this is a left turn unless you turned onto Chenal Parkway from Highway 10), then turn right onto Chenal Circle. You can go either way on Chenal Circle. Allan's house is at the far end of the circle. ♠



OPEN GAMES

MONDAY	11:00 A.M.
MONDAY (0-49) *	7:00 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	7:00 P.M.
SATURDAY	12:30 P.M.
SUNDAY	1:30 P.M.

* Free mini-lesson at 6:30 p.m.

All games are stratified when possible.

All games are non-smoking.

A Novice Asks: How Do I Get More Points Around Here?

Bert Turner

Although your non-bridge playing friends will often ask "What good are these master points you keep talking about", once the bridge bug has bitten you, the quest for master points (MP) becomes addicting. We are often asked about way to get points faster. Here are some explanations and pointers:

In a regular open game (no restriction on who can play), there is 0.1 MP award per table for first place in each group. For example, a 10-table Mitchell movement is two groups (East and West) of 10 pairs each. A 5-table Howell movement is one group of 10 pairs.

- **Pointer #1: The more people who play in each game, the more MPs there are available. Get more people playing!**

Second place is 70% of first, third place is 50% of first, fourth place is 35% of first, and so on until about 40% of the pairs in each group gets awards. So first place in a 10-table Mitchell would get 1.0MP, 2nd would get 0.7MP, 3rd would get 0.5, and 4th would get 0.35. In addition, if there are B and C players, first place in B starts at 80% of A and first place in C starts at 60% of A, multiplied by the number of pairs in each rank. So if that same 10-table Mitchell movement had three B pairs and five C Pairs, first place in A would still get 1.0 MP (0.1 x all 10 pairs), first place in B would get 0.64MP (.08 x the total B and C pairs), and first place in C would get 0.3MP (.06 x the 5 C pairs). As you can see, you are only being compared to your own group. However, if a C pair happened to be first in B, they

would get the 0.64 for winning B (you only get the highest points available, not the addition of winning both B and C). However, in restricted games first place only gets a portion of the points available in an open game. In a 0–300 limited game, first place gets 0.08 MP award per table for first place in each group (80% of an open game), and in a 0–50 or 0–100 restricted game, first place gets 0.06 MP award per table for first place in each group (60% of an open game). So if you are playing in a 10–table Mitchell movement in a 0–100 restricted game, first place would get 0.6 MP (0.06 x all 10 pairs).

- **Pointer #2: Since you are only being compared to players at your own level, there are more points available to you in an open game. Be bold—you and your partner play in open games whenever possible.**

Throughout the year the club hosts “special” games such as Club Championships, Unit-Wide Games, Charity Games, North American Pairs, or Team Qualifications, International Games, etc. All of these special games are on the calendar you get in the monthly *Newsletter* and they allow you to get more (sometimes double or even more) the MP available for our local games. One note, in these special games the rankings for A, B, and C are usually preset by ACBL because your scores are often compared to the scores of other players in rank across the unit or across the country, and then the pairs/teams with the highest percentage games get even more points added to what you were awarded at the club!

- **Pointer #3: Play in all the special games you can.**

Finally, tournaments. If you want a chance to earn more points, go to some of our nearby tournaments. Sectional tournaments primarily award silver points (you need 50 for Life Master), while regional tournaments award red and gold points (you will need 25 of each). Most people believe the fastest way to get points at tournaments is to play in the 4–person team games such as Knockouts and Swiss Teams. Of course you can always play in pairs games that are just like what we normally play at the club. Most tournaments also have restricted games such as 0–20, 99ers, 199ers, or 299ers. You can play in those games and stand a very good chance of getting some points,

but just like at the club, if you play in unrestricted games (or at least the restricted games with higher restrictions) you have the opportunity to get more points. So grab a partner or a team and head out on the tournament trail. It is a lot of fun!

- **Pointer #4: Play the tournaments, especially in team games and open games. ♥**

Tournament Results

St. Louis Regional, St. Louis, MO

- Allan Siebert & teammates—3/4 in Bracket I Knockout (16 teams); 4th in A in Swiss (70 teams); 1st in Bracket I Knockout (15 teams); 2nd in A in Swiss (69 teams); 1st in Bracket I Knockout (16 teams)

Big D Labor Day Regional, Dallas, TX

- Connie Ellingson, Roger Ellingson, & teammates—2nd in Bracket III Knockout (16 teams)

Macon Sectional, Macon, GA

- Alex Phillips & partner—7th in A/2nd in B in Open Pairs (47 pairs)
- Alex Phillips, Deb Phillips, & teammates—2nd in C in Swiss (25 teams)

Unit 161-Wide Pair Game (64 pairs)

- Mike Compton & Jane Dickey—1st in B
- Somers Collins & Missy McCain—2nd in C
- Tommye Davis & Walter Ely—5th in A
- Jim Gauntt & Bill Jones—5th in B/1st in C
- Gerald Koonce & Bonnie Melchior—1st in A

Bridge House Team Championship (10 teams)

- Bill Jones, Gerald Koonce, Allan Siebert, & Bert Turner

Delta Dealin' Regional, Tunica, MS

- Marian Belew & Sandra Crawford—4/5 in A/2/3 in B & C in 199er Pairs (16 pairs)
- Marilyn Biegler, Cindy Devish, & teammates—5/8 in Bracket V Knockout (16 teams)
- David Blanchard & Jo Blanchard—1st in A in Newcomers Pairs (17 pairs); 2nd in A in 199er Pairs (8 pairs); 2/3 in D in B/C/D Pairs (20 pairs); 2/4 in 199er Pairs (10 pairs); 1st in 199er Pairs (6 pairs)

- David Blanchard, Jo Blanchard, & teammates—4th in B/1st in C in Board-a-Match (21 teams)
- Gwen Briscoe, Sheila Mehaffy, & teammates—5/8 in Bracket VII Knockout (16 teams); 5/7 in A/1/2 in B/1st in C in Board-a-Match (17 teams)
- Tom Byarlay & Robert Tully—4th in C in Side Game (35 pairs)
- Tom Byarlay, Robert Tully, & teammates—5/8 in Bracket IV Knockout (16 teams)
- Norma Campbell, Jane Dickey, Jack Tidball, & teammate—3/4 in Bracket III Knockout (16 teams)
- Norma Campbell, Bonnie Fincher, Deb Phillips, & Jack Tidball—1st in Bracket III Knockout (11 teams); 3rd in B in Board-a-Match (17 teams)
- Norma Campbell, Bonnie Fincher, Jack Tidball, & teammate—5th in A/2nd in B in Board-a-Match (28 teams)
- Bill Cardin & Jean Neal—1st in C in Side Pairs (58 pairs)
- Dick Chapman & Judy Chapman—4th in A/3rd in B in 199er Pairs (26 pairs)
- Dick Chapman, Judy Chapman, Jean Harney, & Hildegard Sherman—5/8 in Bracket IV Knockout (16 teams)
- Sharon Cissell, Don Gattinger, Art Pfeifer, & teammate—4th in Bracket III Compact Knockout (16 teams)
- David Cockcroft, Christine Foy, & teammates—2nd in Bracket III Compact Knockout (16 teams)
- Fran Cockcroft, Ann Lewis, Diane Lord, & Sherry Wortsmith—2nd in Bracket VI Knockout (16 teams); 2nd in Bracket IV Compact Knockout (16 teams)
- Somers Collins & partner—4th in C in Charity Pairs (33 pairs)
- Somers Collins, Jim Gauntt, Bill Jones, & Missy McCain—1st in Bracket VII Knockout (16 teams)
- Connie Ellingson & Roger Ellingson—3rd in A in 199er Pairs (23 pairs)
- Christine Foy & partner—3rd in A & B in Side Game (38 pairs)
- Dick Heil, Carol Holcomb, Jane Teed, & Jan Worden—3/4 in Bracket VII Knockout (16 teams)
- Russ Jones—3/4 in Side Game Series (159 players)
- Russ Jones & partner—2nd in A in Side Game (34

- pairs); 2nd in A in Side Game (30 pairs)
- Russ Jones & teammates—2nd in Bracket I Knockout (10 teams); 1st in Bracket II Knockout (12 teams)
- Clete Judkins & teammates—3/4 in Bracket I Knockout (13 teams)
- Beverly Kinneman & Bill Kinneman—3rd in A/1st in B in Newcomers Pairs (17 pairs)
- Kay Loss, Deb Phillips, Burla Sims, & Joyce Thornton—3/4 in Bracket III Knockout (10 teams)
- Gene Marques & Rita Sevall—3rd in C in Side Game (30 pairs)
- Dean Phillips & partner—4/7 in C in Side Game (58 pairs)
- Russ Jones & teammates—3/4 in Bracket II Knockout (16 teams)
- Allan Siebert, David Siebert, & teammates—3/4 in Bracket I Knockout (16 teams); 1st in Bracket I Knockout (12 teams); 2nd in Bracket I Compact Knockout (6 teams)
- Suzanne Siebert & teammates—8th in A/2nd in B in Swiss (71 teams); 3/4 in Bracket III Knockout (11 teams)
- Virginia Young & teammates—2nd in Bracket II Knockout (12 teams)

Aiken Fall Sectional, Aiken, SC

- Christine Foy & partner—2nd in B in Side Game (41 pairs); 3rd in B in Side Game (47 pairs); 4th in B in Side Game (56 pairs)
- Christine Foy & teammates—5th in A/1st in B in Swiss (25 teams) ♦

2005 Masterpoints Won at the Bridge House

Overall at September 26

Peggy Jett	104.41
Bill Jones	97.47
Ann Ferrill	89.63
Ruth Gilliam	87.79
David Cockcroft	84.51
Betsy Berry	82.82
Jack Tidball.....	81.70
Helen Abbott.....	79.28
Norma Campbell.....	74.98
Edna Savoy	73.03

Defense is Fun

Gerald Koonce

This deal at the club recently is a good example of an unusual suit preference situation.

VUL: N-S

DLR: South

		♠ A 9 8 5 4		
		♥ Q J 3		
		♦ K		
		♣ A J 8 4		
♠ K 10			♠ Q 6 2	
♥ A 9 6			♥ 8 5	
♦ 10 8 7 5 2			♦ A 6 4 3	
♣ 7 5 3			♣ K Q 10 2	
		♠ J 7 3		
		♥ K 10 7 4 2		
		♦ Q J 9		
		♣ 9 6		
S	W	N	E	
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass	
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Opening lead: ♦ 8

I was West and Bonnie Melchior was East. We play that we lead second highest against notrump when we don't have an honor, which explains why I started with the ♦ 8 from my 5-card suit. Bonnie took the opening lead with the ♦ Ace and returned her original 4th best, declarer winning with the ♦ Jack and discarding a club from the board, so both Bonnie and I knew she still had the ♦ Queen.

Declarer went after hearts by leading to the ♥ Queen and then playing the ♥ Jack as I ducked twice to cut off her communications to her hand. She continued with a third round of hearts and now Bonnie made the key discard of the ♦ 4, the lower of her two remaining diamonds and suit preference for clubs.

So even though I knew I could set up my diamonds by playing another round with a probable entry in spades, I shifted to the ♣ 7, ducked to Bonnie's ♣ 10. Bonnie continued with the ♣ King, ducked again by declarer and then the ♣ Queen (showing a spade honor) to the bare ♣ Ace. Down to all spades on the board, declarer desperately tried to get to her hand by leading low to the ♠ Jack, which I took with the ♠ King and returned a

spade, won on the board with the ♠ Ace. A spade to Bonnie's ♠ Queen now allowed her to take a trick with the ♣ deuce, for down three and a cold top.

This also illustrates the importance of every board in matchpoints. At the end of the day, Bonnie and I came in first, a half matchpoint ahead of the North-South pair on this deal. Had I returned a diamond when in with the heart Ace, they would have escaped for down one and we would have come in second by half a matchpoint. ♣

Inter-Club Championship Games

The day games on Wednesday, October 12, and Thursday, October 27, will be the first of several ACBL-Wide Inter-Club Championship games to be held this winter. Hand records will be provided and players have the chance to score masterpoints at the Club Championship level and improve that score when ranked against all participating clubs.

The strat limits used for the overall masterpoint awards will be as follows, but the Bridge House may run its game with our normal strats. All strats are re-computed before generating overall results. A = 1500+, B = 500-1500 and C = 0-500. Limited games can participate since the boards are matchpointed across the field.

Fees for this event are regular club fees plus \$1 per player.

Perhaps the most frequently asked question is: "I had a 65% game at my club but the ACBL's list shows us at 62%. How come?" Remember, the scores are re-computed by ACBL and are scored with a much bigger top so it is not unusual for the scores to change. Also, the scores tend to compress a bit with the large number of comparisons.

Perhaps an example will help you understand the principle. Suppose at the Bridge House the board is played nine times with an 8 top. You are the only pair (thanks to fantastic bridge judgment and a bidding misunderstanding) to bid and make a slam. You receive a top on the board.

Let us further suppose that it turns out that 50% of the field at other clubs also bid and made the slam. You will receive about 75% of the matchpoints on the board. Thus, your "top" has been reduced to a 6 (on an 8 top). This "field effect" tends to improve your zeros, too. ♦

District 10 Web Site

For all the latest on tournaments in District 10 (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and western Tennessee), Tournament Flyers, Masterpoint Information, Masterpoint Leaders, etc., check out the District 10 Website at:

www.D10Bridge.org

MAKE TRAVEL PLANS

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

UPCOMING NATIONALS (NABC)

November 17–27, Denver, CO
March 30–April 9, Dallas, TX

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS TO CONSIDER

October 24–30, Shreveport, LA
December 26–December 31, Kansas City, MO
December 26–January 1, Atlanta, GA
January 23–29, Biloxi, MS (new location to be announced)

NEARBY SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

September 30–October 2, Monroe, LA
September 30–October 2, Tupelo, MS
October 1–2, Muskogee, OK
October 7–9, Kansas City, MO
October 14–16, St. Charles, MO
October 20–23, Nashville, TN
October 21–23, Fort Worth, TX
October 21–23, Oklahoma City, OK
October 22–23, Floewood, MS (0–300)
October 28–30, Kimberling City, MO
November 4–6, DeGray, AR
November 12, St. Louis, MO (0–200)
December 1–4, Baton Rouge, LA
December 12–18, Hurricane Relief STaC
January 6–8, Oklahoma City, OK
January 13–14, Jackson, MS
January 13–15, St. Charles, MO
January 26–29, Richardson, TX
January 30–February 5, District 10 STaC
February 24–26, Branson, MO
March 17–19, Hot Springs Village, AR

Your Bid and Play

Don Gattinger

VUL: Both

DLR: East

♠ J 10 9 6 2	
♥ 3	
♦ K 9 8 3	
♣ A 8 7	
♠ 8 4	♠ A 5
♥ A K J 8 7	♥ Q 10 9 6
♦ 6 4 2	♦ A Q J 10
♣ K 5 4	♣ 6 3 2
♠ K Q 7 3	
♥ 5 4 2	
♦ 7 5	
♣ Q J 10 9	

How do you think auction should go? Suggested Auction:

E	S	W	N
1♦	P	1♥	P
2♥	P	4♥	All Pass

Bid Analysis: East opens 1♦ showing an opening hand and at least 3 diamonds. West bids 1♥ to show 6–18 points and at least 4 hearts. East raises to 2♥ to show a minimum opening (less than 16). West has 12 points which includes a five card suit and a doubleton, so bids game.

Your lead? Suggested opening lead: ♠ Jack. Lead analysis: Top of a sequence is usually a good lead. North has no good reason to lead anything else.

Plan your play. Play analysis: Potential losers are 1 spade, 1 diamond, and 3 clubs. If South has the ♦ King and North the ♣ Ace, then good defense will set this contract. If North has the ♦ King, finessing will take care of the diamond loser. If we're careful, we can discard a spade or a club on the 4th diamond. Declarer should win the first trick (if declarer does not play the ♠ Ace at trick one, South should play the ♠ King and switch to ♣ Queen and the defense will win the first 4 tricks). Declarer should use trumps for communication to take repeated diamond finesse. If declarer calls trumps before taking diamond finesse, then you can't make the contract. So, at trick two, low heart to West,

low diamond to ♦ 10, low heart to West, low diamond to ♦ Jack, heart to West (trumps are now called), low diamond to ♦ Queen, cash ♦ Ace discarding spade, low club to ♣ King (which wins if South has the ♣ Ace). You only lose 3 clubs or 2 clubs and a spade.

Summary: 4♥ by West should catch 10 tricks.

+++++

VUL: N/S
DLR: East

♠ 8 7 ♥ K 9 6 4 ♦ K J 9 7 3 ♣ A 8 ♠ J 10 3 2 ♥ 5 2 ♦ A Q 10 8 6 4 ♣ 6 ♠ 6 5 ♥ Q J 10 ♦ 5 2 ♣ K Q 10 7 4 3	♠ A K Q 9 4 ♥ A 8 7 3 ♦ — ♣ J 9 5 2
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How do you think auction should go? Suggested Auction

E	S	W	N
1♠	P	4♠	All Pass

Bid Analysis: To overcall vulnerable at the two level, you need close to an opening hand or better, so South should not overcall 2♣. There will be different opinions

on what the West response should be. A case could be made for 2♦, 2♠, 3♠, or 4♠. Nevertheless, I recommend 4♠. The age old rule of thumb is this bid shows at least 5 trumps, 5–10 HCP, an ace outside the trump suit, and a singleton outside the trump suit (so, I fudged 1 spade). I think this is the most descriptive bid and won't be misinterpreted by partner. If you bid 2♦ or 3♠, partner with a strong hand may go to slam. Or partner could pass 3♠ with a weak hand. If you bid 2♠, your partner could pass and your hand is much too good to play 2♠. West should want to be in game when partner opens, so just bid it.

Your lead? Suggested opening lead: ♣ King. Lead analysis: Top of sequence. You only have 2 in the sequence, but many times leading from King, Queen is a good lead.

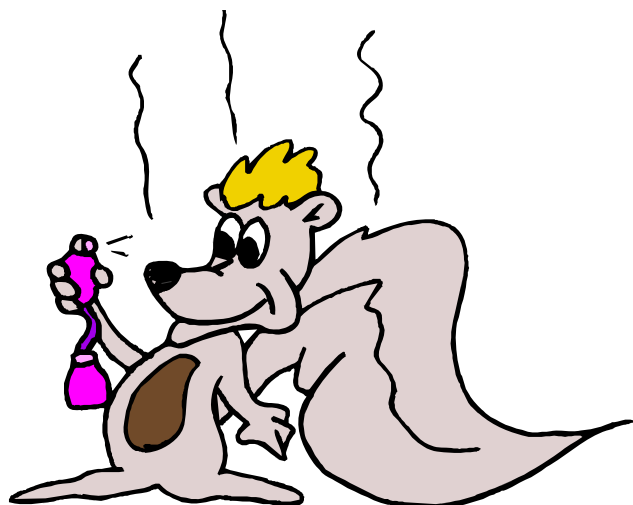
Plan your play. Play analysis: South should switch to a spade at trick two to cut down dummy's ruffing ability. Actually, North should overtake the ♠ King at trick one to lead a spade, in case South had 'K x' in spades. For declarer this is an example of not calling trumps right away. Declarer has one diamond trick and one heart trick, so needs 8 spade tricks to make the contract. You need 3 club ruffs in dummy. Win the second trick in your hand and ruff a club. Play ♦ Ace sluffing a heart. Play ♥ Ace and ruff a club. Ruff a diamond and ruff a club. Claim 3 more spade tricks, conceding 2 hearts. Making 4.

Summary: 4♠ by East should catch 10 tricks. ♣

Congratulations to Dick Heil, Jane Teed, & Bert Turner. Our Newest Life Masters!



Go Easy on the Fragrance



Don't over-do it! This means you too, men!

You may not be aware that many people have allergies to after shave fragrances, perfumes, and colognes. Please exercise moderation in applying scents before coming to play bridge. Thanks!

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

LITTLE ROCK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

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