

Newsletter

of the

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

A Zero Tolerance Club

November 2005

Thanks for Participating!

Margaret Kelly, President

Thanks for participating in LRDBC's first member survey in recent memory!!

The board was pleased to hear from so many members and we are starting to implement changes to improve the club based on your input. You should be seeing some of the bigger changes going into effect in January 2006, and many of the smaller, easier ideas will be implemented right away.

The article starting in the next column summarizes the results.

However, just because the survey is over doesn't mean you can't offer more suggestions or provide us feedback on how we are doing. Please don't hesitate to contact any board member and provide your input.

We'll see you around the bridge table! ♠

Summary of LRDBC 2005 Survey Results

Bert Turner and David Cockcroft

I. Who responded?

60+ members evenly divided between those who have been members for less than three years and those over three years. Two-thirds of the respondents play two or three times a week or more and more than half of the respondents have less than 300 masterpoints.

II. Executive Summary

- ❖ Generally very well satisfied with the club and its services. The recent addition of so many new members and the friendly atmosphere was often noted. A recurring theme was the club is getting friendlier and more sociable, but there is definitely room for improvement.
- ❖ More emphasis on enforcement of Zero Tolerance Policy and time limits.
- ❖ More games, especially day games that start and end early, and more ways to earn masterpoints.
- ❖ Would like to see an expansion of the club's educational programs and added emphasis on increasing membership and attendance by current members. Some of the suggested improvements were:
 - Establishment of a "mentoring" program
 - Assistance in finding or guaranteeing partners
 - More hand records and analysis
 - More special or 'extra point' games

III. Recommendations

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.

- ❖ Create a standing “membership committee” to emphasize recruiting new members and increasing attendance.
- ❖ Continue to expand the club’s educational programs with more topics and frequency.
- ❖ Add more day games that start and end earlier (similar to Wednesday’s game), one of which would be a limited game. 0–500 was frequently suggested.
- ❖ More emphasis on and enforcement of our Zero Tolerance Policy and time limits for play. Better stratification or “seeding” of open games to promote fairness. Non-playing directors may better facilitate these goals. ♥

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, Nashville, TN
 February 6–12, Houston, TX

NEARBY SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

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, Germantown, TN
 January 6–8, Oklahoma City, OK
 January 13–15, 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
 February 24–25, Norman, OK (0–300)
March 17–19, Hot Springs Village, AR

2005 Masterpoints Won at the Bridge House

Under 300 at October 22

| Total Masterpoints | Name | Points |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Less Than 10 | Bo Liu | 8.97 |
| Less Than 50 | Dave Neuschwanger | 26.24 |
| Less Than 100 | Linda Goldsmith | 45.46 |
| Less Than 300 | Bill Jones | 110.67 |

Overall at October 22

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Peggy Jett | 119.62 |
| Bill Jones | 110.67 |
| David Cockcroft | 98.38 |
| Ruth Gilliam | 97.84 |
| Betsy Berry | 96.29 |
| Ann Ferrill | 95.30 |
| Jack Tidball..... | 92.22 |
| Helen Abbott..... | 89.28 |
| Norma Campbell..... | 85.27 |
| Edna Savoy | 81.89 |

October Board Minutes

Jo Blanchard

October 9, 2005. Margaret Kelly called the meeting to order. The attendees were Jo Blanchard, Norma Campbell, Mike Compton, Tommye Davis, Ann Lewis, Rick Lowens, Barbara Miles, Art Pfeifer, and Bert Turner.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Rick provided a treasurer’s report. The net income for September 2005 is \$908. The total year to date net income through September 2005 is \$7,912.

NEW BUSINESS:

Several carpet-cleaning estimates were presented and discussed. A motion was made and approved to accept the \$275 estimate to clean and scotchgard the carpet (preferably with no fragrance).

Ruth Gilliam, Art Pfeifer, and Rick Lowens were asked to head the nominating committee for the 2006 board members and officers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bert Turner and David Cockcroft compiled a summary

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

November 2005

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | 1 7:00 PM Open Game | 2 9:30 AM 0-300 Game | 3 11:00 AM Open Game 6:30 PM Free Mini Lesson 7:00 PM 0-300 Game | 4 DeGray Sectional Tournament | 5 10:00 AM Unit Team Championship - DeGray | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 DeGray | 7 11:00 AM Open Game 6:30 PM Free Mini Lesson 7:00 PM 0-50 Game | 8 7:00 PM Open Game | 9 9:30 AM 0-300 ACBL-Wide Inter-Club Championship Game | 10 11:00 AM Open Game 6:30 PM Free Mini Lesson 7:00 PM 0-300 Game | 11 6:30 PM Italian Potluck 7:00 PM Open Game | 12 12:30 PM Unit-Wide Championship Pair Game | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 12:15 PM Board Meeting 1:30 PM Open Game | 14 11:00 AM Open Game 6:30 PM Free Mini Lesson 7:00 PM 0-50 Game | 15 7:00 PM Open Game | 16 9:30 AM 0-300 Game | 17 11:00 AM Open Game 6:30 PM Free Mini Lesson 7:00 PM 0-300 Game | 18 6:30 PM All-American Potluck 7:00 PM Open Game | 19 12:30 PM Open Game | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 1:30 PM Open Game | 21 11:00 AM Open Game 6:30 PM Free Mini Lesson 7:00 PM ACBL-Wide Charity Game | 22 7:00 PM Master Novice Game | 23 9:30 AM 0-300 Game | 24 Thanksgiving | 25 6:30 PM Cajun Potluck 7:00 PM Open Game | 26 12:30 PM Open Game | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 27 1:30 PM Open Game | 28 11:00 AM Open Game 6:30 PM Free Mini Lesson 7:00 PM 0-50 Game | 29 7:00 PM Open Game | 30 9:30 AM 0-300 Game | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Oct 2005</th> <th colspan="7">Dec 2005</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | Oct 2005 | | | | | | | Dec 2005 | | | | | | | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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of the survey results and Bert presented it to the Board for their review. Approximately 60 members responded and returned the survey. Ann Lewis and Art Pfeifer will chair a committee to review the suggestions submitted for the Master–Novice night. Bert will chair another committee to implement a mentoring program. Other suggestions and recommendations were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned. ♦

Tournament Results

St. Louis Fall Sectional, St. Charles, MO

- Jim Gauntt & partner—4th in A in 199er Paris (17 pairs) ♣

Master–Novice Night, What’s That All About?

Bert Turner

Master–Novice night (affectionately dubbed Master–Moron night by some of us newer players) is intended to be a fun night that allows newer players to meet some of the old hands, lets the older players have an opportunity to welcome newer players, and gives the novice players an opportunity to pick up a few pointers about bidding and playing. The emphasis is on fun. M–N games are held the 4th Tuesday night of each month at 7:00 p.m. There is a list of willing Masters posted on the bulletin board along with their phone numbers and availability. Any novice wanting to play should sign up by putting their name in the appropriate block and then calling the master to let them know you want to play. If by chance there are no masters available, just let any board member or director know and they will find a master to play with you. You don’t have to pay the entry fees or anything else for the Masters. The Masters are participating because they want to and because they like to play bridge!

On game night, it is a good idea to get to the bridge house 20–30 minutes early if possible (work this out with the Master) to give you time to tell the Master a little about yourself, what you know about playing bridge, and what you hope to get from him or her. It also gives the Masters time to introduce you to other people and tell you a story or two about how when they first started they had to walk three miles each way,

uphill both ways, in the snow just to play bridge. Some novices want the Masters to tell them every little thing they should have done differently, but it is usually best if the Master at the end of the round (if there is time) or at the end of the game point out 2 or 3 things they noticed that might improve your game instead of a laundry list of all the mistakes you made. By the way, Masters make plenty of mistakes themselves and they will probably point them out to you as a teaching example (do as I say, not as I do)! The number of boards played is reduced a little to give players more time to go over the hands and to discuss any specific teaching points.

Novices should play only once per year with each Master at a Master–Novice night to allow more time for other players to meet and play together. The board of directors is looking at starting a mentoring program in the fall that will pair newer players up with more experienced players to get one-on-one training time several times per month. That will help newer players master specific aspects of the game and leave Master–Novice night open for what it is intended—a fun night to introduce players of different levels and a time to help newer players transition into playing in the open games. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to socialize across experience levels, and we look forward to seeing you at a Master–Novice night real soon! ♠

Your Bid and Play

Don Gattinger

VUL: None

DLR: West

♠ K 8 6 4

♥ Q 8 5 3

♦ Q

♣ 9 8 7 4

♠ 9 7 3

♥ A 10 7 2

♦ A J

♣ 10 6 5 2

♠ J 5

♥ K 9 6 4

♦ K 10 9 8 5 3

♣ Q

♠ A Q 10 2

♥ J

♦ 7 6 4 2

♣ A K J 3

How do you think auction should go? Suggested

Auction:

| | | | |
|-----|----------|-----|---|
| W | N | E | S |
| P | P | 1♦ | P |
| 1♥ | P | 1♠S | P |
| 1NT | All Pass | | |

Bid Analysis: When you can't open 1NT, you don't have a 5 card major, and your minors are of equal length of 4 or more, open 1♦. (Look only at the East hand for a minute. If you open 1♦ and West bids 1NT, that denies a four card major, so West must have at least 4 cards in one of the minors. Maybe even 5 clubs with 6-9 points. So, you would rebid 2♣). Minute is up, back to both hands. Both players bid their 4-card suits up the line at the one level. West might choose to pass 1♠, which is reasonable, but I prefer 1NT (showing 6 to a bad 10 HCP). If West had 11-12 HCP, then he should bid 2NT, and with 13+ he should bid 3NT. East has 15 HCP, so should pass 1NT, because they don't have enough for game.

Your lead? Suggested opening lead: ♣ 9.

Lead analysis: Nothing clear cut. They bid everything but clubs, so I lead top of lowly sequence. (NOTE: as the cards lie, low club would probably turn out better, but that usually indicates an honor and might hurt partnership trust). Second choice would be a low spade (which turns out bad) and third choice would be ♦ Queen. Heart could work, but you won't get me to lead a heart into the heart bidder.

Plan your play. Play analysis: You have one spade trick, one heart trick, one diamond trick, and two club tricks off the top. You can develop an extra trick in clubs when ♣ Queen is gone and you can finesse in spades for extra tricks. If lead is ♣ 9, don't take finesse, because it should lose. You get a bonus at trick one when ♣ Queen falls. This also gives you a safe entry to West hand for spade finesse. But first, I would play all clubs ending in West, forcing South to sluff 3 times. This may give me some clues. South will probably sluff one heart and two diamonds. At trick 5 play low spade to ♠ 10, losing to ♠ Jack. South should lead ♦ 10 and West plays ♦ Jack. North wins ♦ Queen and must switch to heart, East playing ♥ Jack, South the ♥ King, and West the ♥ Ace. West plays ♠ 9, which North should cover. Declarer plays another spade, diamond to ♦ Ace, and should lose the rest. Declarer catches two spade tricks, one heart trick, one diamond trick,

and four club tricks. If South sluffs wrong, declarer might catch another heart.

Summary: 1NT by West should catch 8 tricks.

+++++

VUL: E/W

DLR: South

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

How do you think auction should go? Suggested Auction:

| | | | |
|----|---|-----|----------|
| S | W | N | E |
| 1♣ | P | 1♥ | P |
| 2♣ | P | 3NT | All Pass |

Bid Analysis: North bids 4-cards suits up the line at the one level. South's rebid could be 1NT, but I prefer 2♣, because South has neither of the unbid suits stopped. South's 2♣ bid denies a 4-card major, so there is no reason for North to bid 2♠; North has 12 HCP, so just goes to 3NT, because N/S probably have enough for game. If South bids 1NT, North should bid 2NT, in case South opened with less than 13 HCP.

Your lead? Suggested opening lead: First choice ♠ 2; Second choice ♦ 3.

Lead analysis: You have 2 4-card unbid suits. It is usually better to lead the unbid major. Diamond is distant second choice.

Plan your play. Play analysis: Declarer has one spade trick, two heart tricks, and 5 club tricks. West is the dangerous opponent because of diamond suit. You want to try to keep West out of lead. Extra tricks are available by forcing out ♠ Queen, finessing in hearts, and finessing West for the ♦ Ace. First, let's run the clubs and force some sluffs by defenders, sluffing

spade and heart from North. Then play ♥ King and ♥ Jack finessing West for the ♥ Queen. Even if it loses, East must put you back on the board. It works, so now lead ♠ 9 to develop a spade trick and an entry to hearts. East's best defense is to put you back on the board with spade and play low when you play a diamond from North hand. Catch two spade tricks, three heart tricks, and 5 club tricks. If defense slips, you catch one diamond trick.

(NOTE) If 3NT played by South, opening lead should be ♦ Queen, Defense winning first 4 tricks. A spade switch at trick 5 sets the contract. A club allows declarer to finesse in hearts and keep the spade entry to North for ninth trick (♥ Ace).

Summary: 3NT by North should catch 10 or 11 tricks.

Questions: Why doesn't North bid 2NT over 2♣ instead of 3NT? With a long club suit and a diamond lead, all South needs for this to make 3NT is ♣ A K Q x x x (which is not enough for an opening bid). So 3NT has a better chance when South bids 2♣ than if South bids 1NT, showing less than 15 HCP. 2♣ shows more potential than 1NT. ♥

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club
 Tanglewood Shopping Center, Suite 122
 7509 Cantrell Road
 Little Rock, AR 72207

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

LITTLE ROCK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

BRIDGE HOUSE — A ZERO TOLERANCE CLUB
 TANGLEWOOD SHOPPING CENTER, SUITE 122
 7509 CANTRELL ROAD, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72207
 (501) 666-9841

WWW.LITTLEROCKBRIDGEHOUSE.ORG

Officers

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Margaret Kelly 224-4045 (H) | President kclmfkelly@aol.com |
| Mike Compton | Vice President |
| Jo Blanchard | Secretary |
| Rick Lowens | Treasurer |
| Ann Ferrill | Past President |

Board of Directors

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| <i>One Year</i> | <i>Two Years</i> |
| Norma Campbell | David Cockcroft |
| Tommye Davis | Ruth Gilliam |
| Barbara Miles | Ann Lewis |
| Art Pfeifer | Bert Turner |
| Bobby Morgan 666-2435 (H) | ACBL Club Manager bobbybmorgan@sbcglobal.net |
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