

ISLANDER

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President's Message

As I write to you I can say that it is finally spring. It is also snowing. I can only hope that when you read this the weather will have improved. Since it is spring, we must have a tournament coming up, and we do. It is a little later than usual due to later holidays and having to avoid Mothers Day weekend. One of the highlights of the schedule is having a team game every day. If you are afraid of playing teams, try one of the pro-am Swiss teams the clubs have been running. There have already been a couple of successful ones, and there is another coming up in mid April. Playing in your first Swiss can seem daunting. These will help you get over that, and they are fun.

Improvements to our website are coming along. They should be in place by summertime. It won't be snowing then. Our unit party will be held at the Sagamore Bridge club on Sunday evening, May 22nd. We will honor our new life masters, as well as our Ace of clubs, mini-McKenney, and Player of the Year winners. It is always a fun event. Don't miss it.

There are also many other events coming up, including the Longest Day on June 20th. It is for a great cause. With all of these events I'm sure we'll be seeing each other often. See you at the bridge table.

Joe Byrnes

**NASSAU-SUFFOLK BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
THE LONG ISLAND SPRING REGIONAL
MAY 11-15, 2016
At the SMITHTOWN UPSKY HOTEL**

DISTRICT 24 NEWSLETTER

By Alvin Levy, District 24 Director

www.allevybridge.com/

Continuing my December News on the recent cheating allegations of four of the top pairs in the world, hearings are scheduled by a number of bridge organizations, including the ACBL at the summer NABC, by the European Bridge League (EBL), and by the Israeli and German NBOs. In the meantime bridge is in the news in major publications. Recent stories have been published in [Vanity Fair](#), [The New Yorker](#) and [Rolling Stone](#). Task forces in the ACBL, EBL and WBF have been formed to deal with cheating. This includes surveillance and recording of major events. See, for example, some [YouTube videos](#). The technology has been in place at WBF events for some time, and is now being used at our NABC+ events. These videos are also used for entertainment and publicity. The newest technology puts the deal on the left of the screen and the players on the right side. The recording starts at the beginning of a segment and continues without a break to the end of the session. See, for example the [video](#) from the recent world championship in Chennai, India. Hopefully by the next issue of the Islander, there will be much more to report.

The NABCs this year are in popular cities. Reno was an excellent tournament, with a slightly lower than expected table count of 11, 650. The Summer Championship in Washington DC and the Fall Championship in Orlando will be great attractions. Two NABCs on the East Coast. I hope to see many of you at these championships.

My travels this year take me around the world. Unfortunately I rarely get to see the sites, with meeting after meeting, but I do love communicating with players, administrators and journalists worldwide. It started in Reno with the 4-day ACBL board meeting, followed by a 2-day WBF Officers meeting, where I serve as Executive VP and IT chair. The first ACBL meeting this year was one of the most productive, orchestrated by president Ken Monzingo, with more brainstorming sessions looking to the future of bridge and the financial health of the ACBL. We have a long way to go to make up for recent heavy losses, and are in the process of getting on track with our technical shortcomings.

I will be travelling to Colombia, South America, to take part in a bridge promotion alongside the South American Bridge Festival. I will speak about online play, robot play, software and Apps for learning and fun, and hope to bring along software to give away to teachers and students.

In June I will attend a WBF management meeting in Hungary, followed by the summer NABC board meeting in Washington, DC. The world championships follow in September in Poland, where I will conduct the [20th annual World Computer-Bridge Championships](#), while also wearing my IT chair hat. I serve on the ACBL Laws Commission and WBF Laws Committee, which will also meet at the world championships to work on the final draft of the updated 2017 Laws. The Orlando NABC follows in November. Speaking of Orlando, I will be taking a leading role in organizing the 2018 Orlando World Championships. It will include more championship events than ever before, including a number of senior events.

Congratulations to Honors Bridge Club as they celebrated passing 20,000 tables in 2015. Congratulations to the Sagamore Bridge Club for their continued record, year after year, in fund raising for the Longest Day charity event. Kudos to Carol Mathews for her efforts in organizing teaching in so many school district on Long Island, and thanks to the many teachers that take part in this worthwhile program.

Wishing Joe Byrnes success in leading the NSBA going forward...we are in good hands. Much thanks to Stephen Lucas for his capable leadership these past two years. Readers should check out the [NSBA website](#), www.LIBridge.com. There, among other information, you will find the names and contact information of the many NSBA board members, and others, who ably and selflessly serve our bridge community.

The Islander

Volume XL, Number 2 Spring 2016

Editor — Mark Shaiman

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February 22-28, 2016 STaC Results

Monday Morning Open Pairs

Stratum A (37.5 tables)

- 1 Phyllis Feiner – Joyce Lotters
- 2 Roger Peabody – Vijay Datta
- 3 Anthony Rizzuto – Harry Windsor

Stratum B

- 1 Phyllis Feiner – Joyce Lotters
- 2 Roger Peabody – Vijay Datta
- 3 Lillian Kufs – Gladys Assef

Stratum C

- 1 Marjorie Tamaro – Nadia Helou
- 2 Nancy Sybil – Ines Beck
- 3 Margery Binder – Helen Honig

Monday Afternoon Open Pairs

Stratum A (46 tables)

- 1 Mel Colchamiro – Phyllis Schiff
- 2 Susan Reiter – Elizabeth Viola
- 3/4 Stacey Bernstein – Patricia Hurleigh
- 3/4 Bob Gordon – Mel Streisand

Stratum B

- 1 Susan Reiter – Elizabeth Viola
- 2/3 Stacey Bernstein – Patricia Hurleigh
- 2/3 Bob Gordon – Mel Streisand

Stratum C

- 1 Stacey Bernstein – Patricia Hurleigh
- 2 Bob Gordon – Mel Streisand
- 3/4 David Bass – Anthony Stanwick
- 3/4 Laura Eilbott – Jacqueline Dixon

Monday Evening Open Pairs

Strata A&B (25 tables)

- 1 Michael Fishman – Barry Walfish
- 2 Michael Slavin – Martin Fox
- 3 Marjorie Tamaro – Nadia Helou

Stratum C

- 1 Michael Slavin – Martin Fox
- 2 Marjorie Tamaro – Nadia Helou
- 3 Lawrence Helft – Gershon Bodner

Tuesday Afternoon Open Pairs

Stratum A (46 tables)

- 1 Irving Lederman – Joann Lederman
- 2 Abbott Feren – Paul Siegelman
- 3/4 Joann Pollenz – Mitchell Pollenz
- 3/4 Susan Weiss – William Dinner

Stratum B

- 1 Irving Lederman – Joann Lederman
- 2 Jean McAlary – Marylou Abata
- 3/4 Barry Nish – Robert Hurley
- 3/4 Harvey Schachter – Ronald Levy

Stratum C

- 1 Harvey Schachter – Ronald Levy
- 2 Patricia Lessard – Elizabeth Murphy
- 3 Marie Thomaidis – Shirley Rubenstein

Tuesday Evening Open Pairs

Stratum A (11.5 tables)

- 1 Peter Tilles – Doris Tilles
- 2 Lesley Decker Lucas – Dina Schechter
- 3 Howard Lipset – David Kornblau

Stratum B

- 1 Peter Tilles – Doris Tilles
- 2 Howard Lipset – David Kornblau
- 3 Milton Alshuler – Sharon Melville

Stratum C

- 1 Milton Alshuler – Sharon Melville
- 2 Ditz Katz – Gerald Berkman
- 3/4 Anthony Stanwick – John Bell
- 3/4 Gisele Katz – Ellie Brook

Wednesday Morning Open Pairs

Stratum A (31 tables)

- 1 Anthony Rizzuto – James Schneider
- 2 Mark Leibowitz – Bart Cirker
- 3 Karl De Shrage – Naomi Klosner

Stratum B

- 1 Rudolph Chung – Alan Cohen
- 2 Bonnie Gibgot – Joanne Seitelman
- 3 Marvin Lilienthal – Fred Goldschmidt

Stratum C

- 1 Rudolph Chung – Alan Cohen
- 2 Bonnie Gibgot – Joanne Seitelman
- 3 Om Singh – Vijay Datta

Wednesday Afternoon Open Pairs

Stratum A (27 tables)

- 1 Mel Colchamiro – Barbara Boyarsky
- 2 Marsha Katon – Barbara Emmer
- 3 Howard Flaxbaum – Carol Benes

(continued on page 4)

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February 22-28, 2016 STaC Results (continued from page 3)

Stratum B

- 1 Marsha Katon – Barbara Emmer
- 2 Howard Flaxbaum – Carol Benes
- 3 Richard Sturm – Hank Kimeldorf

Stratum C

- 1 Valerie Clain – Marilyn Eisenstadt
- 2 Mark Goldberg – George Bleier
- 3 Fran Peterson – Erika Silver

Thursday Morning Open Pairs

Stratum A (52 tables)

- 1 Doris Belovin – Renee Wagenberg
- 2 Linda Leonardi – Joseph Gregson
- 3 Martin Feldman – Lawrence Goodman

Strata B&C

- 1 Doris Belovin – Renee Wagenberg
- 2 Linda Leonardi – Joseph Gregson
- 3 Barbara Rubin – Cheryl Rosenzweig

Thursday Afternoon Open Pairs

Stratum A (26.5 tables)

- 1 Mitchell Pollenz – Howard Cohen
- 2 Ellen Reynolds – Geoffrey O'Connor
- 3 Helen Buck – Susan Weiss

Stratum B

- 1 Patricia Lessard – Elizabeth Murphy
- 2 Laura O'Reilly – Matt Rewinski
- 3 Jo-Ann Damato – Cindi Siegel

Stratum C

- 1 Patricia Lessard – Elizabeth Murphy

- 2 Jo-Ann Damato – Cindi Siegel

- 3 Susan Port – Barry Port

Friday Morning Open Pairs

Stratum A (44.5 tables)

- 1 David Joseph – David Popper
- 2 Marianne Fulfarro – Roger Peabody
- 3 Barry Nish – Robert Hurley

Stratum B

- 1 David Joseph – David Popper
- 2 Barry Nish – Robert Hurley
- 3 David Kirschenbaum – Barbara Rubin

Stratum C

- 1 David Kirschenbaum – Barbara Rubin
- 2 Cheryl Rosenzweig – Ray Elias
- 3 Robin Brendell – Silvana Zangri

Friday Afternoon Open Pairs

Stratum A (16.5 tables)

- 1 Lester Goldman – Susan Gehn
- 2 Geoffrey O'Connor – Richard Baumer
- 3 Jane Sitzman – Ellen Reynolds

Stratum B

- 1 Jane Sitzman – Ellen Reynolds
- 2 Frederic Cohen – Howard Collins
- 3 Susan Laitmon – Nancy Defren

Stratum C

- 1 Jane Garver – Ellen Wachsberger
- 2 Patrick Mitchell – Eliza Werner
- 3 Caroline Terry – Suzanne Riebling

Saturday Afternoon Open Pairs

Stratum A (35 tables)

- 1 Stephen Lucas – Lesley Decker Lucas
- 2 James Schneider – Mark Shaiman
- 3 Dori Cohen – Rob Cohen

Stratum B

- 1 Maria Knapik – George Knapik
- 2 Alan Hyman – Jeffrey Colton
- 3 Nathan Ludlow – Jonathan Howe

Stratum C

- 1 Maria Knapik – George Knapik
- 2 Nathan Ludlow – Jonathan Howe
- 3 Joanne Henrick – Debra Lamountain

Top Ten Masterpoint Winners

- 1 19.53 Michael Fishman
- 2 17.44 Mel Colchamiro
- 3 16.77 Barbara Mendelsohn
- 4 16.06 Lawrence Goodman
- 5 15.46 Lesley Decker Lucas
- 6 15.07 James Schneider
- 7 14.75 Renee Wagenberg
- 8 14.75 Doris Belovin
- 9 14.34 Roger Peabody
- 10 13.70 Anthony Rizzuto

Editor's Note:

The Islander only prints the results of STaC games that are scored over multiple clubs. For complete results, go to LIBridge.com.

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2015 Player of the Year

FLIGHT A

1/2	Dori Cohen	202
1/2	Rob Gordon	202
3/4	Lesley Decker Lucas	116.5
3/4	Stephen Lucas	116.5
5	Ljudmila Kamenova	106
6	Bob Gwartzman	80
7	Frank Anshen	47
8/9	Steven Conrad	44
8/9	Ruth Stober	44
10/11	Bart Cirker	35.5
10/11	Mark Leibowitz	35.5

FLIGHT B

1	Abbot Feren	152
2	Jack Price	142
3	Karen Pollack	107
4/5	William Dinner	96
4/5	John Earley	96
6	Elaine De Schrage	74
7	Charles Bilich	65
8	Leon Sternick	56
9/10	James Schneider	55
9/10	Mark Shaiman	55

Thanks to Dori Cohen for compiling the POTY.

STaC Player of the Year

FLIGHT A

1	Geoffrey O'Connor	81
2	Jack Lipson	50
3/4	Lauren Block	46
3/4	Lesley Decker Lucas	46
5	Barry Plotkin	44
6	Mel Colchamiro	39
7/8	Frank Anshen	37
7/8	Marilyn Brescia	37
9/11	Leslie Sarf	35
9/11	Lyn Weiss	35
9/11	David Joseph	35

FLIGHT B

1	Harold Hack	47
2	Mark Blanchard	44
3	Jane Sitzman	40
4	Laurie Berlin	39
5	David Joseph	38
6/8	Sandra Nachbar	33
6/8	Norman Nachbar	33
6/8	Gair Betts	33
9/11	Barry Nish	32
9/11	Robert Hurley	32
9/11	Jeff Colton	32

Thanks to Shelley Fishman for compiling the STaC POTY results.

Claim with Colchamiro

By Mel Colchamiro



LI Player of the Year
2008, 2003, 2001, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996
LI Senior Player of the Year
2008

Executing The Make-Believe Squeeze

Make Them Squirm

Have you ever been uncertain as to which card to hold at the end of a hand?

There are 2-cards left and you have the King of clubs and the Queen of diamonds. Which one should you throw off? A tough situation for a defender. Well, let's look at this situation from the declarer's perspective.

When we have an almost-certain loser in a side suit, try to run down your trump, (or your long suit if it is no-trump) and **make them squirm**. Make **them** guess which card to hold at the end. Squeeze them a little. Now, it is true that if they are careful and know which suit you have a loser in, they could always know which card to hold. That's why we call it a make-believe squeeze, because we just want the defender to believe they are in trouble, to believe that whichever card they throw-off will give the declarer an extra trick. That is only true of a real squeeze, a difficult play to pull off.

Hoping for a Mistake

That's all the make-believe squeeze is. Hoping that they make a mistake and that they throw off the wrong card. Let's look at an example:

Suppose we are faced with the following situation:

Dummy

♠-x

♥-x

♦-xx

♣-Qx

You

♠-AKQxx

♥-void

♦-J

♣-void

Spades are trump and have been drawn. There are only six cards left. Run down all your trump and make them squirm. Don't concede that loser!! Make them squirm. Maybe they'll make a mistake and throw off the wrong card. Give them the chance to save the wrong card. In our little example, suppose the A and K of dia-

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monds have already been played and the Q is the only card to beat your J. Also suppose that the Ace of clubs has already been played and the K is the only club to beat dummy's Q. If the same defender has both the Q of diamonds and the K of clubs, they just might make a mistake and throw off the Q of diamonds. Don't concede that diamond loser. **Do the make-believe squeeze and make them squirm!**

Turning Straw into Gold

Suppose you bid to 3NT and have 9 easy tricks. The idea at **matchpoint duplicate** is to try and make 10, 11 or 12 without risking your 9. But suppose there are only 9 tricks. Can we make more? Can we make something out of nothing? Yes we can, sometimes. The most common way to accomplish this is for you to give the opponents a little rope to hang themselves with, and that they'll goof by (probably) being guilty of over-signaling; both partners telling each other that they like the suit so often that both defenders have thrown away their stopper. It's a technique to avoid; let your opponents use it. NYC/LI bridge pro, NSBA President and long-time friend Joe Byrnes calls this technique (tongue-in-cheek) "Former Attitude--I used to like the suit." Here's how to lure the opponents into using "Former Attitude."

Exert Maximum Pressure

If you are trying to make 11 tricks when there are really only 10 to be had, lose 2 tricks on purpose if you believe you can easily regain the lead. Then, run off your winners. This puts maximum pressure on the opponents. If you want to make 10 tricks, that means you are willing to lose 3; lose them early, get back the lead, and so on. This is called "rectifying the count" for a real or an imagined squeeze. If you do this one simple thing, you greatly increase the chance of the opponent's (mis) using "Former Attitude." It's the best chance to make an extra trick out of nowhere. Here's an example:

♠-10xxx

♥-xx

♦-KQx

♣-Kxxx

♠-Axx

♥-AKQ

♦-J10xxx

♣-Ax

After a normal auction, you wind up in 3NT and get a heart lead. You have 10 tricks after knocking out the ace of diamonds but no real legitimate chance for 11. But, still, 11 tricks is your real goal. So you should win the heart lead, and play on diamonds until they take the ace. Presuming they return a heart, you should now lead a low spade towards the 10 in dummy. Not that you are trying to make a trick by this play, but more that you are doing your preparatory work—that is, you are losing the number of tricks you are willing to lose—in this case, 2 (remember, you lost an earlier trick to the ace of diamonds). Lose what you're willing to lose early!

They will win the spade and no matter what they return, run your diamonds and you just might find that one of your small clubs or small spades are good at the end. How can that be? Why simply because both defenders have thrown cards in the same suit, while both protecting the other suit; overkill here, underkill there! When (if) your little spade or club wins your 11th trick at trick 13, you will beam, they will be incredulous and you will have a near top. All because you put maximum pressure on them by the simple play of losing what you could afford to lose early.

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2015 Ace of Clubs

2015 Mini-McKenney

		0-5		
Maxine Shapiro	35.92		Maxine Shapiro	37.50
Douglas Vene	23.63		Anthony Swanwick	28.71
John Bell	19.91		John Bell	28.60
		5-20		
Milton Altschuler	61.44		Milton Altschuler	68.03
Kenneth Simon	38.76		Kenneth Simon	54.23
Arnold Small	21.72		Ling-Ling Zhang	26.27
		20-50		
Fran Peterson	75.07		Erika Silver	108.48
Erika Silver	56.29		Fran Peterson	101.56
Joanne Rodney	48.98		Joanne Rodney	62.79
		50-100		
Raymond Presti	76.33		Raymond Presti	108.63
Susan Panzer	65.54		Susan Panzer	79.84
Susan Seelig	54.08		Susan Seelig	73.76
		100-200		
Janine Buss	97.84		Janine Buss	235.74
Robin Brendell	79.27		Robin Brendell	139.96
Vijay Datta	67.14		Vijay Datta	129.22
		200-300		
Stanley Adelman	111.21		Sam Goldberg	313.33
Gary Levine	109.47		Laura Orticelle	158.77
Joan Pool	103.06		Gary Levine	153.28
		300-500		
Raymond Elias	130.93		Mark Krinsky	193.20
Mark Krinsky	130.49		Raymond Elias	175.24
Laura O'Reilly	129.51		Laura O'Reilly	171.30
		500-1000		
Drew Tarhan	135.67		Laurie Berlin	227.06
Dina Arker	129.07		Susan Calabro	209.84
Alan Hyman	128.00		Dina Arker	187.32
		1000-2500		
Barry Nish	173.27		Alan Kudisch	308.27
Alan Kudisch	166.85		Jack Price	297.97
Karen Pollack	164.06		Mark Blanchard	283.67
		2500-5000		
Geoffrey O'Connor	277.95		Geoffrey O'Connor	386.01
Karl De Shrage	239.76		Dori Cohen	328.96
John Berry	213.84		Gary Helman	311.34
		5000-7500		
Honey Ellis	273.42		Rob Gordon	332.31
Mark Leibowitz	221.87		Honey Ellis	317.18
Richard Baumer	200.30		Glenn Milgrim	316.55
		7500-10000		
Doris Rodgers	299.88		Doris Rodgers	377.82
Irma Korenstein	137.19		Irma Korenstein	167.38
Diana Schuld	82.16		Diana Schuld	156.84
		10000+		
Ruth Stober	165.27		Mel Colchamiro	433.68
Mel Colchamiro	132.05		Bob Gwartzman	311.48
Magdy Shohdi Mesdary	.70		Ruth Stober	228.72

Returning for another season!

BRIDGEExpress at Lake Success and Long Island Country Club Duplicate
invite you and your friends to join us for

Not Too Serious New To Duplicate

at the Lake Success Jewish Center
354 Lakeville Road
Lake Success, NY

Monday Mornings
9:45 – 11:30 a.m.

Beginning May 23

also scheduled for June 6, 20 & 27

(July – September schedule to be announced)

The cost is \$15 per person for each session for all new players*
(you do not need to sign up for more than one session at a time).

There is no charge for our experienced BRIDGEExpress and LICCD duplicate
players who bring new players to the game.

Partnerships will be arranged if needed.

Refreshments will be served.

Reservations are required.

NSBA ISLANDER

Tournament Report

by Lee Launer, Tournament Chair

Our Spring Regional will be held on May 11-15, 2016 at The UPSKY Hotel.

We have worked diligently to develop an event that meets your needs. We have listened to our members comments, through surveys, one on one discussions and emails. While many of the comments were positive related to the games, directors and collegial atmosphere, many were negative related to the hotel. We take all of your comments quite seriously and accordingly, the Spring Regional incorporates your requests where possible.

The Events

The events as shown on page 12 of *The Islander*, reflect your comments, including the following games:

- Open Pairs
- Round Robin Swiss(Team Games)
- Gold Rush Pairs
- Novice Games

Timing

Many members felt that our tournaments end too late. Accordingly, our starting times will be 10:00 a.m., and the lunch break will be restricted to approximately 1 hour. This should allow an earlier ending time.

Technology

As members requested, we have incorporated "Fast Results." The results of a pair session will be available on your phone, approximately 15-20 minutes after the game ends (You must have an email address registered with the ACBL).

Directors

The tournament directors are chosen, to the extent possible, based on your input and comments from prior regionals.

Hotel Accommodations

As stated earlier, the hotel did not meet our expectations. We recognized this ourselves, and heard your comments loud and clear. We have met with hotel management numerous times over the last few months and although we cannot force them to modernize or upgrade every area, there will be a significant improvement in what they can control.

As most of you know, our choice of hotels is very limited. Every other possible venue cannot accommodate either the space needed for the number of members attending, the parking requirements, the timing of our events, or our budget.

For nearly the last ten years we have lost money at every regional, and we noted our resources steadily declining. We had no choice but to relocate to a less expensive facility. While The UPSKY is not luxurious, it does meet our basic needs, and I can assure you their performance will be better.

We received positive comments on the breakfast that the hotel provided. So each morning of the tournament we will have bagels, cream cheese, butter and of course, coffee and tea.

Team Games

Finally, we heard from a number of newer or less experienced players that they felt uncomfortable participating in team games because they were intimidating. This is a shame, because team games are so enjoyable, and will enrich their bridge experience. In this regard, as noted in an email from Joe Byrnes, we have organized team game "tutorials" at selected clubs over the last few months, and will continue to do so.

Further during the Spring Regional we will make every effort to accommodate any of our less experienced players who participate. We have developed plans to make your experience pleasurable and without stress.

As you can tell, we are working very hard to make our regional an event you will enjoy.

See you there!

Life Master—Non-LM Charity Pair Game

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 7:00 pm

Smithtown Upsky Hotel

Vanderbilt-Motor Parkway

Smithtown, NY

Each partnership consists of 1 Life Master and 1 non-Life Master (who has less than 300 points)

Life Master plays free.

Arrange your own partnership or we will find a partner for you.

No regular partnerships, please.

Pre-registration on the form below is greatly appreciated. Tear off and mail to:

Lesley Decker Lucas

231 Baird Court

Woodbury, NY 11797

Please send forms in by May 5, 2016.

Call Lesley at 516-364-2388 for further information.

Name _____

Phone _____

Partner's Name _____

I am a Life Master _____

I am a non-Life Master _____

I need a partner _____

PLEASE DO NOT SEND MONEY — You Can Pay At The Tournament

NSBA ISLANDER

Long Island Spring Regional ♠ May 11-15, 2016

at the *Upsky Long Island Hotel*

110 Vanderbilt Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, NY 11788 • 631-231-1100

Discounted Room Rate: \$109 Cutoff Date: April 30, 2016

DIRECTIONS: *FROM THE EAST*: Take Veterans Memorial Highway Northwest to I-495 (Long Island Expressway) West and take Exit 53 (Wicks Road). At the end of the exit ramp turn right and the hotel will be on the left. *FROM THE WEST*: Take I-495 (Long Island Expressway) East. Proceed east to Exit 53 (Wicks Road). At Wicks Road turn left and then turn right at the first light which is Motor Parkway. The hotel will be 200 yards up on the left.

Results posted nightly

at www.libridge.com

WEDNESDAY May 11

Non LM / LM Charity Pairs (Red) (Each pair must have a LM and an under 300 player) 7:00 pm

THURSDAY May 12

Stratified Newcomer Single Session Pairs (0-200), (Red) (Guaranteed Partners)..... 10:00 am
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750, 0-300)..... 10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Open Pairs A (3000+), B (1500-3000), C (0-1500).....10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Bracketed Round-Robin Teams10:00 am & TBA

FRIDAY May 13

Stratified Newcomer Single Session Pairs (0-200), (Red) (Guaranteed Partners)..... 10:00 am
Gold Rush Pairs (300-750, 0-300)..... 10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Open Pairs A (3000+), B (1500-3000), C (0-1500).....10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Bracketed Round-Robin Teams10:00 am & TBA

SATURDAY May 14

Gold Rush Pairs (300-750, 0-300)..... 10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Open Pairs A (3000+), B (1500-3000), C (0-1500).....10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Bracketed Round-Robin Teams10:00 am & TBA

SUNDAY May 15

Flighted Swiss / Bracketed Round-Robin Teams

(A/X) A (4000+), X (0-4000) (7 rounds of 7 or 8 boards) (Top Bracket Open to All)

Bracketed Round-Robin Flight B (no player >3000, 7 rounds of 7 boards)..... 10:00 am & TBA

We will have a 1-hour maximum lunch break in order to accommodate our members for the earliest possible departure time.

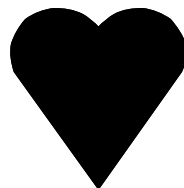
GOLD AWARDED IN BRACKETED EVENTS (In each bracket of 8 teams, 3 receive gold)

SINGLE SESSION ENTRIES AVAILABLE FOR ALL PAIR GAMES

Tournament Chairman: Lee Launer 516-628-2546 • actuary3@hotmail.com

Tournament Manager: Susan Toporovsky • SusieTee60@gmail.com

Partnerships Arranged: John Abrenica • 516-972-3215



NSBA ISLANDER

EVENT DESCRIPTIONS FROM THE ACBL

GOLD RUSH PAIRS

This event has 2 strata, 0-300 and 301-750mps. The player with the higher masterpoint holding determines in which stratum the pair plays. All strata play each other. Players are eligible for masterpoint awards in their own or a higher stratum. In this play-through event, the top stratum pays Gold for section tops and overall. The other strata pay red points.

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS

This event usually has three mutually exclusive strata, 0-1500, 1501-3000, 3001 and up. The player with the highest masterpoint holding determines the stratum in which the pair plays. In this event, all strata play against each other. Players are eligible for masterpoint awards in their own or a higher stratum.

BRACKETED EVENTS

In these events, very popular today, teams are grouped by their average masterpoint holdings, not by the masterpoint holding of the highest ranked player (as done in stratified events). This allows the players to compete mainly against their equals, while allowing for a reasonable number of contestants in each bracket.

BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN SWISS TEAMS

In this event, roughly **35% of the players receive gold points!** Teams are grouped by the team's total masterpoint holdings, not by the highest ranked player's holdings (as done in stratified events). Teams are bracketed, where possible, in groups of 8 and play only against other teams in that bracket. In an 8 team bracket each team plays once against every team in its bracket.

Teaching Bridge to Youth on Long Island

IT'S SO EXCITING!

Give back to bridge by teaching a new generation to play. Our school bridge program is expanding at a rapid pace. We especially need teachers for the Huntington and Great Neck areas. If you would like join our team of volunteers, please email

Carol Mathews (mathewscj@aol.com) or
Jim Schneider (whistle21751@gmail.com).

Your help would be greatly appreciated.

“ASK AND TELL”

By Lesley Decker Lucas

In 2011, the discriminatory policy in the military of “don’t ask, don’t tell” was justifiably repudiated. Transparency at the bridge table is expected. We should “ask” and our opponents are required to “tell”.

Items written in red on convention cards are “alertable” and when partner bids one of these conventions we must say “alert” or use the alert card in the bidding box.. We should not explain why we are alerting until the opponent asks. This is considered “tmi” or “too much information” and may be a tipoff to our partner as to what we are doing if we explain when we are not asked to. If we do not alert our partner’s bid, the opponent has a right to call the director and a ruling will be made.

Items written in blue on the convention card are “announceable”. In these cases, we are expected to explain by saying the words “transfer” or “forcing” (in the case of forcing NTs).

In contrast, there are many actions taken at the table that may seem like they should be alerted but in fact, are not. I found out the hard way what some of these are:

1) 1NT-2♣-2♦-2♥ In standard bridge, the 2♥ bid shows 5 hearts, 4 spades and 8 to 9 points. I know that many people now play “rollup” or “garbage Stayman” and in their systems the 2H bid may show very few points and may be only 4-4 in the majors as well. But I assumed those treatments would be alertable as they veer from “standard”. So a few months ago, when that bidding sequence was employed by my opponents [1NT-2♣-2♦-2♥-P-P- to me], I did not balance since I assumed that the opponents had a minimum of 23 points between them. I assumed that responder “promised” 8 to 9 points with 5 hearts and 4 spades and that opening NT bidder had a minimum NT hand...15 points. After the hand was over and I recognized that responder had only 3 points, I called the director to the table. It was explained that the opponents did not have to alert and that the onus was on me to ask. I never imagined that I would have to ask about a bidding sequence that to me was “standard” for the 42 years that I’ve been playing bridge! [Am I really that old?]

2) Rusinow Leads

While standard honor card leads are the top of 2 touching honors, those who play Rusinow leads lead the lower of 2 touching honors (Q from KQ, J from QJ). The first time I became aware that this was even a system at all, again I learned it the hard way! My LHO opponent led a Q so I played the hand for my RHO opponent to have the K! Oops! Imagine my surprise when the opening leader who led the Q also had the K! That was my introduction to Rusinow

leads. Now I know which local players employ this lead style and in tournaments I always inquire as to whether my opponents play “standard honor card leads.”

Rusinow leads seem so unusual that I thought perhaps they should be “prealertable.” I expressed my concerns to director Anita Goldman and this is what she responded: “What is standard to you may not be standard to someone else. Rusinow leads came into existence in the 1940’s, were widely used 60 years ago and could have once been considered “standard”. It is incumbent on declarer to ask the opponents what their lead and carding system is. Alerts and pre-alerts are reserved for “unusual systems or methods” as an early warning system. Rusinow leads are not considered unusual. Many pairs make 4th best leads, others 3rd and 5th. ACBL does not sanction one type as standard and the other as unusual.” Thanks Anita!

3) Leads from 3 small cards

Let’s cut ahead to a few years later after I had learned to ask more questions! My opponent led a deuce against a suit contract. I asked about their leads and were told they were “standard.” I proceeded to play the hand “knowing” that the opponent who led the deuce “had to” have an honor in the suit. Why?...because I played MUD from 3 small cards and assumed everyone did!!! The lowest card could not be from 3 small cards! Haha! I played the hand according to that thinking and got the hand wrong. I was sure that EVERYONE played low from an honor! I was chagrined to find out that on a convention card, low from 3 small cards is printed in bold...and therefore standard! Wow! I still had a lot to learn!

So here’s what I now recommend as a more seasoned player. Don’t assume that bidding or carding style is uniform. There are so many varieties out there! Ask questions! Don’t be intimidated. The onus is on YOU...not the opponents. It’s your right to know, “Ask and tell.” If an opponent alerts and you ask and he then throws out the name of a convention that you are not familiar with, feel comfortable in asking him to explain further. It’s your right! Look at your opponent’s convention card...that will give you a lot of information as well. Every partnership is expected to have at least one filled out convention card at the table.

Often if asked “what are your leads?”, your opponent will answer “standard” while not even recognizing that he does NOT play standard leads. MUD and ROMAN MUD[2nd highest from worthless holdings] are NOT STANDARD! Jack denies 10 implies is NOT STANDARD! Coded 9’s and 10’s are NOT STANDARD! 3rd and 5th leads are NOT STANDARD! Upside down count and attitude and odd/even discards are NOT STANDARD!

So exercise your right to transparency and ask. It will help you be more informed and therefore be on the road to playing better!

Stop by Joe Byrnes

Every bidding box contains a card that says "Stop." If you asked most newer players, and even some who have been playing a while, what it means, most won't know the answer. Many have never been told, and some of the ones who have been told have been given the wrong answer. Elliott Grubman, a friend of mine from Brooklyn, and a winner of a few national championships, has the best use for a stop card I ever heard. He wanted to ask for an amended card that said "Partner, for the love of God, please stop bidding." Now I know he was kidding, as his partner had just gone for 800 for no reason, but the fact is many players use the stop card in a manner that is very much like this. This is blatantly unethical.

One of the reasons this happens is most players are never educated in the laws and ethics of the game. One of my first teachers, Michael Kufs, used to give a lecture before his Friday night game at the old Grand Bridge Club in Franklin Square. Once in awhile he would devote a lesson to ethical behavior. I know of no other teachers who have done this in large classes.

The purpose of the Stop card is to warn your left hand opponent you are making a skip bid. Suppose you open 3 diamonds. If your left hand opponent has this hand:

♠AJ76 ♥K102 ♦87 ♣A1076

he might bid, or he might pass. My guess is he will pass, but he will mull it over. Now suppose his hand is:

♠Q875 ♥J87 ♦92 ♣K876

he'll pass like a shot. See the problem? When he thinks for a bit before passing, his partner knows he has a decent hand. When he passes immediately, his partner knows he has a weak hand. This is unauthorized information. If you use your Stop card when you bid 3 clubs, your left hand opponent is required to wait 10 seconds before he makes any call, including pass. Now his partner will not know when he has the decent hand and when he has the weak hand.

I have actually heard people say to their partner, "Didn't you know I was weak, I used the stop card?" Presumably they would not use the Stop card with a good hand. That is highly unethical. You either always use the stop card when you jump, or you never use it. You do not use it to wake up partner. It is for your opponent's benefit only.

If your opponent uses the Stop card, you should study your hand for the required 10 seconds. Looking at your watch to count the time would defeat the purpose. You are required to wait even if he puts the card back before the 10 seconds are up, and he can not make you wait longer by leaving it out a long time.

NSBA ISLANDER

Slow Play

The following was sent by Kathy McLaughlen and Laura O'Reilly of the Water Mill Bridge Club to their players. It is worth sharing with the entire membership of the NSBA.

Bridge is a timed event and all players deserve a smoothly run, timely game. To this end the Game Directors are expected and empowered by ACBL, the Board and the club manager to take action as deemed necessary to ensure that rounds finish within the allotted time.

The clock is set by the directors at the beginning of the game to provide 7 1/2 minutes (ACBL recommended time) for each board and to keep track of the amount of time remaining in each round.

Players are expected to be aware of time used and remaining in each round. Failure to finish on time is distressing to waiting players (both in front and behind the slow pairs). When pairs take more than their share of the allotted time for each round, they are placing competitors at a disadvantage. It is their responsibility to make up for lost time as quickly as possible – no matter who is at fault.

Actively ethical players will make a concerted effort to start the game on time, and to catch up when they have fallen behind, regardless of the reason for their lateness. All players are expected to develop this good habit. Slow Play Penalties Remember: Slow play is a violation of bridge law subject to penalty, and the penalties are well deserved when slow pairs disrupt the normal progression of the game.

According to ACBL Laws 12 and 86 the game directors may remove one or more boards from a round and award a "no score" whereby the computer applies the pair's percentage game values for the day to the unplayed board. It is much like a sit-out.

Every effort should be made by the game directors to remove boards before they can be played when they see there is insufficient time remaining to finish the round. In our club, directors may apply the 2-minute rule. If bidding has not begun when only 2 minutes are left in the round, the director may pull the board.

The director should presume that a pair finishing a round late by more than two or three minutes on more than one occasion during a session is responsible for slow play. There is a strong expectation that the director will penalize such a pair. For chronic slow play, the director may pull a board and assign "average minus" to the offenders rather than "no score."

At the discretion of the Game Directors, slow play penalties will be deemed to be either disciplinary (and unappealable) or procedural. Appeals committees should tend strongly to reject all routine appeals against slow play penalties. Furthermore, when such an appeal is denied, a penalty should be assigned to the appellant for making a frivolous appeal.

Slow play affects many people in a game. Everyone thanks you for your efforts to finish each board and each round within the time provided!

As editor of the Islander I would like to add a few suggestions on how to avoid slow play:

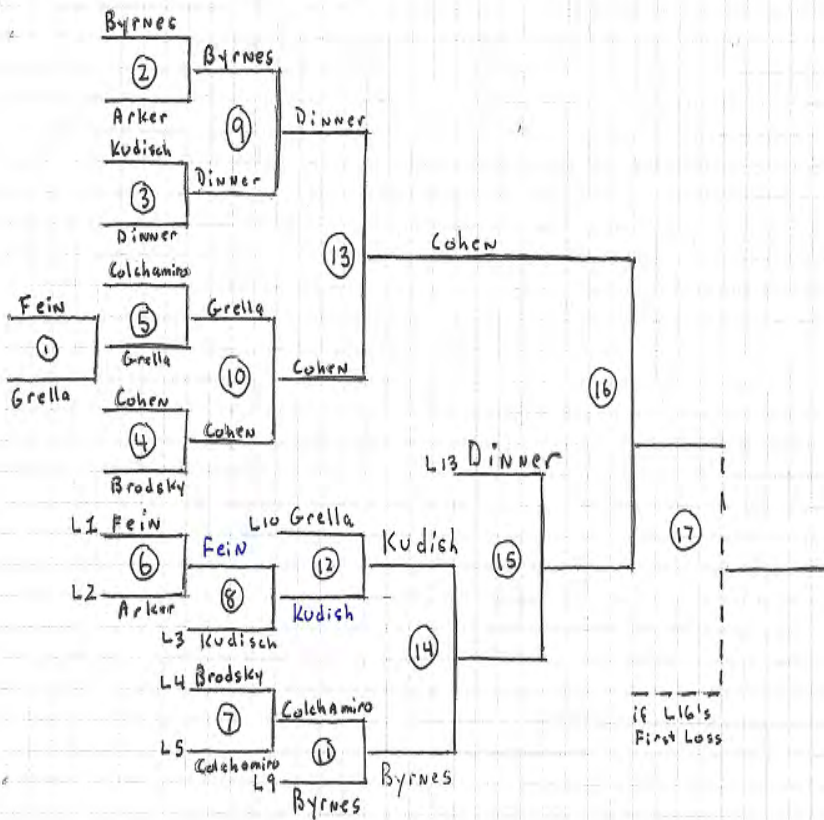
1. Save the Post-Mortem for after the round. Don't spend time going over the hand you just played. Go right into the next hand. If there is time between rounds, then there is time for discussion. The more you talk during the round, the less time for play.

2. Make the opening lead before you enter the contract on your personal score sheet. This will give the declarer time to start making a plan, and you can enter the contract while the dummy is being revealed. It may not sound like this will save much time, but when you play a few boards a round it can add up and may make the difference between finishing the round and having a late/no play.

3. Prepare your bids in advance. Once you've sorted your hand, don't just count the points and decide if you would make an opening bid. Decide what you would respond if you partner opens one of a suit or 1NT; decide if you would overcall on the 1-level or the 2-level. Not only does this speed things up, but it also keeps you focused.

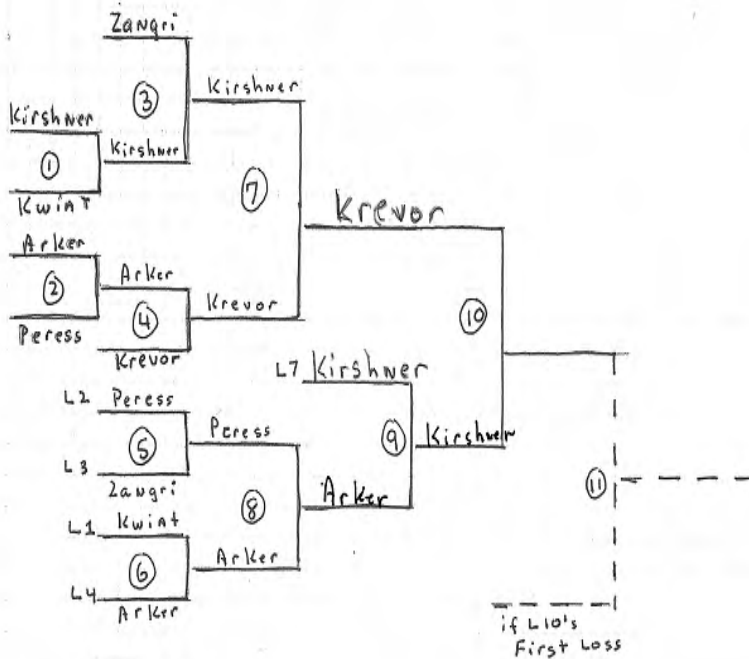
NSBA ISLANDER

FRANK ALLISON
Double KO 2015



Stratum A

FRANK ALLISON
Double KO 2015



Stratum B

Jeff, I Owe You One by Joe Byrnes

♠ K85
♥ KQ9
♦ KQJ6
♣ A97

♠ AJ7
♥ 10842
♦ 42
♣ Q652

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
1♦	1♠	1NT	P
3NT	All Pass		
Lead ♠9			

Several years ago Jeff Meckstroth authored a book " Win The Bermuda Bowl With Me." While I don't expect Jeff to invite me to join his Bermuda Bowl team anytime soon (or not so soon), he did give one piece of advice that I have found to be priceless. I might be paraphrasing here, but it was "I'm not afraid to look foolish."

This does mean you can bid or play anything you want and laugh it off if you go down 6; it means if you have a good reason to think something is the right play, you should do it, even if no one else will. When it doesn't work you will look foolish. Don't worry about it.

On this hand I was in 3 no trump and got a spade lead. East played low and I won the jack. I played a diamond to the king, which won. I continued a diamond and East won the ace. He returned a spade. I won in dummy and played the king of hearts. East won and played the 10 of diamonds. He should have played a spade, but that's his problem. I won as West showed out. I cashed a heart and East followed. I now knew East had started with 5 spades, 5 diamonds, and at least 2 hearts. Not much room for clubs.

I played a spade to my hand and led a club. When west played the ten I had to decide whether to play east for a singleton king of clubs, or to duck and end play west if he had it.

I played low, and west won the ten as east followed small. West cashed a heart, but was down to all clubs (he had thrown a heart on the third diamond). He had no choice but to play a club and make my queen good. Yes, they could have defended better. Again, their problem.

Now, what if east had the king of clubs. I would have gone down 3 on a hand that Mrs. Guggenheim would have made. The odds favored playing small, so I was willing to look stupid if I was wrong. I'm sure I will have more chances to look stupid in the future.

Here are the hands of the defenders:

West
♠ 92 ♥ J763 ♦ 97 ♣ KJ1083

East
♠ Q10643 ♥ A5 ♦ A10853 ♣ 4

NSBA ISLANDER

ATTENTION: INTERMEDIATES AND NEWCOMERS SPRING REGIONAL EVENTS JUST FOR YOU!

Make your plans now to play with your favorite partner.

Wednesday, May 11	7:00 PM	Non LM/LM Pairs
Thursday, May 12	10:00	Single Session Pairs
Thursday, May 12	10:00 AM & 2:30 PM	GOLD POINT PAIRS!
Thursday, May 12	10:00 & TBA	Bracketed RR Swiss
Friday, May 13	10:00	Single Session Pairs
Friday, May 13	10:00 AM & 2:30 PM	GOLD POINT PAIRS!
Friday, May 13	10:00 & TBA	Bracketed RR Swiss
Saturday, May 14	10:00 AM & 2:30 PM	GOLD POINT PAIRS!
Saturday, May 14	10:00 AM & TBA	Bracketed RR Swiss
Sunday, May 15	10:00 AM & TBA	Bracketed RR Swiss

The I/N player who has won the most masterpoints playing in the newcomer events during the tournament will be the recipient of our I/N trophy. It could be you! And at this tournament newcomers are invited to participate in our popular BRACKETED ROUND-ROBIN SWISS TEAM EVENT. This means that your team will be playing against opponents who have similar masterpoint totals, and that you could even win GOLD points in the event. No kidding!

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday are special chances to earn GOLD Points!

For information and encouragement call:

Susan Scholer, I/N Chairperson at 631-360-8456 or 631-775-7772.

LIBRIDGE.COM **The NSBA Website**

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Tournament Results

LI Club Locations and Schedules

Find a Bridge Teacher

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Digital Version of The Islander
(before it hits your mailbox!)

And much more!

Save the Date:

Dr. Reza Khatib
Sectional!

July 8-10, 2016

At Your
Local Clubs

Come Out For
Silver Points

See you there!

Better Opponents Produce Better Players by Silvana Zangri

As a teacher of beginners, I witness new players embark on the journey of learning and watch them develop a nagging need to get better at the game. It is my favorite part of my job. I truly enjoy watching the light bulbs go on as new concepts are learned and the need to know more drives our shared addiction of Bridge!

However, by the time my students leave my classroom to engage in regular play, their *modus operandi* suddenly shifts; they no longer want to learn as much as they want to acquire points. Points...as many points as possible!

I know why this happens firsthand, as it happened to me.

I thought that if I played in a game and was awarded Masterpoints, I was achieving “good bridge player” status. Every smidgen of a point confirmed to me that I was “mastering the game.” The largest prize of all was just at the top of this mountain of imaginary points...Life Master. I told myself everyday that when I became a Life Master, all bridge players would be envious of my mad skills; they would crave my pot of black, red, silver and gold points...I would be an expert! Points, any and all color points...as many points as possible...and faster!

I systematically began seeking out games where my chances of winning were higher. The easier the game, the better; the larger the game, the more points I could get. Soon, I was spending hours each day making graphs and tracking with a highlighter the perfect-storm games, large and easy. I was a point-collecting-machine and had figured out how to beat the system. I was truly “masterful” and became a Life Master in just under five years, although slightly over the schedule I had planned out for myself. It didn’t matter...I had arrived...*or so I thought.*

Once I was a Life Master it was time to try my new “Life Master skills” in the open games and stronger fields. I flew to regionals and drove to sectionals and bombed out. I took my chances in NYC and licked my wounds on the way home on the LIRR. I played in the most challenging game on Long Island, the “A” section in my own club, the Sagamore, and bowed my head with embarrassment as I swiftly made a beeline for my car.

Don’t get me wrong, I was still winning points, but I suddenly became keenly aware that I was no better at this game than I was a few weeks out of lessons. To build my confidence, I retreated to the not-so-competitive games that happily rewarded me. At the regionals, I squeezed into low masterpoint events, playing against these opponents was easy-peezy and I would celebrate my wins; but privately, I felt defeated. Why wasn’t I championing in games against the better players? *I was a Life Master now...did nobody get the memo?*

Then, in a bridge article, I read the following: **“Bridge is the only game in the world, that in order to become good at, you have to be willing to be bad at, for a long time.”**

That was my own “ah-ha!” moment; I wasn’t allowing myself to be bad at bridge, EVER. I was so focused on winning points that I had placed myself at a disadvantage playing in games where I was the best player and nobody I competed against could show me something new. It dawned on me that to become a decent bridge player I had to become a better bridge learner, not a great collector of points. I had to accept the fact that being bad at bridge, while playing in a more challenging field against better opponents, was the only path to improvement. It was then that I decided to “play up” all the time and in doing so, my game improved rather quickly.

Was I nervous?...you bet! Was I embarrassed often?...definitely. But I didn’t care...I was rekindling my original love for the game and witnessing my personal growth all the time. *That’s where the real reward is.*

Today, as the owner of the Sagamore Bridge Club, I can tell you that the bridge population is overrun with players who have 10+ years of experience. Many, unfortunately, are no better today than they were after a few years of playing. The small fraction of well-respected players have a secret...you can never stop learning if you want to master the game and amassing points is never part of the plan, it is just the result of it.

How can you become a better player? I implore you to examine whether you are challenged enough in the games you play in regularly. If you know more than the majority of players you compete against then I suggest you step away from that game. This may mean playing in another club, another section, possibly driving 10-minutes further than you have to, play earlier or later, whatever. Just don’t get pigeonholed or comfortable where you are, or that is where you will be until your fascination with bridge eventually dies from becoming static or stagnant. When you find a game that challenges you, round after round, then you have found the game where your opponents become your allies in improvement. **Better opponents produce better players.** It may be with a kind remark on how a hand could have been better played, or it may come from the harsh reality of their competitiveness that won’t allow you to get away with small infractions that the weaker fields notoriously close a blind eye to. Don’t listen to the naysayers who say “that club is too difficult,” “that section is too competitive,” etc. This is your journey. **Playing outside of your comfort zone is where the growth of your game comes from.** Nobody said it was going to be easy, but by far, it is more fun and more rewarding than any amount of points.

NSBA ISLANDER

Letters to the Editor

Dear Islander,

I have a question: In an ACBL Bridge Bulletin the author spoke very positively about the 2-over-1 bidding system saying it was the absolute future. In the same Bulletin a different author spoke of how much he did not like this system. What seems to be the thoughts of the Nassau-Suffolk Bridge Association? Should I spend time learning it? Will I find enough partners who use it?

Thank you, Adrienne Greenberg

Dear Adrienne,

While the NSBA does not take a position on such matters, as editor of the Islander I do recommend that you learn 2-over-1 for a few reasons. When you use any convention, you automatically give up something (for example, you can't play in 2C if you play Stayman); so if you learn this convention, you will be able to decide for yourself whether or not you gain more than you lose. From my experience, the majority of players do utilize this system. Thus, many of the people you might partner with will be playing it. And, just as importantly, many of the people you play against will be playing 2-over-1 and it is in your best interest to understand what their bids mean. If you do decide to learn it, I recommend reading *2 over 1 Game Force* by Audrey Grant and Eric Rodwell.

Good luck, Mark Shaiman

Dear Islander,

What level do the bridge clubs cater to? Are lessons given?

Thank you, Gary Alter

Dear Gary,

The bridge clubs on Long Island make a great effort to cater to all levels of play. There are "newplicate" games which cater to beginners. There are "limited" games in which you won't have to compete against the most experienced players. And almost all "open" games are stratified, meaning you are competing against your peers as well as more experienced players.

I suggest you try all these options, so you can find a place you feel comfortable. And I highly recommend playing against more experienced players as it will only help your game.

In essence, duplicate bridge caters to all levels. I believe bridge is a unique game in this way. Go to your local bridge club and you can play against the best in the region; go to a national bridge tournament and you can play against Jeff Meckstroth and other of the top players in the world. On the other hand, if you play in your local tennis league, you will only play against people of your caliber and it's doubtful you'll ever get to play with Novak Djokovic!

As far as lessons, some clubs do offer lessons before a scheduled duplicate game, or even offer a series of lessons. I suggest you check with your local club owners/directors for that information. They may also be able to put you in touch with a private teacher.

Keep playing, Mark

Dear Islander,

I think it would be better if directors did not play when they direct. If they play to avoid a sitout, it would be better if they and their partners did not siphon points from the rest of us.

Thank you, Naomi Korobow

Dear Naomi,

Director Anita Goldman has told us that there is no ACBL restriction on having directors playing in their games or on getting points except in STaC games. However, if players have concerns about this practice, they should speak to individual club owners who hopefully will be receptive. It is up to individual club owners to set their own policy.

Joe Byrnes, NSBA President

MILESTONES

The ACBL Ranks*:

Rookie: less than 5 masterpoints (mps). **Junior Master:** 5+ mps.
Club Master: 20+ mps. **Sectional Master:** 50+ mps, of which 5 are silver.
Regional Master: 100+ mps, including 15 silver and 5 red or gold/platinum points. **NABC Master:** 200+ mps, including 50 pigmented points of which 5 must be gold/platinum, 15 must be red or gold/platinum, and 25 must be silver. **Advanced NABC Master:** 300+mps, with at least 50 black, 50 silver, 50 red or gold of which 25 must be gold. **Life Master:** 300+ mps, including 100 pigmented points of which 25 must be gold/platinum, 25 must be red or gold/platinum, and 50 must be silver. **Bronze:** LM w/500+ mps. **Silver:** LM w/1000+ mps. **Ruby:** LM w/1500+mps. **Gold:** LM w/2500+ mps. **Sapphire:** LM w/3500+mps. **Diamond:** LM w/5000+ mps. **Emerald:** LM w/7500 mps. **Platinum:** LM w/10,000 mps w/o a National title. **Grand:** LM with 10,000+ mps with a National title.

*for those who joined the ACBL prior to 1/1/10...otherwise, see ACBL.org



New Emerald Life Masters

Susan Scholer

Paul Curofello

Jack Harris

Charles Sharf

Melinda Dahlman

Suzanne Harris

Glenn Milgrim

Marilyn Weiss

Marilyn Daley

Suzanne Hirsch

Hannabelle White

Ellen Davidoff

Arthur Jacobs

New Sapphire Life Masters

James Doig

Harriet Katz

New Gold Life Masters

Leona Duffy

Cathy Kirshner

Peter Bisgeier

John Earley

Hadassah Klein

Lauren Block

Dorothy Feldman

Robert Edelman

Walter Kohlhoff

Marsha Block

Jacqueline Lipson

Dorothy Feldmann

David Korenstein

Patricia Brodsky

Herbert Feldmann

Jan Kornreich

Helen Buck

New Ruby Life Masters

Abbot Feren

Alan Kudisch

Joseph Byrnes

Barbara Fink

Joan Labow

Morton Case

John Abrenica

Michael Fishman

Linda Lake

Karl DeShrage

Florence Alonso

Carol Fleissig

Steven Landis

Steve Dick

Donald Amberger

Gerald Fogel

August Laruffa

Roger Elston

Doris Banks

Alvin Frohman

Joann Lederman

Martin Feldman

Peter Barbeosch

Estelle Futoma

Marilyn Leiter

Howard Friedman

Phyllis Bennet

Shelley Ganz

Marjorie Levine

Carl Gueli

Charles Bilich

Francine Garyn

Beverly Levy

Gary Helman

Mark Blanchard

Irene Geisinger

Jacqueline Lipson

Camille Khazzam

Mary Bond

Walter Gesla

Patricia Mahoney

Alan Levine

Barbara Boyarsky

Sunny Gittler

Kathleen McLaughlen

Jack Lipson

Nancy Buonara

Hanneke Gold

Bruce Neiger

Peter Loeb

Rocco Campanale

Phyllis Goldin

Franklin Nierman

Barbara Mendelsohn

Carolyn Carlin

Marsha Gordon

Hope Nierman

Ravinder Ohri

Berna Case

Rosalyn Gordon

George Nissan

Carol Pratt

Sydel Chernoff

Nina Gottlieb

Judy Paul

Russell Samuel

Bart Cirker

Stephen Green

Helen Pavalow

Leslie Sarf

Lloyd Clark

Phillip Grella

Roger Peabody

NSBA ISLANDER

Constance Permut	Marilyn Ritter	Eliza Werner	Douglas Casper
Jack Pollack	Dolores Shimmons		Myra Diamond
Karen Pollack	Jocelyn Simon	New Regional Masters	Robin Diamond
Mel Popper	Sheila Steinberg		Elisabeth Herman
Jack Price		Mark Baskir	Penina Hodara
Soundara Rajan	New Bronze Life Masters	David Bass	Laurie Jackson
Elizabeth Randall		Doris Belovin	Virginia Motto
Pat Rinaudo	Laurie Berlin	Robert Belovin	Warren Pearlson
Roy Ritter	Susan Calabro	Susan Eisner	Shaoli Rosenberg
Margaret Robinson	Iris Cook	Bill Johnson	Margaret Sherman
Lynn Romeo	Elaine Friedman	David Kay	Elizabeth Siddons
Holly Roseman	Sheila Pohly	Laura Kopp	Annette Sinett
Bonnie Salkind	Cal Rafuse	Sharon Melville	Susan Solomon
William Sampson	Yalcin Tarhan	Susan Panzer	Mary Toppmeyer
Dina Schechter		Vicki Seltzer	Douglas Vene
Carol Schreiber	New Life Masters	Jane Sykes	Michael Viscusi
Allan Schwartz		Renee Wagenberg	Ann Viviano
Aviv Shahaf	Beverly Boris	Candy West	Beth Weingarten
Mark Shaiman	Sam Goldberg		
Lucy Shostak	Lewis Grossman	New Sectional Masters	New Junior Masters
Mildred Simon	Peter Hertz		
Jane Sitzman	Rosellen Mensch	John Ammirati	Bobbi Berlin
Joan Spetter	Michael Pollack	Dorothy Doughty	Morty Bogaty
Estera Stawski	Janice Roth	Marge Gogol	Jerome Butkow
Anne Stuckler	Adrienne Saporta	Lucille Greene	Michael Coleman
Debra Thaw		Sheryl Haberman	John Dean
Susan Ullman	New Advanced NABC Masters	Michael Heiberger	Mary Dickson
Estelle Vogel		Susan Katz	Amy Fromer
Barry Walfish	Janine Buss	Edith Mittman	Adrienne Henick
Bob Walter	Vijay Datta	Davida Philips	Sid Kowal
Quiang Wang	Gulu Mahtaney	Peter Ruben	Dedee Lovell
Richard Waters		Doris Ryder	Myra Maultasch
Elaine Weiss	New NABC Masters	Paul Sauer	Myra Nazimowitz
Mayer Wiesen		Barrie Sue Zicherman	Robert Rodler
Harold Windsor	Michael Colodner		Ronald Ronzoni
Marion Yonke	Lauren Etes	New Club Masters	Michael Scholnick
Lester Zabronsky	Robert Feger		Michael Siris
Arlene Zweibach	Eileen Feldman	John Bell	Michael Streisand
	Carol Fishman	Martin Block	William Tartow
New Silver Life Masters	Susan Fox	Carol Braun	Joann Weisbord
	Arthur Goren	Marjorie Brook-Hecht	Phyllis Wulwick
Phyllis Feiner	Johathan Howe	Dominique Buaron	Nomy Zingher
Allen Greenbaum	Richard Morici	Lynne Cahill	

IS YOUR BRIDGE GAME OUT OF SHAPE?

Take the Quiz!

If you pass, keep bidding
If you don't, get to



When you are the DECLARER, do you know...

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|
| ...when to pull trump right away? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...how to make a declarer plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...when to avoid drawing trump? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...there are 10 types of finesses? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...when or how to count losers? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...what a restricted choice tells? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...when or how to count quick-tricks? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...the 5 tactics to win tricks? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...which suit to tackle first? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...what the defensive cards tell? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |

When you are on DEFENSE, do you know...

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| ...what to never lead vs. NoTrump? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...how to signal when defending? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...what to never lead vs. Suit Contract? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...how and when to give count? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...when it is imperative to lead trump? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...how to use a 1 st discard signal? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...how to lead properly, mid-hand? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...how to read declarer's plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...the Rule of 11 and when it applies? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...when 3 rd hand shouldn't play high? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...how to tell your partner how to get back to your hand? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...when to hold up honor cards and when it is safe to play them? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |

When you have a WEAK HAND, do you know...

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| ...what you need to properly preempt? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...the Feature Asking convention? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...how to respond to a preempt? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...how to get to a safe NoTrump contract after partner preempts? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...the Rule of 17 and when it applies? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | | |

When you have a STRONG HAND, do you know...

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ...how to bid hands with 18-21pts? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...when and how to use Gerber? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...how to reverse properly? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...when and how to use Blackwood? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...how to properly bid with 22+ pts? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...when to bid 4NT as quantitative? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...how to overcall with a strong hand? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...how to bid to slam when you and partner have not agreed to a suit? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...how to respond to 2club openings? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | ...how to bailout of slam at 5NT? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| ...how to bid in the 3 rd or 4 th seat? | <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N | | |

If you answered NO or NOT SURE to 15 or more questions, it's time to get your game in shape!

BRIDGE BOOT CAMP STARTS JUNE 15TH

Register online: www.SagamoreBridgeClub.com


Who is ready to take more tricks? ...to defend like a warrior?

NSBA ISLANDER

LONG ISLAND MASTER CLUB SCHEDULE

	Bridge Center of LI 516-481-4311 3678 W. Oceanside Road Oceanside Lin Fisher	Smithtown 631-360-8456 22 Lawrence Avenue Smithtown Sue Scholer, Carol Mathews	Sagamore 516-558-7799 6901 Jericho Tpk Syosset Silvana Zangri	Eastern Suffolk/Water Mill 631-726-6448 631-726-4540 1040 Montauk Hwy Water Mill Kathleen McLaughlen
Monday	12:30 pm open	10:30 am	10:30 am open and 0-1500 7:00 pm open	1:00 pm open 7:00 pm (starting in May)
Tuesday	10:30 am limited 12:30 pm open	10:00 EZ Bridge	10:30 am open and 0-1500 7:30 pm open	1:00 pm open
Wednesday	12:30 pm open	10:30 am Handicap 7:00 pm Bridge +	10:30 am open, 0-299, 0-1500 7:00 pm open, and 0-499	1:00 pm (starting in May) 7:00 pm (starting in May)
Thursday	12:30 pm open	3rd Thurs, Swiss 10:30 am 7:00 pm	10:30 am open, 0-299, 0-1500 7:00 pm pair or swiss	1:00 pm open (starting in May)
Friday	12:30 pm open	10:30 am 7:00 pm	10:30 am open and 0-1500	10:00 am open (starting in May)
Saturday	12:45 pm open	12:00 pm Lesson 12:30 pm game	10:00 am 0-499, 1 pm open 2nd Sat: 6 pm dinner/Swiss	1:00 pm open
Sunday	12:45pm open	12:30 pm	12:00 pm open	

OTHER SANCTIONED GAMES

<p>Sands' Point BC Shelter Rock Tennis Club 100 LI Expwy, Manhasset 516-558-7799 Drew Tarhan Tues. 7:15 pm</p>	<p>Montauk BC Montauk Library 631-668-2370 Barbara Sullivan Wed. 12:30 pm (winter) 1:00 pm (summer)</p>	<p>South Shore BC 9 Northwood Lane, Patchogue 631-654-5313 Pat Mahoney Thurs. 11:00 am, Sun 12:30 pm</p>	<p>Westhampton Duplicate Club Knights of Columbus Hall 580 Main Street Westhampton Fri. 12 noon 516-770-4650 Donald Bedell</p>	<p>Garden City BC DBC Senior Rec Center Golf Club Lane Garden City 516-781-4651 Ellen Davidoff Thurs. 7:30 pm</p>
<p>Bridge School of LI 123 Merrick Ave East Meadow 516-379-3000 Aaron Silverstein Mon. 10 am & 7:30 pm Thurs. 10:00 am</p>	<p>Temple Judea BC 333 Searingtown Rd Manhasset Mon. 12:30 pm 718-279-1005 Lyn Weiss — Lyn Weiss 718-279-1005 Tues. 12:00 pm</p>	<p>BRIDGEexpress Lake Success Jewish Center 354 Lakeville Road 516-299-6064 Great Neck Cathy Kirshner Fri. 10:00 am Wed. 12:15 pm Sun. 1:00 pm</p>	<p>Atria BC 146 Glen Street Glen Cove 516-671-2095 Mayer Wiesen Tues. 7:15 pm</p>	<p>Riverhead BC Riverhead Com Ctr Jamesport Thurs. 12:00 pm 631-312-3332 Barbara Cuenin</p>
<p>Mattituck Library DBC Knights of Columbus 2050 Depot Lane Cutchogue 631-734-8096 Kathy Fibkins Tues. 12:00 pm Reservations only</p>	<p>— Thurs. 10:00 am 516-621-8049 Shelley Ganz</p>	<p>Pride of Judea 243-02 Northern BLVD Douglaston Mon. 12:00 pm 718-423-6200 Louis Lessinger</p>	<p>Shelter Rock JC 272 Shelter Rock Road Roslyn 917-658-5991 Hadassah Klein Wed. 7:00 pm, Thurs. 12:30 pm</p>	
<p>South Shore League Seawanee CC and Woodmere CC, alternating monthly March-December Thurs. 1:00 pm 568-1867 Karen Ewald</p>	<p>Friedberg JCC Duplicate Friedberg JCC 15 Neil Ct, Oceanside 516-766-4341 Mike Stanley Fri. 10:00 am</p>	<p>East Hampton DBC Hampton Day Care Center Gingerbread Lane Thurs 7 pm, April—Thanksgiving 631-907-2917 George Aman</p>	<p>Gardiner's Bay BC Gardiner's Bay CC Shelter Island 631-749-2021 Lillian Kessler (summers only)</p>	

Counting Counts!

by Phil Grella

Playing on a Tuesday afternoon at the club with my partner the Fisherman, we're having a decent game. I haven't done anything totally wrong yet. It's the last board of the session and I held this hand:

♠-A ♥-K4 ♦-J753 ♣-AK5432

Partner opens 1♠ and I thought I had an easy re-bid of 2♣ until my righty bid 3♥. I thought I had enough to bid 4♣, so I did! Partner said he had enough and bid 5♣. I still didn't have enough so I raised this to 6.

The ♥8 was led and partner put down :

♠-765432 ♥-A3 ♦-KQ2 ♣-QT

Here we are! Just hope I can make it!! I thought about maybe setting up the spades but my club spots were so poor, I nixed that idea. I decided to win the ♥A in dummy and then play the ♣Q, just in case a singleton J was around. NOPE! So I played a club to the King, all following (good news). Played the ♣A and then a diamond to the King. Righty won with the ace and played back a diamond (didn't matter if a heart came back, it turns out the same).

I thought for a moment to count out righty's hand. 7 hearts, 2 diamonds and 3 clubs (so far). If righty's last card was a diamond, they're breaking 3-3 and if righty's last card is a spade, my lefty is squeezed on the run of the clubs and the ♥K and ♠A.

So, I won the diamond in my hand (6th trick) and ran off 3 more clubs and the ♥K and ♠A. Lefty had to make 5 pitches from this holding:

♠-KQJ9 ♥-6 ♦-T9 ♣-

Bridge!! What a fun game!!

NSBA 2016 Schedule of Events

Spring Regional	Smithtown Upsky Hotel	May 11-15
Awards Dinner	Sagamore Bridge Club	May 22
STaC	Local Clubs	June 13-19
Dr. Khatib Sect.	Local Clubs	July 8-10

For Up-To-Date Information About Bridge On Long Island, Go To:

WWW.LIBRIDGE.COM