



The Bridge Buzz



ACBL Unit 431 Newsletter

September 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope that you are all enjoying this long, hot, sunny summer. Despite the good weather attendance at Bridge Clubs remains steady – or maybe people are finding ways to get into cooler places!

When you read this the Sectional will be about to start. We have all the resources we need for this Sectional, but our caddies are graduating to higher things and for the event next spring we need to find new caddies.

If you know of reliable youth (12 or older) who would be interested in working a session or two, please get them to call me at (250) 391-5511. They work from half an hour before the event and must stay till everything is cleaned up. The pay is \$40 a session for all sessions except for the second session on Sunday, where it is \$55 as they have to stay longer until all tables, chairs etc are cleared and the truck loaded.

See you all at the Sectional!

Ele Gibson

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VICTORIA REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

The planning for your Victoria Regional Bridge Tournament, to be held April 13–19, 2015, is well underway; your Committee is hard at work to ensure you have a most excellent experience.

Your Committee consists of Gail Richardson, Treasurer; Peg Pepper, Secretary and RideShare; Pat Fullerton, Hospitality; Alison Campbell, Partnership; Ruth Cain, Caddie Master and Fundraising, and myself as Chair.

Thank you to all our sponsors for their most generous contributions. This money will allow us to provide splendid hospitality, with useful and/or edible table gifts, and treats following some evening games.

You can help by volunteering! Volunteers are needed to:

- Work at the Hospitality, RideShare, and Partnership Desks; both before and after games
- “Set up” on the morning of April 13, clean up after each game, and “take down” on the afternoon of April 19.
- Drive our visiting players to and from Pearkes.

Please stop by the Regional Tournament Desk at the September Fall Sectional for more information and to sign up for volunteer positions. If you miss us, please feel free to call to offer your services.

As most of you know, keeping our Regional Bridge Tournament in April and on Vancouver Island has been a huge struggle. We count on, and are most thankful for, your continued support to help us make our 2015 tournament a smashing success.

Jan Galenza, Chair
jangalenza@shaw.ca
250-385-7597

UNIT 431

Facebook page



Unit 431 now has a Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/ACBLUnit431>

Be sure to “like” us and get our newsfeed.

Ace of Spades

WANTED: BRIDGE PLAYERS WITH UNDER 200 MASTER POINTS

Unit 431 Victoria is sponsoring an opportunity for new/novice players to play in a sanctioned tournament with a peer group of bridge players in a relaxed and friendly Pairs game followed by a Team game.

Where: St. Aidan’s Church
3703 St. Aidan’s Street
Victoria, BC

When: Saturday, October 18th 2014
9:00 a.m.

Why: Silver Master Points will be awarded to strats winners as well as trophies to the overall winners

How: Play with your partner in the pairs game and ask another pair to play in the team game in the afternoon

Need a partner? Team? Email: patfullerton@shaw.ca

LET’S HAVE A GOOD TIME TOGETHER

Unit 431 Christmas Party



Unit 431 invites you to join us for our annual Christmas dinner and game at Monterey Centre on Saturday, December 6th. Tickets will be available at the local clubs shortly.

Membership Report

Recent ACBL level achievements:

Junior Master (5 master points)

Cindy Thom
Donald (Bob) R. Macdonald
Ashraf Chaudhry

Club Master (20)

Gail Marus
Meredith Zaparinuk

Sectional Master(50)

Vivian Rennie

Regional Master (100)

Gloria Dorrance
Dr. Terry Foster
Jean-Philippe Weber
Kathreen Este
Dr. Derek Nurse

NABC Master (200)

Irene McDonald
Judy Stewart
Ester Wiebe

Life Master (300/500)

Nancy Adrian

Bronze Life Master (500)

Gudrun Gordon

Silver Life Master (1000)

Sharon Eddy

Welcome ACBL members who have moved to Victoria:

Carol Harrison from Diablo Valley, California
Ivy Pye from Vancouver
Sylvia Arbour from Palm Springs
Wayne Hall from Ontario
Cheri Lemiski from Vancouver
Pat Sadler from Ontario
Jeannette Taylor from Parksville

If you would like a name tag contact Jill Stainforth at 250-686-4747 or jstainforth@yahoo.ca. They cost \$8.50.

CONVENTIONS – NOT RECOMMENDED

A panel of experts were posed the following question: Which commonly played convention(s) would you recommend people **not** play and why? Here are the responses received.

Merv Adey

No contest.

I recommend people do not play “Stolen Bid doubles” after we open in notrump and opponents interfere.

The loss from not being able to transfer in this situation is far outweighed by the gain from being able to make a penalty double.

Delma Murray

Without a doubt, Bergen Raises.

I was in Las Vegas for the annual American Bridge Teachers Association convention in July. At our awards banquet we had a panel of experts who were asked that very question, and I was delighted that they agreed with me.

The expert panel consisted of: George Jacobs, Curtis Cheek, Haig Tchamich, David Lindop, Jerry Helms, and Audrey Grant. One of the experts even commented that Marty Bergen’s long-time regular partner Larry Cohen does not play Bergen Raises anymore, so the question is does Bergen play Bergen anymore? Maybe not. I’m not sure.

Duncan Smith

I don’t like any convention (Capp. Don’t, etc.) that doesn’t allow for a natural 2 Spade or 2 Heart overcall of an opponent’s 1NT opening bid.

Ernie Tradewell

Some of least favorite are: odd/ even discards, standard Blackwood and controls responses to strong two club bids.

Debbie Wastle

My pet peeve “convention” is stolen bid doubles. When partner opens a strong No Trump and the opponents come in it is better to have a penalty double available. There are better ways to compete with a weaker hand ie Lebensohl ... But when you are strong you want blood!

Ewa Zwicky

1. Rule of 20 (came in with a bang and soon fizzled out because it's so very easy to misuse it. Also, partner sitting with a bid hand and believing opener has an opening hand will go for slam, which just isn't there)

2. Strong jump shifts (you can achieve the same result with 4th suit force, and can leave the jump bid for very weak hands, which you couldn't bid otherwise)

BIG GAMES

71.92%	Tom Coward and Doug Scott	June 12, Capital City
71.76%	Virginia Youens and Kirk Homis	Aug 13, Capital City
71.53%	Kathy O’Malley and Marty O’Malley	Aug. 7, Leaders
70.83%	Pete Wolner and Bill Wastle	July 2, Victoria Bridge Centre

DISTRICT 19 NEWS

The Powell River sectional, scheduled for September 19 – 21 has been **cancelled**.

MISCELLANEOUS

Hello Vickie!

My backpack and I kicked around Europe for the better part of 2011. I was deported to Victoria as soon as I got back to this side of the pond. They escorted me to the Victoria border, orange jump suit and all, and told the Victoria border guards that from then on I was their problem. Once in Victoria, I learned that many of my fellow inmates played something called Vickie after a 2C opener by partner. I just play the best bridge I can. Case in point: In an uncontested auction, pard opened 2C, and I held JTxx QJxx x Qxxx. With no aces or kings but with some of potential, I bid 2D waiting. Pard rebid 2H and I splintered 4D. Pard then jumped to 6H. When neither a diamond lead nor a first round ruff was forthcoming, pard claimed all thirteen tricks after facing AKQ AKTxxx xx AK.

Tom Dorn

MEMORABLE QUOTES

“RULE – There is no set of rules that will always get you off to the winning lead.

“RULE – Your partner’s hindsight is usually better at opening leads than you are.”

Mike Lawrence, (1996). *Opening Leads*, USA: C&T Bridge Supplies

CLUB CORNER

Capital City Bridge Club

<http://www.capitalcitybridgeclub.com>

Leaders Bridge Club

<http://www.leadersbridgeclub.com/>

Monterey Bridge Club

www.members.shaw.ca/MontereyBridgeClub

Victoria Bridge Centre

www.victoriabridgecentre.com

DUNCAN SAYS

When they interfere with our 2 Club auctions”

After partner opens 2 clubs , we differentiate a positive hand (typically 2 diamonds) from a bust hand (typically 2 hearts). When 2 club bidder’s LHO enters the auction , we can still show which hand type we hold. To ease the memory , “Pass is always positive”. This leaves double or redouble to show the bust.

eg. 2C 2S ? Pass=waiting (would have bid 2 diamonds had they passed) , X=bust (would have bid 2 hearts had they passed).

eg. 2C X ? Pass = waiting , redouble = bust.

Duncan Smith

DIRECTOR PLEASE

Opening Leads

Once the opening lead is face down on the table, it may not be retracted without the director first being called, and then should be allowed only because new information (such as a failure to Alert) has come to light.

Source: *Bridge Bulletin* June 2014, page 51

A Missing Card in Dummy

“If one of dummy’s cards is obscured, as by being stuck behind another, and the discrepancy goes unnoticed for some time, and its absence is found to have damaged the defenders, an adjusted score (Law 12) may be in order for failing to display dummy properly (Law 41 D).

“When a player, usually the dummy, says, ‘Everyone is responsible for the dummy,’ he is quoting a 1948 Law. This has no basis in current law. The player who is the dummy is responsible for the proper display of his hand.”

Source: http://www.acbl.org/clubs_page/club-administration/club-directors/rulings-faq/

BRIDGE CLASSES FOR THE FALL



How is your bridge game? Are you feeling like you know everything you need to know to get good results? Or are there some gaps in your knowledge of bidding, play, and defence that are keeping you from winning masterpoints? If the latter is the case, thinking about signing up for a course at Monterey Centre this fall. I am offering all of the courses in the ACBL 21st Century series plus some extras that I have developed to meet needs identified by my students. Some (but not all) of the courses offered that will appeal to duplicate players are:

Bidding Brushup: 4 Monday mornings starting September 8th.

This includes responses to one level opening bids, reverses, jump shifts, limit raises, overcalls, takeout doubles, and how to deal with your partner's competitive bids and interference by the opponents.

Defence: 8 Tuesday mornings starting September 16th.

You will defend half of all of the hands you play, and is the true partnership part of the game. This course will give you hands on practice in basic and not so basic defence techniques. Bring all of your partners to this class as it takes two to mount an effective defence.

Conventions I followed by **Conventions II** on Thursday mornings and **Conventions III** followed by **Conventions IV** on Thursday evenings starting September 18th. Each class is 4 sessions:

Most players pick up conventions at the table and only half know them. Learn them thoroughly, including how to deal with interference.

Declarer Play Master Class on Friday mornings starting Sep 26th:

This course will concentrate on techniques used by expert players, and is suitable for Life Masters and above.

For a complete listing of courses available, pick up a brochure at Monterey Centre or contact Delma at delmabridge@live.ca Register in person at any Oak Bay Rec Centre or by phone at 250-370-7300

Delma Murray
ACBL Accredited Teacher since 1998
ABTA Professional Member, and Regional Director for
Western Canada



UPCOMING EVENTS 2014

Sept. 5 – 7	Victoria Fall Sectional, Pearkes
Sept. 14	Mentor game, Victoria Bridge Centre
Sept. 19 – 21	CANCELLED Powell River Sectional
Sept. 22 – 28	Seaside
Oct. 5	Mentor Game, Victoria Bridge Centre
Oct. 18	Ace of Spades, St. Aidan's
Oct. 24 – 26	Courtenay Sectional
Nov. 2	Mentor Game, Victoria Bridge Centre
Nov. 7 – 9	Burnaby Sectional
Dec. 6	Unit 431 Christmas Party
Dec. 7	Mentor Game, Victoria Bridge Centre

For anyone interested in looking further ahead, the complete listing of events for Victoria and vicinity is on the Unit website at http://d19.org/victoria/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/2014_Bridge_Events_Calendar1.pdf

The 2015 events calendar will be available shortly.

