

KIBITZER

Louisiana Bridge Association July 1, 2023

Editor – Diana Powell with help from Sherrie Goodman and
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President's Message July 1, 2023

Kudos and accolades to Carolyn Dubois, her co-chair Quin Bates, and her entire team for planning and implementing a very successful fund raiser on The Longest Day. I had hoped to play all day, but a medical problem forced my departure after two games and the auction. I have heard nothing but praise for the event and not a single complaint. Well done.

As reported last month, we continue to see some improvement in our financial condition. We had a small positive cash flow (I will never say profit) in May. This is the first time since the onset of Covid caused years of losses. A review of recent attendance suggests we may have a positive cash flow for June. Things are getting better and faster than many of us anticipated.

All players are encouraged to participate in our new open game starting at 10:30 on Wednesday July 12th.

Larry Federico

At the LBA Face-to-Face:

Our Longest Day Event was truly like the good old days. There was fun and camaraderie all over the club. Carolyn, Quin, and their committee members were so energized and imaginative in their plans for us, a good time was had by all! Thank you for all the hard work. The auctioneer was adorable, the baskets by Lynn Jambon were fabulous, the food was enough to feed all of Metairie, and the games were actually fun. The directors donated their service and worked really hard to get the movements that the committee wanted. The Alzheimer's Association will be delighted with all the money our club raised.

Line up your partners for the Wes Busby Firecracker Sectional. Susan Beoubay and her committee are busy cooking away for you, and Newt Jackson is standing by to help those who need a partner. Charlie MacCracken will be our guest Director, and he's bringing lots of extra silver points. Please remember that we will have a brief membership meeting on Friday during lunch to vote on Bylaw Revisions.

On Monday, July 10 @1pm we will have a special Instant Matchpoint Game. **Gold mps will be awarded** to the north/south winners and the east /west winners.

On July 12, a new Open game will begin at 10:30. Iype will be the director; we welcome all to play in this game. See "NEWS" for more upcoming events.

At the Virtual Club:

When you choose Virtual Clubs > North America > LBA/LBC/ET AL, the LBA gets half of your entry fee. Please consider this when you play online. See "NEWS" for upcoming events.

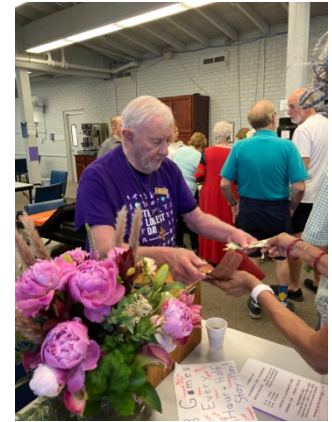
Sherrie Goodman

THE LONGEST DAY

By Virginia Dabbs



Would you think a professional auctioneer standing up in a chair using a microphone to call out bids with people hollering out their bids back was standard operating procedure at our club? Well, it was on Friday, June 23 as we partnered with other ACBL clubs to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association on what is billed as "The Longest Day."



Besides the live auction, which included any number of valuable and/or one-of-a-kind items, members sold raffle tickets for a wealth of things from the useful to the whimsical.

Of course, between three full meals and lots of snacks, a great deal of bridge was played.



Carolyn Dubois and Quin Bates - Co-Chairs of the Longest Day - want to thank the Longest Day Committee, the numerous volunteers, and the outstanding member participation and generosity for making this a memorable event.



AND THE LUCKY WINNER IS . . .

Nancy Gates who won the big Longest Day raffle - a free play once a week for a year!

Reflections of a Beginner

by Richard Jeansonne

About a year and a half ago, I decided to retire. I told my wife that I was moseying into full retirement. She reminded me our marriage contract required one of us to leave the house every day. With that in mind, she signed me up for bridge lessons. I took 12 lessons from Kathy Plauché, who was a very patient, inspiring, clear-minded teacher. At first, I played bridge with my wife, who is a more experienced player. The first game we played together; we came in second to last. I told her that would never happen again. True to my word, the next day we came in last.

In January, I began playing in the Monday 199 game and in the Tuesday 299 game. And sometimes, I even went to the dark side joining in the Wednesday 750 game. Regardless of the level in which I was playing, regardless of my partner or opposition, I was able to maintain the last and second to last place.

During this time of playing, one, two or three hundred people told me to get my trumps out. I was a hoarder of trumps. I thought of them as gold coins that I would need later in the game. I was told "Get the children off the street." They would say "You are not pulling your trumps." And, one day, I realized that if I changed one word, instead of "get your trumps out," to "get their trumps out," it made more sense. This revelation greatly improved my game.

A great teacher once told me to embrace No Trump. A lot of novices like me avoided No Trump. But then it dawned on me that once trumps had been pulled, the game turned into a No Trump. So, I learned to embrace No Trump.

I believe a common mistake for brand new players is that they stop the bidding sooner than they should. I was one of them. One heart, two hearts, that was enough for me. At some point, Kathy had told me to have faith in the points. It was an epiphany. In order to make a good score, I had to follow and trust the points. Finally, I was told that if I wanted to improve, I had to play more, take lessons, and read books.

SWISS ASSIGNMENTS

By Lil Range

There are two computer programs that help the directors handle Swiss team events. One is ACBL SCORE, which handles ACBL face-to-face events. The other is BBO, which is a widely used online system, and the system we use for our online Swiss games.

One question people ask is, "How do ACBL SCORE and BBO match teams in Swiss team events?" The systems are similar. In face-to-face games, if all teams are in the computer (and so their ACBL masterpoint totals are known to the computer), directors will start the game by power-matching (the strongest teams playing against each other, etc.). If any teams are not known to the computer, directors will start Round 1 by matching teams randomly. BBO starts the first round using the same power matching used in face-to-face games where all players' masterpoints are known. So, on BBO Swiss in Round 1, if you are the 13th highest team in terms of number of masterpoints, you will play Round 1 against the team with the 14th highest number of masterpoints.

In Round 2, both systems use how you did in Round 1. If you earned the highest score in Round 1 (most Victory Points), in Round 2 you would play against the team that earned the second highest Victory Points score in Round 1.

One difference between BBO and ACBL score comes when there are an odd number of teams. ACBL score handles an odd number of teams by having a round robin, which involves three teams. If there is an odd number of teams, such as 29, ACBL SCORE will put three teams in a round robin. In round 1, the round robin will be the three teams with the lowest ACBL masterpoints. In the following rounds, it will be the teams with the three lowest scores in the event so far. BBO cannot handle a round robin, so it adds subs. So, if there are 29 teams registered, BBO will round up to 30 by using subs. BBO counts all subs as A flight.

Another difference between ACBL SCORE and BBO is that ACBL score is programmed to prevent teams from playing the same opponent twice, sometimes called revenge matches. Note, in small Swiss events, such as 6 teams, there may still be revenge matches. BBO will occasionally have revenge matches, depending on how the teams scored.

Thanks to James Tullos (jr2los) and Babs Henry (babshenry) for asking this question. We would love to have you join us for Swiss. If you need a partner or teammates, text or call Lil, 504 330 1158 (lrange) or Dave, 419 575 4513 (3392627). The Swiss games are Sunday at 2 pm CST, and Thursday at 6:50 pm CST. They are 20 boards, a little over two hours, stratified. For September through February, Swiss events will be GNT (Grand National Teams) and award extra points, red and black.

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH

The auction was a simple 1NT BY South and 3NT by North.

West was tempted to lead a high spade but settled on the solid diamonds (J1098) leading the Jack to avoid providing a likely gift of an unearned trick. The declarer, South, was an experienced IMPs player and was interested in collecting nine NT tricks after noticing all of the "holes" in the N/S hands. His first play after winning the Jack of diamonds with the Queen, a low club, ducked in both hands, surprised everyone at the table. He was careful to win the second diamond with the King, leaving the Ace on the table as an entry to the clubs. After next finessing against the club King, which was offside, all understood the reason for his first play, as the clubs could still be reached through the diamond Ace. In the end, our declarer was the only one to win nine tricks and make 3NT on the button. True, he had given up all chances of making an overtrick, but he had earned a cold top by doing so.

S Deals
E/W Vul

	N	
	♠ J65	
	♥ 75	
	♦ A32	
	♣ AQJ72	
W		E
♠ KQ32		♠ 987
♥ 1086		♥ QJ94
♦ J1098		♦ 54
♣ 95		♣ K1084
	S	
	♠ A104	
	♥ AK32	
	♦ KQ76	
	♣ 63	

NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

At the Club:

July 4: Unit Championship (extra pts)

July 6-8: Wes Busby Firecracker Sectional (Extra silver pts)

July 10: @ 1 pm -Instant Matchpoint -Game (Gold pts to N/S & E/W winners)

July 12: New open game at 10:30 am (Director - lype)

July 11-21 & 31: NAP Games (2x pts- ½ blk & ½ red)

At the Virtual Club:

July 3-16: NAP Games

Tournaments:

July 13-23: Summer NABC in Chicago

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Aaron Friedman
Elizabeth Hartmann
Robin Lunsford
Zana Newell

In Memoriam Grand Life Master



John Onstott

ACHIEVEMENTS

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Club Master: Bin Su

Sectional Master: Gaynell Lawrence

Regional Master: Jack Kienzle

NABC Master: Carolyn Dubois

Advanced NABC Master: Sharon Wood

Life Master: Amy Nolan, Steve Plotkin, Lucinda Stentz, Valerie Schlesinger

LIFE MASTER



Steve Plotkin

LIFE MASTER



Lucinda Stentz

LIFE MASTER



Valerie Schlesinger

70 % GAMES

May 25 - June 24

5/29	Club	199	Wayne Cooper, Barbara Stott	70.14%
6/1	Club	750	Clare Engler, Maureen Richoux	70.83%
6/1	Club	750	Molly Silvia, Elizabeth Macdiamid	73.61%
6/4	Swiss	Open	John Onstott and teammates	81.00%
6/5	Club	199	Lynn and Carol Jambon	78.48%
6/15	Club	750	Penelope Randolph, Vicky Michel	74.17%
6/18	Swiss	Open	Jean Talbot, Sherrie Goodman and team	77.00%
6/20		Open	Paul Freese, Ronald Berenger	71.72%
6/23	ALZ	Open	Arnaldo Partesotti, Ronald Berenger	75.83%
6/23	ALZ	499	Carol Jambon. David Wright	83.33%
6/23	ALZ	Open	Idell Adams, Larry Federico	70.83%