

KIBITZER

Louisiana Bridge Association August 1, 2023

Editor – Diana Powell with help from Sherrie Goodman and
Jim Thornton email: dspowell10@gmail.com

President's Message August 1, 2023

More accolades for Susan Beouby and her team for their hard work chairing the July sectional tournament. There is a novice/intermediate tournament scheduled on the 12th - 14th of October and an open sectional tournament scheduled on the 2nd - 4th of November. We need a volunteer, preferably from the I/N community, to chair the October I/N tournament. I will commit to be there to provide advice and assistance.

The Monday morning open game will begin at 10:30. We have a new open game on Wednesdays at 10:30. That game is off to a good start. We had nine tables in play on July 26th. Thanks to Sherrie Goodman for providing lunch for both the open game and the limited game.

Now that participation is increasing, I am seeing more players parking parallel to the building. Players backing out of spots closest to the building have a very difficult time avoiding cars in the parallel spots. We have had a number of accidents in the past. Parallel parking should be a last resort when all other spots are filled.

Larry Federico

At the LBA Face-to-Face:

We are very excited to start an outreach "carpool" for our members who aren't driving. Please tell a director if you need a ride, or contact Sue Guarisco @504-277-2578, or email mail@la-bridge.com. We will find the perfect ride for you!

This Friday, August 4, from 10 am - noon Suzanne Cliffe is offering a free lesson on 1NT. Kathy Plauche is giving a 4-session class in August on declarer play for intermediate and novice players called **SIPP (Stop Investigate Plan & Play.)** See the LBA website for details. Her next **Beginner Bridge Class** starts **September 12**. So please tell all your friends and family.

At the Virtual Club:

The guest policy at our virtual club has changed to allow us to have as many guests as we want. There is a cap on the number of masterpoints you can make on a regular game in the virtual corner (**2.5mps**) or double on special games (**5.0mps**.) The ACBL hopes that people will realize it is better to play in smaller games and support your own club than to play in games with over 100 tables because you get the same number of masterpoints (**2.5mps**.) Again, I urge you to **support your club** when playing online! We do not receive one penny from the ACBL BBO games.

As of August 1, they changed how you find our virtual club. If you click on virtual clubs, you may have to type in the search bar "**LBA/LBC**" to find us. The four privately owned virtual clubs are for profit. Our Not-for-Profit-Club shares its earnings with its 19 member clubs depending on the percentage of players from each club playing. Our club has come to depend on the money we make from our virtual club. If you have difficulty finding our games, please contact Sherrie @ 504-329-7411, Sam @ (662) 671-4673, Lil @ (504)330-1158, or Kathy Logue @ (954) 882-6038.

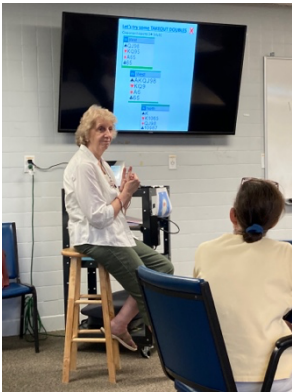
See "NEWS" for upcoming events.

Sherrie Goodman

OBSERVING A MASTER TEACHER AT WORK

By Diana Powell

Like many of you, I heard that Kathy Plauche had put together a successful beginner bridge class. Both her morning and her evening class are well attended. Some of the students may have responded to a Facebook ad by the ACBL asking if they would like to learn to play bridge. The ACBL gives the contact info to member clubs. Kathy sent emails to interested parties in our area about the upcoming lessons. Volunteers then made follow-up calls. I talked to a couple of people.



I volunteered to help out with several of her classes. As students came in, they picked up their name tags, a few picked up a printed lesson (they did not have printers at home), others grabbed a candy. Most had already printed the new lesson that Kathy emailed. Some discussed the homework they had done as well. They all had large white binders to keep the lessons, practice work, and guide sheets.

Using the video projector and whiteboard, Kathy reviewed: basic bidding and responses, 1NT bidding- distribution, points, points for game, etc. (15 min.) Then the basics of Lesson 6- Jacoby Transfers (35 min.)

The fun began. They filled in the spots on the 5 playing tables and tried bidding 3 hands. Only the opener and responder were allowed to bid; thus, the new players did not have to deal with interference (the opponents passed.) There were 2 other volunteers as well as Kathy circulating to help with questions.



Even though they were dying to play the hands, they all gathered in the teaching area to go over the bidding for the 3 hands, and they reviewed the new information.

Armed with a little better understanding of Jacoby Transfers, each table bid the remaining 12 boards with the perk of playing the last few boards. All seemed to enjoy themselves.

Before I knew it, the lesson was over. Wow - are we lucky to have someone like Kathy teaching new players? She is incredibly well organized and prepared. She has a good sense of humor, patience, and a smile for all.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

By Lil Range

How is a Swiss team named? In face-to-face (f2f) Swiss, the name of the team is the captain's last name. The captain is the first person listed on the paper entry. Directors sometimes use the captain's name when posting team assignments. In online Swiss, the captain invites the teammates, and the co-captain accepts the invitation. The captain's name is leftmost on the screen.

Does the name of the team matter? Occasionally. In f2f Swiss, the wrong name can cause some confusion. For example, having captains with the same last names might lead to difficulty in finding the correct team or learning how your team scored. Recommendation: In f2f games, choose a captain with an easy, unique last name. Examples: Foxx, Wolf.

An informal team name could be fun. Consider the Kick#\$\$% Kirkpatricks, for example. This family (dstewie, skinkopf, jermy1ms, russkirk, stewartgmm, jkirkpat44, twright23) has earned their team's name by scoring very well in Swiss. In any combination, they can be lethal. (Side note: this team's forefather originated the Bob Kirkpatrick double, which is when you double in a desperate attempt to stop your partner from bidding again.)

An informal team name could reinforce the sense of community that comes with Swiss teams. Consider the Flower Power team (archiegirl, gingerdee, peggyrrath, mschauer3, dmcdade), for example. A team member goes to Irma's place at the nursing home, sets up her iPad, and gets her online for the game. Irma is 101 and still plays a mean 3NT. This team is considering adopting tie-dyed jerseys as their team uniform and peace signs as their team logo.

Does your Swiss team have a name? If no, have you thought about one? If yes, send it to me and I might include it in next month's column. Join us for Swiss! If you need a partner or teammates, contact Lil (Lmrange) 504 330 1158 or Dave (3392627) 419 575 4513. Online Swiss is Sundays at 2, or Thursdays at 6:50.

MORE REFLECTIONS OF A BEGINNER

by Richard Jeansonne

Sometime in the month of June, I went from being a Rookie to a Junior Master. There was no ceremony, no cap and gown, no thanking my parents for putting me through school. Also, now there are no more free 0-5 games.

During my journey playing bridge for 4 or 5 months, I realized that there were three types of mistakes that I made with some frequency.

Mistake #1 happened when my partner bid 1 No Trump. I was wired to begin thinking Stayman and Jacoby Transfer. But I realized that when I bid 1 No Trump, I was not wired to understand that my partner was now thinking Stayman or Transfer. Because of this, I missed several transfers.

The 2nd mistake happened when my LHO played a card. I would look at my hand and decide what card I was going to play. I would not notice if my partner played a higher card, and my RHO did not cover it. I would either play a higher card or trump my partner's winning card.

The 3rd mistake happened when the LHO played a card in a suit that I could have trumped in the dummy, but not in my hand. But I didn't stay in the moment and failed to trump in dummy. I thought that if I do not trump it in the dummy, I can always trump it in my hand. After the RHO played, I realize that I had to follow suit.

Why am I sharing this with you? I believe for my own sake that if I can force myself to analyze the mistakes I make with some frequency, I can move it from my subconscious mind to my conscious mind and stay in the moment, avoiding these three errors. I realize that every time a card is played, the dynamics of the game changes.

I suggest beginner players compete in games against opponents with more experience. As a beginning student I knew that people were hesitant to play in the 199er game. Then I realized that the players in that game were hesitant to play in the 299er games. By playing up, you learn more useful conventions. I have found that at every level, the more experienced players are very willing to help the beginners understand the game and learn new conventions. I have never experienced a bad moment playing up. I encourage everyone to try.

To quote a famous realtor, "It is better to try and fail than to not try at all.

My final thoughts are that beginners should choose a partner with whom they can play frequently. After a while the partners will get in sync. Before playing, they should discuss the conventions they are comfortable playing. Maybe, after a game, they should go over the boards and analyze where they went wrong.

NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

At the Club:

- August 7:** Upgraded - Club Championship (3X pts)
- August 8-11:** Nap qualifiers (1/2 red/1/2 blk -2X pts)
- August 14:** Club Championship week (2X pts)
- August 17:** Week of NAP games
- August 21-28:** NAP qualifiers
- August 30:** Unit Championship (2X pts)

At the Virtual Club:

- August 7-13:** Silver Linings (silver - 2X pts)
- August 14-27:** NAP qualifiers

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Debra Benoit
Elizabeth Bergeron
Christy Gardes
Robert Herbert
George Kalmar
Cathy Kenny
Connie Rodgers
David Royer
Vera Schlesinger
Henry Wolf
Steven Zimmer

ACHIEVEMENTS

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Junior Master: George Guarino, Gayle Martiwez

Club Master: Beth Bayer, Yvonne Bayhi, Wayne Cooper, Kirsten Knudsen, Michael Maher,
Joyce Walker

Sectional Master: Jim Koch, Lynn Lightfoot

Regional Master: Lynn Jambon

Bronze Life Master: Judy Serou

Silver Life Master: Kathleen Savino

BRONZE LIFE MASTER



Judy Serou

SILVER LIFE MASTER



Kathleen Savino

ACHIEVEMENTS

70 % GAMES June 25 - July 25

6/26	Open	Club	John Federico, Judy Katz	72.92%
6/27	499	Club	Lynn Lightfoot, Judith Rowley	74.17%
6/27	Beg	Club	Jill Chenevert, Kathleen Cafiero	75.00%
7/1	Open		Jean Talbot, Joan VanGeffen	70.10%
7/13	Open		Dianne Chaisson, Ellen Lappa	70.00%
7/18	BEG	Club	Brian Chamberland, Charles Franks	78.63%
7/18	BEG	Club	Arlene Goldin-Castle, David Royer	78.65%
7/20	Circle	Club	Penelope Randolph, Pat Ehlinger	75.00%
7/25	BEG	Club	Mary McQueen, Don Engler	75.00%
7/25	BEG	Club	Arlene Goldin-Castle, Carolyn Stolz	75.00%