

December 2016

eDeclarer

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER

President's Message



Hello, Fellow Bridge Players,

We are in the holiday season! While you might be shopping, dining, and joining other festivities this month, don't forget STAC week at clubs in our unit from December 5 - 11. The games award silver points. If you have a really good day at the tables, you might play in the Western Conference STAC and earn extra master-points!

We will have the Annual Unit Holiday Party and Game on **Sunday, December 18**, at the Contra Costa Bridge Center in Concord. Lunch will be served starting at noon, with the game to follow at 1 pm. The unit will provide the main course, but we ask if you have a favorite side dish you would like to share, please do so. Lyn Sacco (lyn.sacco@gmail.com) will be coordinating contributions, so please let her know if you plan to bring a dish. Because the Center has a limited number of tables, **reservations are required to play**. You can make a reservation by emailing CCBC at ccbc.reservations@gmail.com. This is a wonderful way to celebrate the holidays with your favorite partner and bridge friends.

I wish each and everyone of you a wonderful holiday season, and may you receive lots of gifts at the tables.

Happy Holidays,
Anne

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Unit 499 eDeclarer

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Deadline for January is December 20

To submit a letter to the editor,
send it to Judy Keilin at
jkeilin@pacbell.net

Be sure to visit the unit website for more information on our clubs and events, as well as archives of our newsletters.

diablovalleybridge.com/ccbc

...from the editor

My favorite holiday, Thanksgiving, is behind us, and now we look forward to Chanukah and Christmas in December. Also in December is the annual Unit 499 Holiday Party on December 18 at CCBC with lunch provided by the board and contributions from players. This is always a popular event, so be sure to reserve your place, as space is limited.

I wish you all good health and happiness for the holiday season, and for the New Year to come.

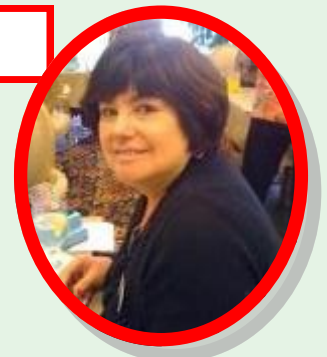
Peace!

Judy Keilin

Editor



Mary Krouse, Publisher



Unit 499 Milestones

New Junior Masters

Susan Baskin

Jane Ryan

New Club Masters

Barbara Eppinger

Thomas Griswold

Dianne Lavin

New Regional Masters

Forrest Bottomley

Sanda Henry

New NABC Masters

Derek Southern

Kathy Wolf

New Silver Life Masters

Jack Meng

New Ruby Life Masters

Irwin Lichtblau

New Gold Life Masters

Marvin Suchman

Play a Hand with me

Play A Hand With Me....

December, 2016

North

S A1095

H Q108

D 632

C 952

West

S 7

H AJ7432

D 94

C J763

East

S Q86

H K965

D AJ5

C Q84



South

S KJ432

H ----

D KQ1087

C AK10

I will call this the “eight ever, nine sometimes” hand. This hand came up in the recent Instant Matchpoint Game” The hands have been rotated to show south the declarer. My right hand opponent opened one diamond, I overcalled one spade and my partner raised so I bid game. The opening lead was the 9 of diamonds to the A and the 5 of diamonds came back when I thought that my left hand opponent was going to trump this. Much to my surprise, they followed with the 4. At this point the hand is an open book which doesn’t happen very often.

After winning the second diamond I led a spade to the A and a spade back to the J and drew the last trump and claimed. How did I know to do this? When someone opens a diamond and shows up with three, they must have 3 spades at least. I believe that when you open 1 diamond you should have 4 of them and with 3 diamonds and 3 clubs you open 1 club (partner usually doesn’t lead or raise clubs).Yes, I know that with Axx, xxxx, AKQ, xxx you best open 1 D.

Larry Cohen in his analysis discusses that had they opened 1 club and a club was led and if there was a misguess in spades declarer could have trouble which is true, but he doesn’t discuss how this hand makes 6 after a diamond is opened and a diamond is led. He just states that double dummy 12 tricks are available. Well, it was unlucky for my opponent to paint a clear path to making 6 for 90%.

Jerry Weitzner



IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE PLAY

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE PLAY

By David Terris

TWO-LEVEL OVERCALLS (Part 1)

Reference: Mike Lawrence, "The Complete Book on Overcalls," 1979

Two-level overcalls require a good hand and a good suit. A hand can qualify as "good" due to either strength (usually at least 12 HCP) or distribution to make up for less HCP.

Not Vulnerable

Your RHO opens 1S, and you hold the following hands:

1 S 106 H AQJ96 D A1042 C Q3

2 S 3 H A3 D 10542 C KQJ763

3 S 10652 H AQ10963 D K3 C 5

4 S 872 H AJ10863 D K3 C 54

- 1 Bid 2H. Game is not likely, but there's a good chance for a part score.
- 2 Bid 2C. Straight forward. Only 10 HCP, but good distribution.
- 3 Bid 2H. With 4 cards in opener's suit and only 9 HCP this is still a solid overcall. It's likely that partner is short in spades, and with heart support there is a good play for 3 hearts. The suit is certainly good, and the hand qualifies as "good" because of the excellent distribution.
- 4 Pass or Bid 2H. This hand is similar to the last one except there is one less spade and a slightly less strong suit. At match-points 2H creates some problems for opponents and might work, but at IMP scoring or Rubber Bridge it is a Pass.

Vulnerable

At matchpoint scoring taking a big loss on a hand costs just one bad result. A bottom board is a zero no matter how big the minus score. But, when playing Rubber Bridge or IMP scoring, going for a large loss on a hand can be much more costly. When vulnerable at IMP or Rubber scoring, one should be more cautious with two level overcalls.

RHO opens 1S and you hold:

1 S K1073 H 3 D KQ982 C K54
2 S 73 H K2 D AQ10872 C AK7
3 S 63 H K2 D KQ8654 C AJ
4 S 10762 H AQ10963 D K4 C 2
5 S QJ3 H KJ872 D A43 C QJ

- 1 Bid 2D but only at matchpoints. If not vulnerable, this is a clear 2D, but, vulnerable and playing IMP scoring or rubber bridge, there are risks.
- 2 This is a clear 2D overcall vulnerable at either matchpoints or IMPS.
- 3 Hands 2. and 3. illustrate the difference between playing matchpoints and IMPS. Both hands merit an overcall of 2D at matchpoints vulnerable, but at IMPS or Rubber Bridge it's advisable to pass Hand 3. Hand 2 has game potential, but Hand 3 does not, and it is not safe.
- 4 Bid 2H. Good vulnerable overcall. Having four spades, the distribution makes up for lack of HCP.
- 5 Pass. A trap for point counters. The suit is bad, distribution is poor and the hand has wasted points.



Club News

This section is for club owners and managers who wish to submit news about their games. Please go to our website for information about all our clubs, game times, and to check on the latest results.

Diablovalleybridge.com

ROSSMOOR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Gateway Club

Rossmoor



Membership dues for 2017 are now payable. There are envelopes for payment available at all regular duplicate games.

The **Holiday STAC Week** is scheduled for December 5-10. Extra masterpoints are awarded in STAC games. The cost to play is \$4 for members and \$8 for guests. Players must be Rossmoor residents to play on Monday.

Except for STAC week the month of **December will be FREE** for all members of the Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club to play in regular games.

The **Holiday Lunch** and Annual Meeting with Elections will be held on Monday, December 12. Lunch will be served at 11:30 followed by the annual meeting and play.

[Kit Miller](#)

Lamorinda Bridge Club

Our games run 10am to about 2pm with lunch included. We host a Swiss Team Game on the third Saturday of most months during the year, and a pair game on the Saturday of the three STaC Weeks per year.

Please remember that reservations are required in advance for these games. If we have enough notice we can usually arrange for partnerships. You may reserve games in advance when you know your schedule.

December 2016

Wed. 12/7 STaC Pair Game \$9

Sat. 12/10 STaC Pair Game \$9

Wed. 12/14 Charity (Food Bank of Contra Costa) Pair Game \$9

Sat. 12/17 Charity (Food Bank of Contra Costa) Swiss Team Game \$10

Wed. 12/21 Regular Pair Game \$8

Wed. 12/28 Regular Pair Game \$8

January 2017

Wed. 1/4 Charity (Junior Fund) Pair Game \$9

Wed. 1/11 Charity (Junior Fund) Pair Game \$9

Wed. 1/18 Charity (Junior Fund) Pair Game \$9

Sat. 1/21 Charity (Junior Fund) Swiss Team Game \$10

Wed. 1/25 Charity (Junior Fund) Pair Game \$9

Jerry Chamberlain & Winnie Jasper

Winnie@wjasper.com; 925-376-1125

183 Corliss Drive, Moraga, CA 94556

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Winnie@wjasper.com; 925-376-1125

183 Corliss Drive, Moraga, CA 94556

Lamorinda Bridge Club

The location is our home:

183 Corliss Drive, Moraga 94556

(on the corner of Corliss and Crossbrook Drives at the stop sign)

On-street parking

[925-376-1125](tel:925-376-1125)

Reservations required:

Winnie: Winnie@wjasper.com or [925-376-1125](tel:925-376-1125) (home)

Jerry: [925-766-5228](tel:925-766-5228) (cell)



The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge Club

The Moraga Country Club duplicate bridge is every Tuesday evening at 7pm at the Moraga Country Club. Reservations are required with David Geary, dsgear@comcast.net. Fee is \$3. ACBL open club, stratified, hand records.

Recent results:

10/25 - 3 tables

- 1 - Colleen & David Geary
- 2 - Maxine Winer & George Bazgan
- 3 - Mary-Jill Clemens & Susan Schlicht

11/1 - 3 tables

- 1 - Ann Elliott & Sheila Knoth
- 2 tie - Mary-Jill Clemens & Susan Schlicht
- 2 tie - Maxine Winer & George Bazgan

11/8 - 2 tables

- 1 - Mary-Jill Clemens & Susan Schlicht
- 2 tie - Ann Elliott & Sheila Knoth
- 2 tie - Leslie Engler & Doris McMullen

Regards, David Geary



Blackhawk Duplicate Bridge

Blackhawk Country Club

Contact Lilah Newton at

lilahnewton@yahoo.com



The BHCC ladies duplicate group is happy to invite gentlemen to our December 7 STAC game. We will play in the main dining room at 9:30am. We will have breakfast pastry and then play our bridge game. At the conclusion of play we will have a served lunch of a cup of soup, followed by an entrée salad. Cost for the day is \$28 (\$19 for lunch and \$9 for bridge). If you would like to play please contact Lilah Newton at 925-648-3154 or email at lilahnewton@yahoo.com. Reservations are necessary.

Lilah Newton