

February 2018

eDeclarer

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER

President's Message



Happy February Unit 499!

I am proclaiming this month to be bridge partner appreciation month! Bridge is a pairs game or a team game, but not an individual game. Your partner(s) and teammates are needed to play and enjoy our great game. Go out of your way to do something extra special for your partners this month. A kind word, a note of appreciation or a piece of candy are all great ways to make your partners feel special this month. A couple of people said to me last year that they are always kind to their partners. Great news, but it never hurts to do something extra special for your partner.

We are fortunate to have three separate unit games this month. The first one is being held on Sunday, February 4 at CCBC at 1pm, and it is an open game. Two more unit games will be held on Thursday, February 16. For those players with less than 1,000 masterpoints, CCBC will hold a unit game at 9:30am. A unit game will also be held at Rossmoor at 7pm which is open to all players. I hope you will all plan to attend at least one of these unit games and compete for the higher masterpoint awards!

I may be a little scarce this month. I am an Olympics addict. I will be taping and watching every minute of the action from the Opening Ceremony through the Closing Ceremony. I hope you will all watch a part of the Olympics and cheer on your favorite Olympian or Olympic Team. I promise not to ask you questions about the curling competition, but I want you to know that I enjoy watching it.

I hope you all have a great time playing bridge this month and I hope you will take the time to say or do something nice for your bridge partner(s).

Jackie Z

Directory

We will print the 2018 Roster towards the end of the first quarter in 2018 and have it available at the Unit 499 clubs.

If there are any changes in your information that is contained in the print version of the 2016 roster, and, if any of you are members of ACBL and also Unit 499, and are not included in the 2016 roster, please advise me.

Bob Barnes, Membership Chair

Bob.Barnes@msn.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message	1
From The Editor	2
Unit 499 Milestones	3
Hands	4
Club News	6

Unit 499 eDeclarer

Published monthly

Editor: Judy Keilin

Publisher: Mary Krouse

Submit articles to jkeilin@pacbell.net

Volume LXXXII

February 2018

Deadline for March is February 16

...from the editor

STOP cards are a thing of the past. I had serious doubts as to my ability to continue playing without them, and am very pleased to find that I am entirely comfortable without reaching for that red card in my bidding box. I consider it maturity and a confident grasp of the game that I didn't know I possessed. Let the games continue!

Please read the article from Bob Barnes about the Unit 499 Directory. You might like to be included, so that your bridge friends can find you.

Judy Keilin, Editor



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

Mary Krouse, Publisher

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



Unit 499 Milestones and New Members

New Junior Masters

Diana Gilmore

New Club Masters

Carle Hirahara

Franklin Onstine

David Slaby

New Sectional Masters

Thomas Griswold

Ethel Lew

New Regional Masters

Jane Durie

Marion Renvall

New Advanced NABC Masters

Debby Rechnitz

Kathy Wolf

New Bronze Life Masters

Jeanne Cochran

Cynthia Kight

New Silver Life Masters

Lorraine Grawoig



Happy
Valentine's
Day

Save the Date: May 16, 2018
Larry Cohen Seminar

New Members

Paul Grassman

John Kobzina

David Smith

Play a Hand with me

Play A Hand With Me...

February, 2018

North

S Q7

H Q94

D Q10854

C J87

West

S K10986

H K8

D AK

C 10953

East

S 532

H 106532

D J9

C Q64



South

S AJ4

H AJ7

D 7632

C AK2

This hand occurred at a recent invitational tournament and features an end play as well as a coup.

West is the dealer on this hand and the bidding proceeded: 1S P P X, P 2D P 2N, P 3N all pass

The opening lead was the 10 of clubs covered by the J, Q and won by the A (hiding the K).

A diamond is led towards the dummy with West winning and continuing with a low club with the 8 winning in dummy. It is hard to imagine a passed hand having the K and Q of clubs. At this point there are not too many entries to the South hand to lead towards the diamonds so you continue a club and lead another diamond which West wins and they can cash their good club but now they must lead either a heart or spade and they chose a spade which you win with the Q. You now come to your hand with the A of hearts setting up West's K, this rare play is called a Vienna Coup, and run the diamonds coming down to the A and J of spades in your hand. Dummy is on lead with the Q of hearts and the 7 of spades. West has to save the K of hearts so he comes down to the singleton K of spades and you can come to your hand taking the last two tricks with the A and J of spades. Making 4!!!

Note, that had West started with a spade and continued every time you can only make 3.

Jerry Weitzner

jweitzner@sbcglobal.net

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE PLAY



IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE PLAY

By David Terris

BALANCING AFTER A STRONG 1NT OPENING BID

<u>LHO</u>	<u>Part.</u>	<u>RHO</u>	<u>You</u>
1NT	Pass	Pass	???

Your LHO opens 1NT and this bid is passed around to you. He has about 16 HCP, and RHO, having passed, can have anywhere from 0 to 8 points. So, in this auction each side is likely on average to have about 20 HCP, and you have as much right to compete for the contract as your Opponents.

When should you balance? A useful guide is bridge expert Mel Colchamiro's Rule of Two. "If LHO opens the bidding with one-notrump, and it is passed around to you, bid with two or more distribution points regardless of high card strength and regardless of vulnerability."

<u>LHO</u>	<u>Part.</u>	<u>RHO</u>	<u>You</u>
1NT	Pass	Pass	???

♠KQJ764 ♥53 ♦65 ♣1065

Bid. You have two doubletons which gives you two distribution points. You should bid your spades in such a manner as the convention you are using dictates. With only 6 HCP it is likely that Partner has about 14 HCP which are behind the opening notrump bidder. That means that your finesses are likely to work.

<u>LHO</u>	<u>Part.</u>	<u>RHO</u>	<u>You</u>
1NT	Pass	Pass	???

♠KJ1076 ♥53 ♦K65 ♣AK3

Pass. Even though this is a much better hand than the previous one, you have only one distribution point. Your side's strength is in front of the notrump bidder, so your finesses are unlikely to work assuming that you can get to the dummy enough times to take them. When you have less HCP, your Partner is likely to have more strength; in which case your finesses are more likely to work.

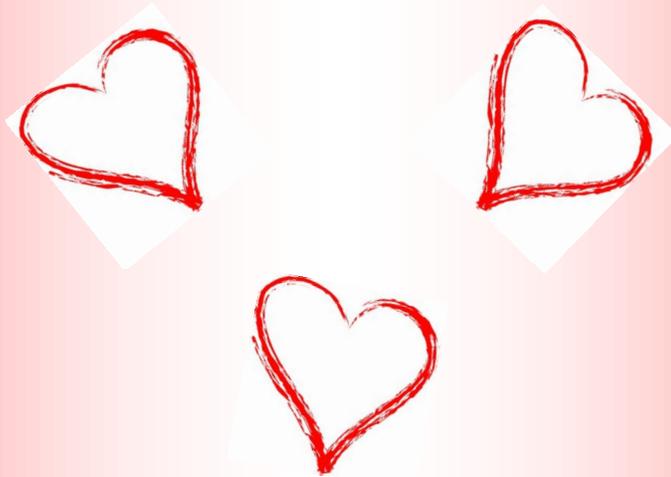
There are a multitude of conventions that have been used to compete against Opponent's opening notrump bid. In one of Max Hardy's books, he enumerated 25 separate conventions. The fact that there are so many indicates that they all have disadvantages as well as advantages. The one thing that most experts agree upon, however, is that any modern convention, which allows the user to indicate more than one suit, is superior to the natural overcall.

The DONT (Disturb Opponents' NoTrump) convention is particularly useful in the balancing seat because it maximizes the chance to find a contract to play at the 2-level. In the next two columns we will use this convention to illustrate balancing situations.

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

On Saturday, February 3, the game will benefit the Junior Fund. One dollar will be contributed for each player. There will be no increased charge for this game.

Thursday, February 8, is an IMP Pairs game.

Thursday, February 22, there is a Unit game at 7pm.

Kit Miller



Lamorinda Bridge Club

Lamorinda (formerly 24/680) Bridge Club

Our games run 10am to about 2pm with snacks and beverages included. If you would like to contribute a snack item to what is offered, please feel free to do so. We host a Swiss Team Game on the third Saturday of most months during the year, and a pair game on the Saturday of most 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.

Our neighbor directly across the street at 184 Corliss has requested that we leave the equivalent of two parking spaces open in front of their home at all times. We also ask that you not park directly in front of any of our neighbors' mail boxes.

Congratulations to some of our first place players in Sections A, B or C since the last newsletter: Maxine Winer & Olga Gordon (twice), Bob & Annette Horwitz, Darrell Fung & Robert Ipswitch, Fred Golini & Dianne Lavin, David & Colleen Geary, Rosemary Hagman & Furqan Naeem, David & Stitch Boyle, Darrell Fung & Jerry Weitzner (wice), Larry Lange & Judy Murphy, and Perry & Jody Shapiro.

Upcoming Schedule:

February 2018

Wed. 2/7 ARF Charity Pair \$11

Wed. 2/14 Club Championship Pair \$10

Sat. 2/17 ARF Charity Swiss Team \$11

Wed. 2/21 NO GAME

WED. 2/28 NO GAME

March 2018

Wed. 3/7 Unit Pair \$10

Wed. 3/14 Regular Pair \$10

Sat. 3/17 Hospice Charity Swiss Teams \$11

Wed. 3/21 Hospice Charity Pair \$11

Wed. 3/28 Regular Pair \$10

Jerry Chamberlain & Winnie Jasper

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)





MORAGA CLUB NEWS

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. If reservation not made by Sunday before, it will only be accepted if needed to avoid a half-table sit-out.

Fee is \$3. ACBL open club, stratified, hand records. Extra Master Points by donating to charity whenever ACBL allows.

Recent results:

12/19 – 5 tables

- 1 – Colleen & David Geary
- 2 – Mal Mendelson & Irwin Javinsky
- 3 – Carol & Mark Penskar

12/26 – 6 tables

- 1 – Carol Harrison & Sandi Cummings
- 2 – Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 3 – Deb & Wayne Rechnitz

1/2 – 3 tables

- 1 – Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 2 – Colleen & David Geary
- 3 – Carol & Mark Penskar

1/9 – 4 tables

- 1 – Carol & Mark Penskar
- 2 – Stephanie Kung & Blair Hoffman
- 3 – Art Donaldson & David Geary

1/16 – 5 tables

- 1 – Carol Penskar & Carol Griffin
- 2 – Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 3 – Colleen & David Geary

Regards, David Geary