



**April
2018**

ScoreCard

Inaugural Issue!

Rocky Mountain Regional May 22-28



District 17 Tournament Calendar

Regionals

Apr 27-29 ... [Scottsdale \(Phoenix\) AZ](#) (NLM)
 May 22-28 ... [Denver CO](#)
 Aug 10-12 ... [Loveland CO](#) (NLM)
 Aug 13-19 ... [Scottsdale \(Phoenix\) AZ](#)
 Oct 8-14 [Colorado Springs CO](#)

Phoenix Desert Empire Regional

Partnerships - Anne Marie Harrington
 (480) 874-3852, aharrin708@aol.com

<https://unit354.com/tournaments>

August 13 - 19, 2018
 Talking Stick Resort

Special Events

May 7-13 Western Conference STaC
 May 25-27 ... D17 GNT Finals
 Jul 26-Aug 5. [Atlanta NABC](#)
 Aug 20-26 ... Western Conference STaC
 Oct 12-13 ... D17 NAP Finals
 Nov 22-Dec 2. [Hawaii NABC](#)
 Dec 3-9 Western Conference STaC

April 13-15 Las Cruces Sectional

<http://web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2018/04/1804068.pdf>

Sectionals

Sectionals

April

13-15 [Colorado Springs CO](#)
13-15 [Las Cruces NM](#)
27-29 [Glenwood Springs CO](#)
27-29 [Scottsdale \(Phoenix\) AZ](#)
28-29 [Denver CO 299er](#)
30-May 4 ... [Las Vegas NV](#)

May

4-6 [Longmont \(Boulder\) CO](#)
4-6 [Santa Fe NM](#)

June

8-10 [Albuquerque NM](#)
15-17 [Durango CO](#)
22-24 [Prescott AZ](#)

July

13-15 [Golden \(Denver\) CO](#)
13-15 [Ruidoso NM](#)
20-22 [Grand Junction CO](#)
27-29 [Los Alamos NM](#)

Denver's Rocky Mountain Regional

May 22-28, 2018

Sponsored by [District 17](#) and [Denver Unit 361](#) of the ACBL

!! NEWLY RENOVATED PLAYING SITE !!

[Renaissance Hotel](#) by Marriott
3801 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80207
888-228-9290

TRANSPORTATION

- New [light rail](#) from the airport or downtown
 - \$9 fare
 - Free hotel shuttle or 15 minute walk from Central Park Station
- Easy freeway access
- [Map](#)

EVENTS

- Full [schedule](#) of pair and team events
- Engaging guest speakers

NEWER PLAYERS

- Pro/Am Game
- Gold Rush Pairs
- 299er Pairs

TOURNAMENT CONTACTS

- Director in Charge - Gary Zeiger
- Tournament Chair - [Wayne Eckerling](#)
- Partnerships - [Vard Nelson](#)





John's Journal



By John Grossmann, District 17 President

Welcome to the inaugural digital edition of our District 17 publication. We invite you to explore this issue. We have new authors, a new look, and lots of new features.

How do you navigate? Look for a gray “help” page right after the cover in this publication that looks like the image shown below. The basic instructions are simple. Move to other screens by swiping with your finger left/right on a smart phone or clicking on the double chevrons on each side of the screen on a laptop. Read an article by scrolling up or down. On smart phones use your finger. On laptops and desktops you move the scroll bar on the right of the article.

How to get the most out of your reading experience







Table of Contents:
Easily access specific articles


Share:
Use social media or share via email


Search:
Search within the current edition



Print:
Print content is text only—
Be sure your mobile device can access a printer



Tablet:
Swipe right to left to advance through articles, and left to right to return to a previous article. Swipe up and down to read or page through an article.

Desktop/Laptop:
On a mouse or track-pad device, click these icons to navigate.

Browse Articles


Reading


 Browse Articles 

 Page through articles.
 Scroll down to read some sections.

Hungry for other news? Click on the “hamburger” in the top left of your screen (three horizontal bars, Big Mac style) and a **table of contents** will pop up. If you then click on an article, you will jump to that screen. On a smartphone or tablet, the tool bar or menu is hidden to save screen space, but these options will be displayed by touching the screen once.

There are three other tools to consider. The small magnifying glass in the upper right allows you to do a **keyword search**. For example, you might want to look for any mention of the word “finesse”. The odd three balls connected by a “<” is your portal to email options, plus **social media connections** such as Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, or LinkedIn. You can share a bridge article with partners around the globe. Use the small printer symbol to **print the article** you are reading.

In our new publication, we can offer a link to a YouTube video. Large collections of photos can be displayed in a slideshow. Just for fun, we may use “wink”, “quake”, or “sliders”, some of the basic animation tools.

Nxtbook, our digital vendor, automatically formats text to match the device you are using. On a smartphone, you get one article at a time. On a wide screen laptop, you will see the active screen and all or part of other screen images on each side. Images in an article can be enlarged by clicking or tapping on them. Return to the original article by clicking on the X. Ads, however, are fixed images and cannot be enlarged unless there is a plus sign. The links listed in the ad can be clicked to send email or visit that web address. Usually there will be a clickable link to the flyer or unit web site to find the full information about that tournament.

www.d17acbl.org

Live links in ads may have a yellow glow. In text articles, they may appear like the D17 website address above. Click on it and jump to that web page. Click an email address and you are ready to send a note. An example is my email address below.

How do you know when an edition is published? Well I hope you heard the royal horns we borrowed from Buckingham Palace! Getting the first issue published always involves a little drama. But, seriously, we have four main ways to notify members: (1) email blast, (2) news flash on the D17 website, (3) following D17acbl on FaceBook or Twitter, and (4) two “apps”.

Yes, apps. There are some bureaucratic hurdles and paperwork to file, and the Russians may mess with our submissions, but we hope to have Android and Apple apps this month. Go to your App store and load our free app. You will then be a touch away from the current edition.

Tournament chairpersons take note, ads are going to be different in the digital world. Try this mantra, "Flyers are not ads". Many of the digital screens just won't display our traditional flyers, the type becomes too small. We need to learn to design ads that are focused and stimulating. Tourney details can be provided in hotlinks to the unit website, tourney flyer, venue map, and email links to the partnership desk.

Your editors, Kitty and Steve Cooper, are pretty excited about the many digital features of this new way to communicate. Me too! We are learning along the way about what methods work best. We publish bimonthly and our goal is to make your publication better with each issue.

Send me your thoughts at Blackstone.co@comcast.net

LAS CRUCES DOWN COUNTRY SECTIONAL

April 13-15

sessions at 9:30 & 2:00

*free coffee &
goodies*

<http://lascrucesbridge.com/>

**BELTON BRIDGE CENTER
1214 E. Madrid
Las Cruces, NM 88001
575-524-3031**

partnerships:
Billie Edington
edgi@comcast.net
(575) 649-3466



<https://tinyurl.com/BeltonBridge>

<http://web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2018/04/1804068.pdf>



District 17 News: Grants and Elections

District 17 Unit Grants; Apply Now!

By Steve Nordberg, Grant Committee Chairman

District 17 has a grant program for local activities related to membership building, beginner bridge education, and technology upgrades. Units that have not hosted a regional in the past three years are eligible. D17 does not require matching funds. A grant request should not exceed two pages describing how the grant will be used. The deadline for grant requests this year is May 1. The D17 Board will make grant decisions at the Denver Regional.

In past years, Units have used grants to support some very successful programs. These have included Easybridge! classes, Learn Bridge in a Day workshops, special events to attract social bridge players, and a beginner bridge school. While Units may seek funds for technology upgrades, the District is emphasizing membership building and novice bridge training.

If your club is awarded a grant, the Board would like to receive a progress report on the use of the grant by October 1. This information will be given to all board members at the Colorado Springs Regional in October.

Thanks so much for all the many ways you have used these grants to help people

learn to play our wonderful game of Bridge.

Request for grants should be sent via email or regular mail to:

Steve Nordberg - texminn@sbcglobal.net

5513 Beth View

El Paso, TX 79932-1418

Upcoming D17 Board Elections

By Jerry Ranney, Election Secretary

Elections of District 17 Board Representatives will be held this summer for the following units; the current board member is shown in parentheses:

- Southern New Mexico/El Paso-at-large (Steve Nordberg) for Units 159, 376, 380, & 388; two-year term.
- Colorado/Wyoming-at-large; two board seats are being filled - (John Grossman and Bill Curtis are the current Colorado-at-large board representatives; Rod Southworth is the current Wyoming board representative) for Units 359, 360, 363, 364, 367, 421, & 422; one three-year term, and one two-year term. The person with the most votes will get the three-year term. and the person with the second highest vote tally will get the two-year term. In the case of a tie, the positions will be filled based on a coin flip.
- Northern New Mexico-at-large (Felicity Moore for Albuquerque and Art McHaffie for New Mexico-at-large) for Units 374, 381, & 383; two-year term (two board positions are being consolidated to one).
- Denver Unit 361 (Jennifer O'Neill and Jerry Ranney); three-year term (two board positions are being consolidated to one).
- Mesa Unit 351 (Jim Horton); three-year term.
- Phoenix Unit 354 (JoAnne Lowe and Murali Nair); three-year term (two board positions are being consolidated to one).

The different term lengths for Colorado/Wyoming and the consolidation of two positions to one in Denver and Phoenix are due to the transition from having 14 elected board members to having 10, and from two-year to three-year terms.

Candidates must be members of District 17 in good standing and not under probation or suspension from the ACBL. No board member shall be employed by the ACBL, nor receive more than \$5000 per calendar year for any contract or assignment from the ACBL.

Candidates shall nominate themselves by sending notice by mail or electronic

means to the District Election Secretary and the member's Unit President, who shall notify the unit board of the nomination. Deadline for nominations shall be May 30, 2018 in order to have their name on the ballot. Voting, if required, will be held during June-July, with only the members of the unit boards eligible to vote.

If you have any questions pertaining to these elections, please contact Jerry Ranney, Election Secretary, at jtranney2@msn.com or 303-697-9468.

COLORADO SPRINGS

April 13-15, 2018
UNIT 360 SPRING SECTIONAL

Colorado Springs Masonic Center
West of I 25, Exit 145, map:
Tinyurl.com/CoSprMasonic

Friday, April 13 (lunch on your own)

10 & 3 299er Events, Open Pairs & KO

Saturday, April 14 (lunch on your own)

10 & 3 299er Events & Open Pairs

Sunday, April 15 (Catered lunch) \$108/team (4 person)

10 2- Session Swiss Teams (7 rounds 7 boards)

DIC Bill Michael

Tournament Chair

Partnerships

Eva Johnson

Lynn Roulier

(218)591-2199

(719)444-0504

evatamera@Q.com

lynnzki@msn.com



Host Hotel – HYATT Place, 503 W. Garden of the Gods Road, Colorado Springs
(719) 265-9385, Reserve by March 16, 2018, \$107 (tax not included)

www.coloradospringsbridge.com

<http://web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2018/04/1804049.pdf>

The Denver Rocky Mountain Regional

By Wayne Eckering, tournament chairman

This year's Denver Rocky Mountain Regional will be held May 22-28 (Memorial Day) at the Renaissance Hotel by Marriott. The Renaissance is conveniently located between Denver International Airport and downtown Denver. Playing spaces and guest rooms have all been renovated within the past year. The bridge rate of \$112 is good through May 1. For reservations, call (888) 228-9290 and ask for the 'Rocky Mountain Bridge Group Rate' or go online to [RegionalRoomsBridgeRate](#)

The tournament begins with a Pro/Am Pairs event on Tuesday at 1:00. Send an email to ProAm.DenverRegional@gmail.com if you have between 5-299 points and want to play with a more advanced player; be sure to sign up by May 11. In addition to masterpoints, section tops and first/second place overall will receive prizes. There is also a single-session Charity Open Pairs game at the same time.

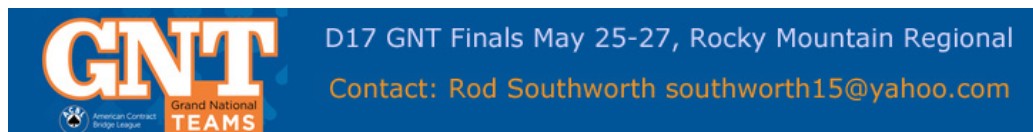
Game times for Tuesday are 1:00 and 7:00. Game times for Wednesday through Sunday are 10:00, 3:00, and 7:30. On Monday, there are two-session team events that begin at 9:30. We expect to have more than 1700 tables at the tournament. Need a partner? Send an email to Partnership.DenverRegional@gmail.com



The tournament includes Knockout Teams, Swiss Teams, Bracketed Teams, Board-a-Match Teams, Open Pairs, Fast Pairs, and Side Pairs. On Monday, we've scheduled A/X/Y Swiss Teams and also Bracketed Gold Teams for players with fewer than 3000 masterpoints. The top three finishers in each bracket will earn gold points. Last year, more than 50 teams competed in this event.

One of the tournament's most popular events is Gold Rush Pairs, which are scheduled at 10:00 and 3:00 Wednesday through Sunday. This event averages more than 60 tables daily, and you never play against anyone with more than 750 points. Earn gold for tops in each section and overall. For I/N players, 299er single-session pairs events will be held Wednesday through Sunday at 10:00 and 3:00.

We are honored to again be hosting the D17 finals for the Grand National Teams, to take place Friday, Saturday, and (if necessary) Sunday. Reminder: pre-registration is required for the Open Flight.



To brush up on your bridge, come listen to one or all of our expert speakers, scheduled for 2:15 Wednesday through Sunday. These speakers are already confirmed:

- **David Caprera**, of “Sleeping on the Couch” fame. Dave is the non-playing captain of the USA under 26-2 junior team. Always entertaining, he shares stories of his bridge misadventures with his wife, Anne.
- **Flo Newlin**. Always a popular speaker, Flo is an excellent teacher who boils down complex conventions into easy-to-understand presentations.
- **Brad Moss**. A professional player who was part of the team that won the 2017 Bermuda Bowl, Brad will entertain any and all questions in a lively Q&A session.

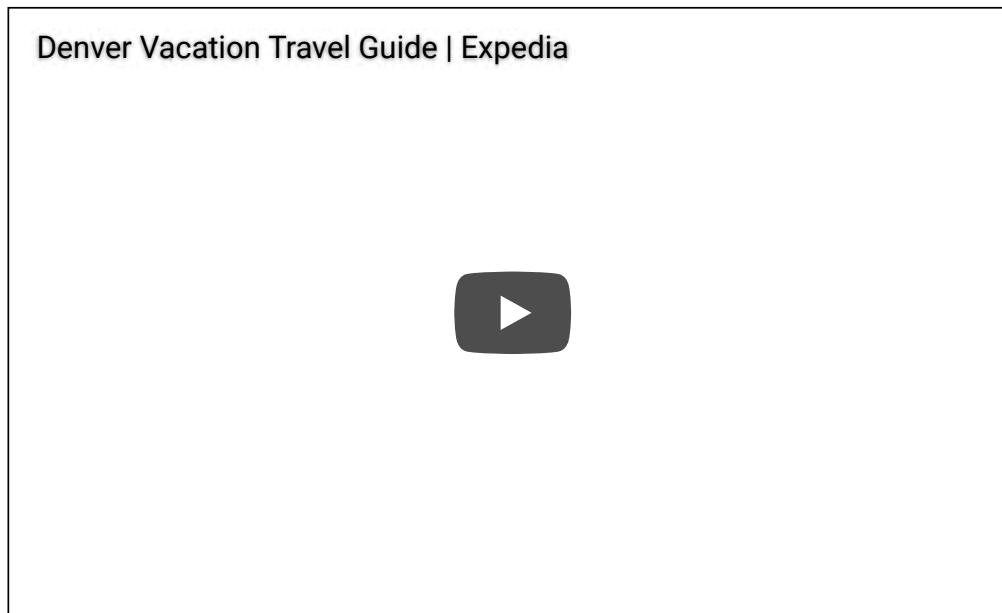
We have made some schedule changes in response to player comments:

- Most multi-session events that were previously scheduled at 1:00 and 7:00 have been moved to 10:00 and 3:00.
- For players who wish to play at night, there is a Fast Pairs game every evening, plus two-session team games on consecutive evenings.

- The knockout overlap has been eliminated: If your team doesn't advance, there are single-session and two-session team events before the next knockout begins.

For more details, see the complete [Tournament Flyer](#) or see our [Regional](#) page at DenverBridge.com

If you are looking to combine bridge with other activities, May is a great time to visit Denver.



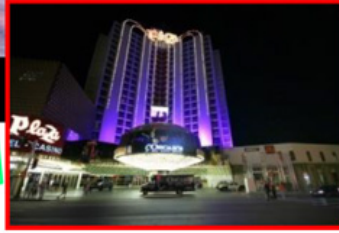
Consider an excursion to the [Denver Art Museum](#), the [Denver Museum of Nature and Science](#) to view the 'Dead Sea Scrolls' exhibit, or the [Denver Botanic Gardens](#). If you are a sports fan, the [Colorado Rockies](#) are in town and will be playing Cincinnati and San Francisco. If you are more interested in the performing arts, consider attending a play at the [Denver Center for the Performing Arts](#) or a [Colorado Symphony](#) concert. The hotel is also located close to [light rail](#) (about a 15 minute walk or use the hotel's free shuttle service), so it's easy to get to many of these events, as well as attractions like [Union Station](#), [LoDo](#), and [Larimer Square](#), without a car.

[Click here for a selection of maps](#) of the area that may help with orientation and directions.

Glitter Gulch Sectional

April 30th – May 4th At the Plaza!

SUN-THUR
ROOMS \$29 *
*Resort Fees & Taxes
Apply



Free Parking!

Game times 10am and 3pm

- **Bracketed KO**
- **Bracketed RR Teams**
- **Stratified Open Pairs**
- **Stratified 299er Pairs**
- **Barometer Open Pairs**
- **Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams**
- **Stratified Open Pairs**
- **Stratified 299er Pairs**

Tournament Chair: Angie Clark
Phone 847.764.1060 –
Email angieclark@comcast.net

Partnership:
Karen Kimes – Gary McGough
partnershipdesk@hotmail.com

See Full Schedule Link:
<https://tinyurl.com/yb9r53p7>

Phoenix NLM Gold Rush Regional

April 27 – 29, 2018

By JoAnne Lowe, Tournament Chair

Join us at the beautiful In Tempo Bridge Center for the third annual Phoenix Non-Life Master (NLM) Gold Rush Regional. The NLM Phoenix Regional is exclusively for Non-Life Masters with fewer than 750 points. The Regional offers opportunities to earn 33% gold points and 67% red points in two session events.

Take advantage of free lectures by top experts between sessions on Friday and Saturday.

Our great hospitality offers free patches (stickers), photos, and trophies. There will be coffee, tea, pretzels, and premium chocolates throughout all sessions. Daily giveaways include gift certificates and free plays. There is free parking at or near the site.



Although we have no host hotels, Scottsdale offers many fine hotels near the playing site. Use Google to find hotels near McDonald and Hayden Roads in Scottsdale.

Don't have a partner? Contact Anne Marie Harrington at aharrin708@aol.com or (602) 549 0956. Anne Marie will find you one.

Questions? Contact JoAnne Lowe pnutlowe@cox.net (480) 577 9833 or (480) 836 7296.

Check the ad in this issue of the *D17 ScoreCard* or visit unit354.com for the playing schedule.

Come, Play, Enjoy Springtime
in Historic Glenwood Springs
Doc Holliday Sectional • April 27-29 2018



Hotel Colorado

526 Pine Street • Glenwood Springs, CO

800-544-3998 • 970-945-8948

www.hotelcolorado.com

Tournament Chair: Karen Kribs / karenkribs@gmail.net or 970-319-9990

Partnerships: Diane Morgan / dandj@sopris.net or 970-963-0425

Stratified Pairs Events and 299'er Events

see web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2018/04/1804055.pdf



Tournament Results

Arizona Senior Regional Results (Feb 26-Mar 4)

A new varied schedule, signature hospitality and amazing weather made the Arizona Senior Regional in Tucson, formerly the Mesa Roadrunner Regional, the place to play! [Click here for the results at the ACBL](#)



Sectional Results

Click on the tournament name to get to the results page at the ACBL

Feb 16-19 -- [Scottsdale, AZ](#)
 Feb 16-19 -- [El Paso, TX](#)
 Feb 24-25 -- [Colorado Springs, CO I/N](#)
 Feb 25-25 -- [Mesa, AZ Prog Final](#)
 Mar 3-4 ---- [Santa Fe, NM I/N](#)
 Mar 9-11 --- [Golden, CO](#)
 Mar 15-17 -- [Sedona, AZ](#)
 Mar 17-17 -- [Las Cruces, NM I/N](#)
 Mar 22-25 -- [Scottsdale, AZ](#)

MAY 4 - 6

Boulder Bonanza Spring Sectional

At the Boulder County Fairgrounds:

<https://goo.gl/maps/L7VWdaxuE5K2>

Friday - Bracketed Teams (light lunch included)

Saturday - 2 session pairs and 299er single sessions

Sunday - Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams (lunch included)

All games start at 10:00 a.m.

Partnerships: Rosemary Getsie rgetsie@comcast.net

flyer: web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2018/05/1805024.pdf

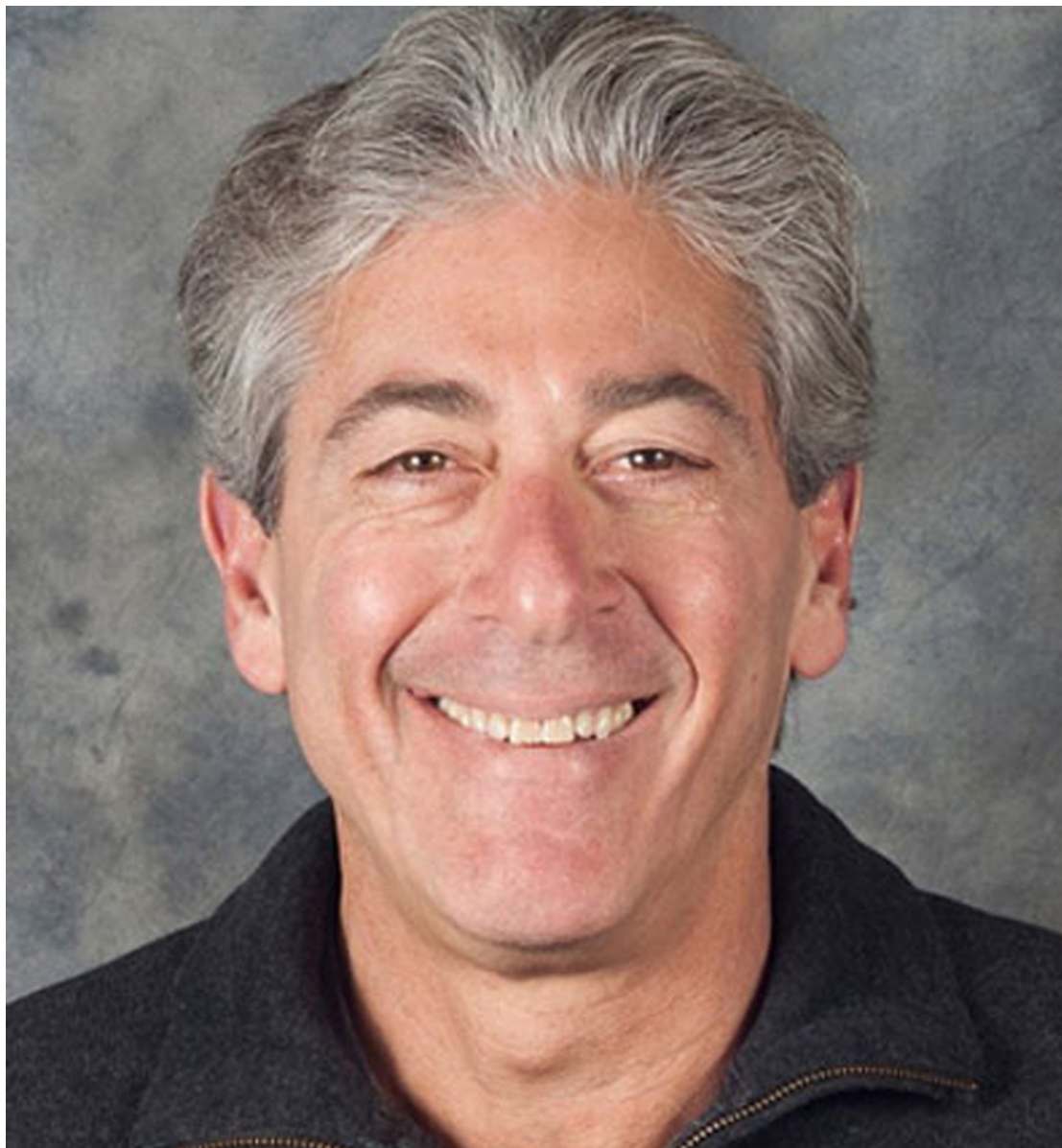


boulderbridge.org



District 17 Member Achievements

HALL OF FAME



Bobby Levin, Henderson, Nevada

As we went to press, we were informed that one of our District 17 members, Bobby Levin, had been elected to the [ACBL Hall of Fame](#). He has three world titles (one Bermuda Bowl, one Open Pairs, and one Mixed Teams), three silver medals, and was ACBL 2014 Player of the Year. His induction will take place at the Atlanta Summer Nationals. We plan on having a longer article in our next issue. Congratulations, Bobby!

NEW LIFE MASTERS

ARIZONA



Uta Antony. Tucson, AZ



Suzanne Cabeen. Sun City West, AZ



Genneth Hunter. Goodyear, AZ



Carol Urben. Scottsdale, AZ

COLORADO



Michael Renbarger & Lynnette Renbarger from Superior, CO

NEW MEXICO



Carol Dawley, Albuquerque, NM



Teresa Didrickson, Albuquerque, NM



Jeannine White, Albuquerque, NM

If you become a Life Master please send your photo to the editors – coopers@d17acbl.org - as well as any thoughts you wish to share about your experience.



ACBL Unit 383 of Santa Fe Presents:

Sessions at 9:30 AM and 2:00 PM

<http://santafebridgeclub.com/>

Santa Fe Spring Sectional
May 4th, 5th and 6th 2018 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday)
Genoveva Chavez Community Center
3221 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, NM

Flyer: <https://tinyurl.com/Spring-Sectional>

MAP: <https://tinyurl.com/GChavezCC>

Tournament Chair: Jude Wallace judewal@aol.com 505-46-3684
Partnerships: Charles Wilkins cwilkins@compassgroup.net



Advice for the New Player

By Chris Hasney, Hereford, Arizona

Doubles and Redoubles

If you are new to bridge, perhaps having taken a series or two of lessons, and decided that this game seems interesting, you may wonder what to do next. The answer is for you to take more classes and read, read, read. But please don't try to understand advanced material yet; there is time enough for that once you have the basics down pat. Ask your instructor for a reading list; well-meaning players might recommend favorite books for which you are not yet ready.



You may also enjoy going to a convenient bridge club and playing. Try to come with your own partner, and make the director of the game aware that you are VERY new to bridge. You'll find that most players, learning that you are a neophyte, will bend over backwards to welcome you and try to be helpful. Note that there are differences between types of contests. My favorite partner and I play in ACBL sanctioned duplicate games, even though we'd both prefer to play in an old-fashioned money bridge rubber game if we could find another pair to join us. I recommend you try various venues, including "party" bridge.

Try to learn bidding and carding methods most commonly used by players in your group. If you are playing tournament (ACBL) duplicate bridge in North America this means basic Two Over One (2/1) Game Force or at least Standard American Yellow Card (SAYC). Old-style 1950ish Goren methods work, but are rarely seen these days outside of party bridge games. My columns will adhere to this advice. For that reason, avoid my books beyond Volume II, "The Advanced American Bidding System" (essentially SAYC).

Whether you play 2/1 or SAYC, you are likely to be confused by doubles and redoubles. Don't worry, they can confuse advanced players too; we just get confused at a different level.



Originally doubles and redoubles were meant to extract cash from opponents' wallets. Around 1912 folks began using them for other things. The most common non-penalty meaning of double is "takeout"—the doubler (known as "intervenor") is asking partner (known as "advancer") to bid one of the remaining suits. For example, if an opponent opens 1♠ and you double, you are saying "partner, I don't have a suit of my own to bid, but I have support for hearts, diamonds, and clubs and an opening hand in support of whatever suit you care to bid. Please bid a suit, even if you have a rotten hand. If you have GOOD spades and some extra points and would like to let them play spades doubled, then just pass, converting my takeout double to a penalty double." ("Good" looks like KQ1086, not J532.)

Especially if the opponents have found a trump fit, virtually all doubles below 2NT are some form of takeout. At the three level there are various meanings depending on the situation. At the four level and above, doubles are usually penalty-oriented but, again, not always. Don't worry, no one knows this stuff right away. It's why we take classes, study, and play in the best company we can.



Chris Hasney is an accredited bridge teacher from Hereford, Arizona. He supports the college bridge and rubber bridge revival movement. He is the author of *Simplicity Bridge* published as an e-book through Library.com

Strike Gold Non Life Master Regional

Loveland, Colorado August 10-12

All players must have fewer than 750 masterpoints as of August 1, and cannot be a Life Master.

Fri. 10 am Strike Gold Pairs 1 of 2
10th 2 pm "My Kingdom for a Horse" lesson
3 pm Strike Gold Pairs 2 of 2

Sat. 10 am Gold Nugget Pairs 1 of 2
11th 2 pm Columnist Larry Matheny: TBA
3 pm Gold Nugget Pairs 2 of 2

Sunday 12th

9 am *Bagels and team strategies !*
 10 am **Gold Rush Swiss Teams**
 Stratified A/B/C Lunch provided

Overall winners in double session pairs pay 33% gold and 67% red masterpoints, plus section tops. Two session Swiss also pays 33% gold.

Dusty knows where to find gold !



Tourney Chair: John Grossmann (719) 233-9464
Blackstone.CO@Comcast.net

Partnerships: Robyn Leming (480) 284-1013
robynleming@yahoo.com

Stratifications: 750(NLM)-300, 300-100, under 100
 ACBL members 0-5 mps play free

See website for flyer, hotel and restaurant info

www.NorthernColoradoBridge.com



The I/N Crowd

By Rod Bias, Phoenix, Arizona

What Are the Odds?

Bridge has a mathematical structure. Mathematicians do not necessarily make good bridge players, but a good bridge player needs certain math skills such as a knowledge of bridge odds and how to apply them.

How to Figure the Odds was written about 1940 by Jacoby, The First (Oswald). Before you go online and purchase a copy, you should know that only Chapter 8 is about Contract Bridge. The rest of the book is about dice, roulette, poker, races, coin-tosses, guessing dollar-bill numbers, and even more arcane matters.



Ozzie was so good a writer that he managed to incorporate about twenty lengthy tables and give detailed explanations how he and you could derive those tables and yet keep his readers' attention. Most people's eyes glaze over and their heads spin after a few long-winded mathematical explanations of obscure formulae. Remember the title? This is a "how to" book. The author's objective is not to give you the odds; he wants to show you *How to Figure the Odds*.

Odds, probabilities, permutations, expectations, factorials – Ozzie hits them all and drags you along. You may not be as enthralled as I was; at times he does dive pretty deeply into math waters. But just when you think you are about to drown, he hands you a face mask bubbling with air.

"The answer to any question depends on the amount of information you have. Before the play begins, you may make an estimate of the odds, but as you acquire information during the play, your estimate must be revised. The effect of additional information is illustrated by a deal I once played in a national championship. I had to locate the ♦Q to make the contract. After some thought I decided the odds were 5 to 2 that the ♦Q was at my left. Just as I was about to play, the opponent on my right dropped a card on the floor: ♦Q. I revised my estimate at once" (p. 89-90).

Funny? Depends on your sense of humor. I laughed. His point was the need for flexibility in figuring the odds. Odds change with increased data.



While explaining “how to figure,” Oswald Jacoby also points to “The Human Factor.” “Suppose the opening lead is through dummy’s AQ, and you know that the leader never leads away from a king ... Clearly, that finesse is not a 50% chance, it is a near-zero chance” (p. 93.)

Terence Reese, a British world champion, was probably the best bridge analyst of the twentieth century and, many would argue, the best declarer yet. His books on card play are (almost) impeccable. In the late 1970s, Roger Trèzel, a French world champion, teamed up with Reese to produce a series of small books on facets of card

play. One was *Master the Odds in Bridge*.

My impression (perhaps erroneous) is that Trèzel first wrote each book in French and Reese then translated it into English, edited it, and augmented it. Reese was a genius at seeing the heart of a matter and explaining it clearly and succinctly.

The first ten pages (11-20) review the key plays to be made and their odds. The next 58 pages (22-79) discuss in depth 31 examples. Reese pioneered the “watch over my shoulder and learn” writing style still employed by many bridge writers. He steps you logically through his thinking process.

Strike Gold Aug 10-12
www.northerncoloradobridge.com



**NLM Regional
 Loveland, CO**

That great Scot, Hugh Kelsey, who did so much to emphasize *Killing Defence*, teamed up with Michael Glauert about 1980 to write *Bridge Odds for Practical Players*. Keeping the math to a minimum, they demonstrate by practical examples how to calculate the odds and uncover the right answer at the table, time after time. The frequency chart on hand shapes (p. 17) is worth copying and taping on your bathroom mirror. Look at it for 15 seconds every day as you brush your teeth. Don't memorize it, just read it for 15 seconds once a day for a month. It will slowly, painlessly sink in. You may be surprised by a few things you find there. For example, when your vulnerable opponent opens 3♠, what is her hand shape? Most likely she is 7-3-2-1. If you know a person has a seven-card suit, the other six cards will split 3-2-1 more often than all other possibilities combined. To me, this

bridge tidbit is useful.

Chapter 7 on “Vacant Places” may be a real eye-opener to anyone who has not thought about it before. Chapter 8 revisits the “principle of restricted choice” and ramifications thereof. This practical application of Bayes’ Theorem to bridge card play was first well-described by Reese in *The Expert Game*. Seven decades ago the “principle of restricted choice” was as new and exciting to bridge players as was point-count bidding for unbalanced hands.



Rod Bias was elected to a three-year term (2016-2018) as a Trustee of the ACBL Educational Foundation and worked on the transition team. He served two two-year terms (2014-2017) as a District 17 Board Representative from Phoenix (Unit 354), where he is currently in his eleventh consecutive year on the local board. Rod holds four bridge teaching certifications (ABA, ACBL, EasyBridge!, and LBIAD?) and is an ABTA member who loves working with school kids and newcomers of all ages.

Contact: Rod.Bias@Cutlip.Org

APRIL 28-29 Denver 299er Spring Sectional

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FLYER: web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2018/04/1804050.pdf



Ruling Our Game

By Bill Michael, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Revokes

Over the course of my career, I have gotten into several disputes with players about the application of the revoke penalty. At least one of those players is a certified club director. Because of this, I am going to write about revokes this month.



A revoke is the failure of a player to contribute a card of the suit that was led to a trick when that player has at least one card of that suit in his hand. A revoke becomes established when either player of the offending side plays to the next trick. It does not become established just because cards were turned over, or even if the non-offending side plays to the next trick. Until a revoke is established, it must be corrected if it is noticed before it is established.

To correct a revoke, the offender replaces the card he played with a card of the proper suit. If the offender is a defender, the previously played card remains on the table as a major penalty card. If the offender is declarer, the previously played card is returned to his hand. The defenders may lawfully use the knowledge that

declarer has that card to their best advantage.

Once a revoke is established there is usually an automatic transfer of one or more tricks from the offending side to the non-offending side. However, no tricks are transferred if the offending side fails to take either the trick on which the revoke occurred or any subsequent trick. If the offending player (not the offending side) doesn't take the trick on which the revoke occurred but his side takes at least one trick after the revoke, the offending side transfers one trick to the non-offending side. If the offending player (not the offending side) does take the revoke trick and his side takes at least one other trick after the revoke, the offending side transfers two tricks to the non-offending side. In no case are more tricks transferred than the offending side takes from the point of the revoke on.

An important caveat is that if the revoke penalty does not restore equity to the non-offending side, then as many tricks as are necessary are transferred to achieve a fair outcome. This mainly happens when a player loses communication with his partner. For example, if declarer has KQx of a suit opposite his dummy's Axxxx he is entitled to five tricks when the suit splits 3-2, even when dummy has no entries other than the ace of that suit. But suppose that one of the defenders, holding J109, fails to follow suit. Now the suit, which should yield five tricks will only yield three (the ace, king, and queen). In such a case the director should award at least two tricks to the declaring side, even though the offender did not win the trick on which the revoke occurred. When there is an equity adjustment, there is no additional automatic trick transfer – it is one or the other, not both.

What happens if dummy revokes? Generally this only occurs if dummy has a hidden card. As everybody is somewhat responsible for any cards that are face up, there is no penalty for a revoke from dummy. The declaring side, however, is more responsible than the defending side is, and therefore, as in our above example, equity must be restored if the revoke is detrimental to the defending side. This can happen either simply - for example, if the defenders are due a trick that dummy ruffed, one trick should be transferred - or more esoterically - for example, if the defense would have changed had a defender known that the hidden card was in dummy, the defense should be credited with the result they would have achieved.

One of the main complaints I've received from players who receive a revoke penalty is that "it made no difference in the outcome." That is frequently the case, and not actually relevant to the ruling. Equity is to be served to the NON-offending side only. Equity to the offending side is not the goal.

I hope this clarifies the revoke ruling for everybody.

See you at the tables.



Bill has been a professional tournament director since 1997, and full-time since 2007. He helps to coordinate and verify answers for the rulings@acbl.com mailbox, and consequently is very familiar with the laws and their applications. Bill appreciates the comments that he received from people who read his previous column in the Western Conference Forum, and is happy for the opportunity to once again give answers to D17 players via this online publication. Send him your questions at d17askbill@gmail.com



PHOENIX NLM GOLD RUSH REGIONAL & SILVER SUN SECTIONAL April 27—29, 2018

Welcome to the 3rd Phoenix NLM Gold Rush Regional & Silver Sun Sectional

Stratified Events

A = 2000+ B = 500-2000 C = 0-500
D = 100-200 E = 50-100 F = 0-50

Strati-Flighted Events

A = 3000+ X = 0-3000
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Gold Rush Pairs

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A Non-Life Master Regional with an upper limit of 750 MPs shall award **33% Gold** for overall awards and section tops in the top bracket, flight or strat of two-session or longer events. All other masterpoint awards shall be **Red** points.

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10 am & 3 pm
10 am & 3 pm

Gold Rush Pairs (Gold/Red Points)
NLM Stratified Pairs (**Red** Points)
Stratified Open Pairs

Two Sessions
Single Sessions
Single Sessions

Saturday, April 28

10 am & 3 pm
10 am & 3 pm
10 am & 3 pm

Gold Rush Pairs (Gold/Red Points)
NLM Stratified Pairs (**Red** Points)
Stratified Open Pairs

Two Sessions
Single Sessions
Single Sessions

Sunday, April 29

10 am & TBD after lunch break
10 am & TBD after lunch break
10 am & TBD after lunch break

Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams
Stratified **Gold Rush** Swiss Teams (**Gold/Red** Points) Two Sessions
0-199 Swiss Teams (Silver Points) Single Sessions
Dining options available







Consult the Coopers

By Kitty and Steve Cooper, editors *D17 ScoreCard*

Pearson Points

Question from Bill Meyers, San Diego:

S	South
	KQ632
	KQ853
	643
	

In a friendly rubber bridge game I held 5-5-3-0 king-queen fifth in both majors and three small. Sitting in fourth seat and vulnerable I elected to pass. My partner was upset. Was I too timid? If so, where do you draw the line?

Coopers: Sorry, Bill, you were too timid.

When your pass would end the auction use Pearson's Law: Add your high card points to the number of spades you have; if this equals 15+ then open (some open with 14). You had 15 Pearson points, ten high card points plus five spades.

Here is a more lengthy article on that subject: http://www.bridgebum.com/pearson_points.php

By the way, we would open this hand in any seat!

Dear readers, to send us a question you can use this form: <http://bridgeteaching.com/for-bridge-students/bridge-questions/> or email us at coopers@d17acbl.org



Kitty and Steve were both born and raised in New York City, where they knew each other from the local bridge scene. Unfortunately, they foolishly married other people. In 2000, both were again single when they re-met at the Las Vegas Regional. Soon after they married, and Kitty moved to Albuquerque, where Steve was living. They moved to Fort Collins, Colorado, in 2008 and left there for 'the warmer clime' of San Diego County in 2012.

They are both Grand Life Masters and have won two National Championships together. Kitty has five others and a World Woman's title. They have been your D17 ScoreCard editors since 2010.

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zipp_bridge@yahoo.com

Unit 374: abqbridge.com





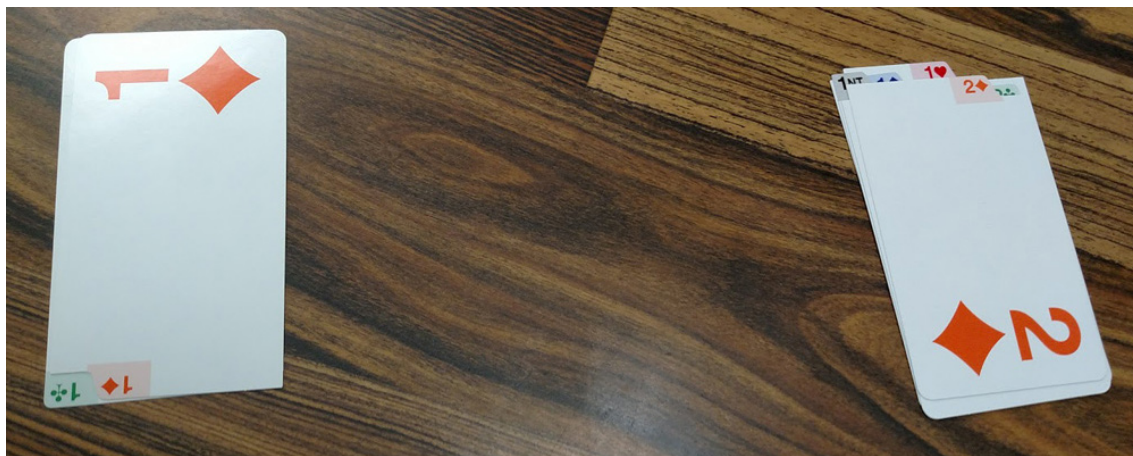
Conventional Wisdom

By Curt Soloff, Denver, Colorado

Inverted Minors, Part I

My most influential bridge mentor told me years ago, “Adding a new convention means you are giving something up. Make sure you are comfortable giving up the standard/natural meaning of a bid before agreeing to play it as conventional.” To that advice, I would add that you should only play a conventional treatment after you and your partner have fully discussed all of the follow-up bids. Bidding conventions are fertile ground for GIGO—garbage in, garbage out.

One powerful bidding tool available to you is the *inverted minors* convention, but this convention is deceptively more difficult than it seems on the surface. It is critical to discuss the full scope of bidding sequences, including rebids by both opener and responder. What is forcing and what is not? When can we stop in a partscore? When must we march on to game or even try for slam?



First, let's compare standard minor suit raises with inverted raises. What do we give up and what do we gain? If the threshold for playing a convention is gaining more than we give up, then inverted minors are well worth playing. In standard bidding, a single raise—e.g. 1♦-2♦—shows 6-9 points with support, while the double raise—e.g., 1♣-3♣—is a “limit” or “invitational” bid and shows 10-12 points. How about a forcing minor suit raise? Alas, there is none. Both 2m and 3m may be passed by opener; this is where the standard system breaks down.

The “inverted” part of inverted minors refers to switching the meanings of the two minor suit raises, thus rendering the single raise stronger than the double raise; however, there’s a twist! While both raises in standard bidding show specific point ranges, responder’s single raise in the inverted minor structure is unlimited, and thus forcing for at least one round. Responder shows a limit raise OR BETTER. As a bonus, this forcing bid takes place at a low level, providing ample room for the partnership to probe for the best contract. *Note: On your convention card, be sure that you have checked the “Single Raise Forcing” box that appears in red print.*

MAJOR OPENING		MINOR OPENING	
Expected Min. Length	4 5	Expected Min. Length	4 3 0-2 Conv.
2nd	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 ♣	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
4th	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 ♦	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
RESPONSES		RESPONSES	
Double Raise: Force <input type="checkbox"/> Inv. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weak <input type="checkbox"/>		Double Raise: Force <input type="checkbox"/> Inv. <input type="checkbox"/> Weak <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Overcall: Force <input type="checkbox"/> Inv. <input type="checkbox"/> Weak <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		After Overcall: Force <input type="checkbox"/> Inv. <input type="checkbox"/> Weak <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Single Raise: 2NT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3NT <input type="checkbox"/> Splinter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Forcing Raise: J/S in other minor <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other: _____		Single raise <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Forcing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semi-forcing <input type="checkbox"/>		Frequently bypass 4+ ♦ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Forcing <input type="checkbox"/> Inv. <input type="checkbox"/> _____ to _____		1NT/1 ♣ 6 _____ to 10 _____	
T: 13 _____ to 15 _____		2NT Forcing <input type="checkbox"/> Inv. <input type="checkbox"/> 11 _____ to 12 _____	
Try <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reverse <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-Way <input type="checkbox"/> Fit <input type="checkbox"/>		3NT: 13 _____ to 15 _____	
Other: _____		Other: _____	

What type of hand should responder have to immediately raise opener’s minor suit? First, responder should **NOT** have a four card (or longer) major. Just as you learned in Bridge 101, you should always seek a major suit fit first. You can always support opener’s minor later, right? Second, if you have a balanced hand, you likely have a more descriptive bid available with an immediate response of some number of NT, narrowing your point range with a single bid (1NT shows 6-10, 2NT shows 11-12, and 3NT shows 13-15). The upshot is that when partner raises opener’s minor suit it often implies that responder’s hand is distributional and may be more suitable for playing in a suit, even if opener’s hand is balanced.

How many cards in opener’s minor should you have for an immediate raise to two of that minor? The guidelines vary slightly for diamonds and clubs. Since opener’s 1♦ opening is almost always a four card or longer suit, responder may raise to 2♦ with only four card support. After a 1♣ opening, responder should really have at least five card club support to raise to 2♣; as we know, opener may have only a three card club suit.

We will address the forcing raise in future installments, but we want to deal first with the limited bid. Playing inverted minors, partner opens 1m and you make the

double raise to 3m; what, precisely, are you showing? I have often heard players describe this (alertable) bid as weak, only to see a dummy appear that was not weak at all. I have also heard descriptions such as , “fewer than ten points”, but that, too, is flawed. How is opener supposed to make an intelligent bidding decision if responder could have anywhere from 0-9 points? We must define our terms clearly. Weak means weak: 0-5 points. If responder has 6-9 points, we would call that a constructive or “mixed” raise.

Let’s say you have a big, balanced hand too strong for a 1NT opening—e.g., ♠AJ108 ♥KQ7 ♦AJ3 ♣KJ6. You open 1m and partner gives you the double raise to three. Are you bidding a game? If you can expect partner to table 6-9 points and five clubs, don’t you want to try 3NT? On the other hand, if you bid 3NT and partner serves up a dummy with Q8543 of clubs and not another honor in her hand, you will not be a happy camper. It is vital to be on the same page with partner regarding what the double raise shows. I strongly urge you (for now) to give up the weak raise and play the double raise as constructive with five or more cards in that minor. Down the road, we’ll add some gadgets to your inverted minor structure that will allow you to have your cake and eat it, showing both the weak and constructive hand types.



Curt Soloff is a sapphire life master with 15 years of bridge directing and teaching experience. He has served as the manager and director of the Castle Rock Bridge Club since its inception in 2009.

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Improve Your Play

By Larry Matheny, Fort Collins, Colorado

Think About It

It's difficult to remember how to play all of the various suit combinations. Here is one that comes up rarely but can be solved with a little thought.

<div> <div>D</div> <div>1</div> </div>		<div>N North</div> <div> ♠ J96 ♥ AKQ864 ♦ 8 ♣ K102 </div>	<table> <tr> <th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>1♥</td><td>X</td><td>2♦</td></tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td><td>3♥</td><td>P</td><td>4♦</td></tr> <tr> <td>P</td><td>P</td><td>P</td><td></td></tr> </table>	W	N	E	S		1♥	X	2♦	2♠	3♥	P	4♦	P	P	P	
W	N	E	S																
	1♥	X	2♦																
2♠	3♥	P	4♦																
P	P	P																	
<div>W West</div> <div> ♠ K752 ♥ 109753 ♦ Q ♣ J64 </div>		<div>E East</div> <div> ♠ AQ84 ♥ J2 ♦ A54 ♣ Q975 </div>																	
	<div>S South</div> <div> ♠ 103 ♥ ♦ KJ1097632 ♣ A83 </div>		<div>4♦ S</div> <div>NS: 0 EW: 0</div>																

Click to play the hand at <http://tinyurl.com/yaew7xrt>

BBO

Opening Lead: ♠2

Bidding: South's response of two diamonds over the takeout double was not forcing but showed a good suit. West and North competed but South ended the auction with his rebid.

Play: West led the deuce of spades and declarer ruffed the third round of the suit. He next led a club to dummy and discarded a club on the ace of hearts. He now had to hold his diamond losers to one. He led a diamond and East followed with the four. With a classic takeout double, East promised at least three cards in each

suit other than hearts and that left only one winning play. Declarer played the king

and was pleased to see the queen fall. He had made his contract. There is no other three-card holding in the East hand that would help.

In a pairs event, several South players were excited by holding an eight-card suit and left to five diamonds. All but one pair were defeated and several were doubled. The lucky South player who succeeded received a club opening lead and was able to discard three losers on the heart suit.



Born and raised in Illinois, Larry worked at a major insurance company for thirty three years retiring as a director in the systems department. In 2003 he moved to Loveland, Colorado, the home state of his wife, Linda and soon got involved in the local Bridge scene.

Larry served as unit president for ten years. He has written a weekly column for his unit webpage since 2004 and he is a frequent lecturer at the monthly unit games.



Phoenix Desert Empire Regional

August 13 – August 19, 2018

Talking Stick Resort



American Contract
Bridge League

PRO-AM

199er Pro-Am Pairs (single session) Monday 1:30

KNOCKOUT TEAMS

Ocotillo Bracketed KO's (3 sessions) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 7:30

Barrel Bracketed KO's (4 sessions) Tuesday & Wednesday 10 & 3

Agave Bracketed KO's (4 sessions) Thursday & Friday 10 & 3

SWISS & BRACKETED TEAMS

Bracketed Round Robin Teams (2 sessions) Wednesday & Friday 10 & 3

Stratified Open Swiss (single session) Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 3:00.

Saturday 7:30

Stratified Swiss (2 sessions) Thursday/Friday 7:30

Board a Match Swiss (2 sessions) Saturday 10 & 3

A/X/Y Swiss (2 sessions) Sunday 10 & TBA

0 – 3000 Bracketed GOLD Teams (2 sessions) 10 & TBA

PAIR GAMES

Morning Side Game Series (single session) Tuesday thru Saturday 10:00

Afternoon Side Game Series (single session) Monday thru Saturday 3:00

Evening Side Game Series (single session) Monday thru Saturday 7:30

Stratified Open Pairs (2 sessions) Tuesday thru Saturday 10 & 3

I/N GAMES

0-300 Pairs (single session) Tuesday thru Saturday 10 & 3 Monday 7:30

GOLD RUSH PAIRS (2 sessions) Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 10 & 3

Bracketed Round Robin Teams (2 sessions) Wednesday, Friday 10 & 3

Sunday 10 & TBA

Negative Doubles

with Dennis Dawson

National Champion

Monday, 9:30 A.M. – 12:00 A.M.

Dennis Dawson is also an ACBL Grand Life Master and a World Championship Bronze Medalist.

Negative Doubles are not only the most important convention in bridge, but one of the most misunderstood. They do not promise both unbid suits, nor is a double of a 1NT overcall negative, nor do they apply only to minor suits. Bid lots of examples in class, then play and discuss 4 hands.

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Gold Rush Events 0-200/400/750.

Gold Points awarded - top flight section top or overall (no player may have over 750 MPs).

A/X/Y Swiss Opposite bracketed Gold Swiss Teams

0-4000/6000/6000+

Stratified events NOT opposite Gold Rush Pairs are

0-750/3000/3000+

Stratified Open Pairs Opposite Gold Rush Pairs are

0-1500/3000/3000+

Sunday Bracketed Gold Teams: 0-3000. No player over 3000 MPs. Gold to top 3 teams in EVERY bracket.

Knock Out Teams:

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0-300 Pairs stratified by attendance; no player over 300.

Phone Registration Code # 12685 or say "Desert Empire Regional" when registering. Phone # (866) 877-9897

Online Registration: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/73351?groupID=2089287>



Constructive Bidding

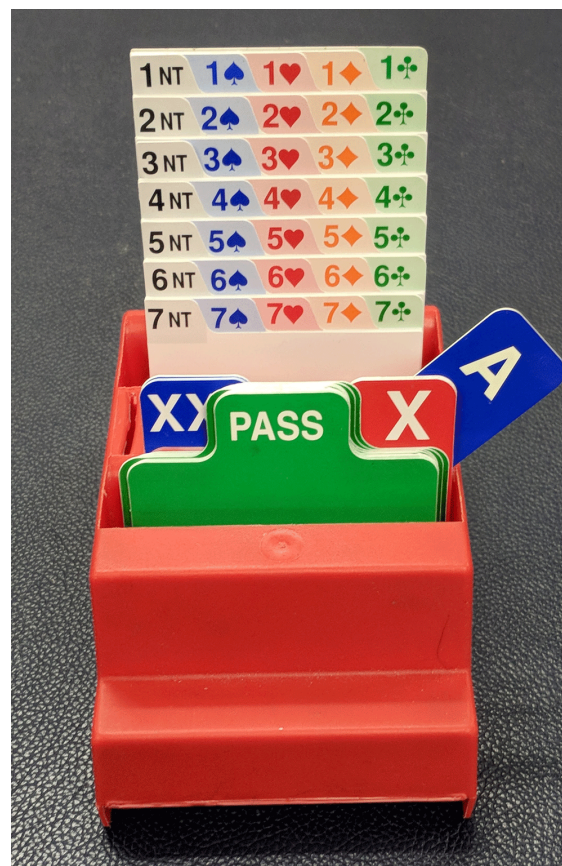
By Robert Todd, Tallahassee, Florida

The Semi-Forcing Notrump

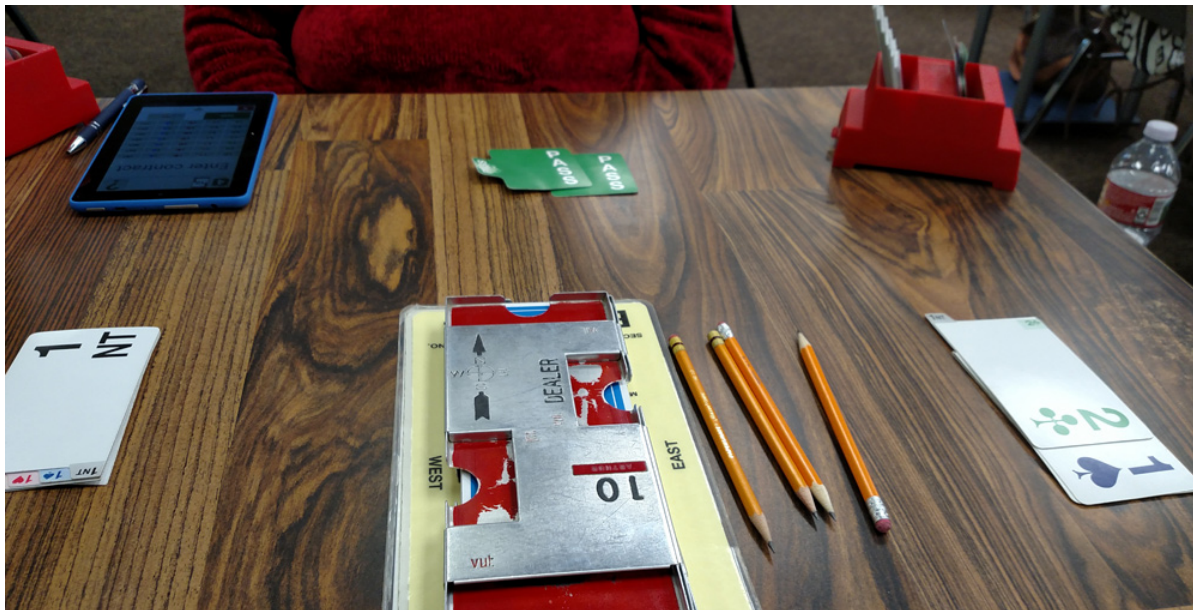
When you open the bidding with one of a major (1M) and partner responds 1NT Forcing, you must bid no matter what your hand is. This means that as opener you are frequently forced to rebid a three card minor, especially if you have a balanced hand. But when you play 1NT Semi-Forcing instead of 1NT Forcing, opener has the additional option of passing. If opener has a balanced hand (usually 5332 with any doubleton) and a minimum opening bid (about 12-13 points) opener should usually pass.

What responder promises for making a 1NT Forcing bid and a 1NT Semi-Forcing bid is basically the same except the semi-forcing version can obviously never be a game forcing hand. Responder may either have a minimum hand, 6-9 points, or an invitational hand, 10-11 points, and almost any distribution. Note: If you play one of a major (1M)-three of any lower ranking suit (3x) as invitational, some distributional and invitational hands will not bid 1NT and thus are not a concern for opener when considering partner's possible hands.

When playing 1NT Forcing, opener's rebid of two of a minor (2m) usually only promises a three card suit, and sometimes may have to be made on two cards. But when playing 1NT Semi-Forcing, a rebid of 2m shows a "real" second suit, promising at least four cards in that suit. Knowing that opener's 2m rebid promises four, responder can better



describe their hand by raising opener's second suit, bidding NT, or bidding a new suit.



A Problem Hand for Opener

One problem hand for opener is 14 HCP with 5332 distribution. In this one case, opener has enough values to accept an invitational bid (10-11 points) if partner has one. Thus, opener cannot pass 1NT, and must find another bid to see what partner does next. This is the one case where opener might need to rebid a “short minor”, but it is far rarer when playing 1NT Semi-Forcing than when playing 1NT Forcing.

Other Rebids by Opener

The other rebids of two of a major (2M), 2NT, and suits on the three level are unchanged in 1NT Semi-Forcing auctions. These rebids show the same thing that they would have shown if 1NT were forcing. For example, after 1♠-1NT, opener bids:

- 2♥: At least 5-4 in the majors and 12-17 points; not strong enough to jump shift
- 2♠: 6+ spades, 12-14 points (with 15-17 and decent spades opener would have bid 3♠)
- 2NT: 18-19 points and a balanced hand
- 3m: At least three cards in the minor (usually 4+), 18+ points, and game forcing GF)
- 3♥: 4+ hearts, 18+ points, and GF

- 3♠: 6+ spades, 15-17 points, not forcing
- 3NT: Good Hand with lots of tricks.

Playing 1NT Rather than 3M

What if opener passes 1NT Semi-Forcing when responder has a three card limit raise? In this case, you end up playing in 1NT when the rest of the field is in 3M. This is not a problem, it is a blessing! Frequently, you will go plus when those in 3M go down. Alternatively, you may take the same number of tricks and actually score better because you are in Notrump. Yes, occasionally you will get a bad result, but more often than not you will get a great board when partner's hand is a three card limit raise.

Conclusion

Adjusting to playing 1NT Semi-Forcing does not require many changes from playing 1NT Forcing. Responder's bids are very similar in that 1NT still shows about 5-11 points and almost any shape. The big advantages come from the occasional ability to play in 1NT, instead of in a suit contract, and from responder's knowledge that opener has two real suits when opener does not pass. This allows responder to better visualize opener's hand and make a better rebid to describe their hand more accurately. Give playing 1NT Semi-Forcing a try and see if these inferences don't make your follow-up bidding much easier!



Robert is a professional bridge player and teacher whose hometown is Tallahassee, Florida. But you'll find him all over the country and the world playing and teaching bridge. Robert began playing bridge at a very young age in his parents' party bridge games, and came to duplicate while working on his graduate degree in Mathematics. He spent a year in Helsinki, Finland, where he met and played with many fine European players. When he returned to the States, Robert decided to become a bridge professional himself and has never looked back!

Robert has finished in the top 20 on the Barry Crane list (with over 1500 masterpoints) many times, has posted several top-10 finishes in National-level Pairs events, and won the 0-10,000 Knockout Teams at the Dallas NABC in 2014. This article was previously published as one of Robert's free email lessons in his series published at advinbridge.com

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BY JERRY HELMS

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Scottsdale, Arizona

April 27-29

The Silver Sun Sectional will run simultaneously with the Phoenix Non Life Master Gold Rush Regional at the beautiful In Tempo Bridge Center. Single session stratified pair games are on Friday and Saturday with a Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams game on Sunday. Great hospitality, including free coffee & snacks, free parking, and expert speakers between sessions. See the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard* for more information.



COLORADO

[Colorado Springs Spring Sectional](#)

Colorado Springs, Colorado

April 13-15

This sectional, held at the Colorado Springs Masonic Center, has game times of 10:00 and 3:00, with a Compact KO as well as Pairs events on Friday. Saturday has a two session Pairs game with single sessions for 299ers. Sunday has a Swiss Teams at 10:00. For more information check coloradospringsbridge.com or the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard* for details.

[Doc Holliday Sectional](#)

Glenwood Springs, Colorado

April 27-29

Glenwood Springs has been named the “Most Fun Town in America” by both USA Today and Rand McNally. Glenwood has many motels and hotels and at least 30 restaurants in every price range. The playing area will be in the 125 year old grand dame of the Rockies, the Hotel Colorado, see the [flyer](#) for more information.

[Denver Spring 299er Sectional](#)

Denver, Colorado

April 28-29

The Denver Metro Bridge Studio will host this tournament for the under 300 group. The Susan Dittmer Memorial Award will be given to the person who wins the most masterpoints. ACBL members with fewer than five masterpoints play for free. See the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard* for more information.

[Boulder Bonanza Spring Sectional](#)

Longmont, Colorado

May 4-6

This sectional is well known for its quality snacks and Sunday pizza. At the Boulder fairgrounds, 9595 Nelson Road in Longmont. There is a bracketed Swiss teams on Friday. Games start at 10:00. For more information check the website at boulderbridge.org or see the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard*.

NEVADA

[Return to Glitter Gulch Sectional](#)

Las Vegas, Nevada

April 30-May 4

Back in downtown Las Vegas, this ever popular Monday through Friday tournament has something for everyone, with games times of 10:00 and 3:00. KOs, the new Bracketed Round Robin Swiss Teams, 299er Pairs, Open Pairs, and the popular two session Barometer Pairs. For more information see the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard*.



NEW MEXICO

[Down Country Sectional](#)

Las Cruces, New Mexico

April 13-15

At the Belton Bridge Center, this tournament has game times of 9:30 and 2:00 with single sessions Friday, both Open and 199er Pairs. Saturday has by a fun pairs/teams event as well as two single session 199er Pairs. Sunday has a stratified Swiss Teams. See lascrucesbridge.com or the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard* for more information.

[Santa Fe Sectional](#)

Santa Fe, New Mexico

May 4-6

Visit the City Different and enjoy playing bridge at the lovely Genoveva Chavez Community Center with game times of 9:30 and 2:00. There are bracketed team games both Friday and Saturday as well as single session Open and 299er Pairs games. For more information see the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard*.

[Albuquerque Spring Sectional](#)

Albuquerque, New Mexico

June 8-10

Held at the Duke City Bridge Club with plentiful and delicious homemade snacks. The three session KO starts Friday at 9:00 a.m., and there is a two session strati-flighted pairs (where A/AX play separately from B/C) at 10:00 and 2:30 on Saturday. The Sunday Swiss starts at 10:00 and is also strati-flighted the same way For more information check the web site abqbridge.com or the ad in this issue of *D17 ScoreCard*.



Spring Fling STaC

May 7-13

**presented by the
Western Conference**
thewesternconference.com

**The largest sectional
in the country
played at your local
club**



***D17 ScoreCard* Changes for the Online Version**



By Steve and Kitty Cooper, *D17 ScoreCard* editors

Having an online publication means that we can have many more photographs, articles, and even videos. We hope you have enjoyed this, our first issue. Please feel free to send us feedback at coopers@d17acbl.org or via the feedback form on the [D17 web site](#).

One major change is that we will publish *D17 ScoreCard* only every two months.

New Life Masters will be listed in every issue so send us your picture and even a few sentences about your experience.

We have reorganized the **Upcoming Sectionals** article by state. Please send us pictures of people playing in your club or at your tournament to feature on that page. We would also love to get news and pictures from our member units. Candid photos can be a stronger visual image than posed pictures.

The results page will have links to the results at the ACBL rather than long lists here, but we would be happy to get photos and stories from your tournaments. Photos of winners need to be accompanied by their names, in order, and the event won, to be included in the slideshow.

The **Tournament Calendar**, formerly on page 2 and still up front, is just District 17 plus the Nationals and any neighboring tournaments that buy an ad with us.

Displaying hand diagrams will be done by showing the image of a [BBO handviewer](#) hand like the one below. Clicking on the hand will usually take you to a page where you can play the hand out by clicking the next button there. Try it.



***D17 ScoreCard* volume I issue 1**



D17 ScoreCard is a bi-monthly publication announced to over 9,000 bridge players in our district by email blast, website postings, Social Media, and Apps.

Deadlines

D17 ScoreCard's deadline for articles and ads is the fifth of the preceding month; However, earlier submissions are always preferred. Although we welcome unsolicited articles, there is no guarantee of publication.

Articles submitted will be edited, and may be cut; the author will receive a copy of the edited article before publication.

Email all ads and copy to: Steve & Kitty Cooper, *D17 ScoreCard* Editors - coopers@D17acbl.org

Advertising

Ads for District 17 tournaments are free for the rest of 2018. For commercial ad pricing please contact John Grossman below.

District 17 Board of Directors



Left to Right: Bill Curtis, Art McHaffie, Steve Reynolds, Becky Rogers, Jim Horton, Steve Nordberg, Jennifer O'Neill, JoAnne Lowe, Jerry Ranney, Bonnie Bagley, John Grossmann, Murali Nair, Bill Phillips, Felicity Moore, Rod Southworth

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