



# **District 17 Tournament Calendar**

### Regionals

Jan 21-27 .... <u>Albuquerque NM</u>

Feb 25-Mar 3 . Tucson AZ

Apr 26-28 .... Scottsdale (Phoenix) AZ NLM

May 21-27 .... <u>Denver CO</u>

Aug 12-18 .... Scottsdale (Phoenix) AZ

Sept 23-29 ... <u>Taos NM</u>

Nov 14-17 .... Tucson AZ NLM



## **Special Events**

Dec 3-9 ..... Western Conference STaC



#### **Sectionals**

#### January

3-6 ..... <u>Tucson AZ</u>

11-13 ..... Golden (Denver) CO

24-27 ..... Yuma AZ

#### February

4-10 ..... Chandler (Mesa) AZ Progressive

8-10 ..... Sedona AZ

15-18 ..... Scottsdale (Phoenix) AZ

15-18 ..... El Paso TX

23-24 ..... Santa Fa NM NLM



# Navajo Trail Regional Albuquerque, New Mexico

### **January 21-27**

By Susan Law, Tournament Chair

The first regional of the year in District 17 is the Navajo Trail Regional, held in the "Land of Enchantment". It will be held January 21-27 at the Marriott Pyramid Hotel in Albuquerque. The hotel is conveniently situated at the junction of I-25 and Paseo del Norte, in the northern part of the city. The Marriott Pyramid is known for its commodious rooms, spacious playing area, and unrivaled hospitality. For the tournament they offer free Wi-Fi and a scrumptious Ice Cream Social on Friday evening. The bridge room rate is \$110 and is available through January 1. For online reservations there is a link at <a href="mailto:abqbridge.com">abqbridge.com</a> or you may call them at 800-262-2043, but make sure that you mention that you need the "Navajo Trail Bridge Tournament" rate.



Marriott Pyramid Hotel in Albuquerque courtesy of Marriott

The tournament begins on Monday evening with a Bracketed Knockout and both Open and 299er Charity Pairs. The packed schedule includes Knockouts, Bracketed Teams, Swiss Teams, Board-a-Match Teams, Open Pairs, and Side Pairs. Five sessions of Gold-Rush Pairs are scheduled as are many sessions for 199ers.

The tournament offers many opportunities to earn gold points, including Gold-Rush Pairs and Bracketed Teams. Bracketed Teams is a relatively new two session event where teams play in brackets with teams of similar ability; three or more teams in each bracket win some gold points. On the D17 website there is an excellent article called "Where's the Gold" <a href="https://discreption.org/index.php?page=where-s-the-gold">d17acbl.org/index.php?page=where-s-the-gold</a> which gives tips for how you can get your gold points.

<u>Click here for the flyer</u> with the full schedule. If you need a partner, there will be an excellent partnership desk on-site; prior to the tournament you may email Felix Moore at - <u>felix@abqbridge.com</u> - who can connect you with other solo players.



Nestled between the Sandia Mountains and the Rio Grande River, Albuquerque is the stepping-off point for exciting winter skiing, white water rafting, and exhilarating hiking trips. Beautiful turquoise jewelry and other authentic Indian handicrafts are on sale in the city's Old Town, and everybody's favorite stop is the Bio-Park, which currently boasts twin baby giraffes and other baby animals at the Zoo plus an underwater odyssey of marine life at the Aquarium. Take a trip up the mountains on the world-renowned Sandia Peak Tramway, or try your luck at one of several resort casinos in the area.

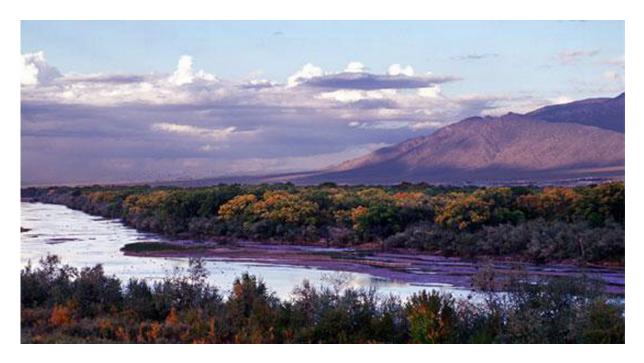
Change Your Perspective - Albuquerque Manifesto



The hotel is close to the <u>Los Ranchos Rail Runner station</u>, from where you can ride a train to Santa Fe for a day out to visit galleries, museums, and great restaurants. For suggestions of more things to do, go to Visit Albuquerque at <u>visitalbuquerque.org/</u>

Albuquerque has many restaurants to suit all tastes and budgets, many featuring New Mexico's famous green and red chile. Other cuisines may be found close to the hotel: Thai, Chinese, Italian, Seafood, Steak, you name it. Our hospitality desk will be happy to make recommendations as well as supplying players with gifts, convention card patches, and other goodies. While playing you will be able to enjoy tasty complimentary snacks during the breaks.

All of us at Unit 374 look forward to welcoming you to Albuquerque.



Thanks to the <u>Visit Albuquerque web site</u> for several of the images and the video in this article.





WESTERN CONFERENCE HOLIDAY STAC XXVII

# Western Conference Holiday STAC XXVII

The Holidays - when friends and Families enjoy the season. It's also the time for the XXVII Annual Western Conference Holiday Sectional Tournament at Clubs - the world's largest silver point tournament! Support your clubs, enjoy your bridge at home, and win bushels of Silver Points!



# **District 17 News**

# **Happy Holidays from District 17**



The District 17 Board and the staff of ScoreCard wish you a wonderful holiday, from snowy mountains to colorful desert.

# The Sedona Sectional Moves to February

March used to be a very nice month for the annual Sedona Sectional Tournament. However, due to increased marketing by the Chamber of Commerce, tourism has increased dramatically in the last three years, resulting in higher hotel rates and crowded restaurants.

Early February is a nice, if cooler, time of year in Sedona. The average high is about 60 degrees and the red rocks and vortices are still there.

## **Candid Photo Contest**



And the winner is . . . these bridge shoes!



Mary Aviero and Margaret Glenn, members of the Thunder Mountain Bridge Club in Sierra Vista, Arizona, always wear these shoes to tournaments. They enjoy visiting tournaments around the country and hope the shoes don't wear out before they do.

There seems to be an uptick in bridge-themed clothing and team dressing. In the <u>November issue of BUZZ</u> there were two pictures of the ladies team that dresses alike at tournaments. Here is one more



Kathy Porter - Rita Parden - Katie McCool - Wendy Leonard

## Are you getting the BUZZ?

In the months that *ScoreCard* is not published, D17 sends out an email newsletter with bot news and uncoming tournaments. If you want to receive it, please centeet

## Don't Forget to Ask Your Club to Run Some STaC Games

District 17 clubs are urged to sign up for the December 3-9, 2018 Western Conference STaC week. Players get those elusive silver points in the comfortable surroundings of their own club. Players with a high percentage game have a chance for bonus masterpoint awards that can be in the double digits! Club owners and game directors can sign up for each session on the ACBL website.

District 17 uses its share of the proceeds of STaCs to support membership building, bridge education, and communications. Owners and directors should look for an email from John Grossmann about some special incentives for joining in the holiday STaC party.



# John's Journal



By John Grossman, District 17 President

## A Year of Change

District 17 made dramatic changes in 2018, and they had a big positive impact on our finances. Early in the year, the three Districts in the Western Conference decided to

restructure the Conference. The focus of the Western Conference is now on running the largest STaC program in the country. We have agreed to share the net gain based in part on the table count each district contributes to the three STaC weeks. Instead of D17 burning up funds for a tabloid newspaper, the District expects to net about \$20,000 each year, which takes some of the financial pressure off our regional host cities.

The changes in the Western Conference led to a complete overhaul of our approach to publications. The venerable *Contract Bridge Forum*, a monthly tabloid newspaper, was replaced by a digital *ScoreCard* online magazine. This change will trim \$60,000 from our budget. Added features include portability, hot links, and some experiments with



video. Our editor, Kitty Cooper, found some new authors, such as Robert Todd and Curt Soloff, to contribute stimulating bridge education articles. Look for a more interactive *ScoreCard* in 2019.

ScoreCard brings our members updates on District news, tournaments, and special events. At mid-year, we rolled out *Bridge Buzz*, a bimonthly email newsletter. Our Tucson editor, Cindy Shoemaker, provides a mix of news about

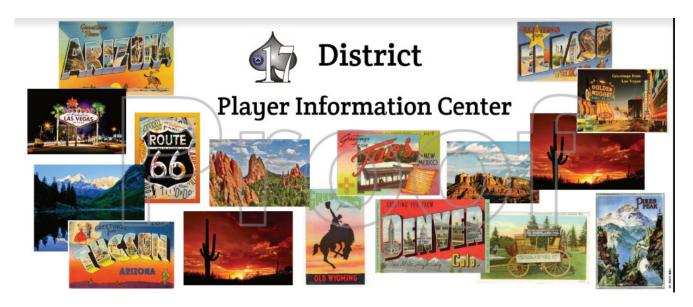
tournaments, special events, and results. *Buzz* is distributed in the months when we do not publish ScoreCard.



If ACBL has your current email address on file (see your Log In Profile at ACBL.org) you will get an email announcement for Buzz and ScoreCard. We created both Apple and Android apps for ScoreCard, which gives players instant access on smartphones and tablets. A PDF version of ScoreCard is loaded onto the District website each month.

#### **D17 Board**

Next year the District Board will shrink from 14 representatives to ten. We have also transitioned to three-year terms. These changes were made in the Bylaws and phased in over a few years. The goal was to reduce board meeting expense by about \$6000 and to facilitate discussion at meetings.



The D17 Board is a working board; every member serves on one or more committees and has assignments such as running the NAP/GNT, tournament scheduling coordination, managing the website, grant programs, and tournament supplies. We added something new this year, an information desk at our regional

tournaments. We can answer questions, get feedback, and demo the new digital

publications. In 2019, we will experiment with meetings held by video conferencing.



Jerry Ranney

# **Service Recognition**

It is a special honor to recognize the many years of service to District 17 of three members who are leaving the Board at the end of this year. The Denver Unit put the hard-working Jerry Ranney on the Board, where he served as District Treasurer for many years and was also a wonderful President. Art McHaffie, the New Mexico at Large representative, also served on the Board for many years and contributed both as Vice President and Finance Chairperson. Jim Horton did an

outstanding job working with me on the Western Conference restructuring and served as NAP coordinator. I valued their advice and 20+ years of District experience. We will miss them very much.

Also leaving the Board at the end of this year will be Bill Curtis from Colorado Springs and Murali Nair from Phoenix. I appreciate their contributions during the D17 Board restructuring and hope they will find additional ways to contribute to bridge administration.



Art McHaffie



Jim Horton

### **Grant Awards**

Units that have not hosted a regional in the past three years may apply to the District for a grant of up to \$1000 to be used for membership building, beginner bridge classes, technology upgrades, and outreach programs to social bridge players. In 2018, the District Board awarded \$1000 to Santa Fe, \$730 to Carlsbad, \$500 to Northern Colorado, and \$1000 to Unit 364, which encompasses the western half of Colorado.

## **Looking Ahead to 2019**

I will be the District President in 2019. Becky Rogers from the Las Vegas Unit was elected as the new Vice-President. Felix Moore will return as District Secretary. Jennifer O'Neill will continue as Treasurer.

District 17 covers three of the eight biggest states—Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado—plus the adjacent cities of Las Vegas, El Paso, Cheyenne, and Laramie. We have 21 Units and over 9100 ACBL members. The largest three units are Phoenix (1754 members), Denver (1354 members), and Tucson (1101 members). There are six Units with fewer than 100 members, including Yuma, Arizona (38 members), and Carlsbad, New Mexico (42 members).

### **Albuquerque Here We Come!**

I want to give a special shout out for the Albuquerque regional, coming up in January. This was my first out of town regional, 16 years ago, and I have been returning every year, knowing I will have a great time. Some years, Mary Olson found a house to rent for eight to twelve Colorado players. We mixed some serious bridge as well as "Top Chef" gourmet meals. Albuquerque has a great venue hotel, lots of interesting restaurants, and mild weather. I hope to see you there.



Events to suit everyone. Lots of gold point opportunities and events for I/N players

Flyer web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2019/01/1901020.pdf

Complimentary snacks during sessions and many restaurants within easy reach of the hotel. How do you like your chile? Red or green?

Need a partner? Contact Felix Moore felix@abqbridge.com

12/1/2018 **Tournament Results** 



# **Tournament Results**

## **Regional Results**

#### Pike's Peak

7 Oh, the weather outside was frightful, but the bridge inside was delightful, so let's play bridge, let's play bridge, let's play bridge.  $\pi$ 

Yes, we did have frightful weather, but we still had a fantastic tournament. Congratulations to our top masterpoints winners-125.36 masterpoints-the all District 17 team of Joan Cremin and Haig Tchamitch, Paradise Valley, Arizona; and Daniel Korbel, Huub Bertens, and Curtis Cheek, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Click the image below for a slideshow of the winners and Click here for the Pike's Peak Regional results.



12/1/2018 Tournament Results



As always, wonderful weather and great hospitality produced a terrific tournament. Click here for the results from the <u>Tucson Non-Life Master Regional</u> and click the image below for pictures of the winners.



#### Sectional Results

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



#### October

12/1/2018

6-7 ..... <u>Denver CO 299er</u>

19-21 ..... Phoenix AZ

26-28 ..... Longmont (Boulder) CO

TUCSON WINTER REGIONAL TUCSON EXPO CENTER
FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 3, 2019
SouthernArizonaBridge.com

12/1/2018 Tournament Results

#### November

1-4	<u>Scottsdale (Mesa) AZ</u>
2-4	Albuquerque NM
3	Fort Collins CO 299er
5-9	<u>Las Vegas NV</u>
8-11	Tucson AZ
8-11	Golden (Denver) CO



# **District 17 Member Achievements**

# **NEW LIFE MASTERS**



**ARIZONA** 



William Travis, Buckeye

# COLORADO

12/1/2018 Member Achievements



Jonas Drobulis, Fraser



Karen Ruffin, Larkspur

12/1/2018 Member Achievements



Richard Houston, Durango



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#### Scott Kelly, Aurora

# **NEW MEXICO**



Sandy Lemon, Santa Fe

12/1/2018 Member Achievements



Maureen Rizzoli, Albuquerque

If you become a Life Master please send your photo to the editors – <a href="mailto:coopers@d17acbl.org">coopers@d17acbl.org</a> - as well as any thoughts you wish to share about your experience.

12/1/2018 Tucson Regional

# **TUCSON WINTER SECTIONAL**

JANUARY 3 - 6

Game times 9:00 and 1:30

Open and 199er single session pairs Thur-Sat Two session Swiss Teams Thursday & Sunday Compact KOs Friday and Saturday



web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2019/01/1901016.pdf

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12/1/2018 Learn



On the following pages we have articles from some of our regular columnists. Please feel free to send us - <a href="mailto:coopers@d17acbl.org">coopers@d17acbl.org</a> - bridge questions, humorous anecdotes, or an article of your own for this section.



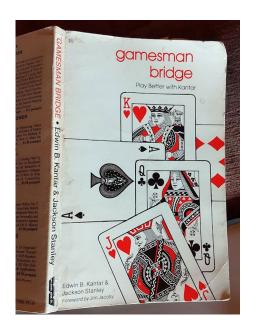
# **Advice for the New Player**

By Chris Hasney, Hereford, Arizona

# Physician, Heal Thyself (Luke 4:23)

A famous bridge player said "Count Everything – points, cards, tables, chairs, pencils, bathrooms – just count!" If you regularly play in games at the Gold Rush Pairs level or below and now are zoning out of this article, guess what? It's for YOU! How do I know this? I'm guilty. As a result, I'm one of those duplicate players with one year's experience 30+ times.

The play of the hand didn't interest me; I was into bidding, conventions, systems, etc. Only now am I realizing that I was lured by the Sirens, right into the rocks of bridge. I wanted a designated player to play the hand for me! Now I realize that it's the auction that can be simplified, and the play of the hand is where the real beauty of the game is exposed. But that's only possible when a player has the count – of everything.



In 1972 Eddie Kantar penned the best I/N bridge book ever published, "Gamesman Bridge." It holds up today; and yes, that's my opinion, because he wrote it not for "Stanley" but for me and, perhaps, for you. In chapter four, "Count, Count, COUNT" he says: "the only way you can learn to count is by doing it. Not occasionally, but on every single hand you play. The hardest part will be in remembering to do it, because you've stored up some of the worst bridge habits I've ever

choodinated. (Odon) but once you ve disciplined

yourself to count automatically, you'll increase your enjoyment and play better."

(I'm working on it, darn it!) But even Kantar noted that when you first try to do that, your game will suffer. Suffer through it. The only points you don't need to count are masterpoints; they are the only ones that don't matter. (I've been trying to cash mine in, but have yet to find a market.)

OK, so now that I want to count stuff, what, when, and how? I'll do more on the how next time, but the "what" is, in order, your suit lengths (e.g., 4-4-3-2, like a PIN number); your quick tricks; your initial evaluation point count (see the article by the Coopers in the last issue). If you can do that much, and remember it during the play, you'll be ahead of most players at your level. You do that when you sort your hand, before you ever make a call. This will help you to remember your exact hand, which, in turn, will help you place every other card in the deck as the auction and the play proceed. As the auction continues try to visualize those same features in your partner's hand, and when you can do that consistently (and usually correctly), by process of elimination you should be able to use your opponents' bidding (or lack of it) to figure out the distribution and count of their hands as well. All of this must happen BEFORE the opening lead, which should help you change your estimate. NOW you are ready to actually play bridge!



Tall order, and don't I know it! Here's an exercise one of my mentors, Dr. Jerry Pottier (mentored by Bill August and known to old timers at Adventures in Bridge in San Diego) used a couple of times at our rubber bridge teaching sessions. After we sorted our hands and had 15 seconds to examine them, we had to place them face down on the table, pick up our worksheets and answer some questions. How many spades, hearts, diamonds, and clubs have we (our pin number)? How many total quick tricks? Where are they? (Hint: are they in our long suits, where they will be most useful?) What's our initial evaluation point count, not counting shortness points? Is the hand notrump or suit oriented? OK, now write down ALL 13 cards (use x's for spots below 8 if necessary). NOTE to potential instructors – this exercise was so hated by the students that it killed the class. If it were easy, folks, we'd all be Grand Life Masters.

# I'll leave you with this from Terence Reese, one of England's best ever players and teachers.

Good players differ from average players mostly in this: that the good player tries to play all fifty-two cards, and the average player plays only the twenty-six which he can see. A player may have first-class technique, but if he plays blind, in the sense that in the play he does not try to reconstruct the unseen hands, he cannot be better than fair; while a player who does this, even if he knows little of elimination and nothing of squeeze play, is a player in a thousand.

Source: <a href="http://csbnews.org/what-counts-in-play-by-terence-reese/?lang=en">http://csbnews.org/what-counts-in-play-by-terence-reese/?lang=en</a>



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* 



# The I/N Crowd

By Rod Bias, Phoenix, Arizona

## **Defense: The Difficult Phase of Bridge**

In January, 1934, Madeleine Kerwin said defense is "a phase of the game much too generally slighted by the authorities and, therefore, the least understood, yet to the serious-minded player by far the most interesting because it is more difficult." In Partnership Bridge, she discusses "Defensive Play" on pages 135-180.

The defenders, acting together, aim to stop the declarer from hitting the target ("making" the contract). Sometimes, the sheer weight of high cards held by the declaring side means they are unbeatable (on that deal). Many times, however, good defense can deflect the declarer from hitting the target. "How sweet it is!"



Both sides need to approach notrump and trump contracts from different perspectives. Playing

notrump, you usually play to lose all your inevitable losers (and maybe a few probable losers) as fast as you can. Then you swoop in and take the rest. Playing with trumps, you try to win everything as fast as you can and leave the crumbs for the other guys.

#### **Defending Notrump Contracts**

Never forget the first card your partner places on the table when you are defending. Should you "always return your partner's suit," as the guidelines say? Frequently, you should. Rarely will an inexperienced player fault you for doing so. But the reality is that "Always" does not mean 100% of the time. A switch in time

may be critical to winning all the tricks your side is entitled to win. If you decide to

change suits (from the one your partner started), be sure you can explain why. As you play, watch and learn when you should not "return your partner's suit." If you do not return your partner's suit when you should, be quick with a "Sorry Partner, I thought I should shift, and I was wrong." Do not explain why you switched. Most partners do not want to hear.



**Tips4Tops:** Because the opponents elected to play notrump (without benefit of trumps), assume they have no more than seven spades or seven hearts. Logically, your side should therefore have six or more of each. If you have only two hearts or two spades, your partner must have at least four, and

likely five or six. That suit is probably a safe lead and may turn out to be the killer. The weaker you are, the better this "short-suit" lead looks, because your partner will usually have more "entries" (winners) outside the suit of your logical lead. Avoid leading a minor suit. That's where the opponents are strong and long.

#### **Defending Trump Contracts**

Often (not "always") ya gotta get in there and grab winners before they go away by "ruffs" or "sluffs" (especially sluffs). Your first lead ("opening lead") probably needs to crack open a suit where your side is strong and therefore, reciprocally, the opponents are weak. You are grappling for two tricks in that suit and two more elsewhere. Think. Fight. Struggle.

**Tips4Tops:** If your partner bid, lead that suit—your highest card if you have two, your lowest card if you have three. Otherwise, lead the top card of two touching honors. Do not lead a suit the opponents have bid. If they bid one suit first and then play in another one, do lead trumps. Never (almost never) lead an ace without the king. You are uncorking that suit for the opponents. After you lead the ace, they will "run" the suit and sluff all those losers you could have won by forcing the lid off a suit where you have winners. If you have an ace, let it lurk. Lead another suit. Your ace's job is to ambush their king or queen or to stop them from running a suit and sluffing their losers on it.



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

12/1/2018 Yuma

# Yuma Sunshine Sectional January 24-27

# **Hampton Inn & Suites**

https://tinyurl.com/y8b3d888

Thursday: Bracketed KO Teams and Stratified Open Pairs

Friday: KO Finals and Open pairs

Saturday: Stratified Open Pairs

**Sunday: Stratified Swiss Teams** 

Thursday times: 11:30 am and 4:30 pm All other days: 10:00 am and 3:00 pm

Partnerships: Jim Madison madqat47@gmail.com

Flyer:

web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2019/01/1901029.pdf



# Ruling Our Game

By Bill Michael, Colorado Springs, Colorado

# Continuing Discussion of the New Open Convention Chart

Last issue I discussed the basics. Here I look into the exceptions and opening lead sections of the new chart. This chart came into effect on November 22, 2018. The exceptions allow some overrides of disallowed bids listed in the body of the chart. For clarity, I mix discussion and rule together in what follows.

http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/about/181AttachmentD.pdf

#### **ACBL Convention Charts**

20 March 2018

#### Introduction

The four new convention charts are listed in order from least to most permissive: the Basic Chart, Basic+ Chart, Open Chart, and Open+ Chart. The Basic and Basic+ Charts are intended for limited master point events. These Charts are written in manner similar to the old charts -- by listing permitted methods.

New Convention Charts: web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/about/181AttachmentD.pdf

# Rule Exceptions Regarding Strong Opening Bids and Strength Requirements

The following are exceptions to the rules listed under Disallowed Opening Bids:

1. Any opening bid that promises a Very Strong hand is allowed. This is pretty clear. Any bid at any level which promises at least 20 high card points (HCP) or at least 14 HCP or five Control Points and is within one trick of game

7♠ 7♥ 7♠ 7♣

assuming suits break evenly among the other hands is permissible.

Remember that "Pass" is NOT a bid (it is a call—all bids are calls but not all calls are bids)—this exception does not allow forcing pass systems, which are specifically banned. What this segment does do is help clarify what we would deem "permissible" for 2♣ openers. As written now, the rules for when a forcing 2♣ opener is "strong enough" are very loose, and subjective. 2♣ openers which don't conform to one of the above listed minimum standards could be considered to be psychs, and therefore illegal.

- 2. Any bid that requires Average Strength (defined as a hand that has at least 10 HCP or meets the "Rule of 19") to be legal may be made with Near Average Strength (defined as a hand that has at least 8 HCP or meets the "Rule of 17") in third and fourth seats. Bids with HCP minimums do not change. Bids listed as requiring Average Strength include:
  - a. Artificial 1-level opening bids, which ALWAYS require at least 10 HCP,
  - b. An Artificial Three-Suited opening bid (with or without known shortness) that does not show at least Average Strength ALWAYS requires at least 10 HCP, and
  - c. A 2-level or higher opening bid that could contain less than Average Strength showing a known suit and an unknown suit, where the unknown suit could be the suit opened.

1NT openers with fewer than 10 HCP are NOT allowed under the above exception.

#### **Rules Concerning Leads and Carding**

Encrypted Signals are never allowed when leading, following suit, or discarding. Otherwise:

1. Opening lead: Any method may be used on opening lead. (Leading low from doubletons must be pre-alerted.)

- 2. First discard: Any method may be used on the first discard, even pre-defining meanings for specific spots (2,4,6...), as opposed to relative high/low agreements. Except for the first discard, only high-to-low or low-to-high ordering strategies are allowed when following suit or discarding, although distinct meanings for middle cards (versus highest and lowest) are permissible. For example, it is permissible to have a distinct meaning for each of the plays from three small spots so long as the cards have the same meaning based on their relative, not absolute, rank. That is, the 2 from 234 and the 7 from 789 should mean the same. Likewise the 3 and 8, or 4 and 9. It is not permitted to "pre-define" the spots as being high or low (such as 234 is always low, 567 always middle, etc.) except on the first discard.
- 3. A pair may be prohibited from playing any carding method when they are deemed to be playing it in a manner that does not maintain proper tempo. A decision that prohibits a pair from playing a particular carding method may be appealed to the tournament committee.

While not comprehensive, I hope this article has helped you get a feel for the new charts. Remember, as time goes on, and real situations occur, different interpretations may be made. Good luck, and, we'll 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 <a href="mailto:rulings@acbl.com">rulings@acbl.com</a> 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 <a href="mailto:d17askbill@gmail.com">d17askbill@gmail.com</a>



# **CONVENTIONAL WISDOM**

By Curt Soloff, Denver, Colorado

# 2 Openings, Part I

Sometimes you pick up a hand so good that you can't afford for partner to pass. You may well have a game with little to no help from partner, and just one useful card in the dummy could produce a laydown slam. Every bidding system needs at least one opening bid that is 100% forcing, and for SAYC and 2/1, that bid is 2. Over the next several issues, this column will be devoted to a thorough discussion of 2. openers, responses, and rebids, with the aim of helping you navigate the often awkward and tricky handling of your strongest hands.



Using the artificial 2♣ opening for our most powerful hands has pros and cons. Those who have played old-fashioned Goren style bidding likely recognize the economical value of a 2♣ opening; after all, do we really need *all* of our two level openings for strong hands? Doesn't it make far more sense to

employ 2♦/♥/2♠ openings as weak bids—hands that we pick up all the time—while rolling all strong hands into one opening bid? Good bidding systems cater to frequency. If you pick up a 2♠ opener more than once every three or four sessions of bridge, then I want you to be my partner at rubber bridge!

We kick off the proceedings with a simple question: What is an appropriate 2. opening? Strong hands may be either balanced or distributional, and distributional hands may have excellent playing strength with fewer high card points (HCP). The development of a player's hand evaluation skills is demonstrated, in part, by the ability to recognize, "Hey, I may have only X points, but if my eight card spade suit were trump, I bet this hand would play really well." Unfortunately, however, many

players acquire the bad habit of opening 2♣ with hands that aren't good enough to do so.

22+ to HCP	DESCRIBE	RESPONSES/REBIDS
2♣ Strong Other □	or 8.5 Tricks	
2♦ Resp: Neg□ Waiting□	]	
		AURINI NOTES ACC

2C on the convention card, courtesy of the CC editor at Bridge Winners ->

In the lower right box on your convention card you have an opportunity to describe what a 2♣ opening bid looks like in your partnership. The "Strong" box should be marked (note that some other bidding systems use a natural 2♣ opening that is limited in strength) and the HCP minimum that we typically see here is 22. In the space next to your HCP range, many players supplement with a notation such as "or 8.5 tricks" here. It is, indeed, good practice to indicate to any opponent who inspects your convention card that your partnership does not require 22 points for a 2♣ opening. But if you open 2♣ with fewer, how much of a stretch is too much?

Here are a few guidelines that should serve you well:

- 1. If your hand is balanced (4-3-3-3, 4-4-3-2, or 5-3-3-2 pattern) you should always have the full 22 points to open 2♣. You have the descriptive and useful 2NT opening for those 20-21 point hands, so use that when applicable and do not stretch 2♣ when you are balanced. Even more importantly, do not stretch a 2♣ opening when you have 4-4-4-1 shape, as you are already facing a problematic rebid with that hand.
- 2. If you have a long, strong major suit and are within one trick of game, you may safely subtract about the value of an ace and still open 2♣ with that hand. If your actual HCP total is less than about 17, though, do not stretch a 2♣ opening. Contrast the following examples:



a. With ♠AKJT974 ♥3 ♠AK5 ♣A6 you should open 2♣. True, you only have 19 HCP, but even if you lose a trump trick you still have nine winners in a

- b. However, with ♠AKQ97643 ♥3 ♠KQ5 ♣6 you should open 1♠. Yes, opening 2♠ is tempting, but if you start with 1♠ and later jump to 4♠, partner will get a good picture of your hand. Don't worry about the auction going 1♠ all pass—it is unlikely! (Note: some partnerships like to use a convention known as Namyats— "Stayman" backwards—for hands like these to ensure that their side always reaches the game level without overstating the strength of the hand.)
- 3. If the strength of your hand lies in a long, strong minor suit or is two-suited in nature, do not stretch a 2♣ opening. You will find that your bidding space evaporates in a hurry and you will only put responder under greater pressure. Two-suiters are best handled with a natural suit opening at the one level followed by a reverse or a game forcing jump shift.



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.

12/1/2018 Sedona

# Sedona Sectional now in February

Feb 8-10, Game times 10:00 and 2:30

Single Session Pairs, both Open and 0-200
3 session KO starts Friday, Compact KO Saturday
Friday, Saturday afternoon one session Swiss Teams
Two session Swiss on Sunday

Partnership Chair: Sonya Webber 928 300-0820 sparky4921@gmail.com

Flyer at bridgeinnorthernarizona.com/resources/2019SedonaSectionalVerticalflyer.pdf
Google map: https://goo.gl/maps/BksEZ6ReANz

bridgeinnorthernarizona.com/

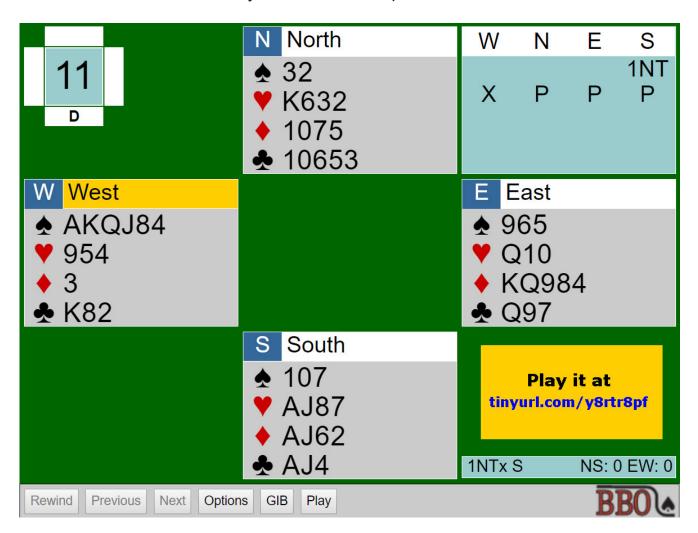


# **IMPROVE YOUR PLAY**

By Larry Matheny, Fort Collins, Colorado

# **Remember the Scoring**

The matchpoint scoring used in most pairs events must be considered during the auction. Here the vulnerability was the most important factor.



Opening Lead: ♠A

**Bidding:** West decided to double for penalties and introduce his spade suit only if the opponents found a safe resting place. North had nowhere to run, and 1NT doubled became the final contract.

**Play:** West cashed his six spade tricks and then shifted to a diamond. Declarer won the ace followed by a heart to dummy's king. A low heart from dummy found the queen and declarer had six tricks: four hearts, one diamond, and one club.

Since many E/W pairs scored +140 by bidding spades and taking nine tricks, this score of +100 was a poor result. However, if N/S had been vulnerable, down one doubled would have meant +200 and a top score. It would seem West should overcall when his opponents are not vulnerable, but go for the magical +200 when the opponents are red.



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.

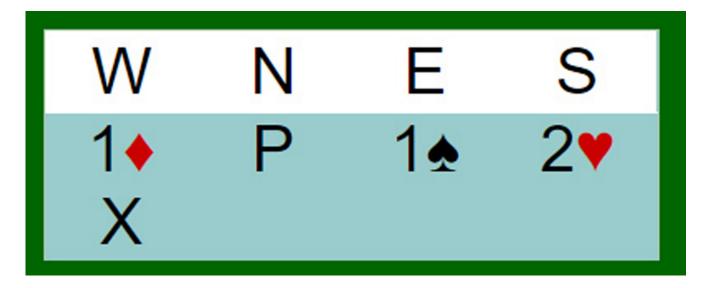
# **EDUCATIONAL**

# **CONSTRUCTIVE BIDDING:**

By Robert Todd, Tallahassee, Florida

## **Support Doubles**

Most partnerships that play Support Doubles have discussed when they apply and when they do not. But many players forget to discuss what responder should do after opener makes a support double. We will focus on the detailed meaning of responder's rebids both in terms of strength and finding a fit. I laid out every auction where support doubles and redoubles apply in the article that this one is based on; click <u>here</u> to read that article.



### **Support Double Auctions**

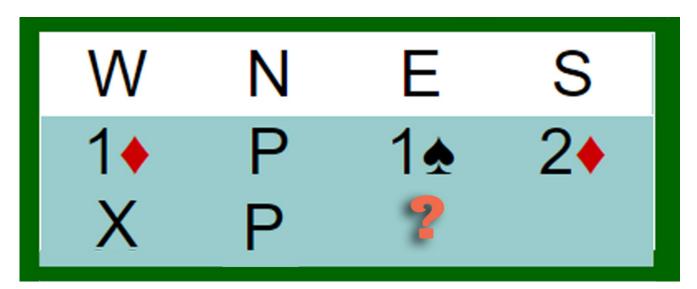
A support double can only be made by opener. For a double to clearly show support, the auction must begin 1X by opener, pass by the next player (an opponent), then one of a major by responder, followed by a non-jump new suit bid

by opener's right hand opponent (RHO); for example, 1♣-(P)-1♥-(1♠)-Dbl or 1♦-

(P)-1♠-(2♥)-Dbl. Opener's double then shows three card support for responder's major. Note that this does not apply after a 1♦ response, there are no support doubles except when responder bids a major.

However if opener doubles a natural Notrump overcall, his double is for penalties, not support. It shows extra values – either points or a long and strong suit. However, if the 1NT overcall is conventional then double is support. Another case that you need to discuss is when the opponent cuebids opener's suit. For example, 1♣-(P)-1♠-(2♣)-Dbl. Is double support (probably) or penalties? Best to have an agreement with your partner.

The definition above—that a double only shows support if the opponent bids below two of responder's major—is standard. Most people play that doubles of interference above 2M are takeout, but some expert players play that such doubles show three card support and extra values. Be sure that you and your partner agree on what such doubles mean.



### Responder's Rebids after a Support Double

When opener makes a support double and opener's LHO (left hand opponent) passes, responder is forced to describe their hand and bid something. It is good to

have some detailed agreements about how responder shows their strength and shape:

#### **Minimum Bids**

- Rebidding the "supported" suit (responder's suit) at the two level shows a minimum hand (6-9 points); responder could still have only four cards in his suit.
- Rebids below two of responder's suit show a minimum hand (6-9 points), and are non-forcing and natural. [Eds. We think that it's better to treat all new suit bids by an unpassed hand as forcing for one round; Robert disagrees.]
  - If responder supports opener's suit it is natural and not forcing. Responder would rather play in opener's suit than in the "supported suit", implying that there is only a 4-3 fit in that suit.
  - If responder bids a new suit this shows five or more cards in that suit and denies having an eight card fit in the "supported suit".

#### **Invitational Bids**

- Rebids of a new suit above two of responder's suit show invitational values (10-11 points) and are natural.
- If responder jumps in opener's suit it shows an invitational hand with a better fit there than in the "supported suit".
- If responder jumps in a new suit it shows an invitational hand with five cards in the suit and denies a real fit in the "supported suit".
- Rebids of 2NT are natural, invitational (10-11 points), show a stopper in the opponent's suit, and only a 4-3 fit in the "supported suit."

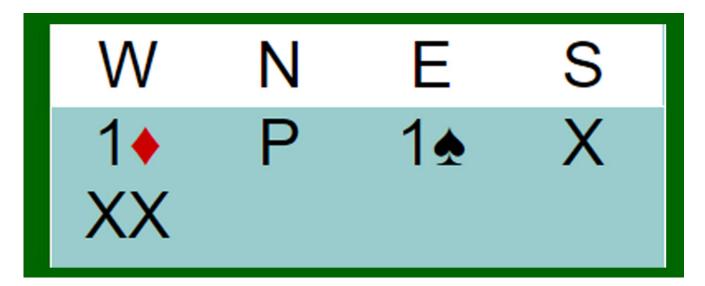
## **Game Forcing Bids**

- Rebid 4M with a known 5-3 fit in the major (if you have no slam interest).
- Rebid 3NT with no fit (only a 4-3) and a stopper in the opponent's suit.
- Cuebid the opponent's suit with either:

- A game forcing hand—e.g., responder might not be able to bid 3NT due to lack of a stopper in the opponent's suit.
- A slammish hand, in which case responder will bid again over 3NT (if opener bids it).

#### **Other Bids**

- 4NT should be Keycard in the "supported suit."
- Double Jump Shifts (into unbid suits) are splinters showing at least a 5-3 fit in the "supported suit."
- If responder has a good holding in the opponent's suit, responder may pass for penalties.



## **Support Redouble Auctions**

If opener's RHO doubles rather than bidding a suit, opener may redouble to show the same hand that would have made a support double. After a support redouble, responder's rebids are similar to rebids after a support double. The major difference is that responder will pass more frequently, since we are redoubled in our "fit." This pass shows invitational or better values and usually only a 4-3 fit – it often will be interested in penalizing the opponents if they run to another suit.

#### Conclusion

Doubling the opponents for penalty at a low level happens so rarely that we have

basically give up that bid for a more common and useful call. Finding a major suit

fit is one of our priorities in the bidding, and showing partner that you have "partial support" is a valuable thing to do. This is especially true when the opponents are in the auction and may choose to preempt on the next call. A support double allows us to show this partial support—three card support—and make partner certain that when we raise in competition we actually have four card support.



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 <a href="mailto:advinbridge.com">advinbridge.com</a>

contact: Robert@advinbridge.com

12/1/2018 Phoenix



# **EDUCATIONAL**

# **CONSULT THE COOPERS**

By Kitty and Steve Cooper, editors D17 ScoreCard

# Give a Bridge Book for Christmas

Every year we give you our recommendations for bridge gifts, mainly those books from this year's new releases that we think are suitable holiday gifts for your bridge playing friends.



But first, what about someone who you hope will take up our wonderful game? There is a great new book by New York City club owner and teacher Jeff Bayonne, <u>A Taste of Bridge</u>. This book won the first-ever <u>Newcomer Book of the Year Award</u> from the American Bridge Teachers Association.

For the advancing player to near expert we highly recommend Kit Woolsey's new book, <u>The Language of Bridge</u>. This book won the *International Bridge Press* 

Associations's Bridge Book of the Year Award, and rightly so. Kit advocates thinking about what each bid communicates to partner and what the target is, not just bidding by the rules. His concept of captaincy is one of Kitty's favorites (but Steve always thinks he is captain!).

Some might prefer a bridge calendar: Click here to get the <u>Baron Barclays 2019 Calendar</u>, based on the London Times column by Andrew Robson.

My personal favorite new book this year is Larry Cohen's <u>Tricks of the Trade: Strategic Thinking for Advanced Bridge</u>. Written in Larry's always enjoyable down-to-earth style, this book is suitable

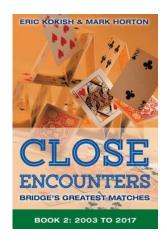


Calendar image courtesy of Baron

for any tournament player. I particularly like his

parciay

description of a team comparison by a good teammate as opposed to a bad teammate.



For those who enjoy looking at exciting hands from important matches there is Eric Kokish and Mark Horton's volumes I and II of Close Encounters: Bridge's Greatest Matches. The second volume starts in 2003 and heavily features the Nickell team. The first volume is a wonderful history lesson, featuring the Blue Team versus the British. Perhaps give both!

The best selling book among expert players, according to

Colorado book seller Dan Williams is Avon Wilsmore's <u>Under the Table: The Case Against The Blue Team</u>. This book takes a hard look at whether the Blue Team was cheating. To quote the description from <u>Bridge World</u>, "Is it the case that an unofficial policy of 'minimize the scandal' in the 1950's and 1960's led to the horrific facts uncovered by Boye Brogeland and others in 2015?"

Full Disclosure: Books that are available from Amazon are linked in this article using the Coopers' affiliate link, so if you buy via those links we get a very small percentage.



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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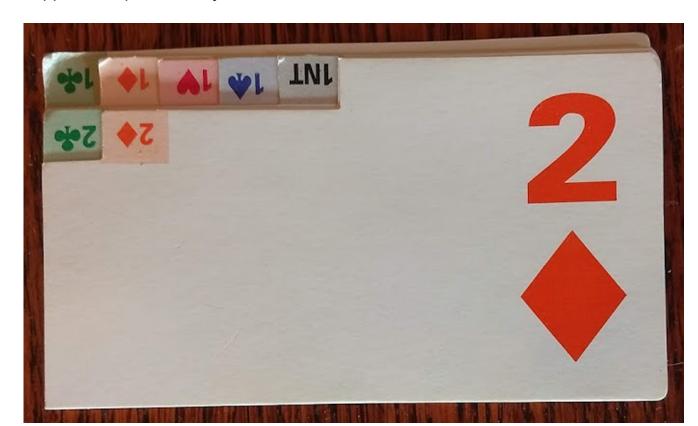
# **New Ideas in Bidding**

# The Mighty 2♦ as Jacoby

By: William Rawlings, Broomfield, Colorado

[Editor's note: We are always willing to publish new bidding ideas but this does not mean we endorse them. Many experts use some sort of artificial 2\* bid but we know of none using an artificial 2\* as well ... yet]

A minor change in the way you play Two-over-One can greatly improve your odds of finding makeable slams, and often increases the safety of the exploration. In my last article, *Using Two-over-One as a Convention*, I proposed a modification to Standard Two-over-One which allows the responder to a one of a major opening to inform his/her partner whether or not he has trump support immediately. This is done by simply assigning 2♣ and 2♦ conventional meanings rather than using them as natural bids–2♣/♦ to show game forcing values without/with three card support for opener's major.



Used as a convention, 2• provides more useful information than a natural 2• response, showing both game forcing values and trump confirmation. But this is only the beginning for the Mighty 2• bid; there are many new possibilities to be explored. Today we are going to add to the power of the Mighty 2• by also using it as a proxy for Jacoby 2NT. The Mighty 2• shows game forcing values, confirms trump, and provides a familiar structure for all of the follow up bids by using the same structure as Jacoby 2NT. That's a lot to accomplish with a single first round response.

Before we start I want you to think about where slam exploration should begin. Most published texts say it takes about 33 HCP to make slam in an eight card fit. Let's test that: Take a look at some old hand records and look for the hands that make six or better in any trump suit, then look at the high card points held by the partnership. Were you surprised at the results?

A recent study by Matthew Kidd, available at

https://www.lajollabridge.com/Articles/PartialGameSlamGrand.htm shows makeable slams occur about 13% of the time, roughly one in eight deals. The study also reveals an unfortunate truth; Most players in the 500-1000 point range only explore about 40% of the makeable six level slams. Sound familiar? I recently studied over 50,000 random deals (200,000 hands). I found that a combined partnership high card point (HCP) holding of 28 has a 49% probability of making a slam with a trump fit. Indeed, my studies also indicate that the average HCP held by a partnership making a small slam in a trump contract is 28. 28 HCP is a very reasonable threshold for exploring a possible slam, but fear of giving up a sure game to explore a possible slam holds many players back.

To facilitate more slam explorations and reduce the risk we need more bidding room. Using 2• to show game forcing support for Opener's suit and also as a proxy for Jacoby 2NT is one way to gain the valuable space you need to safely explore (and find) many more slams. Let's see how that works.

When 2♦ is used as a proxy for Jacoby 2NT:

RHO	Opener	LHO	Responder
	1♥	Pass	2♦

When the opening bid is 1♥/1♠, a 2♦ response shows game forcing values, at least 3-card support and becomes a proxy for the familiar series of responses defined by Jacoby 2NT.

A new suit by Opener as his/her first response may show a void or singleton.

RHO	Opener	LHO	Responder
	1♥	Pass	2♦
	2♠		

Just as in Jacoby 2NT, the Opener's 1st Re-bid of a new suit at the cheapest level shows a singleton. Thereafter the partnership bidding may continue cue bids just as in Jacoby 2NT. Beginning at a lower starting point often gives more room to describe the partnership's hands.

Most importantly, with the new 2♦ starting point the Opener gains two valuable responses which are bypassed by Jacoby 2NT. Two of Opener's bid suit (2♥/2♠) and 2NT are now available to the Opener for his initial rebid. This allows a partnership to maintain the Jacoby 2NT structure but conserve valuable bidding space by sliding the entire structure down one level.

Show:	Jacoby 2NT	Mighty 2♦
Singleton	3 of new suit	Cheapest (2M,3m)
Void	4 of New suit	Cheapest +1 (3M,4m)
17+ HCP	3♥/3♠	2♥/2♠
12-14 HCP	4♥/4♠	3♥/3♠
15-16 HCP	3NT	2NT

All subsequent control bids remain the same as in Jacoby 2NT except generally one level lower; starting at a lower level may allow you to explore an additional level of controls.

Many players over the years have modified the original responses to 2NT, if you have that is OK, just keep the responses you presently use but slide them down

one level to create addition space for exploring non-trump controls (cue-bidding).

### More examples of Opener's 1st Re-bid:

RHO	Opener	LHO	Responder
	1♥	Pass	2♦
	2♥		

Denies a void or singleton, shows 17 or more HCP replaces Jacoby's 3♥.

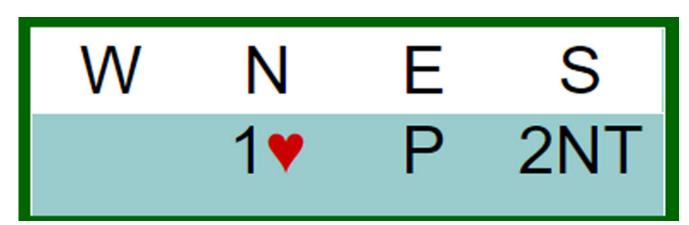
RHO	Opener	LHO	Responder
	1♥	Pass	2♦
	2NT		

Denies a void or singleton, shows 15-16 HCP replaces Jacoby's 3NT.

RHO	Opener	LHO	Responder
	1♥	Pass	2♦
	3♥		

Denies a void or singleton, shows 12-14 HCP replaces Jacoby's 4♥.

Because the trump suit is not included in the cue bidding, most partnerships use Blackwood, RKC, or Kickback after cue bidding to check trump honors before proceeding to slam. Since 2• starts cuebidding at a lower level, a partnership may often be able to use 3NT (Baby Blackwood or Baby1430) rather than 4NT to check for trump honors. Asking for key cards with 3NT generally allows partner to respond below the level of 4 trumps allowing them to stop at a safe game level if necessary.



#### What happens to Jacoby 2NT?

Kitty and Steve Cooper have made an excellent suggestion to use 2NT for big balanced slam zone hands, about 17+, without a fit or a long suit. Perhaps 2♣ would be a limited range of 12-16. Another suggestion from them is to use 2NT and 3♣ as invitational or better transfers to 3♣/3♠.

Many people think of Jacoby 2NT as a slam convention, Jim Jacoby thought of it as a game forcing bid with benefits. In his article in the *In their own words*section of the ACBL website, Jim Jacoby's article about 2NT is entitled: A

Different Kind of Game-Forcing Raise

Using the 2• response to replace the Jacoby 2NT has the benefit of allowing room for discovering distribution, working strength and wasted strength, the same goals originally stated by Jim Jacoby. These are the keys that often allow the partnership to achieve sound slam contracts that could not be easily identified by other methods. A 2• response is not a slam attempt, it is a game forcing bid with benefits. After a 2• response any time you have 28 or more points I would suggest you explore for slam, with fewer points or missing critical cards it is fine for the partnership to quit without asking for Aces/Keycards or making a slam try. If the bidding tells you to stop at game you should do so. Let the cards tell you what to bid, that works most of the time.



Bill is a certified Audrey Grant Instructor, a Tournament Assistant Director and a member of ABTA who frequently teaches on Cunard, Seabourn, Holland America and Royal Caribbean cruise ships. Bill plays Big Club but teaches both the Standard American and ACOL systems. Please send questions and comments to:

<u>Latitude34.Bill@gmail.com</u> and put Jacoby 2♦ in the subject line.



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# **TOURNAMENTS**

# **Upcoming Sectionals**

#### **ARIZONA**

#### **Tucson Winter Sectional**

Hotel Tucson City Center, Tucson January 3-6

This four day tournament will again be held at the Hotel Tucson City Center, 475 North Granada Avenue. Game times Thursday through Friday are 9:00 & 1:30. There is free coffee and tea daily, as well as bagels and cream cheese, smoked salmon, and pastries every morning. Sunday's Swiss Teams, which also starts at 9:00, comes with a free buffet lunch. For more information, click the title above or looking at the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard*.



#### **Sunshine Sectional**

Hampton Inn & Suites, Yuma January 24-27

Yuma is a snowbird haven due to its lovely winter weather. Nearby are the "Star

Wars" sand dunes over the border in California. Come and play. Yuma's four day

winter sectional will be held at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 1600 711 East 16th Street. Events include Knockout Teams, Stratified Open Pairs every day except Sunday, and a Stratified Swiss Teams on Sunday. There will be 199er games every session for which there is a sufficient number of players. Thursday's events start at 11:30 & 4:30, Friday and Saturday game times are 10:00 & 3:00, and the Sunday Swiss also starts at 10:00. More information is available by clicking the title above or looking at the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard*.

#### Sedona Sectional

Elks Lodge, Sedona

Friday-Sunday, February 8-10

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATE AND DAYS. Stunning red rock views will greet you in Sedona. This tournament runs Friday through Sunday at the Elks Lodge, 110 Airport Road, in central Sedona. The new schedule has two sessions a day starting at 10:00 & 2:30 (except Sunday) and includes a Knockout Teams, Open and 199er Pairs, single session and a two session Stratified Swiss Teams, and a Compact KO. For more information click the title above or looking at the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard*.



#### Phoenix Presidents' Day Sectional

In Tempo Bridge Center, Scottsdale February 15-18

The annual Phoenix Presidents' Day Sectional will again be held at the In Tempo Bridge Center in Scottsdale. This four day sectional offers something for everyone: single session stratified pairs events, open and 199er events, single session Swiss Teams, a Friday afternoon through Saturday Knockout Teams, and a Sunday Swiss, in addition to pairs events, a single session Swiss Teams, and a Compact KO on Monday. A food truck will be available on Friday, Saturday, and Monday. Free coffee, snacks, and chocolates all day. Game times are 10:00 & 3:00 daily, except for the Sunday two session Swiss Teams. More information is available by clicking the title above or looking at the ad in this issue of *ScoreCard*.

#### **COLORADO**

#### **Denver Winter Sectional**

Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden January 11-13

Colorado's first bridge tournament of the year will be at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. The schedule includes Beginner Pairs, Stratified Pairs (single or double session), NLM Stratified Pairs, and two Stratified Swiss Teams. Friday night at 7:00 features an individual, an event rarely seen these days. Start times are 10:00 a.m. every day; afternoon sessions begin at 2:30. More information is available at the website *denverbridge.com* or by clicking the tournament name above for the flyer.

#### **NEW MEXICO**

#### Santa Fe 499er Non Life Master Sectional

Leonard Hellman Bridge Center, Santa Fe February 23-24

The Leonard Helman Bridge Center at 3827 Thomas Rd will again be hosting this

tournament. Saturday will have single session Stratified Pairs at 9:00 & 1:30;

Sunday's Swiss Teams also starts at 9:00. It's restaurant week in Santa Fe so come play then eat! Click tournament name above for the flyer.

#### **TEXAS**

### President's Day Sectional

El Paso, Texas

February 15-18

The Decker Bridge Center is again the venue for four days (including the holiday Monday) of delightful and perhaps romantic (Valentine's Day is the day before the tourney starts!) bridge, with 10:00 & 2:00 starting times every day. Friday through Saturday features Friday has two single session Swiss Teams, Saturday has two single session Open Pairs, and Sunday has two pairs/teams event. Monday has a two session Swiss Teams with lunch provided. More information is available by clicking the title above.



# DISTRICT 17 ASSOCIATION AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE

## D17 ScoreCard volume I issue 5



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**

Guidelines for creating ads for this publication are available at: <a href="https://doi.org/uploads/newsletter/AdGuidelinesOnlineD17.pdf">d17acbl.org/uploads/newsletter/AdGuidelinesOnlineD17.pdf</a>

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

John Grossmann, President (Colorado at Large)

719 233-9464 (C)

blackstone.co@comcast.net

**Art McHaffie**, Vice President (New Mexico at Large) 505 986-6074

ermchaffie@msn.com

**Bonnie Bagley** (Ex-officio, National Board Member) 719 593-0205 (H/C) <a href="mailto:bonnie@bonniebagleyd17.com">bonnie@bonniebagleyd17.com</a>

Jennifer O'Neill, Treasurer (Denver)

```
303 596-8153
```

jjo4501@gmail.com

## Felicity Moore, Recording Secretary (Albuquerque)

505 717-1483 (H)

505 301-8597 (C)

f.moore@netscape.com

### Jerry Ranney, Election Secretary (Denver)

303 697-9468 (H)

720 333-4587 (C)

jtranney2@msn.com

## Bill Curtis (Colorado at Large)

719 599-3648 (H)

719 551-0469

wcurtisb52ewo@aol.com

## Jim Horton (Mesa)

480 883-6369 (H)

480 200-7566 (C)

jhorton2739@gmail.com

## JoAnne Lowe (Phoenix)

480 836-7296 (H)

480 577-9833 (C)

pnutlowe@cox.net

## Murali Nair (Phoenix)

602 788-0303 (H)

602 821-0423 (C)

meempat.murali@gmail.com

Steve Nordberg (El Paso)

915 833-5915 (H)

texminn@sbcglobal.net

Bill Phillips (Arizona at Large)

928 266-0865

spheres0000@gmail.com

Steve Reynolds (Tucson)

520 488-7730 (H)

tvs1@cox.net

Becky Rogers (Las Vegas)

702 812-7976 (C)

rags04@gmail.com

Rod Southworth (Cheyenne & Laramie, Wyoming)

307 221-2634 (C)

southworth15@yahoo.com