



# I/N the News

*Bridge tips for the Intermediate/Newcomer*

By Janet Andrews, I/N Unit Rep and Ronald Gagne

## Fall Tournaments & Holiday Party

Now that the Pro-Am Game is over it is time to turn our attention to this fall's special events. There are three events that we should not miss: (1) Oct 15-18, Sectional Tournament, (2) Oct 30-Nov 1, Non Life Master (NLM) Sectional Tournament, and (3) Dec 6, Two Session Unit Game & Holiday Party.

**Tournaments:** Both tournaments are at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde. At the Oct 15-18 Tournament if you have fewer than 200 points you can play in the open games where you compete with Life Masters or in the 199'er Pairs Single Sessions. In the 199 Pairs Sessions the stratifications are A = 100-200, B = 20-100, and C = 0-20 master points (MPs). In contrast the NLM Sectional Tournament is only open to players who are not Life Masters and have less than 500 MPs. Stratifications in the regular pairs sessions are A = 200-500, B = 100-200, and C = 0-100. In addition this tournament has a Stratified 49'er Pairs Session so that newer players have a good chance for equal competition and winning. Stratifications are D = 20-50, E = 5-20, and F = 0-5. So all you newer players this tournament is provided especially for you to play, compete, win Silver Points, and have fun in a non-threatening environment. And don't forget the Swiss Teams (need team of 4) on Sunday at both tournaments. No preregistration is required for either tournament; just show up 30 minutes before the game.

And Don O'Bryan, Education Rep, is giving a free lesson at both tournaments. At the NLM tournament the topic is Quantitative Bids. Don says, "Quantitative" is a many-syllable word for many situations during bidding. It asks the question—Are you top or bottom of your range? See *Education for Intermediates* on page 2 for examples. This lesson will be held Sat Oct 31 after the AM session, so be sure and show your appreciation and take advantage of the opportunity.

**Two Session Unit Game & Holiday Party:** The Unit is holding a Holiday Party for all the duplicate bridge players in the Unit (Tucson, Green Valley, Sierra Vista, Saddlebrook, Heritage Highlands, and Pearce). The format is an AM (play starts at 9:00) and PM game, with a light breakfast before and catered lunch between the games. The venue is Pima Community College's West Campus on 2202 W Anklam Road in the Cafeteria (1st floor). You must preregister for this pairs event and the cost is \$10/person. There will be a NLM Game, so let's make a good showing again. Look for the flyer and sign up form at the clubs. If you have any questions about these events or need a partner talk to Marge Curvin or me at a game or email me at: [inrep@southernarizonabridge.com](mailto:inrep@southernarizonabridge.com).

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## Tournaments

The Jan and Feb Tournaments will be held at the new Desert Diamond Hotel, Conference Center and Casino located adjacent to the Tucson International Airport.

## Director please

by Ann Hinge

Bridge is a timed game: 7 min per board, 15 min for a 2 board round. All of us have had contracts, that took longer to play than 7 min; that is understandable. What is not understandable is discussing a board or going for coffee before you are ahead of the timer. If anyone comes to your table 5 min late and is not in a hurry to start playing, tell them once to get on with it; if it persists call the director. There is only one word for these players' behavior and that is *rude* (and is against the zero tolerance policy).

## What's the Point: Part 1?

Over the next few issues we will explain the session results printouts. In this article we discuss computation of board scores, session scores and percent scores. In subsequent issues we will discuss types of movements, types of sessions, stratification, and master points.

A partial North-South printout of a Mitchell Open session with player names deleted is shown below. Eight pairs played in this session. Thirty-two boards were used and each pair played 28 boards in seven rounds. It is *North's* responsibility at each table to record the result of a played hand.

Sunday Afternoon Pairs Sunday Aft Session August 2, 2009									
Scores after 7 rounds Average: 84.0 Section A North-South									
Pair	Pct	Score	Section Rank			MPs			
			A	B	C				
8	61.01	102.50	B	1	1	0.80	(A)		
7	57.14	96.00	B	2	2	0.56	(A)		
1	54.76	92.00	B	3		0.40	(A)		
3	50.89	85.50	A						
6	47.92	80.50	A						
4	46.13	77.50	C						
2	41.37	69.50	C						
5	40.77	68.50	A						
**PAIRS**									
BOARD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1>	1-	—	4	0	4	1-	4	6	
	-100	—	-50	-150	-50	-100	-50	130	
2>	1	—	6	1	5	1	3-	3-	
	-100	—	680	-100	650	-100	620	620	
. . .									
13>	3	1-	0	4	—	6	5	1-	
	-110	-130	-600	-100	—	200	100	-130	
14>	2	2	2	2	—	2	5	6	
	-140	-140	-140	-140	—	-140	50	100	

Board results are ranked with the lowest score earning a 0, next 1, etc... The highest possible rank is one less than the number of times a board is played: seven times in this session, so the highest possible score is 6. The total of the ranks for each board in this session is 21 ( 0 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6). In this sample none of the boards have ranks 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6! What gives? Ties!

Consider board 1. Pair 4 is ranked 0 and pair 8 ranked 6 and of course pair 2 did not play the board. There are no 1 or 2 ranks. Pairs 1 and 6 tied for second (and third) lowest. To be fair the same ranks are assigned to each of the tied pairs. To calculate this add the ranks that would have been assigned without the ties and then divided that number by the number of pairs tied. The ranks that we would like to assign to pairs 1 and 6 are 1 and 2. The total of 1 and 2 is 3. Since two pairs are tied divide, 3 by 2 and assess both pair 1 and 6 ranks of 1 ½ (1 – is ACBL shorthand for 1 ½.) By now you have noticed that there are three rankings of 4! Three pairs tied where we wanted ranks of 3, 4, and 5. Add the ranks and divided by 3 to obtain 4. Examine the other results and see whether you can verify the ranks.

Now let's see how session scores are determined. Recall that 28 boards were played and that the highest possible score for a board is 6. If you were really on your game, you could possibly score 6 times 28 or 168.0. Half of the maximum possible score is 84.0 which agrees with the average shown in the sample. To determine your raw score add the total of your ranks for the boards which you played. In this session, pair 1 scored a total of 92.00. Standardized scores will give you a better feel for how you did. So divide your actual score by the maximum possible score to determine your percentage. For example, pair 1 scored 92.00 points and 92.00/168.0 is 0.5476 or 54.76%. Voila!!

## Education for beginners

by Don O'Bryan, Education Rep

To get started in duplicate bridge, two fundamental books are recommended - Louis Watson's "Play of the Hand" and Harold Feldeheims' "5 Card Majors". GET THE BASICS FROM THESE BOOKS BEFORE VENTURING OUT TO OTHERS. They may be hard to find, so look online or in used book stores. OF COURSE, ALL ADVANCED PLAYERS KNOW THESE BASICS INSIDE OUT. (HA!)

## Education for intermediates

by Don O'Bryan, Education Rep

"Quantitative" is a many-syllable word for many situations during bidding. It asks the question—Are you top or bottom of your range? Example are: 1NT-P-2NT, 1NT-P-4NT, 2NT-P-5NT, and 1S-P-1NT-P: 2D-P-2NT. And have you and your partner discussed 1NT-P-2C-P: 2H-P-4C or 1NT-P-2C-P: 2H-P-4NT?

To learn attend Don O'Bryan's free lesson on "Quantitative Bids" at the NLM tournament on Sat, Oct 31 after the AM session. Show your appreciation and take advantage of Don's knowledge.

## Contact us

If you want to receive this newsletter we need your email address. And if you have ideas for the newsletter or other ways we can help you, please contact us at

[inrep@southernarizonabridge.com](mailto:inrep@southernarizonabridge.com)

## Ongoing I/N Sanctioned Games

**Adobe Bridge Club**, \$5, (520) 795-2441, [www.adobebridgeclub.org](http://www.adobebridgeclub.org)

- Tuesdays & Thursdays (NLM) and Fridays (under 20 MPs) at 12:30 PM **TUE&FRI NEW**
- Saturdays at 9:00 AM
- Mondays at 5:00 PM, at The Lodge at Ventana Canyon, \$5 plus dinner at the Lodge, reservations required, (520) 270-4305 or [kathy071314@cox.net](mailto:kathy071314@cox.net)

**Las Candelas Bridge Club**, \$6, (520) 696-9101, [www.lascandelasbridgeclub.com](http://www.lascandelasbridgeclub.com)

- Mondays (NLM) and Wednesdays (299er) at 12:30 PM **MON NEW**
- Fridays (NLM) at 10:00 AM **NEW**

## Bridge Lessons/Classes

**Adobe Bridge Club**, (520) 795-2441, [www.adobebridgeclub.org](http://www.adobebridgeclub.org)

**Beginning Bridge (Course 1, Bidding in the 21 Century plus Basic Play of the Hand)**

Tuesdays from 9:00-11:00 AM, 7 weeks, \$59/includes textbook, Wagner "Van" Van Vlack, Instructor

**Intermediate Bridge (Course 3, Play of the Hand and Basic Defense)**

Wednesdays from 9:00-11 AM, 7 weeks, \$59/includes textbook, Dev De Luca, Instructor

**Intermediate Bridge (Course 4, Supervised Bid and Play)**

Fridays from 9:00-11:00 AM, 7 weeks, \$49.00 or \$10/class, Dev De Luca, Instructor

**"Brown Bag" Seminars, 11:15-12:00 Noon, \$15 for 6 weeks**

**NEW**

**Must sign up in advance. See the Adobe web site for more details or talk to Van.**

**Seminar 1**, Tuesdays, Dev De Lucia, Instructor, Duplicate Strategies for the Non Life Master

**Seminar 2**, Fridays, Dev De Lucia, Instructor, Duplicate Strategies for the Newcomer NLM

**Seminar 3**, Wednesdays, Steve Reynolds, Instructor, Bridge Strategies for the Advancing Player

**Las Candelas Bridge Club**, (520) 696-9101, [www.lascandelasbridgeclub.com](http://www.lascandelasbridgeclub.com)

**Beginning Bridge**, Mondays Oct 12—Nov 23 at 9:30 AM

**Intermediate Bridge**, Tuesdays Oct 13-Nov 24 at 9:30 AM

Bob Hinkle, Instructor, Location: Casita

**Intermediate Class, Competitive Bidding**, How to bid when the opponents interfere

Wednesdays from 9:30 -11:30 AM, starting Dec 2, 2009 for 6 weeks, \$75 includes text

Barbara Rosenthal, Instructor, Location: The Main Room, call (520) 331-9444 call for details

**Supervised Bid and Play**, Tuesdays from 9-11 AM, \$3/session, No reservation or partner required. Just show up, bid, play & learn, Jodi Walker and Barbara Rosenthal, Instructors **NEW**

**Different topic each week followed by supervised play** Thursdays from 9:30 -11:30 AM, Bob Simrak, Instructor, \$5/lesson, Location: The Main Room

**Mentor Program.** Life Masters will be assigned a student & will play together once a month **NEW**

**Desert View Clubhouse**, Saddlebrook

**Beginning and Continuing Lessons**

Mondays & Wednesdays from 9:00-11:00 AM

Tuesdays from 4:30-6:00 PM

**Supervised Play and Lessons**

Friday from 10:30 - 12:30 PM

Barbara Feeley, Instructor, call (520) 825-6837, [www.barbsbridge.com](http://www.barbsbridge.com)

# Tournaments & Special Events, Oct-Feb

October 2-4, Sectional Tournament, Phoenix

October 5-11, Regional Tournament, Ruidoso

October 9, Unit Wide Championships, Local Clubs

**October 11, Annual Meeting and Unit Game (including NLM Game) at 1 PM, Adobe**

**October 15-18, Sectional Tournament, Holiday Inn, Tucson**

October 23-25, Sectional, Taos

**October 30-November 1, NLM (0-500 MP) Sectional Tournament, Holiday Inn, Tucson**

November 6, Unit Wide Championships, Local Clubs

November 8 GNT Qualifier, Adobe

**November 15, Unit Game (including NLM Game) at 1 PM, Las Candelas**

November 22, Board A Match, Adobe

November 26-December 6, NABC, San Diego

November 30, ACBL Charity Game, Local Clubs

**December 6, 2 Session Unit Game (inc NLM Game) & Holiday Party, Pima Community College**

December 7-13, STaC Games, Local Clubs

**January 7-10, Sectional Tournament, Desert Diamond Casino, Tucson**

**February 25-28, I/N (0-500 MP) Regional Tournament, Desert Diamond Casino, Tucson**

## *Tournament Explanations*

Three **North American Bridge Championships (NABC)** are held each year and award platinum, gold, and red points.

**Regional Tournaments** are held by the 25 ACBL districts and award gold and red points. (Except NLM Regionals where only red points can be awarded.)

**Sectional Tournaments** are held by the 300+ ACBL units and award silver points.

**Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaC)** are held by the clubs and award silver points.

## *Special Event Explanations*

**Unit Games** are held by the unit, award extra black points, and competition is unit wide.

**Charity Games**, regular game except award extra points and a minimum amount goes to a charity.

**International Fund Games**, supports a US team to compete internationally.

**ACBL Instant Matchpoint Games**, identical hands are played across the continent simultaneously and a booklet with hands and commentary is given to each player at the conclusion of the game.

**World Wide Pairs Games**, identical hands are played across the world simultaneously and a booklet with hands and commentary is given to each player at the conclusion of the game.

**Board A Match** is a team event where each board is scored as a win, tie, or a loss, so every board is equally important.

**Pro-Am Swiss Teams** are games where each team's pair consists of a top flight player (pro) and a newer player (amateur).

**Unit Wide Championship** is a game held simultaneously at three or more locations within the unit.

**GNT Qualifier** is a game where participants compete to be on their district's Grand National Team.