

District 16 Newsletter for Future Life Masters

Volume 2 Issue 10

From the Editor

The Holiday Season is coming quickly. I'm already seeing Christmas decorations arrive in some stores. Many times family members ask us for gift suggestions, or we're searching for gifts for friends and relatives. Bridge books, teaching CDs and subscriptions can make great gifts for bridge players.

Check our BridgeClues.com and VuBridge.fr as these are two of my favorites.

I'm interested in your feedback, so please send your comments to paulcuneo@sbcglobal.net.

Paul Cuneo

District 16 Education Chair

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From Unit 174 - Sheryl Thomas

Hi Everyone,

It's almost time for one of my favourite holidays, Halloween!! Let's just say "Trick or Treat" is in



order. I hope you get lots of treats and lots of tricks too!!

We had our first 299r tournament at the wonderful Bridge Club of Houston (BCOH). Let's take a look at the overall winners.

Thursday AM

Patricia Dunnell & Susan Domsalla 65.53%

Jeanette & John Dean 65.53%

Thursday PM

John & Jeanette Dean 72.9%

Friday AM

Barbara Wood & Janice Kruse 65.75%

Friday PM

John Montgomery & Fred Gregory 68.75%

Saturday AM

Rita Hanlin & Helen Wren 68.16%

Saturday PM

David Freedman & Sheryl Thomas 58.38%

Sunday Swiss



Nancy Shomette & Kathleen Pfleuger

Clydene Jones & Scherry Sprague

3 wins

As always, congratulations to all of our winners. A complete list of winners and their pictures can be found on BCOH's website.

Thanks again to Beverly Cheatham and all the directors for maintaining a zero tolerance, pleasant

atmosphere! It was most fun!!  Thanks for all the delicious  food!! It was way too

much, but we just kept on eating.  Can anyone say oink!! LOL!!

Every month we have something exciting to look forward to and October is no exception. Please join us at the next sectional, Leads on the Lake, October 28-30, 2016 at the South Shore Harbour Resort.

Now its time to highlight our instructor for this month, Eric Watson. In his own words.

Thank you Eric for sharing with us!!

Born in Philadelphia in 1948 and raised in VA and NC

BA US History UNC – Chapel Hill

US Army Field Artillery Officer 1971 to 1974

Banker and Paralegal for most of my career

MBA Marketing and Finance UH – Downtown 1982

Retired 2013

Mom taught me bridge at age 13 and I played sporadically until 1990 when I began playing duplicate. I finally got serious about the game in 2005 and earned my Life and Bronze Master at the Nationals in Houston in March 2009.

Certified ACBL Club Director 2009

Teacher Accreditation 2013

I am single with two children and two grandchildren in the Bay Area of CA

When I am not directing or playing bridge, I am dancing.

I have lived in Houston since 1975 and now live in the Del Webb community in Richmond, TX.

Well, that's it for now. See you at the bridge table.

Happy Bidding ♣♦♥♠

Better Bridge Habits

Describing a hand

Developing good habits at the table is an important part of learning bridge. This month I want to focus on a habit to develop.

We all like to describe the hands we've held and sometimes we would like to have a really good player help us with a bidding problem. The best way to do that is to write down your holding in the following order: Spades, Hearts, Diamonds and Clubs. Then write down the bidding noting which position is the Dealer and noting every bid that was made including all the "pass bids".

If you haven't written it down, then describe it in the same order. For example: S – AQ1054, H – xx, D – Kxx, C – AJx becomes "I held ace, queen, ten fifth of spades, a heart doubleton, king third of diamonds and ace, jack third of clubs."

Learning how to describe your hand in this way will help you and the players you talk with about bridge problems.

Eddie Kantar's Tip

Penalty double of a 1NT overcall

After partner opens and second hand overcalls 1NT (natural), double for penalty with 9+ HCP. Bidding a new suit is not forcing and a jump is preemptive. With 9+ points, double first. www.kantarbridge.com

Improved Declarer Play

Card Combinations

As declarer, many times the ability to make our contract depends on playing one of the suits in a way that maximizes our chance to take tricks. The Official Encyclopedia of Bridge by ACBL has a section on playing card combinations. Here is a combination from the Encyclopedia:

Q 9 x x x

J x x x

Lead low to the Jack and then low to the Queen. 83% chance of 3 tricks

Demon Defense

Signaling against Suit Contracts – Eddie Kantar writes in his book “Modern Bridge Defense” that defensive signals come in 3 packages:

1. Attitude: how you feel about the suit partner has led
2. Count: how many cards you have in a particular suit
3. Suit Preference: which suit you want partner to lead

You can only give one of these signals at a time and partner needs to know which one you are giving. Attitude signals are far and away the most common. If you play Standard signals, a relative high card encourages and a relative low card discourages. Here is an example:

N – Q53

W – AK864 (you)

E – 92

S – J107

You've led the Ace of the suit and your partner plays the 9. Since you can see the Queen, your partner must have a doubleton to be encouraging you to continue the suit. www.kantarbridge.com

Bidding Tips

A book worth owning and reading is **“A Treasury of Bridge Tips” by Eddie Kantar**. In it he offers the following advice:

"Any time you skip over two suits, or one suit and notrump to rebid your original suit, you promise a 6 card suit or with exception a 5 card suit containing 100 honors.

South(you)	West	North(partner)	East
1C	P	1D	P

2C You have shown 6 clubs because you have skipped over 1H, 1S, and 1NT to rebid your clubs. www.kantarbridge.com

Revokes – Laws 61 thru 64

At some point in your bridge journey, you will fail to follow suit and not discover it in time to correct it. This is called a revoke. There is no requirement in the law that you inform the other side that you revoked. The vast majority of revokes are by the defending side. One of Dummy's major responsibilities is to watch for revokes by the defending side. However, Dummy must wait until play is concluded to inquire about a possible revoke. Once attention is called to a revoke, the Director should be called.

The following is from Duplicate Decisions:

61 Failure to Follow Suit: Inquiries Concerning a Revoke

A revoke is the play of a card of another suit by a player who is able to either follow suit or comply with a lead penalty.

Right to Inquire about a Possible Revoke

1. Dummy may ask declarer.
2. Declarer may ask the defenders.
3. Defenders may ask one another and declarer.
4. DUMMY MAY NOT QUESTION THE DEFENDERS. If he does so, he is in violation

of Law 42B1 and Law 43A1, which prohibit dummy from participating in or communicating anything about the play to the declarer. Law 16B may apply.

62 Correction of a Revoke

A player must correct his revoke if he becomes aware of it before the revoke becomes established. A revoke is corrected when the offender withdraws the card he played in revoking and substitutes a legal card.

1. If the withdrawn card was from defender's unfaced hand, it becomes a major penalty card.

2. If the withdrawn card belonged to declarer or dummy, it is replaced without penalty.

Subsequent Cards Played after a Revoke May Be Withdrawn:

1. by a member of the non-offending side without penalty provided the card was played before attention was drawn to the revoke.

2. by the partner of the player who revoked if his RHO withdraws a card played after the revoke. This withdrawn card becomes a major penalty card if the player is a defender.

A Revoke on the 12th Trick

1. The revoke must be corrected if it is discovered before all four hands have been returned to the board.

2. If a defender revokes on the 12th trick before his partner has played, and if offender's partner has cards in two suits, offender's partner may not choose the play that could possibly have been suggested by seeing the revoke card.

63 Establishment of a Revoke

A Revoke Becomes Established when the Offender or His Partner:

1. leads or plays to the following trick.

2. names or designates a card to be played to the following trick.

3. makes or acquiesces in a claim or concession of tricks. A revoke, once established, may not be corrected and stands as played, unless it occurred on the 12th trick and was discovered before the hands were returned to the board. (See Law 64 for the Director's responsibility to restore equity.)

64 Procedure after Establishment of a Revoke

The revoke penalty differentiates between cases where the player committing the revoke wins the trick and where his partner wins it. Two tricks are transferred to the non-offending side if the revoking player won the revoke trick and his side won any subsequent trick. One trick is transferred to the non-offending side if the trick on which the revoke occurred was not won by the offending player, but the offending side won that or any subsequent trick

There is no penalty for a revoke:

1. when the offenders do not win any tricks from the revoke trick on.

2. when the revoke is the second one in the same suit by the same player. The penalty still applies to the first revoke.

3. when the revoke involves a card belonging to dummy, or any other faced card (a penalty card, for example).

4. when one of the non-offenders has made a call on a subsequent deal.

5. when attention is first drawn to the revoke after the round has ended.

6. when the revoke occurred on the 12th trick. A revoke on the 12th trick must be corrected if discovered before all four hands have been returned to the board.

7. when both sides have revoked on the same board.

NOTE: In all of the above cases the Director retains the right to award an adjusted score. See the following discussion of Law 64 C.

The Director Is Responsible for Equity Law 64 C. provides that the offending side will not benefit and the non-offending side will not be damaged by a revoke. This Law gives the Director the right to restore equity in those revoke situations where the penalty does not restore equity and those that are not subject to penalty (such as a revoke in dummy).