



## TOURNAMENT OF STARS APRIL 8 TO APRIL 14 2019

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019**

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**Co-Chairs** Mike Graham 903 918-8642 [babaloolop@yahoo.com](mailto:babaloolop@yahoo.com)  
 Shirley Shelton 903.245.9573 [shirleyshelton@live.com](mailto:shirleyshelton@live.com)

### Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Gold Rush Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Bracketed Swiss Teams (Session 1 & 2 of 2)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Stratified Open Choice Pairs (Session 1, 2 & 3 of 3)	
Play 2 of 3 sessions	10:00 am, 2:30 pm & 7:00 pm
Stratified 299er Pairs (Single Session)	10:00 am, 2:30 pm, 7:00 pm
Stratified Swiss Teams (Single Session)	7:00 pm

The hotel is offering Happy Hour daily from 5 to 7.  
 We also are providing free snacks and coffee throughout the tournament.

### 299ER PAIRS SCHEDULE

Monday 2:30, 7:00  
 Tuesday 10:00, 2:30, 7:00  
 Wednesday - Saturday 10:00, 2:30, 7:00  
 Strats A 200 300, B: 100-200, C: 0-100

### GOLD RUSH PAIRS SCHEDULE

0.750 Play for Gold  
 5 sessions: Tuesday thru Saturday 10:00 and 2:30  
 BRACKETED SWISS Monday thru Saturday

ENTRY FEES: \$13+ \$4 PER SESSION FOR  
 LAPSED MEMBERS  
 East Texas Hospitality  
 COMPLIMENTARY SNACKS COFFEE AND  
 WATER

Free Parking Daily  
 Happy Hour OFFERED BY HOTEL  
 Guest Sneakers WEDNESDAY • SATURDAY

0-300 Stratified Pairs, by avg.:	A: 200-300	B: 100-200	C: 0-100
Gold Rush Pairs, by avg. :	A: 300-750	B: 100-300	C: 0-100
Limited Bracketed Swiss :	B: 0-2000		
Choice Pairs, by avge :	A: 2000+	B: 0-2000	
Stratified Open Pairs/Swiss/BAM, by avg.	A: 2000+	B: 750-2000	C: 0-750
Stratiflighted A/X Swiss, by avge :	A: 4000+	X: 0-4000	
Open Bracketed KO/Swiss :	A: Bracketed by attendance		

Note: Stratification Is based on average MPs for each pair/team. However, for Strati-Flighted events, qualification to play In a given flight is determined by the maximum MP holding for any player on that pair/team. KNOCK OUTS may be handicapped

## Co Chairs

### Mike Graham

Graduate of University of Texas at Tyler with a degree in Business Management. He is the owner & Director for the Longview DBC, a position he has held for 35 years. He also is the director for the monthly unit 225 game. Mike is a past Texas Star recipient, National Goodwill Committee member, & an inductee in the Miss Texas Pageant Hall of Honor & has the track record for the most successful local pageant director in Texas, with 9 state winners.



Mike recently attained the rank of Diamond Life Master and is a bridge teacher as well. In his spare time, he enjoys time with his 9 year old niece & 5 year old nephew & going to New York with friends.

### Shirley Shelton

Shirley is a Ruby Life Master who began playing bridge in 1995. She was the 2012 Texas Star recipient from Unit 225. She serves as Assistant Manager of the Longview Duplicate Bridge Club and works with Mike Graham in preparing and presenting twice-yearly lessons. Shirley believes that by getting to know the material well and having a class that asks a lot of questions, she has become a better player. She has lined up a number of professional teachers to speak during the tournament



## Partnership

Nelda Avent [nelda@3064@suddenlink.net](mailto:nelda@3064@suddenlink.net) 903 530 8522  
[Nelda@3064@suddenlink.net](mailto:Nelda@3064@suddenlink.net)

### Wednesday, April 10, 2019

Gold Rush Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Bracketed Swiss Teams (Session 1 & 2 of 2)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Stratified Open Choice Pairs (Session 1, 2 & 3 of 3)	
Play 2 of 3 sessions	10:00 am, 2:30 pm & 7:00 pm
Stratified 299er Pairs (Single Session)	10:00 am, 2:30 pm, 7:00 pm
Stratified Board-A-Match Teams (Single Session)	7:00 pm
Mary Ann Peden KO Teams (Round 1 of 4)	
KO may be handicapped	7:00 pm
Rounds 2-4 on TH	

### PHOTOS

Photographs of the 1st place winner overall in A, B & C, both in open and 299er pairs. First place in knockouts for each bracket and first place in all brackets/strats for other team games. We also need photo's of all the players that become Life Masters. Photos will be taken for 30 minutes after each session located at the end of the partnership desk.

**Welcome to the East Texas Tournament of Stars Regional,** in its new home, the Infinity Event Center at the Holiday Inn in Longview. We are pleased to offer a full schedule that includes Bracketed Swiss, Gold Rush Pairs, Choice Pairs, as well as 299er events and single session Swiss events in the evening.

Longview is a City of Champions & the home of the 6A Division II state football champions, the Longview Lobos, & LHS alum, Academy Award winning actor, Matthew McConaughey. Longview is also the home of the Great Texas Balloon Race, and been dubbed the "Balloon Capital of Texas" & was named by Forbes magazine as the 6th fastest growing small city in the United States.

Our registration committee, chaired by Linda Harrison & Janie Wolaver, as well as our hospitality committee, led by Linda Tillery & Patsy Alexander, are here to serve you and assist you in any way possible.

If you are in need of a partner or team, visit our partnership desk and chairman, Nelda Avent, and she will do her best to help you. Enjoy our East Texas hospitality and our wonderful local restaurants, 50 of which are within one mile of the Holiday Inn.

We are glad you are here!  
 Mike Graham & Shirley Shelton  
 Co-Chairmen

## WINNER'S CIRCLE



**Monday Eve Strat Open Pairs A**  
Shirley Shelton, Mike Graham



**Monday Eve Strat Open Pairs B,C**  
Julianne McKenna, Bob Allen



**Mon Aft Strat 299er Pairs AB**  
Diane Ferrell & Lottie Guthry



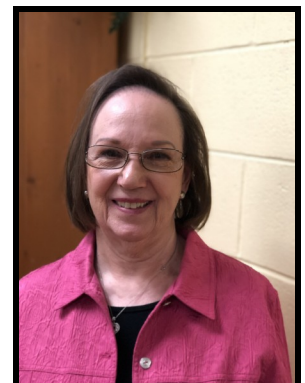
**Mon Aft Strat Open Pairs A**  
Shirley Matthews Nick France



**Mon Aft Strat Open Pairs BC**  
Sally McAnulty, Sandra O Bannon

From the Desk of Linda Harrison Unit 225 President

**Welcome to 2019 East Texas Tournament of Stars Regional Tournament** and springtime in East Texas! We hope you enjoy this week of great bridge opportunities and experience the warm East Texas hospitality! This is our first ever regional in Longview, Texas. The regional was moved from Tyler to Longview this year when Ginger Rhamey and Charles Ford elected not to chair the tournament again. We give Ginger lots of credit for getting the regional tournament started in 2010 in Tyler and to her co-chair, Charles Ford for all the hard work they put into the project to make it a success and keep the tournament returning to East Texas every two years! They have handed the baton off to Mike Graham and Shirley Shelton along with many volunteers who have worked hard to plan and pull off the tournament in our new location at the Holiday Inn Infinity Events Center in Longview. It is a great venue given the hotel was recently renovated and a spacious new events center added. The hotel is conveniently located to many nice restaurants and the Longview Mall nearby.



In addition to lots of bridge opportunities, each day you can enjoy lots of great snacks and home cooked treats compliments of the generous volunteers in each of the nine local clubs that make up Unit 225.

I hope we can celebrate lots of new life masters who win their last few points to make this milestone in their duplicate bridge journey! Have a fun time and plan to return to East Texas for our next regional in 2021!

Thank you for coming to the 2019 East Texas Tournament of Stars!

# East Texas Tournament of

Longview, TX

Apr 08-14, 2019

## Mon Br Swiss Teams-1

7 Tables

15.71	1	Virginia Noelke, San Angelo TX; Jo Smith, Abilene TX; Bruce Ferguson, Palm Springs CA; Venkatrao Koneru, San Antonio TX	99.00
11.78	2	Ron LaCour, Georgetown TX; Ira Hessel - Dave Swarthout - Donna Swarthout, San Antonio TX	84.00
8.84	3	Terri O'Brien, Leander TX; Anita Albert, Austin TX; Richard Frankeny - Diana Frankeny, Cedar Park TX	65.00

## Mon Br Swiss Teams-2

11 Tables

6.88	1	Mary Ellen Vail - Shirley Kingsley - Mark Incerto, Houston TX; Douglas Lilly, Seabrook TX	84.00
4.52	2/3	Pat Rice, Conway AR; Marsha Biggs, Little Rock AR; Charlotte Davis, Greenbrier AR; Kay Nichols, N Little Rock AR	74.00
4.52	2/3	Charlie Kemp - Marjorie Kemp, Longview TX; Dorothy Miller - Jackie McElhaney, Scroggins TX	74.00
2.90	4	Ann Haynes, Linden TX; Jeanette Shelton, Jefferson TX; Kathy Smith - Clifford Smith, Marietta TX	68.00

# East Texas Tournament of

Longview, TX

Apr 08-14, 2019

## Mon Aft Strat Open Pairs

12.5 Tables

	A	B	C		
6.71	1			Shirley Matthews, Lindale TX; Nicholas France, Spring Valley NY	67.91%
5.03	2			Mary Bartley, Bullard TX; Brenda Baker, Tyler TX	64.43%
3.77	3			Jimmy Wright, Athens TX; Gloria Rowland, Mabank TX	62.41%
3.41	4	1	1	Sandra O Bannon - Sally McAnulty, Tyler TX	62.02%
2.56	5	2	2	Joyce Hahn, Tyler TX; Rebekah Hahn, The Colony TX	58.06%
2.35	6			William Chan, Van Buren ME; Molan Chan, Grand Prairie TX	57.31%
1.92	7	3	3	Corinne Easley, Fort Worth TX; Barbara Gee, Kennedale TX	56.43%
1.44		4		Peggy Singer, Gladewater TX; Gayle Mauldin, Hallsville TX	56.03%
1.10		5	4	Stuart Nelan, Melissa TX; Barbara Lively, Plano TX	53.94%
0.86			5	Carol Kinsey, Longview TX; Linda Harrison, Pittsburg TX	47.64%

### Mon Aft Strat 299er Pairs

5.5 Tables				
	A	B	C	
2.10	1	1	Lottie Guttry, Longview TX; Diane Ferrell, Green Valley AZ	59.37%
1.58	2	2	1 Brenda Williams - Gail Cogbill, Texarkana AR	58.75%
1.18	3	3	Linda Tillery - Patsy Alexander, Longview TX	57.29%
0.89	4		Gregory May - David Badertscher, Galveston TX	55.21%
1.14		4	2 Gary Britt - Jo Britt, Mercedes TX	50.52%

## East Texas Tournament of Longview, TX Apr 08-14, 2019

### Mon Eve Strat Open Pairs

9.5 Tables				
	A	B	C	
5.83	1		Mike Graham, Ore City TX; Shirley Shelton, Longview TX	64.11%
4.37	2		Stan Pushkarsky, Austin TX; Theda Cook, Daingerfield TX	59.80%
3.28	3	1	1 Bob Allen - Julianne McKenna, Austin TX	59.20%
2.46	4	2	Joe Ramirez - Phyllis Giffin, San Antonio TX	58.06%
2.92	5	3	Heather Sanders, Daingerfield TX; Polly Schoning, Wichita KS	57.07%
2.04	6	4	2 Janie Wolaver, Jefferson TX; Sherry Russell, Longview TX	56.68%
1.20			3 Gregory May - David Badertscher, Galveston TX	49.69%

# Becoming a Tougher Opponent Part 1

## “The Weak 2 Bid”

By Mike Passell

The weak 2 bid is perhaps the most under-rated offensive and defensive bid in bridge. Using the weak 2 bid as an offensive weapon, we must use good methods to describe our hand to partner. So, you have opened a weak 2 and partner inquires about your hand with 2NT. The most frequently used methods such as “Features” and “Ogust” have too many flaws to really be effective. As an example, holding **AQJxxx Qxx xxx x** and playing “Feature”, are we really comfortable showing no feature, the very same response we would make with **KQ10xxx xxx Jx**? This seems like a bad idea. “Ogust” asks opener to show whether he has a good hand, a good suit, neither, or both. This can be quite a decision - when to show what. A simple and very effective cure to your problems is as follows. A 3 clubs response shows the best possible weak 2 bid for both game and slam purposes. Here’s a good example - **AQJxxx x Qxxx xx**. You have a great suit, great shape, and if partner is interested in a slam you are happy. A 3 diamonds response shows a good hand for game purposes but not for slam, such as a hand with **KJ10xxx x QJ10x xx**.

You have a pretty good suit and very good shape. Rebidding 3 of your weak 2 suit shows the worst hand, such as **KJxxxx Qx Jxx Jx**, and says, “Partner, you are on your own.” Responding 3 of the other major is **natural** and never a terrible hand, as we would have bid 3 of our suit. Remember it’s always possible that we may actually have a game or even slam in the other major holding **KQxxxx Kxxx xx x**. Opening 2 spades certainly describes this hand much better than passing and partner could have **xx AQJx Axxx Axx** and we belong in hearts rather than spades. Finally, we come to the 3nt response. This would be a hand that looks like it belongs in 3nt if partner has a balanced hand. An example is **AQxxxx Qx xxx Qx** which is a balanced **maximum** with a pretty good suit that might produce 9 tricks in NT. Maybe partner has something like **Kxx KJx KQxx KJx** and 3NT is a sure thing while 4 spades may require the ace of diamonds onside and avoiding ruffs by the opponents -

I know I have never gone down in 3NT on a cross ruff. Now that we are playing better methods over our weak 2 bids, get out there and make things tough on your opponents. Do I recommend opening every 6 card suit with a weak 2 bid? Definitely not - remember the better your suit quality the harder it is to get into trouble. Also remember to bid more with great shape as the 6-5 and 6-4 hands produce a lot more tricks than the 6322 hands. I have a strong preference to getting to bid after my opponent passes than when he opens a weak 2 bid. So have fun, open up your game and start being a tougher opponent.

Mike

*Reprinted from the Scorecard.*