

District 16 Newsletter for Future Life Masters

Volume 3 Issue 3

From the Editor

The NABC in Kansas City is currently underway. I hope you take advantage of the opportunity to watch some of the play on BBO. bridgebaseonline.com They will broadcast the finals of the Vanderbilt later this week and it is an opportunity to watch the high level players in action.

Make your plans now to attend the Tyler Tournament of Stars Regional, April 17 - 23. Lots of opportunity to win those gold points and enjoy great hospitality.

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

Paul Cuneo

ACBL District 16 Director

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From Unit 174 Susan Banks

Hello Everyone,

This month's person of interest is Mary Love Timmerman. I met Mary at the Lone Star Regional.

She moved to Spring last Fall, from Nashville, so she is a new member of Unit 174. Mary was born in Tennessee and raised in Texas, Minnesota and New Jersey. Her father was an executive with Boy Scouts of America. She briefly attended Abilene Christian College. Mary worked for several years as a professional artist. After moving to Nashville, where she raised her children, Mary worked for and retired from ATT.

Mary's parents played bridge, but Mary did not start playing bridge until she moved to Nashville. She has been playing duplicate on and off for about 20 years. Mary and I didn't have any success at the Lone Star Tournament, but the first time I saw her at BCOH she and her partner came in first!

The next time you see Mary give her a big Texas hello.

Remember the Election Sectional is April 7-9 at the Westchase Marriott.

Other upcoming I/N events

Austin Spring 0-200 Sectional, April 1 & 2 at Bridge Club of Austin

BAND 99er Sectional, April 28-30, Bridge Academy of North Dallas

BCOH 299er Sectional, May 4-7, Bridge Club of Houston

Waco 499er Sectional May 19-20, Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, Waco

Denton Bridge Sectional (499), May 19-21, Denton Bridge Studio

If you or someone you know would like to be profiled in person of interest, drop me a line with the contact information to sisbjohnson@gmail.com.

See you at the tables,

Susan Banks

Better Bridge Habits

Pre-game Preparation

Developing good habits at the table is an important part of learning bridge. This month's tip is to spend at least 10 minutes before each game discussing your conventions and agreements with your partner. Several good things will happen when you do this. Among them are that you'll get both of your minds focused on bridge, you can

refresh one another's memories on the conventions you play and you'll have clarity on which conventions are "on" over interference.

Eddie Kantar's Tip

When responding to an opening bid with two four-card majors, respond 1H giving partner a chance to bid 1S. If partner doesn't bid 1S, assume partner does not have four spades and bid accordingly.

You hold: S. AJxx H. KQxx D. Jx C. xxx

Partner You

1D 1H

2C ?

Bid 2NT and limit your hand to 11-12 HCP. Do not bid 2S, as you know partner does not have four spades. www.kantarbridge.com

Improved Declarer Play

Improving Declarer Play

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:

A Q x x x

10 x

You are the declarer and need 3 tricks from this suit. Lead low to the 10 and finesse the Queen. 71% chance of 3 tricks unless East has Kx. Then it is 78%

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

Suit Preference signals are the simplest and the most elegant of the signals, yet the average player has more trouble with them. Here is the first case of using suit preference signals playing standard signals. You are defending a 4H contract. Partner leads the A of spades:

N – S - J975

W – AK102

E – Q (you)

S – ?

You play the Queen and partner knows it is either a singleton or doubleton. He continues with the K and you discard a low Diamond. Partner then leads the 10 of spades. He plays the 10 to tell you to return a Diamond so he can give you a 2nd ruff and defeat the contract. If partner wanted a Club, he would lead his lowest remaining spade. 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:

With 3 card support and a hand that is too strong for a single raise of partner’s overcall, cue bid the opponents suit. West opens 1H and your partner bids 1S. East passes and you hold S – A87, H- 54, D – KQ87, C Q652. You should bid 2H to tell partner you have a limit raise or better in Spades. www.kantarbridge.com

Its the Law

Calls out of rotation

These laws deal with calls out of turn. The Laws use **call** for any bid, pass, double or redouble. The first principle is that the opponents have the right to accept the call out of turn if it would be a legal call. As an example, you are the dealer and your RHO places a pass card on the table. If you bid 1D, you have accepted the call out of turn and the auction would proceed normally. The same thing would happen if you called the Director and when he asks “Do you accept the call?” you say yes. Thus most of what follows is about what happens when you do not accept the call out of turn.

From Duplicate Decisions:

“NOTE: The Director should be extra careful to read the appropriate Law in making a ruling under these sections. This is one area where it is vital to understand the distinction between Laws that use the all-encompassing term “call”, which refers to ANY bid, double, redouble or pass, and Laws that deal with bids only.

28 - Calls Considered to be in Rotation

A call is considered to be in rotation:

1. when made by a player before RHO calls if RHO is required by Law to pass.
2. when made by a player at his turn to call before rectification can be determined for an opponent's call out of turn. Making such a call forfeits the right to rectification for the call out of turn, which is canceled, and the auction proceeds as though there had been no irregularity. (Law 16D2 applies.)

29 - Procedure after a Call out of Rotation

Offender's LHO may elect to make a call following a call out of rotation, and any right to rectification is forfeited. The auction proceeds.

When the call is not accepted, the Director would cancel the call out of rotation and the auction would revert to the player whose turn it was to call. The offender may make any legal call in proper rotation, but his side may be subject to rectification under Laws 30, 31 or 32.

NOTE: If the out-of-rotation call is conventional, the provisions of Laws 30, 31 and 32 apply to the denomination(s) specified rather than the denomination named.

30 - Pass out of Rotation

In general, a player who passes out of turn must pass at his next turn to call — unless his pass was conventional. If the Director determines that the pass is conventional, the penalties are the same as those in Law 31 for a bid out of turn — partner must pass for the remainder of the auction and Law 26 (lead penalties) and Law 23 (effects of enforced pass) may apply.

31 - Bid out of Rotation

At RHO's turn to call — if RHO passes, the offender must repeat the call out of rotation. When that call is legal, there is no further rectification.

At RHO's turn to call — if RHO acts, the offender may repeat the denomination, with his partner passing one time only, or; if the offender does not repeat the denomination named, or if the out of rotation call was an artificial pass, offender's partner must pass for the balance of the auction. Lead restrictions may apply.

At Partner or LHO's turn to call — If LHO has not previously called, the offender's partner must pass for the remainder of the auction. Lead restrictions may apply.

32 - Double or Redouble out of Rotation

A double or redouble out of turn may be accepted at the option of the opponent next in rotation (See Law 29A), but an inadmissible double or redouble may never be accepted (See Law 36).

If the double or redouble out of rotation is not accepted, it is cancelled and lead restrictions in Law 26B may apply. When made At Partner's turn to call – the offender's partner must pass whenever it is his turn to call. See Law 23 if the pass damages the nonoffending side.

At RHO's turn to call – if RHO passes, the double or redouble must be repeated, and there is no further penalty. If RHO takes any legal action, the offender may make any legal call, but his partner must pass throughout the remainder of the auction. See Law 23 if the pass damages the non-offenders.