

SUNSHINE BRIDGE NEWS

ACBL - DISTRICT 9

Volume 6 - Number 5
May/June 2010



**DISTRICT 9
STARS
ACBL-WIDE
WINNERS**

www.District9ACBL.org

DISTRICT 9 POLLING QUESTION



Thank you to our members who responded to the previous two surveys. In our January/February issue, we asked you whether you choose a regional event because of the times the event is played, the masterpoint awards offered or the type of field in the event. About 60% of you choose first by the times of the event. Almost 30% of you choose first by the awards offered in the event. The other 10% of you choose by the type of field (level of competition) you expect to find in the event.

In March/April, after the successful Regional-at-Sea, we asked your opinion about this type of tournament. Would you go? Should we have more than one a year? Would you go to more than one a year, and how many? At first, we had our response settings incorrectly adjusted, and one of you mentioned that in the comment. The survey will stay up for a while in case you'd like to go back and try it again. After we fixed it, though, only one respondent said they would go! The rest of you either voted no without commenting, or voted no and commented. We thank you for your thoughtful responses.

Here are samples:

"Cruising isn't my thing. I don't mind [your] having one a year, for those who like to cruise. [The way it is now] people who don't stay at the luxury hotels can still play in the games -- only those who cruise can play in the cruise regional."

"[I would attend] none but thanks for asking."

"Such a small percentage of our members would play at a regional at sea, why are you even asking us this question?"

How about YOU?

Please go to www.District9ACBL.org and let us know...

Which would you prefer reading about in the Sunshine Bridge News:

1. Our top 100 masterpoint holders
2. Our members who celebrate their 100th birthday

You'll find a space for comments.

Thanks for sending us your opinions.

**18,348
DISTRICT 9
MEMBERS**

**Unit 102 1,070
Unit 128 13,281
Unit 219 679
Unit 240 2,134
Unit 243 1,184**



Palm Beach Gardens Regional Tournament

May 31 through June 6

PGA National Resort & Spa
400 Avenue of Champions
Palm Beach Gardens, FL
(800) 633-9150
(561) 627-2000

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MON MAY 31	1:00 Charity Open Pairs 7:00 Charity Open Pairs 7:00 Bracketed Open KOs, Round 1 (cont'd Tue. 9:00 am, 1:00 & 7:00) 9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (1 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session)
TUE JUN 1	1:00 & 7:00 Primetime KOs I, Rounds 1 & 2 (cont'd 1:00 & 7:00 Wed.) 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game Series I (1 of 6) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series I (2 of 6) 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams (single-session)
WED JUN 2	9:00 am Compact KOs, Rounds 1 and 2 (cont'd 9:00 am Thurs; 4-member teams) 9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (2 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session) 1:00 & 7:00 Primetime KOs II, Rounds 1 & 2 (cont'd 1:00 & 7:00 Thu.) 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game Series I (3 of 6) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series I (4 of 6) 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams (single-session)
THU JUN 3	9:00 am Compact KOs, Rounds 1 and 2 (cont'd 9:00 am Fri; 4-member teams) 9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (3 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session) 1:00 & 7:00 Primetime KOs III, Rounds 1 & 2 (cont'd 1:00 & 7:00 Fri.) 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game Series I (5 of 6) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series I (6 of 6) 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams (single-session)
FRI JUN 4	9:00 am Compact KOs, Rounds 1 and 2 (cont'd 9:00 am Sat.; 4-member teams) 9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (4 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session) 1:00 & 7:00 Primetime KOs IV, Rounds 1 & 2 (cont'd 1:00 & 7:00 Sat.) 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game Series II (1 of 4) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series II (2 of 4) 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams (single-session)
SAT JUN 5	9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (5 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session) 1:00 & 7:00 Swiss Teams, Bracketed by Team Masterpoints 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game Series II (3 of 4) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series II (4 of 4)
SUN JUN 6	10:00 am Stratified Open Swiss Teams (Playthrough) 10:00 am Stratified Senior Swiss Teams (Playthrough)

HOSTS

Bob Parlin - 239-774-1139
bobpar128@comcast.net
Jayne Thomas - 813-727-5796
jtabcl1289@aol.com

PARTNERSHIPS

Betty Grandoff
727-669-5283
BSGrandoff@aol.com

HOSPITALITY

Coffee & Orange Juice Daily
Monday-Friday Evenings
Open Hospitality Room
Everyone Welcome

Ice Cream and/or Desserts
Pizza and Beer

Thursday through Saturday
Senior Breakfast

Our Famous Dinner:
Ham, Turkey and all the Trimmings
Subsidized Sunday Snacks

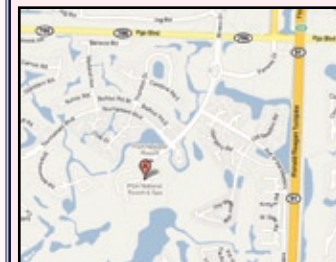
STRATA

Open & Senior Events
A=2000+ B=750-2000 C=0-750
299er Events
A=200-300, B=100-200, C=0-100
Strata May Be Changed At Director's Discretion

DIRECTIONS

From I-95, take Exit 78B onto PGA Blvd., travel west 2-1/2 miles then turn left onto Avenue of Champions.

From Florida's Turnpike, take Exit 109 to Palm Beach Gardens and turn right, 1/10 of a mile, turn left into resort.



Gold Coast Unit 243

June 28 – July 4, 2010
July 4th Regional

HILTON DEERFIELD BEACH

100 Fairway Drive
 Deerfield Beach, FL 33441
 195 & Hillsboro Blvd.

Tel: 1-800-HILTONS
 \$81.00 + tax

Make your reservation early to take advantage of the bridge rate.
PLEASE CARPOOL WHEN POSSIBLE.

Enjoy Unit 243 Hospitality
 Coffee, Tea and OJ all day, daily
 Bagels in the AM, daily
 Evening Snacks & Desserts
 Hospitality Suite open evenings
 FREE Lunch on Sunday

Co-Chairs:

Marty Robins 954-529-5512 Email: martyrob@aol.com
 William Rauld 305-219-2800 Email: wrauld@bellsouth.net

Partnership Co-Chairs:

Jim Walker 954-729-7665 Email: hcp07@comcast.net
 Marge Pecoraro 954-857-6159 Email: mpecor0274@aol.com

Hospitality:

Carmela Knauer

Gold Points
Red Points
Prizes



GREAT LOCATION
FREE PARKING
GREAT PLAYING CONDITIONS

SCHEDULE

Monday June 28	Charity Pairs – 1pm Open Knockouts (Rd. 1) – 7pm Win an Entry Pairs – 7pm
Tuesday June 29	Morning Side Series – 9am Knockouts cont. (Rds. 2,3,4) – 9am, 1pm & 7pm Stratified Senior Pairs – 10am & 3pm Stratified Open Pairs 1 – 1pm & 7pm Prime Time Knockouts 1 (Rds. 1&2) – 1pm & 7pm Side Game Series 1 (single session) – 1pm & 7pm One Session Swiss Team – 7pm
Wednesday June 30	Morning Side Series – 9am Stratified Senior Pairs – 10am & 3pm Stratified Open Pairs – 1pm & 7pm Primetime Knockouts 1 cont. (Rds. 3&4) – 1pm & 7pm Primetime Knockouts II new (Rds. 1&2) – 1pm & 7pm Side Game Series 1 (single session) – 1pm & 7pm One Session Swiss Team – 7pm
Thursday July 1	Morning Side Series—9am Stratified Senior Swiss—10am & 3pm Stratiflighted Open Swiss—1pm & 7pm Primetime KO II cont. (Rds. 3&4) —1pm & 7pm Side Game Series I (single session)—1pm & 7pm
Friday July 2	Morning Side Series – 9am Stratified Open Pairs – 11am & 4pm (Marilyn Brady Memorial Game) Primetime Knockouts III – (Rds. 1&2) 1pm & 7pm Side Game Series II (single session) – 1pm & 7pm One Session Swiss Team – 7pm
Saturday July 3	Morning Side Series – 9am Stratified Open Pairs – 11am & 4pm Swiss Teams, Bracketed by Team Masterpoints—1pm & 7pm Primetime Knockouts III cont. (Rds. 3&4)—1pm & 7pm Side Games Series II (single session)—1pm & 7pm
Sunday July 4	Stratified Senior Swiss Teams – 10am – Playthrough Stratiflighted Open Swiss Teams – 10am – Playthrough
299er Novice/Intermediate Events (Stratified) Tuesday through Saturday - 10am & 3pm Sunday - 10am Playthrough Stratified Swiss Teams	
OPEN STRAT A=2000+ B=500-2000 C=0-500 STRATIFLIGHTED SWISS TEAMS A=3000+ A/X=0-3000 (plays together) B=750-1500 C=300-750 D=0-300 (plays together)	

Clearwater Regional

August 23-29

CLEARWATER BEACH HILTON

400 Mandalay Ave

Clearwater Beach

(727) 461-3222

HOSPITALITY

Coffee & Orange Juice Daily

Monday –Friday Evenings

Open Hospitality Room

Everyone Welcome

Ice Cream and/or Desserts

Pizza and Beer

Thursday through Saturday

Senior Breakfast

Our Famous Dinner:

Ham, Turkey and all the Trimmings

Subsidized Sunday Snacks

STRATA

Open & Senior Events

A=2000+ B=750-2000 C=0-750

299er Events

A=200-300, B=100-200, C=0-100

Strata May Be Changed At Director's Discretion

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Jayne Thomas – 813-727-5796

jtacbl1289@aol.com

PARTNERSHIPS

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727-669-5283

BSGrandoff@aol.com

DIRECTIONS

Take Hwy 60 West to Clearwater Beach. Resort is at the corner of Hwy 60 and Mandalay Avenue.



MON AUG 23	1:00 Charity Open Pairs 7:00 Charity Open Pairs 7:00 Bracketed Open KOs, Round 1 (cont'd Tue. 9:00 am, 1:00 & 7:00)
TUE AUG 24	9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (1 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session) 1:00 & 7:00 Primetime KOs I, Rounds 1 & 2 (cont'd 1:00 & 7:00 Wed.) 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game Series I (1 of 6) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series I (2 of 6) 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams (single-session)
WED AUG 25	9:00 am Compact KOs, Rounds 1 and 2 (cont'd 9:00 am Thurs; 4-member teams) 9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (2 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session) 1:00 & 7:00 Primetime KOs II, Rounds 1 & 2 (cont'd 1:00 & 7:00 Thu.) 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game, Series I (3 of 6) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series I (4 of 6) 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams (single-session)
THU AUG 26	9:00 am Compact KOs, Rounds 1 and 2 (cont'd 9:00 am Fri; 4-member teams) 9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (3 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session) 1:00 & 7:00 Primetime KOs III, Rounds 1 & 2 (cont'd 1:00 & 7:00 Fri.) 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game Series I (5 of 6) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series I (6 of 6) 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams (single-session)
FRI AUG 27	9:00 am Compact KOs, Rounds 1 and 2 (cont'd 9:00 am Sat.; 4-member teams) 9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (4 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session) 1:00 & 7:00 Primetime KOs IV, Rounds 1 & 2 (cont'd 1:00 & 7:00 Sat.) 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game Series II (1 of 4) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series II (2 of 4) 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams (single-session)
SAT AUG 28	9:00 am Morning Side Game Series (5 of 5) 10:00 am & 3:00 Stratified Senior Pairs (two-session event) 10:00 am 299er Pairs (single-session) 1:00 & 7:00 Swiss Teams, Bracketed by Team Masterpoints 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Open Pairs (two-session event) 1:00 Side Game Series II (3 of 4) 3:00 299er Pairs (single-session) 7:00 Side Game Series II (4 of 4)
SUN AUG 29	10:00 am Stratified Open Swiss Teams (Playthrough) 10:00 am Stratified Senior Swiss Teams (Playthrough)

Unit 128 of the ACBL, USBF, and Alice Travel present

Our first *Regional At Sea* was such a smashing success that 100 players who participated in the 2009 sailing have already signed on for 2010 and our guest list continues to grow!

GOLD POINTS

DAILY BRIDGE LESSON with LARRY COHEN

Hand Analysis • Side Games

Private Cocktail Party • Awards Ceremony

From Just \$1098 per person includes

Lectures with Larry • Card Fees • Gratuities



Event Schedule (subject to slight changes)

	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	8:00 PM
Sun., Dec. 12	Afternoon hand analysis with Larry Cohen and Shannon Cappelletti. Side Game Series/Pairs available every session.			Side Game Series Bracketed KO1 Round 1
Mon., Dec. 13	Larry Cohen Lecture	Stratified Swiss Team 1st Session	Open Pairs 1st Session 0-299 Game	Side Game Series Bracketed KO1 Round 2
Tue., Dec. 14	Larry Cohen Lecture	Stratified Swiss Team 2nd Session	Open Pairs 2nd Session 0-299 Game	Side Game Series Bracketed KO1 Round 3
Wed., Dec. 15	Larry Cohen Lecture	Open Pairs 1st Session	Stratified Swiss Teams 1st Session	Side Game Series Bracketed KO2 Round 1
Thur., Dec. 16	Larry Cohen Lecture	Open Pairs 2nd Session	Stratified Swiss Teams 2nd Session	Side Game Series Bracketed KO2 Round 2
Fri., Dec. 17	Larry Cohen Lecture	Open Pairs 1st Session	Open Pairs 2nd Session	Side Game Series Bracketed KO2 Round 3
Sat., Dec. 18	Larry Cohen Lecture	Stratified Swiss Teams 1st Session 0-299 Game	Stratified Swiss Teams 2nd Session 0-299 Game	Awards Program



Convenient
for Sunshine
Members!

December 12-19, 2010

**Eastern Caribbean—Roundtrip Miami
on Royal Caribbean's *Liberty of the Seas***

CALL ALICE TRAVEL NOW

800 229-2542 • www.alicetravel.com

e-mail: bridge@alicetravel.com

bridge questions: Larry Cohen: LNC@larryco.com

or Jayne Thomas: jtacbl1289@aol.com

Itinerary

Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010	Depart: Miami, Florida
Monday, Dec. 13, 2010	At sea
Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2010	At sea
Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010	Phillipsburg, St. Maarten
Thursday, Dec. 16, 2010	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Friday, Dec. 17, 2010	Labadee, Haiti
Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010	At sea
Sunday, Dec. 19, 2010	Disembark: Miami, Florida

Call Alice Travel to sign up for this ACBL Regional at Sea bridge cruise. The bridge package **ONLY** is available for \$400 per person and must be purchased from Alice Travel. Government fees additional \$85 per person.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE DISTRICT 9

Jeff Overby, District 9 President • KeysBridgePlayer@aol.com

Starting off the month of May is the GNT finals and a special sectional April 30-May 2nd at the Vero Beach Bridge Club, which just October of last year celebrated 50 years of its successful existence. Even the Mayor of Vero came to the party.

Just when you would assume that things would be slowing down, bridge-wise, with our "snowbirds" heading back from whence they came, the opposite is occurring. Starting in May and going thru February of next year, there is a Regional tournament starting and/or ending EACH month in the State of Florida, except for October. In October, though, we have the NAP finals! On top of that the Fall NABCs will be held in Orlando, November 25-December 5th. Just one week after the NABCs, December 12-18th will be the 2nd REGIONAL AT SEA.

Don't miss the next Regional at the beautiful PGA National Resort and Spa, May 31-June 6, in Palm Beach Gardens, near the Turnpike. Next will be the very popular 4th of July Regional, hosted by Unit 243, starting June 28 and ending on the 4th of July at the Deerfield Beach Hilton.

June is also the beginning of qualifying for the NAP (North American Pairs) at the club level. You can play as many times as you wish at the qualifying club games with any number of partners, but the club qualifying games only last a limited time, so get to one of the hundreds of clubs that will be holding these games and win lots of points.

Your District Board will have met during the week of April 19-25 and will be announcing how many young players will be receiving partial grants to compete at the Youth Nationals July 29-31 in New Orleans. Each Unit has contributed and private contributions will allow us to assist our young players to attend a tournament and compete against their peers.

I hope to see many of you at the many tournaments hosted by Units within YOUR District 9.

J. Jefferson Overby

TABLE OF CONTENTS

District 9 Polling Question	2
President's Message by Jeff Overby	10
District 9 Update by Shirley Seals	12
Speaking of District 9 by Muriel Altus	14
District Staff & Board Members	15
1-Level Openings Wrap-up by Larry Cohen	16
Play or Defend? by Jon Shuster	18
ETHICS II by Harry Falk	20
My Illegal Hero by Harry Ross	22
Play Hard, Play Well: 12 Is Not Enough! by Robert S. Todd	24
MORE BRAGGIN' RIGHTS by Zeke Jabbour	26
District 9 News	30
Tournament Calendar	32
Ideas About Logical Thinking	
Partnering the Wizard by Barnet Shenkin	34
Unit 102	35
Unit 128	39
District 9 Rank Changes: November	48
Unit 219	49
Unit 240	52
Unit 243	58

TOURNAMENTS

PALM BEACH GARDENS REGIONAL	3
DEERFIELD REGIONAL	4
CLEARWATER REGIONAL	6
REGIONAL -AT-SEA	8
Naples Sectional	43
Jourdan's Sectional	44
DeLand Sectional	45
Bridge Deck Club Sectional	46
Gainesville Sectional	47
Orlando Memorial Day Sectional	56
Orlando Summer Sectional	57

SECOND YEAR IN A ROW! By Theri Andino



If you've played at a Regional tournament in Florida (or almost anywhere else, for that matter) in the last few years, you've probably seen Robert Todd – One of District 9's Stars

..... Page 28

The Sunshine Bridge News is mailed six times a year to households of paid-up members of District 9 of the ACBL. The mailing list is prepared about a month before the publication arrives in your mailbox. Mailing is by bulk mail.

ACBL members of other districts and non-members residing anywhere in the U.S. may subscribe.

Subscriptions to the SBN are available at a cost of \$15 for six consecutive issues. A check made out to Sunshine Bridge News should be sent to Shirley Seals, P.O. Box 1534, Ponte Vedra, FL 32004 with address information.

Subscription issues will be mailed by first class mail, a few days after the full District 9 mailing list goes to the Bulk Mail Office for distribution. Address changes for subscriptions may be sent by email to Shirley at ShirleySealsFL@aol.com.

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DISTRICT 9 UPDATE DISTRICT 9

Shirley Seals, District 9 Director • ShirleySealsFL@aol.com

HIGHLIGHTS FROM RENO NATIONAL BOARD MEETING – March 2010

Congratulations to **Jeff Overby**, President of District 9 and Unit 128, who has been appointed as Chair of the National ACBL Disciplinary Committee, to serve a three year term.

EXCITING NEWS FOR ORLANDO NABC 2010 – A NEW EVENT

A Super Seniors Pairs (age 70+) shall be established as an NABC+ Event

- to be held at the Fall 2010 NABC and continuing at each Fall NABC until further notice
- to be held the last two days of the Fall NABC
- start times of 10 A.M. and 3 P.M.
- the event will consist of 2 qualifying and 2 final sessions
- the national formula for masterpoints will be used to award platinum points
- masterpoints earned will not count towards senior masterpoint races
- this event shall not qualify for Grand Life Master eligibility

Motion Passed of Great Interest to Club Owners, Club Managers and Club Directors:

The month of February is reserved for Junior Fund Games, the month of April is reserved for Charity Games and the month of September is reserved for International Fund Games. In those months, any and

all ACBL sanctioned club sessions may be Special Games for the named funds. In the remaining nine months of the year, ONE GAME PER MONTH PER SANCTIONED SESSION maybe a Special Game for the Junior Fund, International Fund, Educational Foundation, or Charity.

The masterpoint rating for all of these Special Games will be 70% of the Sectional Rating, maintaining the current cap of 6.00 masterpoints. Effective Date: July 1, 2010.

I did not vote in favor of this motion since I believe these Special Games increase club game attendance and are very popular with our players. However, I was in the vast minority in voting against this motion.

Another Motion Passed of Great Interest to Club Members:

Any club that, in any calendar year, runs one or more allowed Special local Charity Games that are sanctioned for extra masterpoints, must make available for PUBLIC INSPECTION an accounting of all funds raised in such games no later than February 28th of the following calendar year. (Rumors of non-compliance of the every other charity game going to local charitable causes has precipitated this motion.)

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS FROM NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

- Moved that beginning in 2011, the ACBL Senior age would increase one

year until the age of 60 was reached in 2015, was defeated. The vote was 9 in favor and 16 opposed. Here again, I was not on the winning side. Many Directors felt this would not find favor with their 55 – 60 year old members.

- Moved that ALL sanctioned games held at clubs, with the sole exception of STaCs, are to be counted in Ace of Clubs masterpoint races at Unit, District, and ACBL wide levels.
- The number of boards played in Regional events at NABCs of the following types shall be determined by ACBL Management
 1. KOs
 2. Events all of whose sessions begin in the morning
 3. Events held on the final Sunday
 4. Single session events

The number of boards played in any other Regional events at NABCs shall consist of (A) Either 26 or 27 boards in any session of a pair game (B) At least 52 boards in a two-session team game.

The vote on this was close. The majority felt that Districts who sponsor NABCs should have a say in the number of boards played in NABC Regional events and the motion was defeated.

- Moved that NO club within 50 miles of a Sectional or Regional tournament may run an Upgraded Game on any day of that Tournament. Motion defeated.

COMMENTS FROM JAY BAUM, CEO, ACBL – SPRING 2010 – RENO NABC

Despite an expectation to see a major drop in membership from 2009, the good news is that membership increased slightly in the first two months of 2010.

Regionals started 2010 with impressive numbers and set a tone that bodes very well for the league. The table average of nearly 1,800 is a fantastic number.

The amnesty promotional campaign, launched in June 2009, as a way to encourage those with lapsed membership to rejoin the ACBL, was a huge success.

Planning continues for the 2010 Youth NABC, scheduled for July 29 – 31, 2010 at the Summer NABC in New Orleans.

WEB SITE ENHANCEMENTS

Club managers now have the ability to post their daily game results on the ACBL web site. This new feature, officially rolled out to clubs in Mid-December 2009, currently has over 500 clubs signed up and are taking advantage of it. A new enhancement to this feature has recently been added which allows club managers the ability to post important messages to the players. (Ex., “No game today due to snow”.)

It was so good to see many of you in Reno. It is long travel days from Florida. The Good News is that the Summer NABC will be in New Orleans and Best of All, the Fall NABC will be in our own Orlando at the favorite Marriott World Center.



Speaking of District 9 FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Muriel Altus, District 9 Communications Chair • msa1289@yahoo.com

Why am I so much more excited about the upcoming Fall NABC to be held at the Orlando Marriott World Center than I was for the same event, same location, six years ago? I think it's because I get to talk to you here, now, and I'm so very happy that you will have the opportunity to attend an NABC, in our own back yard. I am particularly excited if it's going to be your very first NABC.

As I so often do, I must now tell you that we here at the Sunshine Bridge News are less than perfect. In no way does that show more than in our efforts to congratulate our members on their change in ranks. As of course you know, we are a two-month publication. From this we easily deduce that, if we start current, to stay current we need to publish two months' changes in every issue. Try though we do, we don't always manage that. I even sometimes offer to eliminate my Communicating column -- but one page isn't quite enough for all of you that change rank during a month! That, of course, is GOOD. I'm glad so many of you are out there earning masterpoints. I often say, let's not have a cover story; let's just publish rank changes, to catch up! But alas, then we would be woefully behind in cover stories.

My request from you, dear reader, is to forgive us for our imperfections. Please know we want nothing more than to send you a useful, fun, accurate Sunshine Bridge News, six times a year. We especially want every one we mail to reach its intended destination!

As I write this to you, I cannot say for sure if we will manage to publish all the congratulations to our 2009 leaders in the various masterpoint races. You probably did notice that we had a great number of the ACBL-wide winners in the categories. Of course you know (because I like to tell you!) that we have over 10% of the entire ACBL membership. However, our members won a full one-third of the Mini-McKenney races, 20% of the special category races and a whopping 69% of the Ace of Clubs awards. Now THAT is IMPRESSIVE! The Rookie of the Year race is particularly interesting, because **Kimberly Whipple** won ACBL-wide and is a resident of Boca Grande, Florida, but ACBL counted her in her previous district by their way of deciding, when a player lives in two different districts during a calendar year, which district is their home district for the year. Second as Rookie ACBL-wide was **Yannis Karabelas** from Pompano Beach who also won the Rookie Ace of Clubs award. Great going, District 9!

Thank you for letting me visit with you here.

Muriel Altus



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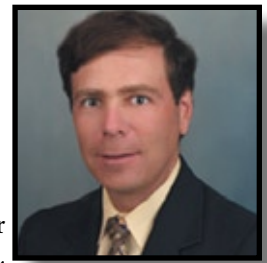
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1-LEVEL OPENINGS WRAP-UP

by Larry Cohen



In the previous four issues we've examined openings on the one-level in minors and majors. Now, in this issue and in the next two, we'll tie up the loose ends with an examination of these oft-confused topics.

We Will Cover:

1. Opener's Jump Shift
2. Opener's Reverse
3. Fourth-Suit Forcing
4. New-Minor Checkback
5. Inverted Minors
6. 2/1 Game Force

Warning: Some of this material is a little beyond my normal KISS approach. The first three items are "must-reads" for all players up to intermediate level. The latter three items (covered in my next two articles) are more on the advanced side.

1. OPENER'S JUMP SHIFT

It continually amazes me how many "intermediate" players have been improperly taught (or improperly remember) this topic. Read carefully: A jump shift by opener is GAME FORCING. It shows a very big hand. It does not show a 16- or 17-count. Got it?

Let's Look at a Few Examples:

	OPENER		RESPONDER
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♣		

Opener should have something like:

♠4 ♥A2 ♦AQJ92 ♣AKJ32

Opener should **not** have:

♠4 ♥J2 ♦KQJ92 ♣AKQ32

With the latter hand, opener has to rebid 2♣ (in tempo, please). He is not nearly strong enough to jump shift.

16 ACBL District 9

	OPENER		RESPONDER
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♥		

Opener should have something like:

♠A3 ♥AQJ2 ♦2 ♣AKJ652

Opener should **not** have:

♠4 ♥KJ92 ♦A2 ♣AQJ832

With the latter hand, opener has to rebid 1♥ (again, in tempo—don't indicate that you have extras by taking a long time). Opener is not nearly strong enough to force to game with a jump shift.

So, a jump shift is a huge bid, showing almost a strong 2-bid. Not only is it forcing (partner cannot pass), but it is forcing all the way until game is reached. The only way to stop short of game is if responder breaks system and just decides to pass, maybe because he has responded with a 1-count or the like.

Note: A 2NT rebid (as a jump shift) is the obvious exception. That action shows 18-19 balanced, and can be passed.

2. OPENER'S REVERSE

This can be a complex subject. "What is a reverse?" Technically, there are several ways to describe it, all of them confusing. Here is one way to define a reverse:

a nonjump bid by opener at the two-level in a new suit that ranks higher than the suit opener bid first

Ugh! Better to look at a few example auctions of a reverse by opener:

Auction 1)

	OPENER		RESPONDER
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♦		

Auction 2)

	OPENER		RESPONDER
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥		

Notice that in each auction, the opener bid a new suit on the two-level in a higher-ranking suit than his first suit. Such a bid shows extras. Why? Because if the responder now were to go back (take a preference) to opener's first suit, he would have to go up even one more level (to the three-level). Opener had better have a good hand to survive such a preference. How good?

A reverse shows about 16-18 playing points. I won't get into how to add for distribution at this point. Suffice to say, that the modern-day treatment is to count extra for long suits. Add for short suits, only after a trump-fit has been established.

So, on the two auctions shown above, the hands opener might have (respectively) are:

Auction 1)

♠5 ♥J43 ♦AQJ9 ♣AKQ54

Opener should **not** have:

♠4 ♥QJ2 ♦AQJ9 ♣KJ532

This hand is not strong enough to reverse.

Auction 2)

♠2 ♥AQJ3 ♦AKJ98 ♣K54

Opener should **not** have:

♠2 ♥QJ32 ♦AKJ65 ♣K32

This hand is not strong enough to reverse.

A reverse is forcing—responder "cannot" pass. However a reverse is **NOT** forcing to game. Note the difference between a reverse and a jump shift which guarantees a more powerful hand and is game-forcing.

Quick Summary:

Opener's JumpShift = Game forcing

Opener's Reverse = One-round forcing

What happens after the reverse? You can just "wing it," if you wish, but here is a simple (and common) system:

AFTER OPENER REVERSES:

If the responder rebids his suit, it shows 5 cards and is forcing one round, but not to game. Example: 1♦—1♠—2♥—2♠ (5+♠, forcing one round)

If the responder bids the cheapest new suit (or 2NT if that is cheaper), he is showing a weak hand. He can pass opener's next bid. Example: 1♦—1♠—2♥—2NT (weak hand—the responder can pass opener's next bid).

If the responder does anything else, it is natural and forcing to game.

Example: 1♦—1♠—2♥—3♦ (Natural, game forcing)

Notes: There is confusion (rightly so) over other reverse auctions. For example, is 1♥—2♣—2♠ a reverse? It is, but does it show extras if playing that 2♣ was already GF? There is no universal answer. Also, is 1♠—2♥—3♣ a reverse?

Again, no consensus. There are other auctions where it is not clear if opener has reversed, nor whether he has promised extras. Also, the explanation given in this article is just a summary—it doesn't cover all the nuances. However, it already says more than I wanted to say—this is supposed to be a KISS (Keep it Simple...) summary.

Stay tuned for **Fourth-Suit Forcing, New Minor Forcing, Inverted Minors and 2/1 Game Force.**

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The Kibitzer is Shirley Wright Play or Defend?

By Jon Shuster



Shirley is taking this issue off. This hand was published by Larry Cohen in the ACBL Bulletin, Feb 2010, Page 48, in his outstanding monthly column "The Real Deal".

IMPS. East DLR, NS Vul.

North

♠-Q3
♥-63
♦-AKJ1098
♣-J32

West

♠-AJ10875
♥-1084
♦-43
♣-87

East

♠-64
♥-AQ72
♦-7652
♣-A54

South

♠-K92
♥-KJ95
♦-Q
♣-KQ1096

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	1♣
2♣(weak)	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West leads the ♠J, and Larry pointed out correctly that the right play is to duck in both dummy and in hand. But making 3NT is anything but a slam dunk, even if indeed declarer ducks the ♠ at trick one. Can 3NT be made, assuming double dummy play and defense?

The North and West hands were given to four Gainesville experts, and after the ♠ duck, two of them (Ron Law and Abe Pallas) switched to ♦s. The hand is indeed routinely made on any other defense.

Solution: Yes, it can, but the declarer play must proceed with absolute precision, while the defense is straightforward if declarer veers from the winning path. Cards may help you follow this.

(1) North must cash exactly 4 ♦s, discarding 1♥, and 2♣s (we will make the ♣ discards the ♣-Q6). The hand will easily be set if more or fewer ♦s are cashed.

(2) Next, a low ♥ is led from dummy toward South's ♥-KJ9, a counter-intuitive play!

A black suit exit from dummy instead of the ♥ is fatal. East cannot gain by playing the ♥A on this trick (#6), so let us say East plays low.

Here is the situation when the ♥J holds: (South needing four more tricks)

North

♠-Q
♥-6
♦-98
♣-J32

West

♠-A10
♥-1084
♦-
♣-87

East

♠-4
♥-AQ7
♦-
♣-A54

South

♠-K9
♥-K9
♦-
♣-K109

(3) South plays the ♣K, and ♣10, both of which East has to duck to prevent declarer from reaching dummy to enjoy the last two ♦s.

(4) Having won the two ♣s bringing the trick total to seven, declarer attacks ♠s (the third suit South attacks outside ♦s). West wins and returns a ♠ (best), won by declarer for the 8th trick. Finally declarer exits with a ♣ to East's Ace, and East has to lead from ♥-AQ with declarer holding K9, yielding a ninth trick. Any other line of play fails with proper defense. (This was cross-checked with the GIB double dummy analyzer, which allows you to play and retract single cards and see if the played card changes the NS trick total.)

By the way, this is the correct line of play, even single dummy. The only other line with a viable chance is to hope East has both the ♥A and ♣A and fewer than three ♣s. If that is the case, you could run four ♦s pitching 1♣ and 2♥s, and exit from dummy in ♣s. East can win the first or second ♣, but the ♣J is an entry, leading to nine easy tricks. Given that the ♠ and ♦ counts are known, and the two Aces are placed in the East hand, there are 10 remaining slots (for low ♣s, low ♥s, and the ♥Q), five in each hand. The ♥Q with East is a 50-50 shot. The odds of finding exactly zero or one of the four low ♣s in the East hand is far below 50-50.

Lesson: This hand illustrates the thin line between taking enough tricks in a long suit and taking too many to squeeze your hand. If as defenders, you and your partner signal well and discard well, consider an opening lead in their big suit when they bid a gambling 3NT. You will get to see dummy's assets before you make a potentially disastrous lead.



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5 to 20

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20 to 50

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

ETHICS II

by Harry Falk • harryfalk@msn.com

My last column on ethics evoked quite a number of comments, and this month we will continue to examine some situations which might arise at the table.

Here's an instance which should never occur. You're declarer after a simple 1NT-Pass-3NT auction and LHO leads the Queen of ♠s. Here's your hand and dummy:

Dummy

♠76

♥KJ5

♦J5

♣KJ10863

Your Hand

♠AJ8

♥AQ64

♦Q6

♣Q542

You're a bit lucky so far, since you're down immediately on a ♦ lead. You can only hope that if RHO wins the ace of ♣s, he will continue ♠s. Before you play from dummy, you ask RHO "Do you lead the Queen from Queen-Jack?"

What would your opponent conclude from this question?

Certainly, he must assume his partner has the Jack. Why would you ever ask this question if you're looking at the Jack?

When you know that a question could only serve to mislead an opponent, it is highly improper to ask the question. So when RHO encourages spades at trick one and then plays the ♠K at trick three after winning the ♣A, he's playing with the "knowledge" that partner has the ♠J. Now you've made your contract--but you've made it by being unethical at the table. Here are your opponents' hands:

LHO

♠Q4

♥9732

♦K832

♣97

RHO

♠K10932

♥108

♦A10974

♣A

RHO might have switched to a ♦---but he knows that partner has the ♠J, so it must be right to continue ♠s.

One of the things that happens most frequently is the asking of questions about the bidding in situations when you have no intention of entering the auction. Such questions not only can be very annoying, but they also may unethically confer information about the questioner's hand.

Look at this hand:

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦ (no alert)	Pass*
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

North-South is a longtime partnership that plays a simple Standard American card with very few conventional bids. At his turn after the 2♦ call, East asks the meaning of this unalerted, presumably natural bid. I bet you can guess which hand has all of the ♦s.

Here's the hand:

	North	
	♠AK642	
	♥K6	
	♦K753	
	♣93	
West		East
♠QJ1093		♠875
♥543		♥872
♦106		♦AQJ4
♣854		♣1072
	South	
	♠—	
	♥AQJ109	
	♦982	
	♣AKQJ6	

Clearly, many people would lead a ♠ on this auction, and some might even lead a trump. A ♦ lead is rather unlikely--

--that is, until partner asks the meaning of an unalerted, natural bid. Why would partner ask this question unless he wanted a ♦ lead? So when East leads the 10 of ♦s and holds the contract to 4, East-West got a good score. However, if the question suggested the ♦ lead, and if East chose from among logical alternatives a lead which was demonstrably suggested by this Unauthorized Information, the director should adjust the score by barring a ♦ lead and allowing North-South to make 6.

The lesson of these illustrations is that it is your responsibility to be aware of ethical issues that can arise. It's nice to win, but winning should happen by making bids and plays and decisions at which you arrive through those means which are a part of the game. Think of the consequences of your actions before you take such actions. Be aware of ethics at the table, and practice active ethics every time you sit down at the table. It's a lot more fun when you do.

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