

Steel City Bridge

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 5

~ EDITED BY CRAIG BIDDLE

~ MAY 2022

THE CAREFUL DECLARER

The best players are careful declarers when they find themselves in an excellent contract. Let's see how careful you are in a very good grand slam.

Dummy: ♠1098 ♥KQJ105 ♦7 ♣AK32

Declarer: ♠AK7 ♥A7643 ♦AJ104 ♣5

The opening lead is the ♣Q. You win and lead the ♥K. East plays the 2 and West discards the ♠2. Put your thinking cap on and try to protect against as many bad breaks in the side suits as possible.

Continued later.

JACOBY TRANSFERS

Why do we play transfers after partner opens 1NT? The first, and most obvious, reason is so that the opening lead comes up to the stronger hand. But if that were the only reason, transfers wouldn't be so common. In fact, they're practically universal among all levels of players. Oswald Jacoby once estimated that having the lead come up to the strong hand gained a trick on about 1/4 of all deals. Favorable leads are more frequent than that, but there are also deals where you'd rather have the lead come up to the weak hand, so his number is probably right as a net gain.

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There are two other reasons, and both provide much more frequent net gains. The first is that it provides a responder with a long suit more ways to describe his hand. Suppose you have five spades and no other four-card or longer suit.

Playing simple Stayman and no other conventions, you have three possible sequences below game. You could simply bid 2♠ as a drop-dead bid. You could jump to 3♠ as a game force, partner would raise with 3 or more trumps (perhaps cue-bidding something along the way with a maximum and a good fit), or you could bid Stayman and then 2♠ if partner doesn't bid it for you. This would be invitational (and you would raise a 2♠ reply to game).

Playing two-way Stayman, where 2♣ shows invitational values and 2♦ game forcing values, you have more options.

- A direct 2♠ is still a drop dead bid.

- 2♣ followed by 2♠ is still invitational, but shows only 5; you would bid 3♠ with 6. This also lets you have drop-dead bids in the minors (a direct 3-level response) AND invitational bids (2♣ then 3 of a minor, which should usually show 6).
- 2♦ creates an absolute game force, so you could use that for all your game forcing hands with a biddable major. But it makes sense to use the direct jump to 3♠ to show a 6+ card suit and slam interest.

Two-way Stayman is a far better option than simple Stayman. But it has its problems. 1NT-2♣, 2♠ causes problems when you have an invitational hand with 5 or 6 hearts. You now only have one bid available (3♥) so you can't differentiate between 5 and 6 cards. You can work around this (I'm sure Gail and Mary have a way) but it's still tricky for new players. And 1NT-2♦ can be a problem for new players if the opponent overcalls before opener gets a chance to bid.

Transfers, on the other hand, provide responder a bunch of ways to describe. Let's work with hearts now. After 1NT-2♦, 2♥:

- Responder passes with a drop-dead hand. Here we almost always want the lead running up to the strong hand.
- 2NT is invitational with exactly 5 cards (you can do this with 5431 shape, but avoid this with a lot of shape, like a 5-5 hand or 5-4-4-0).
- 3♥ is invitational with a 6-card suit. Opener should carry on to game with any doubleton if he thinks he can take 5 tricks in his own hand with no more than one working finesse.
- 2♠ is invitational with 5-5 in the majors. If opener has opened with doubletons in both majors (and we all do that sometimes) just pass and let partner declare.
- New suits at the 3 level are natural and 100% game forcing.
- 3NT is game forcing with no 4-card suit or 6-card major.
- Jumps in new suits above 3 of responder's suits are splinters with interest in slam, and a 6+ card suit. With 5431 or 5440 just bid a 4-card suit and then your 3-card or 4-card suit, partner will get the message, and you have room.

Do you see all the things responder can do to tell opener about his hand? This is a big benefit of the method. And the third advantage of transfer bids is a byproduct of all this flexibility.

The third reason to play transfers is that Opener gets to evaluate his hand based on what he knows about partner's shape. Suppose the 1NT opener has ♠87 ♥AKQ4 ♦AJ104 ♣Q102. Responder bids 2♥, and after opener accepts the transfer, responder bids 3♣. Opener has an easy 3NT bid now, with 14 points in responder's short suits and only 2 in responder's long suits. And responder, having described his hand, can comfortably pass in what should be the best contract.

Let's try another auction. This time, opener has ♠875 ♥Q4 ♦AQJ104 ♣AQ2. After his 1NT, responder bids 2♦ and then after 2♥ leaps to 3♠. If you scroll up a bit, you will see that this shows a splinter with a 6-card suit and slam interest. With all 15 of his points in suits where responder should have some length, this hand is worth simply asking for key cards. Over 4NT, partner shows 2 without the Q. He must have at least two of the three missing kings in addition to the ace of hearts (responder shouldn't be making a slam try off all 4 aces and the trump Queen unless he has lots of Kings, since you can't

have all 5 of those cards for a 15-17 1NT.), so you bid a slam. Partner has ♠3 ♥AKJ953 ♦K62 ♣J72 and slam is laydown, with a total of 27 HCP.

And here's an easy scheme to play transfers to the minors. The 2♠ response to 1NT shows 6+ clubs and the 3♣ response shows 6+ diamonds. After 1NT-2♠, opener bids 2NT with no club fit and 3♣ with at least Qx. After 1NT-3♣, opener always bids 3♦. You never transfer to a minor with a 4-card major. Why bother with minor suit transfers? Because sometimes you get dealt something like ♠Q3 ♥J102 ♦87 ♣KQ9653 – if you transfer to clubs and partner bids 2NT to say he doesn't like clubs, you know that 3NT will be a bad contract so you just sign off in 3♣. Conversely, if partner bids 3♣ to show some sort of club fit, you know that 3NT will have a good chance so you bid it.

And transferring to a minor also helps when you have a good hand and a singleton, so you don't know whether to try for 3NT or 5 or 6 of a minor. When you transfer to a minor, any bid in a new suit now shows a void or singleton. Suppose you have ♠QJ3 ♥7 ♦AKJ742 ♣K82. You transfer to diamonds and then bid 3♥. Now partner knows to bid 3NT with ♠K2 ♥KQ104 ♦865 ♣AQJ3, or try for slam with ♠AK42 ♥875 ♦Q10 ♣AQ43. This is cold for 6♦ opposite the hand above, but take away the ♦K from that hand and 5♦ is where you want to be.

THE CAREFUL DECLARER PART II

Did you draw three rounds of trumps? Count your tricks. You have taken 3 trump tricks and the ♣A, you still have the ♠AK ♦A and ♣K – that gets you to 8. And you have two trumps in each hand, that gets you to 12. What's your 13th trick? Unless someone has two or three diamonds including both the K and Q, or your RHO has the singleton K or Q so that you will have a ruffing finesse in diamonds, I don't see a 13th trick for you anywhere. If you did draw all the trumps, go back and try something else. If you didn't, keep on reading for the rest of the story.

DISCARDING

Discarding is the hardest part of defense. When you have to make early discards you frequently don't know whether you are trying to preserve winners to maximize the set or trying to preserve stoppers to prevent declarer from making extra tricks. Here are some general principles:

1. Make sure you know how many tricks you are trying to take.
2. Avoid discards from a 4-card suit if you can see 4 or more cards in that suit in dummy, or if declarer has shown 4 cards in that suit in the bidding.
3. If dummy is on your right discard to keep as many of dummy's suits guarded as possible.

OK, here's a deal that illustrates how to resolve conflicts among these three principles.

RHO opens 1♦, you pass, and LHO's 4♠ bid ends the auction.

Your hand is ♠3 ♥KQ109 ♦J10763 ♣Q65.

Partner leads the ♥A and dummy tables:

♠85 ♥J843 ♦AQ52 ♣AK3

Your hand (repeated) is ♠3 ♥KQ109 ♦J10763 ♣Q65

After the ♥A holds, partner continues with the ♥7 and you win the ♥10 as declarer follows. Hopefully, you lead a heart picture but declarer ruffs with the ♠J as partner contributes his last heart. On the ♠AK, partner follows with two low spots and you follow once and discard your 5th diamond, following Principle #3. Now declarer leads the ♠10 to partner's queen and discards dummy's low club. What should you discard?

The answer comes from counting declarer's tricks. He appears to have started with seven spades, since he could easily have cashed one high spade and crossed to dummy in clubs for a spade finesse if he had only 6. So he has 6 spade tricks and the three top winners in dummy. What will be his 10th trick?

Obviously, if he has the ♦K he has tricks to burn. So give partner the ♦K. Not so obviously, if declarer has any diamond he will be able to take the winning diamond finesse for his 10th trick. So the only time your play matters is when declarer is void in diamonds. Therefore the correct discard is a diamond.

Declarer's hand was: ♠AKJ109xx ♥xx ♦void ♣Jxxx. So either a club or a heart pitch would have been fatal. Principle 1 governs most of your decisions – Your side had 3 tricks in, and you could account for 9 tricks for declarer. So the battle was over the last trick. And the only cards that you had to guard were the heart in dummy and the putative ♣J in declarer's hand. Everything else was a mirage.

Here's another good problem:

You deal and open 1♦ with ♠A108x ♥Kxxx ♦A10x ♣Kx. LHO bids 1♠, RHO cue bids 2♦ to show an invitational or better spade raise, LHO bids 3♦ to ask partner if he'd rather play 3NT, and RHO would indeed prefer that, so you are on lead against 3NT, knowing that the opponents probably have a 5-3 spade fit. You try your 4th best heart.

Dummy tables: ♠KQ9xx ♥A9 ♦Qxx ♣Qxx

Your hand (repeated) is ♠A108x ♥Kxxx ♦A10x ♣Kx.

The first trick proceeds ♥x-9-10-Q and declarer leads a low spade to dummy. You, of course, duck and partner plays the ♠J under the Q. Declarer leads a low diamond to the Jack in hand and you win the ace and knock out dummy's heart ace. Declarer cashed the ♦Q and continues with a diamond to the King as everyone follows. The position that you see is now:

Dummy: ♠K9xx ♥♦ ♣Qxx

Your hand: ♠A108 ♥Kx ♦♣Kx

What do you pitch when declarer leads the 13th diamond?

Let's count the points that declarer has shown up with. Nothing in spades, the Q (and perhaps also the J) of hearts, and the ♦KJ. Unless he's totally nuts, he has the ♣A, so pitching a club is wrong; declarer will have 2♠ 2♥ 3♦ and 2♣ if you allow him to drop your ♣K. Meanwhile the most you could take would be 1♠ 2♥ and 1♦ for a totally unsatisfactory result. What about a heart pitch? If you pitch your low heart, declarer will know to lead a spade toward dummy and then you will be helpless since there

will be no way for you to take more than 1♠ 1♥ 1♦ and a trick in whichever black suit you don't lead after winning your ♠A. Oh, you could duck the spade, but declarer would just accept his 2nd spade trick and throw you in with a spade to eventually lead away from your ♣K. Or he could throw you in with ace and a club to let you lead away from the ♠A (since declarer would surely play the 9 from dummy if you ducked). Why not throw away the ♥K? What if declarer has the ♥J? No, you must discard a spade, and duck when declarer leads a spade. His best play now is to throw you in with the ♠A but you can play ♥K and another so partner can win a trick with his precious ♥8 to lead a club through declarer's ace, since your clever hold up play in spades has killed declarer's communications.

Once again, the key to a tough discarding problem is to count declarer's and your own tricks. In real life, the (very strong) player who held this hand decided to make the flashy play of discarding the ♥K. Flashy plays have their place in bridge, but you have to evaluate the risks.

WHAT WOULD YOU BID?

With Richard's decision to devote more time to his non-bridge pursuits, I have decided to present problems that have been presented on bridgewinners that appeal to me. This will allow me to present the opinions of some of the world's best players. Here's my first choice.

You hold ♠AQ98 ♥-- ♦J8752 ♣AJ86

At IMPs, with only the opponents vul, your partner deals and passes, and RHO opens 1♣. What would you bid?

Here are some instructive comments.

Marshall Lewis (an American expat expert living in Croatia) – 1♠

“One of my three four-card suits has already been bid. Another one ranks below the suit the opponents doubtless have. The third of my four-card suits is the highest-ranking and also the strongest. How is this a problem?” - Aside from his unwillingness to count to five, this presents one argument for overcalling in other than your longest unbid suit.

Jack Spear (Kansas City) – Pass

“I am hoping to make a takeout double to show both four card pointed suits. An overcall here with either [suit] is less than ideal at IMPs.” – This is the way I was taught on the first stone tablets that I found that explained the game of bridge.

Dave Beer (New York City) - 1♠

“I could pass hoping to make a takeout double of hearts but the opponents don't always cooperate and my hand isn't good enough to take other delayed actions. So I make the 1♠ overcall which has the additional advantage of making it harder for them.”

Henry Sun (California, I think) – Pass. “I am guessing that someone has 6 hearts on this hand since I've got 0 and opener will normally have 4 at most. So I'm willing to wait and see whether the heart hand is on my left or facing me before I decide how to proceed with my hand.” - Certainly a sensible

reason to pass. Partner will be less than thrilled with your dummy in 4♥ if he has ♠Kx ♥KQ109xxx
♦J87 ♣10.

Peter Gill (Sydney, Australia, a regular member of Australia's international team) – Abstain

Peter posted this problem, so he chose to not vote.

“It's a big chance that LHO will declare the contract in hearts, with partner on lead. That makes 1♦ highly undesirable for lead-directing reasons.” Peter went on to make a further point, which is why this problem is here. “If the opponents play transfer responses, including [double] after you overcall 1♦, then the downside of 1♦ is reduced a lot.” - [CB] Yes, you should all understand that transfer responses tend to slow down auctions, so it isn't really necessary to intervene directly on a flawed hand.

The vote:

1♦ – 31 Notable passers include Liam Milne, another Australian international; Kieran Dyke, an English international; Finn Kolesnik, a teenager from California who already has won two open national Championships, and Leo Lasota, who wins a few thousand masterpoints online every year. Curiously, nobody at any skill level felt the need to comment on their decision to overcall in their longest suit. I think the idea is that they plan to double after 1♣-1♦-1♥-Pass-2♥.

1♠ – 28 Nobody notable chose the 1♠ overcall, but I think Peter's comment above suggests that he would be a 1♠ bidder.

Pass – 24 Notable passers include Richard Fleet, a former English international, Mike Gill (a strong player from D.C., Ben Kristensen (a strong US Junior currently retired while attending law school), and Jim Munday, a strong player from Memphis.

I would bid 1♠ here because of the strength of my spade spots – if my spades were AQ65 or the like I would overcall 1♦ with the plurality. This is a classical 4-card suit overcall hand type – a strong 4-card major with sound values and a side 5-card minor of poor quality to run to if you are doubled and partner has not raised.

THE CAREFUL DECLARER PART III

The best line of play, by far, is to cash a second high trump from dummy, play a diamond to the ace and ruff a diamond, play a spade to the ace and ruff a diamond (all diamond ruffs are now with high trumps), cash the ♣K, ruff a club, ruff the last diamond, and lead a club. If RHO can ruff this you can overruff and your hand is good. And if RHO doesn't ruff you ruff small, draw the last trump with the ace, and your ♠K will take the last trick. By playing the hand this way, you will make your grand slam unless LHO has a 7-card suit somewhere. East will ruff the first round of spades if West has 7 of them, and overruff the ♥5 if West has 7 diamonds, or ruff the ♣K if LHO has 7 clubs. You have all the other bases covered.

The key is to realize that you need 8 trump tricks, and with only 10 trumps in hand that means that you can play two trumps to a trick only twice; drawing the 3rd round of trumps will swallow up your 13th winner.

STREAKS AND BIG GAMES

CHRIS WANG

Big games:

Kathleen Mulligan & Catherine Caplan 71.48 O'Hara Tues

Mary Lou Flach & Joann Szymecki 72.92 Glenshaw Mon

Sue Israelson & Susan Dillon 72.92 Greensburg Wed

Streaks:

2 in a row:

Janice Phillips O'Hara Tues

Hugh McMaster Edgeworth Wed

Asim Ulke Glenshaw Wed

Judy Haffner Glenshaw Wed

Donald Turacy Sr Greensburg Wed

Dorothy Murray Greensburg Wed

Arlene Port Glenshaw Mon

Judy Haffner Glenshaw Mon

Nancy Welsh Edgeworth Wed

3 in a row:

Dorothy Murray Export Mon

Jenny Janitor Export Mon

Marcella Retetagos O'Hara Tues

Jim Gump Lebo Fri

John Doyal Lebo Fri

Joann Szymecki Edgeworth Wed

UNIT NEWS

LORRAINE HANNA

WE NEED CADDIES: Experienced caddies \$100 per day; 1st time caddy \$80 per day. Caddies can be responsible preteens, teens and older, yes, even retirees. Full vaccination is required. **CONTACT JOHN DOYAL** to sign up or for more information jfdoyal@gmail.com

My husband says bridge is not a sport; well, I've read that it is. In fact, I've seen one of our players wear bridge feet attire. So it's time to put our Bridge Shoes on and play F2F in our **Spring Sectional Tournament from May 20-23, at Masonic Temple. Here's a link to the Flyer**

<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/2205Pgh.pdf>

All American Regional Tournament will be held in Independence, OH from 5/24-5/30. Info on our website under Tourney Schedule Tab.

WHERE ARE OUR FACE TO FACE PLAYERS? DON'T LET FACE TO FACE BRIDGE DIE. In an effort to bring back new and "old" players to the tables, we have initiated a few incentives. 0-5 Point Players and Mentors/Mentees are eligible for free play. See our website under the appropriate tab for more information re eligibility. The ACBL is offering free trial ACBL Memberships. Here's the link

<https://www.acbl.org/membership/>

Invite a friend to play. If you and your partner ask two other people you haven't seen at the tables to play, we could add to our table count. **Invite a "Party Bridge Player"** to play with you at a sanctioned game. **As a team, working together, we could keep F2F bridge alive. Become a Mentor and share your skills and love of the game!**

Our Directors are working tirelessly to keep our games open, they need our HELP. Send us your suggestions on how to increase our F2F tablecount

<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/board.htm>

We have a NEW Director! Congratulations to Martin Greenberg for becoming a Director. He doesn't have a game at the moment, but we're looking forward to seeing Martin in that role soon as a backup or running his very own game.

Outside Publicity How would you like to be the person to spread the word and promote bridge throughout the Burgh?? We are looking for you! Someone is needed to write articles about bridge and

our special events to local magazines, local papers and online publications. Many of these local publications are looking for articles to include in their publications throughout the community. Please let me or the PBA know if you're interested in this very important task.

<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/board.htm>

Congratulations to: Pauline Sostarich moving up the ranks to Gold Life Master; Bronze Life Master, Jim Drake; Life Master, Martin Greenberg.

Ace of Clubs Winner, Susan Gibson. If I missed your name, please let me know by sending an email to PBA Board and I will include you in SCB asap

<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/board.htm>

Classes and lessons are needed to bring new players into our game. Check our Classes and Lessons tab on our website for current classes. Interested in teaching bridge? Online teaching certification is available at the ACBL website. Teacher certification is available through Best Practices Workshop. Here's a link to where you will find the workshops.

<https://www.acbl.org/portfolio/teacher-certification/>

Free Mini-lesson and Novice play will be starting again in Glenshaw on Saturday, May 14 and May 28. Dates for June have not yet been determined. Lesson 10:30, game at 11. Novices can play in any Open Game. We have had a number of games strictly for novices, but some have not opened yet. Check our Club Directory page for the opening of other Novice Games.

I have heard from players who don't feel comfortable at the bridge table. They have encountered rudeness, arguing and a condescending attitude. We should all be kind at the bridge table and make an extra effort to be welcoming and friendly. Thank you for your understanding.

OBITUARIES

Westmoreland County hasn't reported any deaths since the pandemic started. So here are two years' worth of sad news.

Arlene Jacobelli's husband died and when her daughter returned to AZ from her father's funeral, her daughter was killed by her husband. Here are the obituaries. The daughter's celebration of life will take place tomorrow.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/triblive-tribune-review/name/james-jacobelli-obituary?id=33577918>

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/triblive-tribune-review/name/amy-jacobelli-malobicky-obituary?id=34181995>

Fred Lantz died early on in the pandemic.

Our bridge family is mourning the loss of Karen Piper early in March. Karen and Tom were an up and coming pair from the South Hills area. Karen was known for her attitude and fortitude. She gave magnificent meaning to the word living. Karen had 14 years with a transplanted heart plus several other health challenges. But she kept coming back to the tables. Karen was the Pittsburgh Energizer Bunny.

Karen and Tom enjoyed 46 years of marriage. They have one son Tim and a granddaughter, Rosie. They relocated to Dormont to be close to Tim and Rosie. And played at all the South Hills games before the pandemic. They moved to playing online with several groups. Karen had a music background, taught piano, and moved through the education system from the classroom to the principal's office before her initial heart gave out and precipitated retirement. Karen and Tom enjoyed travelling both before and after the transplant. Our sympathy goes out to Tom and Tim and Rosie.

Dr. George P. Spine, Jr. passed away May 2, 2022.

He and his wife, Beverly Ann, were regulars in the South Hills prior to the pandemic, and recently in the Concordia game. George was a graduate of Pitt School of Dental Medicine. After serving in the Army as a dentist, George set up his practice in Stowe Township. He and Beverly Ann travelled extensively during their lives together. They were also partners at the tables. George was a Ruby Life Master. The Pittsburgh bridge community extends its sympathy to Beverly Ann and all of George's extended family.

HAPPY NEWS

Unit 142 did very well in the Grand National Teams held in Erie on April 30th and May 1st.

Winners of the Open Flight were Fred Schenker playing with Clevelanders Bernie Greenspan, Kathy Sulgrove, and Hao Ge.

Winners of Flight A were Ron Franck and Craig Biddle, playing with Dian Petrov and Davis Huessler from Buffalo.

Winners of Flight B were David Collura, James Gump, and Robert Flynn, playing with Kitty Jo Hellman from Latrobe.

Winners of Flight C were Pat Rambasek and Richard Laird, playing with Stephen and Gail Smith of Lorain, OH.

All will be attending the Summer Nationals in Providence. Teams are also permitted to add players from the District to their team.

3 NEW Live Group Bridge Courses

Save money by taking lessons with a small group at a time that suits you while you take a deeper dive into bridge. I am now offering three group courses that give an in-depth look at three different bridge subjects: Opening leads, Deception, and bidding in the later rounds. These courses are for all non-beginners who want to improve their game. Each course consists of **5 one-hour live sessions on Zoom**. Where applicable, you can even play the hand on an individual table using Shark Bridge. Written materials are included.

Since each individual course will be small, **we can likely set a day and time that suits all students – day or evening.** Here is a brief description of each course:

- ♠ **Opening Leads.** All you know when you lead are the 13 cards in your hand and the auction. But the opening lead is often the most crucial decision you will make and may be your last chance to beat the contract. Learn to lead like a pro. **Day and time TBD.**
- ♠ **Bidding – Rounds 2 and 3.** Your first bid is typically easy, but in the later rounds, many questions may arise: Am I forced to bid? Is game or slam likely? Should I bid my suit or support partner? Improve your hand evaluation and learn simple rules to put you and partner on the same page in both uncontested and contested auctions. **(Currently scheduled to start Fri., May 13 at 10 a.m.)**
- ♠ **Deception – Help Your Opponents Help You.** Chances for deception in bridge are everywhere. Simply winning with the right card may create ambiguity for defenders. What is more fun than making a crucial contract by sleight of hand? **Day and time TBD.**

Each 5-session course costs \$60 (\$12/lesson), but you can buy another group course within 6 months for only \$40 (5 lessons at \$8/lesson). The second course can even be for someone else – why not enroll in “**Bidding – Rounds 2 and 3**” with your favorite partner at \$10 per lesson each? (Members of the same household can sit in on any lesson free).

Please contact me to **register** or more information. Call ASAP to get your preferred time slot. Richard Finberg at doublemenot@gmail.com or (412) 304-9254 (cell).

Pittsburgh Spring Sectional



May 20-22, 2022
Masonic Center North
3579 Masonic Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

It's Time to
COME TOGETHER!



Pittsburgh Bridge
Association



American Contract
Bridge League



Hospitality All Sessions!

Partnerships & Team Inquiries:

Darlene Mannheimer
412-913-5944
darlenedlm@gmail.com

Tournament Chair:

Bill Holt 412-860-2794
Spring22@pittsburghbridge.org

Hospitality:

June Threlkeld & Bob Flynn
Director in Charge: Alex Bealles
Sanction # S2205345

Pairs Entries \$25 / pair
Open Swiss Teams \$100/team
499er Swiss \$ 88/team

Participants must be ACBL members.
Lapsed members either renew, or pay
\$4 extra per session.

Free 120-day memberships available
to 1st time members.

* All events are attendance dependent.

Friday, May 20

10:30 AM ★ Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs* (1 session)

Light Lunch Included!

3:00 PM ★ Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs* (1 session)
Single Session Swiss Teams

Saturday, May 21

10:00 AM ★ Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs* (1 session)
Compact Handicapped KO Teams* (1st of 2)

Light Lunch Included!

2:30 PM ★ Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs* (1 session)
Compact Handicapped KO Teams* (2nd of 2)
Single Session Swiss Teams*

Sunday, May 22

Lunch Included!

10:00 AM ★ Stratified Open Swiss Teams (7 rounds of 7 boards)
Stratified 499er Swiss Teams* (6 rounds of 6 boards)
Separate Play-through Events / 30 point VP scale

<u>Open</u>	<u>499er</u>
A: 2000+	5: 300-500
B: 750-2000	3: 100-300
C: 0-750	1: 0-100
Stratifications in All Events by Avg. MPs	499er Strats at Director's Discretion

Full Newcomer / NLM Schedule:

Newcomer / 499er Pairs -
Both Sessions Friday & Saturday
PLUS Special Swiss on Sunday!

Play ONLY against other New Players*
* - Attendance Dependent

Contact Darlene for
Partners & Team-building!

Full Schedule & Directions at
www.pittsburghbridge.org

Fast Trac your Vax Stat!

Email a photo or copy of your Vax Card to
Vax@Pittsburghbridge.org

With your name and ACBL# We'll supply you with a wristband good for the whole shebang! Claim your wristband at the front desk. Vaccination is Required. We will observe the then-current CDC and local guidelines on masks. We are optimistic at this point.