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Chris Wang.....First At The Post

Unit 142

Pittsburgh, PA

July 2017

POST MORTEM

WEBSITE AT www.pittsburghbridge.org

President: Lorraine Hanna

Vice President: Chris Wang

Secretary: Mary Paulone Carns

Treasurer: John Alioto

Club Manager: Mary Carns

Unit Recorder: Judi Sonon (judi@diegosan.com)

All the news that fits in print

.....by arlene port

Do you have your favorite partner for the Summer Sectional that begins on Friday at the Masonic Center? (See pg 3) Do you have any partner for the tournament? (Doesn't have to be your favorite.)

Have you noticed how much bigger all of our games are in the area? It seems as if the summer has a way of bringing people home to get out of the heat and to see their friends and families. Lucky us.

July always brings good times. We have Independence Day celebrations all over the city. I'll bet you all had a wonderful time and loved the fireworks..

Well, that was that and now we all have to get back to the business of having a good time playing bridge. Take a look at the PBA Unit Calendar to check out all the special events being held in our unit. On July 21 the PBA Unit Championship game Friday night is waiting for you with extra points. And for sure, make arrangements to play on the 28th in the Unit Championship Swiss Teams. The field is wonderfully diverse and is a lot of fun. Please join us.

The STaC (Sectional Tournament at the Club Level) games were held last month and listed below are the names of those who won the most masterpoints.

PBA Unit top Masterpoint Winners For D5 Summer STaC

3	29.17	Gail Carns, Trafford PA
5	28.44	Bernard Fudor, Murrysville PA
6	24.76	Asim Ulke, Monroeville P
8	19.78	Philip Goulding, Wexford PA
13	15.56	Judy Haffner, Pittsburgh PA
14	15.49	Ronald Franck, Pittsburgh PA
20	12.61	Ernie Retetagos, Pittsburgh PA
24	11.74	Robert Quinlan, Pittsburgh PA

PENALTY DOUBLES (The condensed version)

In many cases, penalty doubles are easily identified and executed. However, the more difficult penalty doubles come in competitive bidding. The questions always remains: "Whose hand is it"? If I compete at a higher level, will I go down in my contract"? Does the level 5 really belong to the opponents? "Do I have the values to defend"?

Listed below are some valuable guidelines to help you make these decisions:

WHEN IS A DOUBLE FOR PENALTY?

1. When both partners have made at least on bid.
2. All doubles of 1NT are for penalty. (Unless the double is a conventional call)
3. There is no unbid suit.
4. The doubled suit is artificial ie. (1NT — pass — 2C — X penalty— lead a club) ,
5. You passed after an enemy bid, then later double any game bid, any notrump bid, or an unraised suit bid 3C or higher.
6. If your side holds 23 or more High Card Points, you should *never* allow the enemy

1. Lack of a fit for partner, otherwise a relatively balanced hand—in particular, you must not hold a long suit ; six-plus. A void is best or a singleton, good.
2. Trump quality and position; your tricks are sure tricks and there is no danger of tipping off declarer as to the correct line of play.
3. An expectation of setting the contract at least two tricks.
4. No place for the opponents to run. If you double them into a contract they can make, pass. A plus is a plus

WHAT MAKES A BAD PENALTY DOUBLE?

1. When you and your partner have most of your strength in a suit that has both length and strength.
2. When opponents open 1NT and you have equal values and no long suit.
3. When opponent shows a distributional hand with two suits.
4. When opponents "sacrifice" due to favorable vulnerability and you have the values and distribution to compete., THEN BID.

Mel's RULE OF NINE: 1. Take the level of the contract. 2. Add the number of the opponent's trump suit you hold. 3. Add the number of honors you have in that suit. 4. If it comes to nine, DOUBLE! It works most of the time if you de-

to play undoubled.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD PENALTY DOUBLE?

POST CARDS

Attention: Volunteers for the Bridge in Schools Program

Channel middle school students' energies into learning how to play bridge and keep your sanity while doing it. Join Barbara Grzegorzewski for a brainstorming session at **11:30 am Sunday, September 3rd at the Pittsburgh Regional**. Barbara has taught middle school for 30 years and is successfuly teaching middle schoolers to play bridge."



This is something that I thought, no hoped, I would never have to discuss, but because it involves me, - and you as well, I feel obligated.

I had a lovely married couple in my class who did very well. So well, in fact, that they decided to start to play duplicate. They were not new to the game, just to duplicate bridge. I saw them a couple of times and they were having a wonderful time. Then., I no longer saw them at any of the games. When I asked where they had been, I was told the following:

They went to a very popular game in our area and came to a table to play. When it was over, one of the those people asked my students: "What are you doing here? You don't belong in this game." Needless to say, they haven't been back since, and refuse to tell me who said this. That was so unbelievably rude and uncalled for and as a result these people are no longer interested in playing duplicate bridge.....I don't blame them. Arlene

PITTSBURGH SUMMER SECTIONAL

Hospitality All Sessions!

July 14 - 16, 2017

Masonic Center North

3579 Masonic Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

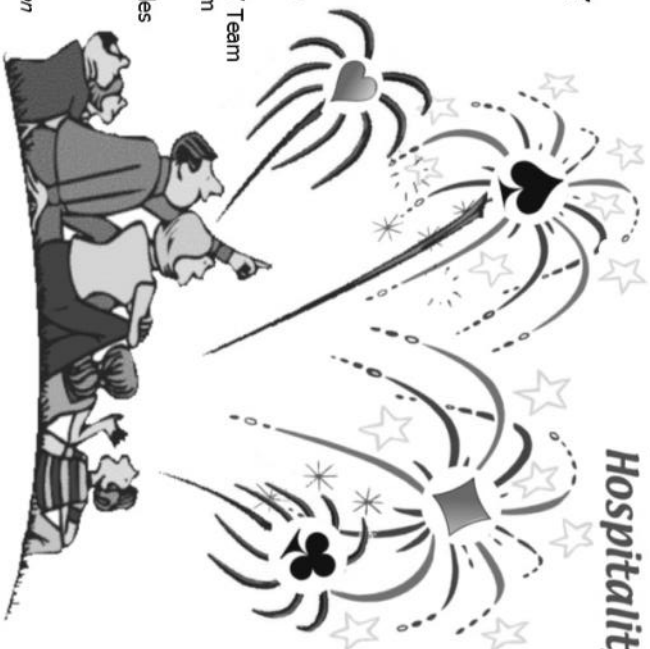
Partnerships:
Jane Marshall
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Tournament Chairs:
Bill Holt
412-860-2794
June Threlkeld
Bob Flynn
Summer17@d5bridge.com

Pairs Entries \$25 / Pair
1-Session Team Entries \$50 / Team
Open Swiss Teams \$100/team
499er Swiss \$ 88/vean

Director in Charge: Alex Bealles
Sanction S1707032
Non & Unpaid ACBL Members
\$3 additional per session
Student Discount: \$5 per Session



Friday, July 14

1:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)

7:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
Single Session Swiss Teams

Saturday, July 15

11:00 AM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
Compact Handicapped KO Teams
(1st of 2 sessions)

Lunch on Us between Sessions!

3:30 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
Compact Handicapped KO Teams
(2nd of 2 sessions)
Single Session Swiss Teams

Sunday, July 16

11:00 AM *Super Brunch & Lunch Included!*
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

Full Newcomer / NLM Schedule:

Newcomer / 499er Pairs
Both Sessions Friday & Saturday
PLUS Special Swis on Sunday!
Play ONLY against other New Players

Contact Darlene for
Partners & Team-building!

Full Schedule & Directions at
www.pittsburghbridge.org

Open	499er
A: 2000+	5: 300-500
B: 750-2000	3: 100-300
C: 0-750	1: 0-100

Stratifications in All 499er Strats at
Events by Avg. Mps Director's Discretion

Lesson from an Expert

Friday @ 6:15 PM



Pittsburgh Bridge Association



American Contract Bridge League

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos



I think that I have never seen, the day that I could find the queen
No matter how I plot my play, I always choose the other way.

THE MISSING QUEEN

West opened 1 club and rebid 1 NT after hearing a 1 heart response. If West would have rebid 1 spade instead, that would have promised at least 4 clubs. East bid 4 clubs to ask for Aces, and they placed the contract in 6 clubs after opener showed an Ace. North led the Ace of spades, followed by a spade to the King as South followed. The fate of the contract depends on locating the Queen of hearts.

WEST	EAST
S- Q 10 8 2	S- K J 4
H- A 9 8	H- K J 10 4
D- Q 9 5	D- A
C- K Q J	C- A 9 7 4 3

West pulls 3 rounds of trumps, unblocking the Ace of diamonds in the process. South follows once, and then discards 2 diamonds. When declarer ruffs a diamond to get to board to pull the last trump, South discards another diamond on the Ace of clubs. One choice of discard for the declarer would be to throw the last diamond. If you now play the Jack of spades to get a better count, South discards a heart, revealing that they have 10 red cards to North's 5. Card odds indicate that a heart finesse through South works 67% of the time.

Another line of play would be to utilize the threat of the Queen of diamonds by playing South for the King. After a similar start, discard a heart instead of the Queen of diamonds on the Ace of trump. Play two more rounds of spades, and in the three card end position, West has the Queen of diamonds and Ace and one heart. The hand will make if South has both red cards or North shows up with a doubleton Queen of hearts.

I thought initially that the squeeze offered a better chance of success because of combining the chances. As a general rule, there is usually a higher likelihood of success when you are able to combine your chances. My mathematical consultant, Gail Carns, convinced me that I was using fuzzy math. You will not improve on the odds offered by the finesse. You can finesse South for the Queen, or you can drop the Queen by playing South for the diamond King. Based on the card odds, each line works 2 out of 3 times. At the table, South had 6 diamonds to the Jack and 4 hearts to the Queen.

UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

Dennis Roth

CLUB MASTER

Miriam S Hartner

SECTIONAL MASTER

Trudy W Friedman

NABC MASTER

Sue Scheessele

REGIONAL MASTER

Patricia E Rambasek

LIFE MASTER

Ruthie Neafach

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Michael Natelson

SILVER LIFE MASTER

Phyllis B Berkovitz

Bob Heasley

Deborah A Shoup

GROWING AS A BRIDGE PLAYER
AND HAVING FUN

CONGRATULATIONS!!
GOOD WORK

GIVE ME A GOOD HAND POST.....by Craig Biddle

Late in a KO match that has not been going well, you pick up S-AQJ876 H-void D-Q72 C-A983 vul against not in 4th seat. After two passes, RHO opens 4H and you, of course, bid 4S. LHO doubles, and all pass.

LHO leads the H7, and you see.	Dummy S-103	H-8643	D-A1094	C-J72
	You S-AQJ876 H-	H -void	D-Q72	C-A983

This doesn't look good. You have a likely spade loser (and have to decide whether to play for spades 5-0, in which case you have to take a first round finesse against the 9), two probable club losers, and work to do in diamonds. Plus, spades are probably 4-1 since LHO has no aces. He wouldn't have doubled on S-Kxx and a couple of kings.

You are going to need favorable layouts in both minor suits. The most favorable possible club layout is Q10 or K10 doubleton on your left, when you can lead a low club from hand, then go to dummy and lead the CJ. But this won't help you unless you draw all the trumps first and that could be risky if RHO has the DK. There are a number of possible favorable layouts in diamonds, including a singleton J in the heart hand, or the DK there and the DJ in the doubler's hand.

You cover the H7 and ruff in hand when RHO plays the 9. Which suit should you attack? I don't know for sure, but it looked right to me to lead a low club, so I did. LHO hopped up with the Q and played the H5. Interesting, RHO has only a 7-card suit, and I can now no longer handle a 5-0 spade break since I am going to be down to 4 of them. So I ruffed in hand and led my low spade to make sure RHO didn't get a ruff.

LHO looked at this briefly, and then played low; I called for the 10 and it won. I decided to use my dummy entry to lead a diamond. RHO hopped with the King and played a high heart, which I ruffed with the Jack. LHO pitched a club on this, which was his worst possible play, for after RHO won the DK, the position had been:

Dummy	S-3	H-43	D-A109	C-J7
LHO	S-K95	H-void	/D-865 C-64	RHO S-void H-AKQJ2 D-J C-K10

Me S-AQJ H-void D-Q7 C-A98.

They had two tricks in. When RHO led the heart and I ruffed, LHO was apparently worried that I had C-AKx and DQ7 left, and pitched so that he could ruff a club winner and exit in diamonds to make his SK. But what happened was that when my SJ held, I cashed the DQ, dropping the Jack, ran two more diamonds pitching a club from hand, then played CA and a club. LHO was forced to ruff and lead a spade from his Kx into my AQ at trick 12.

LHO made a number of errors on this hand. Hopping with the CQ was wrong; for all he knew partner had the singleton Ace. I am very unlikely to be leading a low club from AKx(x) at trick 2; doubleton queens have been known to happen, and dummy has the DA so I am not desperate for an entry.

Playing low when I led a spade to the 10 was clear. Partner could have had the singleton J or Q.

As noted above, pitching a club on the third round of hearts was his worst possible play. He KNEW I had the DQ since partner played the K. If that's the case, unless I began with the doubleton DQ, he can see the danger of my running diamonds. Not overruffing was the right idea, but he had to pitch a diamond. If I have the DQ and the CAK I am cold whatever he does as long as I guess which tricks to cash in the end game.

PBA EVENTS 3 MONTHS 2017

July

- 7 *NAOP QUALIFIER*
- 14 *PITTSBURGH SECTIONAL @ MASONIC Info*
- 21 *Unit Championship*
- 28 *Unit Championship Swiss Teams*

August

- 4 *New Partner Night*
- 11 *NAOP QUALIFIER & PBA Board Meeting*
- 18 *Unit Championship*
- 25 *Unit Championship Swiss Teams*

September

- 1 *PITTSBURGH REGIONAL*
- 8 *Club Championship*
- 15 *Unit Championship*
- 22 *Unit Championship Swiss Teams*
- 29 *Open Pairs*

POST CARDS

Barbara Bergman has yet to show her pretty face since her surgery. However, we know from reliable sources she is coming along very nicely. Barbara, please keep up the good work.

I saw **Phyllis Geinzer** hobbling along after hip surgery, which, I might add, seemed to be very successful. Seriously, she looked just great and was more or less pain free. OK Phyllis, when are you coming back to work? (Just saying)

INTERNET POST

You are South, IMP's, both vul. You hold:

S - K 7
H - 3
D - A Q J 8 6 5 3
C - J 9 4

THE BIDDING IS:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1C	1H	2D*	2H
3D	4H	5D	5H
PASS**	PASS	?	

What do you bid?

2D* - Forcing to the level of 3 clubs

Pass** No special agreement)

Chris Wang DBL: I would double. I doubt 6 diamonds makes, as I think you already have a heart loser. Hopefully in 5 hearts, they have at least one diamond loser, one spade loser and a club loser.

Trudy Cohn: Pass I will pass the double. I think that if my partner had a hand to make 6 diamonds, he would have made a forcing pass and let me make the decision.

Asim Ulke: Pass I am not bidding 6D. Try for a small plus score.

Herb Sachs: 6D Maybe they can make 5H and maybe they can't. Maybe we can make 6D and maybe we can't. It's too much of a risk to let them play hearts. I have almost no defense.

Jane Marshall: PASS. I have bid my hand and have the defense which I promised on my first bid. Partner should have his defensive tricks and be warning me not to go to 6 diamonds.

Steve Nolan: 6D. I need partner to have the two black aces, the kings of diamonds and clubs and one of the black queens or good fortune in the club suit. That holding is consistent with the bidding, as are other holdings that also let me make and a few that don't turn out as well. It's too late to explore; this is my best guess.

Bill Holt DBL. I think it was Bob Hamman who said 'Don't play me for the perfect hand. I won't hold it.' Here North would need AS and AKQ of clubs; AND the dK, or dK onside to make 6d, assuming we have a H to lose. Seems overly optimistic. Double and lead a trump seems right.

Stan Ruskin 6D Something strange is going on. West has very few high cards since partner opened and raised freely and East overcalled and jumped to game. Thus, West must be very sad distributional. Partners double of 5H indicates two Hearts since he would pass with a singleton or void. It appears that we can make 5D but 6 is questionable. They bid 5H with no points so they are both distributional.

West is probably void in diamonds since we have 11 between us and eThey probably have 9 Spades between them. Thus, while they shouldn't be able to make 5S, there is always some strange holding that they could. The worst thing at IMPS is a double game swing. Thus, I bid 6D which probably won't make but it might. This is protection against the small chance they could make 5S and the chance we can make 6D. Additionally, they may well bid 6S to protect against us making 6D.

Paul Caplan: DBL take the plus atimps

Robert Zimmerman Double. If partner has a perfect [Axx xxx Kxx AQTx] slam is still only 50%, but we'll likely collect 800. That might be good enough.

Ernie Retetagos 6 Diamonds. I'll guess to bid 6 diamonds. This will probably be down one, but I'm not sure that we can beat 5 hearts.

PJ Prabhu: 6D. This deal has a double fit. Hence, I expect more "total tricks" than total trumps. As an example, even as little as xxx, Ax, Kxx, AQTxx in partner's hand might be enough to make 6D, given the C finesse.

Gail Carns: DBL. 3D by north was not forcing so I double

Richard Katz: Pass If I south bid two and five diamonds and partner doubled five hearts, I pass. I'm done,

Craig Biddle: Pass - We've done our job, we've pushed them to the 5-level when they (and we) have no idea who can make what. If both contracts are -1, I gain 2 IMPs for doubling. If we were making, and my teammates let them play there. I save 1 IMP by doubling if we beat them a trick, and I doubt we can beat them more since both sides seem to have a double fit. And if they are making, my double costs 5 IMPs. So I have to be beating them 70% of the time at least in order to break even by doubling. I'm not nearly that confident.

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Grant Baze	P
David Berkowitz	6D
Henry Bethe	6D
Bart Bramley	P
Ira Chorush	6D
Larry Cohen	D
Kitty and Steve Cooper	6D
Billy Eisenberg	D
Carl Hudecek	6D
Eddie Kantar	D
Ralph Katz	D
Sami Kehiela	6D
Danny Kleinman	P
Eric Kokish	D
Gill Meyers	D
Marshall Miles	P
Arthur Robinson	6D
Michael Rosenberg	P
Jeff Rubens	8D
Ira Rubin	P
Mike Shuman	6D
Don Stack	D
Joey Silver	D
John Swanson	P
Robert Wolff	6D
Kit Woolsey	P

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
6D	10	5	100
Pass	8	5	80
Double	8	5	80

Pittsburgh Bridge Assoc. JULY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
	3 Export no game				7 PBA NAOP QUAL- FIER	
2		4				8
9 PBA Summer Sectional	10	11	12.		14 PBA SUMMER SECCIONAL	15 <i>PBA Sectional</i>
16	17.	18 Zelle: Ex- tra points				22
23	24				21 PBA Unit champ <hr/> Zelio: extra points	
30	31 Export Ch. Moose Heart	25	26		28	29

FIRST AT THE POST

.70%+ GAMES

Jane Marshall & Ronald Franck	71.30	Wilkins	Thur
Linda Silberman & Derek Schofield	71.03	Rodef 299ers	Mon-
Garnet Depner & Susan Dillon	71.43	Greensburg	Wed-
Bernard Fudor & Ernie Retetagos	72.44	Glenshaw	Mon
Asim Ulke & Gail Carns	70.14	Rodef	Mon-
Estill Duggins & Kathleen Dolegowski	70.83	Whitehall	Mon
Madeleine Frizzi & Dustin Hoover	72.35	South Hills NLM	Tues
Philip Goulding & Ronald Franck	73.50	Zelionople	Tue
Joseph Secka Sr & Joseph Bernot	77.50	Whitehall	Mon.

FIVE IN A ROW

Arlene Port	Rodef	Mon	Judy Haffner	Rodef	Mon
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FOUR IN A ROW

Alan Leaver	Zelionople	Tues
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THREE IN A ROW

Mary Paulone Carns	PBA	Fri	Gail Carns	PBA Unit	Fri
Ernie Retetagos	Glenshaw	Mon	John Killmeyer	Houston	Mon
Philip Goulding	Zelionople	Tues			

TWO IN A ROW

Gen Novak	Greensburg	Fri	Patricia Cunkelman	Greensburg	Fri
Hugo Churchill	Sewickley	Fri	Ethel Levine	Whitehall	Mon-
Bunny Hoffman	Edgeworth	Wed	Steve Thomas	Edgeworth	Wed
Ed Collins	Greensburg	Fri	Kathleen Dolegowski	Houston	Fri
Janice Smith	Glenshaw	Sat	Kathleen Dolegowski	Glenshaw	Sat
Earl Schaffer	Rodef 299ers	Mon	Bruce Feldman	Rodef 299ers	Mon-
Estill Duggins	Whitehall	Mon	Linda Evans	Export	Mon
Asim Ulke	O'Hara	Tues	James Fox	South Hills	Tue
Russell Sheldon	South Hills	Tues	Robert Quinlan	Temple Emanuel	Wed-
Donna Trust	Longue Vue	Thurs	Raymond Kramer	Butler	Thurs
Judy Haffner	Wilkins	Fri	Raymond Kramer	Butler	Thurs-
David Kozloff	Rodef	Mon	Sandra Brand	Rodef	Mon-
Peggy Shivetts	Export	Mon	Thomas Jolly Jr	O'Hara	Tue
Alfred Tung	O'Hara	Tues	Joanne Zambroski	Glenshaw	Wed
Peggy Shivetts	Greensburg	Thurs	Robert Quinlan	South Hills	Thurs
Joe Secka Sr	Chart.-Houston	Fri	Hugh McMaster	Sewickley	Fri-
Robert Beasley III	Sewickley	Fri			