



NLM Newsletter

15 MARCH 2022

Cincinnati Bridge Association

Club Game Schedules



Day	Time	Game
Mon	11 AM	Deschappelles (Women)
Mon	2 PM	U100 Online
Mon	7 PM	Altman's U2000
Tue	10 AM	8 is Enough Swiss* RR 2 nd /4 th begins 3/22
Wed	11 AM	Open Pairs; U500 RR
Thu	10 AM	U1250 Pairs
Thu	2 PM	Come & Play Rubber Bridge
Thu	6:30 P	8 is Enough Swiss* RR 1 st /3 rd /5 th
Fri	11 AM	Open Pairs
Sat	9:30 A	Supervised Play
Sat	1 PM	Open Pairs & RR U1250

•**Proof of Vaccination required** •All players assume liability for playing at the CBC. [AGREEMENT RESULTS](#) **RR=Reservations Required**



Day	Time	Game
Tue, Fri	10 AM	Open Pairs
Wed	6:30 PM	Open Pairs
Thu	11:30 AM	Open Pairs

(\$7 Entry Fee) Location: Erlanger Lion's Club 5996 Belair Dr, Florence, KY 41042. [RESULTS](#)

Mornings beginning March 22 (as attendance warrants). Contact John Meinking jokingme71@gmail.com to reserve a spot for your team.

NKY BC Adds Games

The Northern Kentucky Bridge Club is adding their Wednesday Evening (grand reopening 3/23) and Thursday Morning game back to their schedule beginning in March. The Thursday AM game will start at 11:30 and end by 3 PM (no Lunch Break).

GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS



If you want **GOLD POINTS** this event is for you. The ACBL runs a team tournament across Canada, Mexico, and the USA that qualifies teams from each District to play in a North American Bridge Championship during the Summer NABC Tournament. This year's District 11 Qualifying Event is April 9 & 10, 2022 in Dayton Ohio. We reside in District 11 (There are 26 Districts in the ACBL).

Flyer: <http://www.district11bridge.com/2022-GNT-D11-Finals-Flyer.pdf>

Details: <http://www.district11bridge.com/GNT.html>

Flight C is dedicated to members who are not life masters under 500 Masterpoints. This is a great opportunity to play Swiss and Knockout teams, to earn **GOLD POINTS**, and to represent your District among the up to 50 teams that will gather in Providence RI in July 2022. Better still, your team will receive a subsidy from the District payable upon completion of your participation. \$1000 goes to the first-place team in Flight C, and \$500 goes to the 2nd place team (if enough teams play and qualify). Participating teams in Providence also get their

*8 is Enough Swiss Team game. **Reserve or make a team** John Meinking jokingme71@gmail.com. Teams (4) ≤ 8 pts. Points: 0-NLM -1; NLM-2000 MPs - 2; 2001+ MPs - 3.

NEW GAMES FOR NON-LIFE MASTERS

Pam Campbell directs games on **Wednesdays** (NLM) and **Saturdays** (U1250) for Non Life Masters. **These games require reservations.** If fewer than 4 tables sign up to play, you will either play in the open game or no NLM section will be held. You can do your part by encouraging all your NLM friends to patronize these games. NLM games are fun, and allow you to play comfortably at your skill level with your peers. Consider joining the **8 is Enough Swiss Team game on Tuesday**

entry fees paid for rounds 3-5. Can't beat that. Teams are paid after completing their participation in the NABC event.

Get a team together, practice (the 8 Is Enough Swiss Team forma or any tournament between now and then is a great way to practice), and show up in Dayton Saturday Morning. I hope to see you in Providence in July!

Club Bridge

Remember, check the club website for the latest information on game times, special events, extra masterpoints, and cancellations. Please call ahead and **reserve your space at Non-Life Master and 8 is Enough Games.**

Cincinnati Bridge Center Games

Northern Kentucky Bridge Club Games

Members Earning Masterpoints

#	NLM 3/9/2022	OA	OB	OC	Tot	%	MPs
4	Frances Hamilton - Terry Barrett	1	1		88	69.9	1.59B
2	Sally Raney - Kathryn McCord	2	2	1	82.1	65.1	1.19B
11	Alexander Grim - Joanne Essig	3	3		77.1	61.2	0.89B
6	James Barrett - Judy Crotty Hall	4			72.7	57.7	0.67B
1	Mary O'Connell - Sandra Fielman	5	4		67.7	53.8	0.54B
10	Joan Mehl - Jeanne Dell	6			65.9	52.3	0.19B
7	Tom Kuhlman - Clyde Stauffer			2	63.2	50.1	0.74B
#	U1250 3/12/2022	OA	OB	OC	Tot	%	MPs
2	John Altman - John Altman	1			75.5	69.9	1.73B
9	Michelle Barker - Todd Barker	2	1	1	68.1	63	1.35B
1	Janet Hansen - Nancy Cameron	3	2	2	55.1	51.1	1.01B
12	James Barrett - Robert Lail	4	3		54.6	50.5	0.76B
#	U100 3/7/2022 Online	SA	SB	SC	Tot	%	MPs
3	Barbara Gloeckner - Mary Merryman	1			24	66.7	0.36B
5	Uday Patil - Pratibha Patil		1		20	55.6	0.25B
1	Sissy Stearns - Marsha Weston			1	18.5	51.4	0.14B
#	U1250 3/14/2022	OA	OB	OC	Tot	%	MPs
11	Robert Lail - Jim Steinke	1			58.7	61.1	1.28S
8	Joy Singerman - Gail Zimmer	2			54.3	56.6	0.90S
4	Frank Lichtenberger - Robert Brown	3			53.5	55.8	0.64S
6	Carol Scovic - James Barrett	4			52.1	54.2	0.45S
10	Joseph Kammer - William Cook		1		50.9	53.1	0.79S
9	Brian Bergmann - Michael Gundrum		2		45.9	47.8	0.55S
#	U1250 3/7/2022	OA	OB	OC	Tot	%	MPs
NS3	Joy Singerman - William Cook	B	2	1	71	59.2	1.86B
NS4	David Elliott - Carla Runda	C	3/4	2/3	65.5	54.6	1.23B
NS6	Joan Mehl - Lewis Temples	B	3/4	2/3	65.5	54.6	1.23B
EW7	Robert Lail - Gail Zimmer	A	1		72.5	60.4	2.48B
EW2	Frank Lichtenberger - Robert Brown	A	5		64.5	53.8	0.78B
EW4	Brian Bergmann - Michael Gundrum	C		4	63	52.5	0.49B
EW1	Dave Stifel - Jeff Hershey	C			61	50.8	0.28B

where G-Gold, S-Silver and B-Black

On Bridge Etiquette

By Terry Barrett

In our younger days we learned to chew with our mouth closed and to keep our elbows off the table. Some of us might have attended etiquette class where we learned to hold our silverware correctly, and to cover our mouth when we coughed. (This last item really came in handy over the past two years.) During my retirement I've been attempting to learn this crazy bridge game and lo and behold it turns out that there are rules of etiquette for playing bridge. So, on top of learning the many bridge conventions and remembering whether the Queen of Diamonds has been played.... now I have to learn how to be polite at bridge too?! It feels a bit overwhelming, however, good manners are always important; just ask Emily Post.

To make things even more complicated it turns out that bridge etiquette isn't just about polite manners or protocol; bridge etiquette quickly converges with bridge ethics. The issues range from the polite "Do not snap your cards on the table" to the ethical "Don't fiddle with the bidding box". Then there are rules that feel very nuanced to the less experienced player such as "Do not bid too quickly" or conversely; "Do not take too long to bid". (I don't think the experienced players appreciate that at my level I'm so entirely focused on trying to remember the "right" bid that I can't possibly fathom ways to inappropriately signal my partner...but I digress...This is why we have Directors to solve these problems.)

Some rules can conjure some pretty humorous mental images such as "Do not make comments to anyone during play, make faces or use body language". And some rules should apply to general life such as "Do not criticize your partner or the opponents at the table" (I'll add... especially if they are your ride home).

In the spirit of wanting to be both a polite and ethical player I began researching the etiquette of bridge. I spent time going through various on-line sites where clubs tend to post their guides. I've attached a link to our "ACBL District 11- Proprieties and Ethics Handbook". I found our booklet to be one of the more comprehensive and well written guides that I reviewed. I would encourage everyone to take a look through the entire booklet (it is only 18 pages and very readable). On the last page you will find "Tips for Everyone". Even the newest of players will likely find something of interest, to include establishing expectations for the behavior of the more experienced players. The entire point of these guidelines

and rules is to make the game more equal and more fun, for all players, at all experience levels.

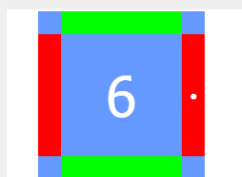
Play bridge, have fun, and remember as Emily Post says...
 "... Etiquette is the science of living. It embraces everything. It is ethics. It is honor."

<https://www.district11bridge.com/20170208-ACBL-District-11-Good-Ethics-Handbook.pdf>

Through a Different Lens

When and how high to preempt? Let's borrow form hand 6 in the NLM Wednesday Morning Game on March 9. This was the inaugural session for this new NLM section. Please plan to play and bring your friends so we can keep the fun going! You sit North and hold:

♠ A K Q J 8 7 6
 ♥ 6
 ♦ Q 10 2
 ♣ Q 2



You hear the following auction to you. What are you prepared to do?

E	S	W	N
P	P	1♥	?

The one thing you should have already done is prepare your decision about this hand ahead of time.

This hand has a wonderful spade suit 14 HCP and 5 losers (1♥, 2♦, and 2♣s). Opposite an unpassed partner we would show an opening hand. We do that after they open the bidding by making a simple overcall.

However in this case we are in 4th seat and have heard two passes before West opened the bidding. That changes things. Before we make a final decision, we see that the opponents are vulnerable and we are not. This is the one vulnerability where we extend preempts to the maximum. Why? Because the penalties we pay are often less than the value of their game or slam, and if we force them into the last guess we might come away with a positive score.

When partner is a passed hand, our preempts become wide-ranging. We might be willing to preempt with an otherwise opening hand.

But how high should we preempt?

Some keep it very simple – 2 level with 6 cards, 3 level with 7 cards, and 4 level with 8 cards. Simple isn't always best. Sabine Auker in her landmark book Preempts from

A to Z suggested the Rule of 2-3-4. This rule looks at two factors: The number of losers in the preempting hand, and the vulnerability. We simply bid to the level of (13 minus # losers) plus 2 or 3 or 4 tricks depending on vulnerability:

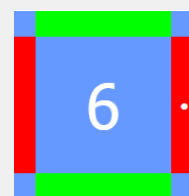
13 – Number of losers plus:

- ❖ 2 if we are vulnerable and they are not
- ❖ 3 if vulnerability is equal
- ❖ 4 if they are vulnerable and we are not

Here we have (13-5) + 4 = 12.

Since bidding above game level absolutely requires that opponents can make their game or slam, we temper the guidance and choose to bid 4♠ - a 10 trick contract. This also forces them to the 5-level, eliminating bidding space necessary to investigate slam. East now faces a problem:

E	S	W	N
P	P	1♥	4♠
?			



♠ 9 3
 ♥ 10 7 3
 ♦ A J 7 6
 ♣ A 10 4 3

9 HCP or 10 Support Points and 2 Aces. It might not be safe at the 5 level (2♠ losers and one loser in 2 of the remaining 3 suits is possible). On the other hand, Partner could be very strong and we might have slam. Sure would be better if East held an honor in partner's suit. I can certainly see Pass, Double and 5♥ as bids for East to consider.

That's the value of the 4♠ bid.

If on the other hand, North decides to bid 1♠ (after all they hold an opening hand with 5 or more ♠ cards), then EW have a very easy time Bidding and exploring slam. One possible path:

E	S	W	N
P	P	1♥	1♠
2♠ ¹	P	3♣ ²	3♠
4♦ ³	P	4N	P
5♥ ⁴	All Pass		
Where			
1-Invites or forces game			
2-econd suit accepts game/slam interest			
3-Control			
4-2 key cards No ♥Q			

Note that if North only intervenes with 1♠, then E and West have the space to communicate a fit, game interest, acceptance of game and possible slam interest before the bidding gets back to North. So even if North chooses to rebid 4♠ here, EW have communicated so much information that East could make a slam move. Let's see that auction in more detail:

Where

- 1-Invites or forces game
- 2-second suit accepts game/slam interest
- 3-Forcing Pass
- 4-1 or 4 key cards
- 5-♥Q?
- 6-No ♥Q

- 1) I have no wasted values in their suit, and
- 2) I have a good hand for my prior bidding.

The one thing West may not do now is pass. They must either

With values in spades and no additional values outside spades, East would double 4♠. West now knows that East's 10 + HCP are all working in the suits that matter. This gives their side at least 24 HCP in 3 suits. Since slam is likely if EW are not missing two fast tricks and if they actually hold 26 HCP in three suits, West might choose to investigate. If not, West has a different choice – pass for penalty or bid on. Here it is not clear to West that they can take 7 tricks on defense. Why 7? Since NS aren't vulnerable, EW needs to collect 800 points to make up for a vulnerable game in ♥. Nonvulnerable undertricks score: -100, -300, -500, -800. To set them 4 tricks, EW have to take 7 on defense. West can see only two top tricks in the other 3 suits, if that. Bidding on seems right. With 2 Aces and the ♣ or ♥Q, slam might be a sound prospect.

♠ 10
♥ A K 9 5 4 2
♦ K 4
♣ K J 6 5

6

Opposite a raise to 5♥, this hand can't be sure that the 5 level is safe, let alone consider slam. What should they do?

Notice how causing opponent's to have to make their final decision with too little information at the 5-level leads to great uncertainty. That's why we **"Give the Opponents the LAST GUESS"**.

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Key Points:

- The best discussion on the forcing pass is in the landmark book by Andrew Robson and Oliver Segal, 1993, Partnership Bidding at Bridge – The Contested Auction.

<http://bridge.mgoetze.net/robson-segal.pdf>

Questions? email **Steve Moese** moesefamily@aol.com

Need a partner? Email Mike Burns

rmikeburnsi@gmail.com

Check out the [Weekly Bidding Quiz library](#) for tips about bidding in difficult situations.