

THE KIBITZER

MARCH 1999

NOTES FROM THE UNIT BOARD

By Keith Falkenberg
Unit President

A big thanks to everyone who played at our January tournament - again a big increase in attendance with a table count of 263 (only 182 tables in play in January 1998). There was a great turnout in the 'A' stand-alone game on Saturday. Also, our future master turnout was very good. Congratulations to the winners especially David Johnson and Barrie Pomerance who won the President's Trophy (most master points for weekend play in future masters events).

The Annual General Meeting for the Unit will be on Saturday, May 8 at the Martinique Bridge Studio starting at 6:00 PM with bridge at 8:00 PM. A special item of business at this meeting will be the consideration, by the Unit 390 membership, of a proposal to incorporate the Calgary unit body as a not-for-profit society under the Alberta Societies Act. It should be noted this is not the same thing as becoming a registered charity (under the federal Income Tax Act). It is unlikely our current activities would qualify as charitable. However, there are advantages to incorporating including a legal distinction of the organization from its membership and some fundraising opportunities. The present Unit Board recommends pursuing this option, subject of course to approval from the membership at the AGM.

I am pleased to announce there is sufficient interest from the membership to require an election to fill vacancies on the Unit Board. Normally, our directors' terms are for two years with the terms staggered half in any given year. Note that the membership elects directors - officers are elected by the Board itself. The directors' positions currently held by myself, Dave Horton, Dave Christison, and Bruce Mottle are up for election. In addition, Joan Garland has elected to stand down in mid term so her director's position will also be up for election. For these 5 positions, the following unit members have been nominated:

Ian Boyd
Laurel Chrumka
Bruce Mottle
Anne Thompson

Dave Christison
Mickey Hawrelak
Terri Pollard

Ballots for the election will be mailed with this issue of the Kibitzer. We will attempt to place an additional ballot in the envelope for those households with more than one unit member. However, if you do not receive one, please contact me at 275-8274. Note that all ballots are franked and photocopied ballots will not be accepted. Ballots may be deposited in the ballot box at the Spring Sectional, at ballot boxes at the major clubs in the city, or by mail to the Unit's Secretary (Joan Garland, address on the ballot). The deadline for voting is April 30th.

As you might have noticed, Dave Horton and I are not standing for reelection. I have now served four years on the Unit Board and with (additional) family responsibilities on the way, feel it is time to move along. I have enjoyed working for the advancement of contract bridge in Calgary over the last four years and have especially enjoyed working with the current Unit Board over the last year.

See you at the Spring Sectional, March 5 to 7!

I SHOULD KNOW THIS BY NOW...

By Judy Gartaganis

Most bridge players will remember glorious triumphs for years. I am more inclined to recollect embarrassing disasters! Whenever I am asked about a favorite hand, this one always springs to mind. Playing in the 1995 Canadian National Team Championship Finals with a pick-up partner (yes, you did read it right – our team of four had suddenly become a three-bagger in the middle of the event, so an emergency substitute had been recruited), you admire the collection at right.

♠	
♥	AQ3
♦	AK53
♣	AKJ852

RHO starts with 2 Spades. That makes your first bid easy. Your hand is far too good to simply overcall so you must start with a Double. Partner surprises you with 3 Diamonds (my partners usually bid Hearts when I have skimpy support). You and your partner have agreed to respond 2 No Trump with any bust hand so you know he has a little something. Now you have to find a way to describe your tremendous hand. 3 Spades seems like a reasonable start. Partner bids a quiet 3 No Trump. Hmmm ... it would be nice to be able to cue bid both the Heart and Club Aces, so you start sensibly with Clubs. Your plan is 4 Clubs now, then 4 Hearts over partner's 4 Diamonds. Oops! Partner raises 4 Clubs to 5 Clubs. Oh well, you might as well continue as planned with 5 Hearts. It certainly has not been the best of auctions. But still, partner should know to bid 7 Diamonds looking at both the Diamond and Club Queens. What is this? Partner is pulling out the green card! Arghh ...

Our partnership had been performing so smoothly that I had forgotten a basic Principle – *always try to make it as easy as possible for partner to do the right thing!* On this hand, there are two questions you need answered. Are there any Diamond losers? How about Club losers? It is not easy to get an answer about the Clubs but, if you are willing to gamble in that suit, there is a way to get an answer about the trumps. The correct bid is 5 No Trump – the Grand Slam Force. 5 No Trump asks one simple question: “What is your trump holding, partner?” The responses are stepwise to focus on the top three honors. When Diamonds are trumps, partner's responses are: 6 Clubs (none of the top three), 6 Diamonds (one of the top three), and 7 Clubs (two of the top three). Note the 7 Club bid rather than 7 Diamonds – this adds flexibility in case the 5 No Trump bidder has an independent solid suit and intends to use Diamonds as the side suit. For other trump suits, the responses can be fine-tuned to describe exactly which of the top three honors are held.

Here is the complete hand with a suggested auction:

♠	K4				
♥	765				
♦	QT972				
♣	Q94				
♠	AQ96	♠	JT87532	West	Partner
♥	K42	♥	JT98		East
♦	J86	♦	4	P	2♠ DBL
♣	T63	♣	7	P	3♦ P 5NT
				P	6♦ P 7♦
				P	P P
	♠				
	♥ AQ3				
	♦ AK53				
	♣ AKJ852				

Poor partner! From my bidding, he was convinced that I had a two-suiter in Clubs and Hearts and had no interest in Diamonds at all. Needless to say, 5 Hearts was not one of those glorious triumphs! The opponents played a pedestrian 6 Clubs at the other table. Still, our –500 along with –1370 at the other table added up to a cool 18 IMP loss.

Which brings me to my second lesson. My partner was a hometown lad who had lots of kibitzers and one of them paid me the nicest compliment (about bridge) I have ever received. After the match, my partner's mother drew me aside. “We were all studying the hand and thinking about the bidding. When he passed 5 Hearts, we thought oh, no!

But then we watched your face as dummy went down and we changed our minds. We were sure he had done the right thing!" The lesson? Sometimes it is hard to stay cool in the midst of a disaster. But remember, *partner wants to succeed just as badly as you do*. There may still be time for glorious triumphs!

I wish I could report that we went on to win the match in spite of this hand, but we did not. But there is a happy ending to the story. The team regrouped and finished the round robin in the top four, so we lived to play another day.

DECEPTION

By Daniel Bertrand

♠ K54
♥ K85
♦ A532
♣ Q53

♠ 42
♥ AJT76432
♦ 9
♣ T8

After two passes, your RHO opens 1 ♣. The vulnerability is in your favor, so you decide to bid 4 ♥ to put pressure on your opponents. Your LHO elects to double you and leads the ♦ K. Maybe the ♠ Ace is onside, or maybe the opponents can make 4 ♠. But, in the mean time, why not try to make 4 ♥ even if the ♠ Ace is offside? Plan your play.

Win the lead in dummy with the Ace and lead a low ♣. RHO wins his King and leads a low ♦, which you ruff. You play a ♥, LHO follows with the 9, dummy's King wins as RHO signals for a spade shift. You play another small ♣ and RHO is in trouble. He decides to win his ♣ Ace setting up dummy's Queen for your tenth trick. He does not realize your hearts are so good and that dummy's eight spot is an entry. (Apparently some players will preempt with less than eight trumps.)

It is easy to blame East. But, you gave him a problem and he failed to solve it. If you had just tried to lead to dummy's ♠ King, you would be -100 instead of +590. RHO's hand was ♠ AQT3 ♥ ♦ T764 ♣ AK962.

FREE BRIDGE

Unit 390 will hold its Annual General Meeting at the Martinique Bridge Club on Saturday, May 8th 1999. The Annual Meeting will start at 6:00PM and bridge will follow at 8:00PM. For those of you who decide to attend the Annual Meeting, bridge will be free. If you do not attend the Meeting, there will be a charge of \$6.00 for playing bridge. This will be a Unit Game, so there will be extra masterpoints floating around.



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MEMBERSHIP DESK

By Joan Garland

Welcome to the following new ACBL Members:

Jane Clark, Doreen Green, Sydney Holberton, Ruth Montgomery, Laretta Northcott, Barrie Purvis, Al Richards, Shelia Ross, Janet Small, Carol Szabo and Beverly Wardrop.

Welcome to the following Players who transferred into our unit:

Philip Chen, Gordon Gair, Penny McQuarrie, and Phyllis Stotts.

In Memoriam:

Josephine Tokarski, Lorraine Van Dusen, and Ruth Waterman

Congratulations to the following who have achieved new milestones:

JUNIOR MASTER (5-20):

Tom Crites, Simon Farrer, Gordon Gair, Doreen Green, Laretta Northcott, Barrie Pomerance, and Roxanne Rees.

CLUB MASTER (20-50):

Audrey Clark, Perry Clark, Robert Dow, Ruth Duplisea, Joan Finlay, Donald Gellatly, Leslie Holmes, Helen Klassen, C F Ko, Brian Price, Leonard Smalldenburg, Ed Snyder, Tom Taylor, and Patricia Young.

SECTIONAL MASTER (at least 50, including 5 silver points):

Ernest Carter, Norrine Pearson, Naomi Pencer, and Patricia Purvis.

REGIONAL MASTER (at least 100, including 15 silver and 5 red or gold)

Donna Gellatly, Barry Robey, John Serra, and Lore Shymanski.

NABC MASTER (at least 200, including 25 silver, 5 gold, and 15 red or gold):

Jane Binsted, Elizabeth Graham, Lily Halliday, Doris Johnston, Barney Paterson, Geraldine Paterson, Hazel Skelton, and Rick Stevens.

LIFE MASTER (at least 300, including 50 silver, 25 gold, and 25 red or gold):

Mickey Hawrelak and Rodney Ward.

BRONZE LIFE MASTER (Life Master over 500):

Philip Chen and Dave Horton.

GOLD LIFE MASTER (Life Master over 2500):

Steven Lawrence.

MEMBERSHIP KITS

For a limited time, ABCL Memberships kits are available for purchase at the Bow River and Martinique Bridge Clubs. These kits will also be available at the upcoming Sectional March 5-7, 1999.

The Kit includes half price first year membership in the ACBL, free plays for the Bow River, Martinique and Unit 390 sectionals, the latest issue of the Kibitzer, and a telephone directory. All of this for just \$27.45!!

These kits make ideal gifts for introducing friends and relatives to the fascinating game of Duplicate Bridge! And also for you procrastinators who have put off joining!

PRESIDENT'S TROPHY

The President's Trophy is awarded to the future master who wins the most masterpoints in future master events at the Calgary Sectional. These are the results for the New Year's Sectional:

1/2	Barrie Pomerance	5/6	Lucy Miller	9/10	Joan Finlay
1/2	David Johnson	5/6	Joy Gloin	9/10	Audrey Clark
3/4	Gordon Houston	7/8	Sally Graboski	11	Barbara MacLean
3/4	Eleanor Houston	7/8	Isabelle Wintrip	12	Marcel Claeys

FUTURE MASTERS

By Maggie Rogers

On January 18th, a very successful 26 table Master-Novice Game was held at the Bow River Bridge Club. This was a fun event and a good way for new duplicate players to meet more experienced players. Novices are defined as those players with less than 20 Masterpoints. Many of the Novices had just finished lessons while others have played Bridge for years and were ready to take on anybody. Many were not yet members of the ACBL. It was certainly appreciated that so many Masters were willing to make them feel comfortable in the Duplicate world.

On Monday April 19th, the Martinique Bridge Club will be hosting another Master-Novice Evening. There will be many Masterpoints available and the Helen Shields Trophy will be awarded. Come and bring your own Master/Novice or sign up to be paired with a partner. Sign up sheets will be available at the upcoming Sectional March 5 – 7 or you can phone Elaine at 243-4353. Do not miss out on another Fun event.

Trophies will be awarded at the March Sectional for previous Sectional Future Master Events. Come out and see if you won.

There will be a 199er Tournament on the weekend of April 2 – 5. Contact the Martinique Bridge Club or Bow River Bridge Club for information and/or flyers.

There will also be a 99er Tournament on May 14 – 17.

Plan to attend the Annual meeting in May. Come out and meet your Unit 390 board members and better still get involved in Unit activities. There will be a game and refreshments following the business meeting. Watch for further details at the Clubs.

It is good to see so many new players coming out. Let's hope they get hooked and continue to play.

ALLERGIES

Many players are allergic to various things including perfumes. So, ladies and gentlemen, please take it easy on perfumes so that everyone can enjoy himself or herself.

TROPHIES

The Edna Lougheed trophy and the Alberta Sectional Masterpoint plaque have disappeared. If you have any information about their whereabouts, please contact a Board member.

NEW YEAR'S SECTIONAL RESULTS

OPEN PAIRS

STRATIFIED IMP PAIRS

- Flight A:** 1 Francesca Walton – Paul Graham
2 Brenda Bertrand – Gerry Marshall
3 Perry Khakhar – Michael Hurka
- Flight B:** 1 Perry Khakhar – Michael Hurka
2 Bruce Mottle – Keith Falkenberg
3/4 Ruth Gilchrist – Stephanie McAdam
3/4 Devinder Sood – Hussein Dada
- Flight C:** 1 Devinder Sood – Hussein Dada
2 Olga Jones – Pat Blochert
3 Hazel Skelton – Barry Pashak

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS

- Flight A:** 1 Judith Gartaganis – Nicholas Gartaganis
2 Fi Nadir – Ron Pongar
3 Devinder Sood – Valerie Ling
- Flight B:** 1 Fi Nadir – Ron Pongar
2 Devinder Sood – Valerie Ling
3 Ruth Gilchrist – Dave Adelman
- Flight C:** 1 Devinder Sood – Valerie Ling
2 Rita Dodge – Lamya Abagoush
3 Mickey Hawrelak – Vince Lacoste

FLIGHT A OPEN PAIRS

- Flight A:** 1 Dave Adelman – Rodney McKnight
2 Keith Moores – Dan Bertrand
3 Pat Smolensky – Martin McDonald

STRATIFIED B/C OPEN PAIRS

- Flight B:** 1 Mickey Hawrelak – Vince Lacoste
2 Rod Ward – Peter Bradbury
3 John Ferguson – Garth Wiggins
- Flight C:** 1 Mickey Hawrelak – Vince Lacoste
2 Rod Ward – Peter Bradbury
3 John Ferguson – Garth Wiggins

FUTURE MASTERS

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

- Flight D:** 1 Gordon Houston – Eleanor Houston
2 Jim Lore – Connie Osterman
3 Jeannette Kish – Joan Shedden
- Flight E:** 1 Jim Lore – Connie Osterman
2 Jeannette Kish – Joan Shedden
3 Beth Massie – Wilda Pashak
- Flight F:** 1 Jeannette Kish – Joan Shedden
2 Beth Massie – Wilda Pashak

FRIDAY EVENING

- Flight D:** 1 Barrie Pomerance – David Johnson
2/3 Joy Gloin – Lucy Miller
2/3 Marjorie Laing – Louise Gramlich
- Flight E:** 1 Barrie Pomerance – David Johnson
2 Marjorie Laing – Louise Gramlich
3 Joan Finlay – Audrey Clark
- Flight F:** 1 Barrie Pomerance – David Johnson
2 Jeannette Kish – Joan Shedden

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

- Flight D:** 1 Joan Finlay – Audrey Clark
2 Barrie Pomerance – David Johnson
3 Lawrence Owens – Larry McComb
- Flight E:** 1 Joan Finlay – Audrey Clark
2 Barrie Pomerance – David Johnson
3 Lawrence Owens – Larry McComb
- Flight F:** 1 Barrie Pomerance – David Johnson
2 Barbara MacLean – Eveleine King
3 Barb Crookshank – Kaye Coad

SATURDAY EVENING

- Flight D:** 1 Alice Whitty – Carol Szabo
2/4 Kay Grove – Margaret Bartley
2/4 Barrie Pomerance – David Johnson
2/4 Marcel Claeys – Ross Bennett

OPEN STRATIFIED SWISS TEAMS

Flight A: 1 Kiz Fung – Piotr Klimowicz
Tom Gandolfo – Dann Kramer
2 Judith Gartaganis – Nicholas Gartaganis
Gordon Campbell – Peter Jones
Vince Lambert
3 Ernie Boushy – Phyllis Boushy
Joy Saville – Brian Saville

Flight B: 1 Valerie Ling – Elizabeth Pineo
Devinder Sood – Hussein Dada
2 Rod Ward – Glenn Lefebvre
Ron Pritchard – John Ferguson
3 Barry Pashak – Hazel Skelton
Barney Paterson – Geraldine Paterson

Flight C: 1 Valerie Ling – Elizabeth Pineo
Devinder Sood – Hussein Dada
2 Barry Pashak – Hazel Skelton
Barney Paterson – Geraldine Paterson
4 Tony Vissers – Leo Sprinkhuysen
Joan Garland – Eveleine King

SATURDAY EVENING (continued)

Flight E: 1 Alice Whitty – Carol Szabo
2 Barrie Pomerance – David Johnson
3 Marjorie Laing – Eveleine King

Flight F: 1 Barrie Pomerance – David Johnson
2 Beth Mawdsley – Jim Mawdsley

SUNDAY MORNING TEAMS

Flight D: 1 Sally Graboski – Lucy Miller
Joy Gloin – Isabelle Wintrip
2/3 Barbara MacLean – Phil Phillips
Hank Van Veen – Virginia Van Veen
2/3 Kay Grove – Margaret Bartley
Mary Royal – Peggy Clark
Flight E: 1 Barbara MacLean – Phil Phillips
Hank Van Veen – Virginia Van Veen

SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEAMS

Flight D: 1 Gordon Houston – Eleanor Houston
Willa Dumka – Anne Stang
2 Barbara MacLean – Phil Phillips
Hank Van Veen – Virginia Van Veen
Flight E: 1 Barbara MacLean – Phil Phillips
Hank Van Veen – Virginia Van Veen

SPECIAL EVENTS

By Dave Horton

Grand National Teams club qualifying finished on February 8, 1999. For those of you in Flights A,B and D, if you qualified your qualification is good for the District Final to be held in Great Falls May 21 - 23, 1999. For those of you in Flight C, if you qualified at the club level, there will be a two session Unit Final On May 2nd at the Bow River Bridge Club, the top half of the field will qualify for the District Final in Great Falls. The Unit Final for Flight C will pay 25% gold and 75% red points, so even if you don't wish to go to the District Final, you may still wish to consider playing in the Unit Final.

The CNTC Zone Final will be held at the Martinique on April 10th and 11th. Some of the better teams from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Northern Manitoba will be playing in this event. This event requires prequalification, however if you are thinking of entering in this event in a future year, why not drop by the Martinique to kibitz a couple of sessions.

The North American Open Pair qualifications will be held over the summer, watch your local club for information on qualifying games. The event is stratified at the club level and flighted at the Unit and District levels. All people who qualify at the club level are eligible for the Unit Final, with the top half of the field at the Unit level qualifying for the District Final. At the District level the top two pairs from each of Flights A, B and C win a trip to the Spring NABC's in Cincinnati in 2000. The trip includes airfare and 3 nights' accommodation or 6 nights' accommodation if the room is split between you and your partner.

SPRING SECTIONAL

March 5 – 7, 1999

**Location: Polish Canadian Culture Centre
3015 15 St NE**

Open Events

Friday, March 5th, 1999

1:30 PM: Stratified IMP Pairs
8:00 PM: Stratified Pairs

Saturday, March 6th, 1999

1:00 PM: Stratiflighted Open Pairs
(1st session of playthrough)
A: Unlimited (Stand Alone)
B: 300 to 500 (Stratified)
C: 0 to 300 (Stratified)

7:30 PM: Stratiflighted Open Pairs
(2nd session of playthrough)

**Note: Single session players are welcomed for
either session**

Sunday, March 7th, 1999

10:30AM: Stratified Swiss Teams
(1st Session)

TBA: Stratified Swiss Teams
(2nd Session)

Flighting for Friday & Sunday Games
A: 750⁺ B: 300 – 750 C: 0 - 300

Future Master Events

Friday, March 5th, 1999

1:30 PM: Future Master Stratified Pairs
8:00 PM: Future Master Stratified Pairs
11:30 PM: Wine & Cheese Reception for
Future Masters

Saturday, March 6th, 1999

1:00 PM: Future Master Stratified Pairs
7:30 PM: Future Master Stratified Pairs

Sunday, March 7th, 1999

10:30 AM: Stratified Swiss Teams
TBA: Stratified Swiss Teams

**Stratified Events: A: 50 – 100
 B: 20 – 50
 C: 0 – 20**

All Future Master Events are Single Session

**President's Trophy will be awarded to the
Future Master who wins the most
Masterpoints in Future Master Events**

Next Unit 390 Sectional: Labor Day Sectional, September 10 - 12