



The Kibitzer

April 2016

Editors: Judith and Nicholas Gartaganis

President's Message

Hi Everyone.

It has been a great honour and privilege to be the President of Unit 390 and to share the responsibility with such a great Board of Directors. We have had a very busy but incredibly rewarding year and this is recognized with the support we have received from you, our membership.

The first Unit-sponsored Boot Camp, hosted by Nancy Klym and Bev Mason, was so successful it prompted a second Boot Camp (to be held April 23rd and 24th). The second Boot Camp sold out in a week.

Our sponsored Directors Course hosted by Doug and Crystal Mann saw 12 participants (7 from Calgary), all of whom passed to become certified Club Directors. Thank you to the various clubs who have since allowed some of these new directors to gain much needed hands-on experience.

The annual Rookie Master Team Game was once again a huge success with 28 tables in attendance. Thank you to the Masters for providing the incredible feast and, of course, for helping to grow the game we love by encouraging the 56 Rookies in attendance.

And didn't we pull off a great surprise tribute to our long-serving Director Steve Bates. (See write up on page 19)

I would like to take this opportunity to promote Unit 390's four Sectional Tournaments. These tournaments are our primary source of revenue which, in turn, allows us to host and to sponsor special events like the ones mentioned above. The purchase and maintenance of assets (trailer and bridge supplies) and initiatives such as the New Member Packages, the Mentorship Program, the Telephone Directories, the Unit 390 notices, the GNT District Final, the District and National NAP's, GNT's and CNTC travel subsidies, the 90's Club, the Trophy updates ... are costs incurred on a yearly basis and funded in large part with Sectional revenue.

Attendance at the Sectionals is diminishing, and we ask for your support. Most noticeable is the drop in attendance on the part of Flight B players who, for some reason feel they get "beaten up" by the A players at tournaments. I've never been able to understand this. On any given day at any open club game in the city, everybody plays against players in all flights ... A, B, C and D! So what makes a tournament different?

Maybe two-session events are too tiring for some players but there are separate morning and afternoon side games on Saturday of each tournament. Why not come and play one session. We'd love to see you.

I am thrilled to announce that Emelie Quennell has agreed to serve as the Chairperson for the 2018 Calgary Regional. It took just one little email request met with an immediate "I would love to" response to set the ball in motion. I realize April 2016 seems a long way away from July 2018 but behind the scenes preparation starts now. I can guarantee an incredible Regional with Emelie at the helm and I know Emelie can count on your support.

The Unit 390 Annual General Meeting is scheduled for May 14th at the Kerby Centre. Light lunch will be served at 11 a.m., and the AGM starts at noon with bridge to follow. Hope to see you there.

Delores Hedley
President, Unit 390

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Avoidance

By Dan Bertrand

Sometimes you do not want a certain opponent to gain the lead, but you do not mind if her partner wins a trick. For example, you might have Kx in your hand opposite xx in dummy in a suit. If your LHO gets on lead, you have a sure stopper; but if your RHO gets on lead, the opponents might take many tricks in that suit (especially if you are playing a no-trump contract). In this example, your RHO is the danger hand so you want to play the contract in such a way as to **avoid** her gaining the lead.

Please try the following hands. You are playing 3NT from the West seat. You are playing a team event and want to find the best chance to make your contract.

Hand 1:

♠ A	N	♠ Q63
♥ KQ8	W ■ E	♥ A74
♦ A753	S	♦ 942
♣ A10942		♣ KJ53

North leads the ♠9. South plays the ♠8 using standard signals.

Hand 2:

♠ AJ6	N	♠ 84
♥ K6	W ■ E	♥ A42
♦ A762	S	♦ KQJ5
♣ A962		♣ QJ104

North leads the ♠5 and South follows with the ♠Q.

Hand 3:

♠ AJ6	N	♠ 84
♥ K6	W ■ E	♥ A42
♦ A762	S	♦ KQJ5
♣ QJ104		♣ A962

North leads the ♠5 and South follows with the ♠Q.

Hand 4:

♠ AKQ	N	♠ 9842
♥ AJ5	W ■ E	♥ K
♦ 86	S	♦ AJ7532
♣ KQJ98		♣ 76

North leads the ♥6. South follows with the ♥2. Can you make sure of 9 tricks?

Please turn to page 5 for the solutions.

2015 Alberta Sectionals Masterpoint Race

Final Standings

1	119.80	Perry Khakhar	Edmonton AB
2	119.65	Nicholas Gartaganis	Calgary AB
3	114.44	Judith Gartaganis	Calgary AB
4	98.44	Chris Galbraith	Calgary AB
5	94.99	Steve Lawrence	Calgary AB
6	87.71	Kiz Fung	Edmonton AB
7	87.27	Janet Galbraith	Calgary AB
8	81.98	Abdul Fakh	Calgary AB
9	69.44	Glenn Cossey	Innisfail AB
10	68.20	Peter Jones	Edmonton AB
11	68.09	Dan Bertrand	Calgary AB
12	66.77	Keith Moores	Calgary AB
13	65.84	Barry Pritchard	Edmonton AB
14	59.94	Veryl Norquay	Calgary AB
15	59.80	Charles Lamb	Red Deer AB
16/17	58.88	Bob Wright	Calgary AB
16/17	58.88	Olga Wright	Calgary AB
18	58.87	Gordon Campbell	Calgary AB
19	58.70	Laurie Shapka Thiel	Red Deer AB
20	57.10	Adam Thiel	Red Deer AB
21	55.15	Vince Nowlan	Edmonton AB
22	54.68	Cindy Cossey	Innisfail AB
23	51.84	Ray Grace	Sherwood Park AB
24	51.36	Allan Simon	Calgary AB
25	49.44	Garry Karst	Edmonton AB

"A gossip is one who talks to you about others, a bore is one who talks to you about himself; and a brilliant conversationalist is one who talks to you about yourself."

Lisa Kirk

The Editors would like to thank everyone who contributed material for this edition of the Kibitzer.

Submissions for future issues of The Kibitzer are always welcome. Email your articles and news items to 390kibitzer@acblunit390.org

The next edition is scheduled to be out in late September.

Plan, Then Reassess

By Gordon Campbell

At the end of January, I had an enjoyable trip to Red Deer for the Sectional Swiss Teams. As always, the hospitality was excellent and it was good to see familiar faces.

Early on you arrive in 4♥ with these cards:

South	North
♠ Axx	♠ xx
♥ AJ9xx	♥ Kxx
♦ xx	♦ Qxx
♣ Q10x	♣ AKxxx

After this auction:

South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Bidding 3♣ with a balanced hand is not ideal, but 2NT seems misdirected with no diamond stopper and no spade spots. Some modernists would bid a space-saving "flexible" 2♥, but I prefer major suit rebids to show 6 or more. Anyway, no harm done since my partner, Dan Bertrand, mercifully bid 4♥.

LHO leads the ♦A and switches to a spade. Now what? There seems no reason to duck, and indeed if everything goes well (OK, really well!) you might make an overtrick. Two plans are worthy of consideration:

Plan A: Play the ♥K and finesse the ♥J

Plan B: Play the ♥K and then the ♥A hoping for a doubleton ♥Q. If that doesn't materialize, play 3 rounds of clubs hoping that the opponent with the outstanding ♥Q holds 3 clubs.

Both plans probably need hearts 3-2, although a 4-1 break with LHO holding the singleton ♥Q is manageable.

The odds of the finesse working are 50% (Plan A) while the probability of the Queen being doubleton is 40% of the 3-2 distributions (Plan B). However, when you take into account the additional chance to discard a diamond loser because of a 3-2 club break, Plan B is a better prospect.

You embark on Plan B and, surprise, surprise, the ♥Q is doubleton! Just as you are about to go for the overtrick you realize that if the clubs are not 3-2 the contract will fail! Try it.

So feeling sheepish, you guarantee the contract by playing towards the ♦Q (LHO almost certainly holds the ♦K) before drawing the last trump. Sacrificing an overtrick is better than undertricks!

So, the final piece of advice is this. Devise and follow a plan but continually reassess as new data appears. Sometimes your original plan needs a favourable distribution, but when something good does happen, you can reassess and cater to a less favourable distribution, especially at IMPs.

At the recent Reno NABC, Calgary's own Dorothy Mersereau took the \$50 top prize in the limerick contest honouring St. Patrick's Day.

Dorothy admits that she and her husband, Dave Johnson, actually sit down over a glass of wine and write the limericks together. At last year's spring NABC in New Orleans, they submitted the final product in Dave's name and won! This year they put the limerick in Dorothy's name. As for next year in Kansas City ... "we've decided to put both our names on the submission".

Here is Dorothy's (and Dave's) clever ode (reprinted from the March 17 Reno Daily Bulletin).



I came to the Big Little City
And endeavored to pen something witty
Though I relished the play
I got knocked out each day
Several green beers should drown my self pity



Both Sides Series #1

By Dick Yuen

Side A:

You are West in 3rd seat holding

♠ J432 ♥ 654 ♦ 65 ♣ Q1054

The auction has proceeded:

West (You)	North	East	South
--	--	1♦	DBL
Pass	2♣	2♦	4♦ ¹
Pass	4♣ ²	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

¹ explained later as Exclusion Keycard for clubs

² 0 or 3 key cards

What is your lead?

Side B:

You are South in 2nd seat holding this monster:

♠ A10 ♥ AKQJ1098 ♦ 9 ♣ AK8

You are somewhat surprised by your RHO's 1♦ opening. What goes through your mind? It appears you have 10 sure tricks in hearts so slam is not far away. Still, on a bad day, even 4♥ might go down (opening club ruff, over to the diamond entry for a second club ruff, and the unavoidable spade loser).

What if your hand was a little bit different ...something like:

♠ A105 ♥ AKQJ1098 ♦ --- ♣ AK8

Now 4♥ is secure.

You are definitely strong enough to double first and then bid your suit, so you try a takeout double. LHO passes as expected, partner responds 2♣, and RHO continues with 2♦.

It appears RHO's bid is legitimate, but 6♥ requires very little from partner. Assuming there is no club ruff on opening lead, then 12 tricks roll if partner has ♣QJxx or ♣Qxxxx with clubs breaking or ♣Q10xxx with RHO showing out on the second round. Are you satisfied to settle for 4♥? If not, how should you proceed?

Can you find out if partner has the ♣Q, the *real* key card for you? Do you bid differently with the two hands?

You could try 4NT (Key Card for clubs, since that is the last bid suit). This has the advantage of finding out whether partner has the ♦A (granted, a very remote chance).

But if partner shows 0 key cards, will you bid 6♥ anyway? Even 5♥ might be too high if partner doesn't have the ♣Q so you might as well bid slam.

Alternatively, 4♦, which is Exclusion Key Card with clubs as trump, is a better choice in my opinion. Yes you are lying if you have the first hand, but couldn't you just as easily have the second. And 4♦ may gain a psychological advantage of discouraging a diamond lead! When partner shows 0 key cards (as you know he will), you have the chicken exit in 4♥, but you can still bid 6♥.

LHO will have to make a lead (say from ♠ J432 ♥ 654 ♦ 65 ♣ Q1054). Given the auction, a red suit lead may seem too passive while a spade lead might give up the suit when partner has the ♠Q and dummy the ♠K. From LHO's point of view, a club lead might be the only lead to defeat 6♥ ... perhaps partner will ruff and the ♣Q will still score [Ed. *Unlikely since partner may have made a Lightner double*].

A third option is to just close your eyes and bid 6♥.

What route do you prefer?

Post-mortem for Side A:

Let me describe a happy ending for declarer ... a club lead yields the 6♥ contract! Here is the full layout:

♠ J432	♠ Q87	♠ K965									
♥ 654	♥ 72	♥ 3									
♦ 65	♦ 1087	♦ AKQJ432									
♣ Q1054	♣ J9763	♣ 2									
	<table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>■</td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W	■	E		S		
	N										
W	■	E									
	S										
	♠ A10										
	♥ AKQJ1098										
	♦ 9										
	♣ AK8										

The play is straightforward. Dummy scores the ♣J on the opening lead. Declarer cashes all seven trumps and the ♠AK to bring about a 3-card ending. Then RHO is thrown in with a diamond and is endplayed to lead away from the ♠K. RHO can make a last ditch effort by blanking the ♠K to keep ♦A4, hoping declarer will misguess but that is not likely.

[continued next page]

Both Sides Series #1 (continued)

It is interesting to note that if LHO's low diamond were the ♦J instead, 6♥ can no longer be made, even after the disastrous club lead. LHO must hang on to the ♦J6 while RHO must discard all the high ones, keeping the ♦2.

Post-mortem for Side B:

Any club lead except the ♣Q is the only lead to defeat South's 6♥ contract. The four hands are:

♠ Q87			
♥ 72			
♦ 1087			
♣ J9763			
♠ J432			♠ K965
♥ 654			♥ 3
♦ 65			♦ AKQJ9432
♣ Q1054			♣ ---
	♠ N		
	♥ W	♠ E	
	♦ S		
	♣ A10		
	♥ AKQJ1098		
	♦ ---		
	♣ AK82		

East will ruff the opening lead and South still has to lose a club.

Suppose West leads a diamond. South ruffs and plays four rounds of trumps. Now the ♣A reveals the 4-0 break and when South advances the ♣2, West is forced to duck. Dummy wins cheaply.

Now there are two options to make the contract.

If East has both the ♠K and the ♠J, you are toast. So assume he has only the ♠K. Lead the ♠Q from dummy, forcing East to cover. You win the ♠A and run the rest of the trumps to squeeze West. In the three-card ending, West must keep the ♠J and the ♣Qx so must let go his last diamond. Now, a spade endplays West to lead from his ♣Q.

Alternatively, assuming the spade honours are split or that West has both the ♠K and ♠J, you can come off dummy with a diamond ruff and cash the remaining trump. Now, the ♣K and another endplays West to lead a spade (yes, you have to guess which spade West holds).

Do you want to be in West's shoes after all? Which hand does South have? Bridge is a tough game ... not always fair, but always great fun!

Aside: This hand actually came up during the Swiss at the November Sectional (with a few spot cards rearranged). Hats off to my opponent who found a club lead but did not defeat the slam!

Avoidance Solutions

By Dan Bertrand

Hand 1:

You have 7 top tricks. You can easily get two more from the club suit. But you cannot let North win a trick. North could play another spade and if South has the King, the defence might get 5 tricks or more. But if South wins a trick, the defence cannot run the Spade suit due to the Spade Queen in East's hand. So after winning the ♠A, cash the ♣A and lead the ♣10 and play low from Dummy if North follows with a small club. This will guarantee 9 tricks.

Hand 2:

You have 8 top tricks. You will have to try the club finesse to get a ninth trick. You should win the first trick and cross to dummy to take the club finesse. (You can cash a few winners first, if you prefer). If it loses, you are safe since you still have a spade stopper against North.

Hand 3:

You have 8 top tricks (again). You will have to try the club finesse to get a ninth trick; but this time, you will finesse into the danger hand (South). You do not have a sure spade stopper against South. So duck the first trick. When South continues with a small spade, try the ♠J. If North wins and continues spades, win the ♠A (no choice) then try the club finesse. Hopefully, South is out of spades or the suit splits 4-4.

Hand 4:

After winning the ♥K, you have 6 top tricks. You can guarantee 9 tricks by playing a club to your 9 (or 8). If it loses to the ten, North cannot attack hearts and you have time to play another round of clubs to get 3 club tricks. But if instead you play a club to your ♣K and it wins, you will have to guess what to do next. This might be the hand:

♠ J753			
♥ Q107643			
♦ 94			
♣ 5			
♠ AKQ			♠ 9842
♥ AJ5			♥ K
♦ 86			♦ AJ7532
♣ KQJ98			♣ 76
	♠ N		
	♥ W	♠ E	
	♦ S		
	♣ 106		
	♥ 982		
	♦ KQ10		
	♣ A10432		

Note: if North wins the ♣10 and plays a diamond, win the ♦A and play another club to guarantee your 3 club tricks.

The President's Award



At each Sectional in the Unit 390 tournament cycle, the recipient of the President's Award is named. The award goes to the player who, over the course of the weekend, accumulates the most masterpoints in 199'er events. Winners are acknowledged at the annual Unit 390 trophy presentation and their names are engraved on the President's Award plaque.

The 199'er events are flighted. The President's Award can go to a player in any one of the flights.

In this Kibitzer, we have three Sectionals upon which to report.

November 2015

Two players tied for the President's Award - Georgia Black and Charlene Delcourt, each with 5.47 masterpoints. Here is the full list of results:

Flight D (100 - 200):

- | | | |
|----|------|---------------|
| 1. | 5.47 | Georgia Black |
| 2. | 4.47 | Tim Stevenson |
| 3. | 3.54 | Jan Brawn |

Flight E (50 - 100):

- | | | |
|----|------|-------------------|
| 1. | 5.47 | Charlene Delcourt |
| 2. | 4.47 | Art Lemaistre |
| 3. | 3.82 | Gary Raab |

Flight F (0 - 50):

- | | | |
|----|------|-------------------|
| 1. | 3.19 | Susan Wigmore |
| 2. | 3.09 | Margaret Williams |
| 3. | 2.54 | Carol Lamb |

January 2016

Once again there was a tie for top spot, this time between Jan Brawn and Judy Madge, each with 6.95 masterpoints.

Flight D (100 - 200):

- | | | |
|------|------|-------------|
| 1/2. | 6.95 | Jan Brawn |
| 1/2. | 6.95 | Judy Madge |
| 3. | 4.53 | Debbie Hunt |

Flight E (50 - 100):

- | | | |
|------|------|---------------|
| 1/2. | 4.21 | Leon Driscoll |
| 1/2. | 4.21 | Linda Peacock |
| 3. | 3.94 | Lisa O'Hara |

Flight F (0 - 50):

- | | | |
|------|------|----------------|
| 1/2. | 2.68 | Doug Biles |
| 1/2. | 2.68 | Deanna Downton |
| 3. | 2.58 | Brian Johns |

April 2016

Last but not least, at the recently concluded Sectional, the President's Award was won by Richard Piette with 5.22 masterpoints. The complete results:

Flight D (100 - 200):

- | | | |
|------|------|-------------------|
| 1. | 3.06 | Mary Anne Crookes |
| 2/3. | 2.14 | Pam Caravan |
| 2/3. | 2.14 | Kathy Kennedy |

Flight E (50 - 100):

- | | | |
|------|------|-----------------|
| 1. | 5.22 | Richard Piette |
| 2/3. | 4.05 | Brent Muir |
| 2/3. | 4.05 | Richard Degroat |

Flight F (0 - 50):

- | | | |
|------|------|--------------|
| 1/2. | 3.70 | Cathy Moore |
| 1/2. | 3.70 | Anne Olthof |
| 3. | 3.30 | Tom Flanagan |

Congratulations to all! Well done.

Upcoming Unit 390 Tournament Dates






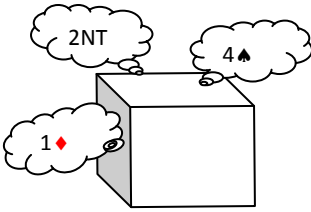


Calgary Sectional	September 9 - 11, 2016
Calgary Sectional	November 4 - 6, 2016
Calgary Sectional	January 6 - 8, 2017
Calgary Sectional	March 31 - April 2, 2017

Lethbridge Regional	May 9 - 15, 2016
Red Deer Regional.....	August 8 - 14, 2016

District 18 GNT Final (BBO online).....	May 6-7, 2016
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Bridge Puzzles

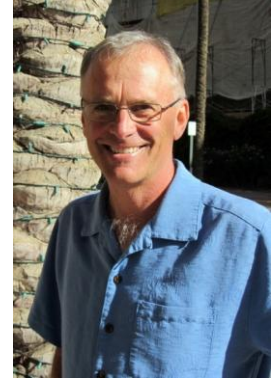
1	S T A M A N S T A Y M A N	9	NOTHING
2	TON	10	
3		11	Loser Loser
4		12	
5	εccrp	13	
6	CONTRACT	14	DUMMY
7	nege nege	15	1 3 4 5 6 1 3 4 5 6 2 2
8	Simple Call	16	

Answers can be found on page 20.

New Alberta Rep for ACBL District 18

David Johnson of Calgary has been elected to serve on the District 18 Board of Directors for a three-year term.

Dave "learned" the game in high school in Vancouver B.C. and after graduating from UBC in 1978, moved to Calgary and did not play for 21 years. He became an ACBL member in 1999; retired from his work in 2012; and is playing and travelling more, including attending 8 of the past 11 Nationals.



One of Dave's goals will be to work toward reversing the trend of declining attendance at Regional tournaments. He plans to encourage organizers of past Regionals to share what they have learned -- from both mistakes and successes -- with future organizers.

Dave served on the Unit 390 Board of Directors from 2003 to 2006, the last two of those years as president. Dave is currently on the ACBL Board of Governors. He is a Ruby Life Master.



2015 Zone V Mini-Richmond Races

Final Standings

The Mini-Richmond awards were introduced in 2012. The awards recognize Canadian Bridge Federation members who win the most masterpoints in the calendar year in each of the masterpoint categories, up to and including Diamond Life Master (5,000 – 7,500 MP). Each category winner in each of the six CBF zones receives a special pin. In addition, overall national winners receive a certificate recognizing their achievement.

Calgary Unit 390 is part of Zone V, which encompasses Alberta, Saskatchewan and Northern Manitoba. For 2015, Unit 390 players were winners in 6 of 11 masterpoint categories.

20 to 50	1. Dennis Ooms	Calgary AB	75
50 to 100	1. Richard Bickley	Calgary AB	178
300 to 500	1. Dorothy Mersereau	Calgary AB	216
500 to 1000	1. Helen Dillen	Calgary AB	224
1000 to 2500	1. Dave Adelman	Calgary AB	389
2500 to 5000	1. Abdul Fakih	Calgary AB	494

2015 Ace of Clubs Awards Unit 390 Final Standings

0 to 5	1	Raymond Dickinson	Calgary AB	25
	2	Inge French	Okotoks AB	24
	3	Michael McDonough	Calgary AB	14
5 to 20	1	Shelley Mardiros	Banff AB	19
	2	Gilbert Fagnou	Calgary AB	17
	3	Gwen Fagnou	Calgary AB	17
20 to 50	1	Dennis Ooms	Calgary AB	69
	2	Julie Larsen	Calgary AB	40
	3	Colin Macqueen	Calgary AB	33
50 to 100	1	Richard Bickley	Calgary AB	95
	2	Blake Fleming	Calgary AB	72
	3	Margaret Nielsen	Calgary AB	42
100 to 200	1	Claire Strachan	Calgary AB	56
	2	Andrea Killackey	Calgary AB	50
	3	Donna Badiou	Calgary AB	49
200 to 300	1	Peter Segers	Calgary AB	76
	2	Susan Bessant	Calgary AB	40
	3	Eileen McCashew	Calgary AB	36
300 to 500	1	Dale Bercov	Calgary AB	115
	2	Victoria Haines	Calgary AB	83
	3	Dorothy Mersereau	Calgary AB	67
500 to 1000	1	Eileen Grady	Hamilton ON	108
	2	Gail Bews	Calgary AB	91
	3	Helen Dillen	Calgary AB	85
1000 to 2500	1	Dave Adelman	Calgary AB	216
	2	Jean Ward	Calgary AB	170
	3	Susan Julius	Calgary AB	152
2500 to 5000	1	Abdul Fakihi	Calgary AB	174
	2	Jim Berglund	Calgary AB	143
	3	Elaine Stewart	Calgary AB	140
5000 to 7500	1	Dann Kramer	Calgary AB	102
	2	Donald Gladman	Calgary AB	84
	3	Daniel Bertrand	Calgary AB	46
7500 to 10,000	1	Steven Lawrence	Calgary AB	106
	2	Judith Gartaganis	Calgary AB	12
Over 10,000	1	Nicholas Gartaganis	Calgary AB	12

2015 Mini-McKenney Awards Unit 390 Final Standings

0 to 5	1	Raymond Dickinson	Calgary AB	31
	2	Carl Ringdahl	Calgary AB	29
	3	Inge French	Okotoks AB	28
5 to 20	1	Shelley Mardiros	Banff AB	84
	2	Jim Griffeth	Calgary AB	31
	3	Barbara Martin	Calgary AB	24
20 to 50	1	Dennis Ooms	Calgary AB	75
	2	Harvey Wiehler	Calgary AB	48
	3	Brent Muir	Calgary AB	48
50 to 100	1	Richard Bickley	Calgary AB	178
	2	Blake Fleming	Calgary AB	122
	3	Margaret Nielsen	Calgary AB	86
100 to 200	1	Mike Blancher	Calgary AB	85
	2	Claire Strachan	Calgary AB	77
	3	Marcia Andreychuk	Calgary AB	75
200 to 300	1	Peter Segers	Calgary AB	127
	2	Susan Bessant	Calgary AB	81
	3	Keith Wallace Pam Wallace	Calgary AB	71
300 to 500	1	Dorothy Mersereau	Calgary AB	216
	2	Victoria Haines	Calgary AB	204
	3	Dale Bercov	Calgary AB	131
500 to 1000	1	Helen Dillen	Calgary AB	224
	2	Eileen Grady	Hamilton ON	176
	3	Emelie Quennell	Calgary AB	145
1000 to 2500	1	Dave Adelman	Calgary AB	389
	2	Diane Campbell	Calgary AB	301
	3	David Johnson	Calgary AB	301
2500 to 5000	1	Abdul Fakihi	Calgary AB	494
	2	Jim Berglund	Calgary AB	265
	3	Perry Khakhar	Calgary AB	247
5000 to 7500	1	Gordon Campbell	Calgary AB	220
	2	Donald Gladman	Calgary AB	203
	3	Dann Kramer	Calgary AB	199
7500 to 10,000	1	Steven Lawrence	Calgary AB	511
	2	Judith Gartaganis	Calgary AB	317
Over 10,000	1	Nicholas Gartaganis	Calgary AB	319

Calgary Unit 390 Recorder

Submitted by Frank Ayer

The Calgary Unit Recorder is Frank Ayer. You can contact him at:
email: frank.ayer@telus.net
phone/txt: 403-283-3716
address: 33 - 10 Point Drive NW, Calgary, AB T3B 4W2

Some definitions:

- Player Memo – form describing the incident
- Reporter – person reporting the incident with a Player Memo
- Subject – person responsible for the incident

The ACBL requires that every Unit have a Recorder. The ACBL Recorder Regulations contain the following duties and responsibilities of Recorders:

- Investigate and evaluate Player Memos;
- Educate players about proper behaviour and ethical behaviour;
- Maintain a record of all Player Memos including investigation and resolution; and
- Make or assist with an impartial presentation of evidence to a disciplinary committee or prosecute the complaint on behalf of his appointing organization.

Basically a Recorder is allowed to take three actions in response to a Player Memo:

- Review, investigate, and decide that no further action is necessary – the Player Memo is kept in the Closed Administrative file.
- Review, investigate, and decide that the Player Memo should remain active – the Player Memo is kept in the Open Administrative file.
- Review, investigate, and decide that the complaint should be forwarded to the Unit President for possible disciplinary action – the Player Memo is kept in the Active file.

The following actions should be reported to the Unit Recorder:

- Psyches – bids that clearly and purposely misstate one's hand
- Verbal insults
- Suspicious behaviour that may be deliberate cheating
- Physical or sexual harassment
- Unethical behaviour

Do not report director calls such as hesitations, leads out of turn, revokes, insufficient bids, etc.

While it is expected that most incidents at the club level will be resolved by the club manager, a player may report any incident at an ACBL sanctioned event in Calgary. This can be done by communicating to the Recorder with a Player Memo,

email, or letter. If the incident involves a specific deal, ***please report the auction and all cards in each hand.***

After a report is received the Recorder will make an initial assessment as to whether the subject matter could require counselling or education or form the basis for a complaint, possibly in conjunction with other reports. If not, the Recorder will discuss the matter with the Reporter prior to placing the memo in the Closed Administration file.

Some matters, such as psyches, require a history of reports and every instance should be reported in order to create this history of occurrences in the Open Administrative file.

Matters that could involve major ethical breaches (such as deliberate cheating or physical violence) will be referred to the ACBL Recorder for evaluation prior to investigation.

A Recorder must be very careful to avoid exceeding the limitations on his authority. A Recorder has no disciplinary authority and must not give any indications to the contrary.

The Recorder must maintain the confidentiality of the process in speaking to people about Player Memos and revealing information only when necessary to the investigation. This responsibility is of the highest priority and must continue even after his duties have ended. Both the Subject and the Reporter are entitled to privacy regarding the reported incident subject to the needs of the investigation.

In general a Recorder should communicate with the Reporter regarding the status of a Player Memo. However, given the circumstances of any case and the need to presume the Subject's right of confidentiality, the Recorder has discretion to limit the amount of information given to the Reporter. This includes the discretion to tell the Reporter only that (1) the Player Memo was received and is being investigated, (2) the Player Memo was received and the Recorder has concluded the investigation, or (3) the Player Memo was received and the Recorder intends to file a complaint with no further details.

The ACBL Bulletin has published two recorder articles called *The Official Record* and *The Official Record – Part 2* in the July 2015 (page 27) and November 2015 (page 66) issues.

Recorder Regulations and Procedures may be found [here](#). This link provides the actual Recorder regulations. Additional Recorder documents may be found on the ACBL website, including "[Handling Recorder Reports](#)", "[Recorder Flow Chart](#)" and "[Handling Disciplinary Complaints](#)." The official ACBL Player Memo form may be found [here](#). The official ACBL Zero Tolerance policy may be found [here](#).

Member Milestones

The following members have reached new masterpoint milestones since the beginning of November of last year. Congratulations to all on their achievements.



New Junior Masters (5+ MPs):

Sandra Beaulieu	Catharine Moore
Douglas Biles	William Newis
Cheryl Bourne	Suzan Olsen
Jim Chunn	Hans Paulsen
Richard Cruse	Diane Quinlan
Deanna Downton	Maxine Rystephanick
Donald Edl	Janice Staines
John Finlay	Ron Staines
Brian Godfrey	John Taylor
Nancy Hughes	Katie Trafford
Edward Lamb	Thomas Trafford
Carol Marshall	Margaret Williams
Susan McMahon	Joanne Zinter

New Club Masters (20+ MPs with at least 5 black)

Murrell Adam	Barry Gurevitch
Cheryl Bourne	Margaret Halpenny
Ardith Bowden	Irene Jackson
Margaret Carleton	Jacquelyn Lanz
Bob Constantin	Anna Liu
Raymond Dickinson	Carl Ringdahl
Louise Drouin	Sharon Rogerson
John Feick	Reg Schoffer
Inge French	Kevin Trickett

New Sectional Masters (50+ MPs with at least 10 black and 5 silver)

Gianfranco Bardana	Brian Johns
Nan Douglas	Susan Korba
Devra Drysdale	Julie Larsen
Jim Griffith	Art Lemaistre
JoAnn Hanson	Jay Newington
Len Himelfarb	Harvey Wiehler

New Regional Masters (100+ MPs with at least 15 black, 15 silver and 5 red, gold or platinum)

Joanne Anson	Shelley Mardiros
Charlene Delcourt	Claire Strachan
Kenneth Fernie	Morris Streich
David Hansen	Carol Thompson
Milt Mansell	

New NABC Masters (200+ MPs with at least 20 black, 25 silver, 5 gold or platinum and 15 additional red, gold or platinum)

Sharon Donaldson	Lily Lister
Blake Fleming	Judy Madge
Lynn Grisack	Margaret Nielsen
Carole Kirk	Alan White

New Advanced NABC Masters (300+ MPs with at least 50 black, 50 silver, 25 gold or platinum and 25 additional red, gold or platinum)

Robert Heidemann	Marian Kosior
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New Life Masters (500+ MPs with at least 75 black, 75 silver, 50 gold or platinum and 50 additional red, gold or platinum)

Pauline Boyd

New Bronze Life Masters (a Life Master with 750+ MPs; 500+ for members prior to Jan. 1, 2010)

Juan Alvarez	Dorothy Mersereau
Ineke Boudewijn	Nancy Stewart
Cindy Ferguson	

New Silver Life Masters (1000+ MPs; a Life Master with at least 200 pigmented points)

Lance Cooke	Bev Mason
Willa Dumka	Lucy Miller
Vincent Lacoste	Jim Murphy

New Diamond Life Masters (5000+ MPs; a Life Master with at least 500 gold or platinum points and 500 additional pigmented points)

Abdul Fakh

New Emerald Life Masters (7500+ MPs; a Life Master with at least 750 gold or platinum points plus 750 additional pigmented points)

Francesca Walton

Effective January 1, 2016, the ACBL introduced two new ranks - Ruby Life Master and Sapphire Life Master - and made several small adjustments in the requirements for other ranks beyond Life Master. Life Masters can now look forward to many masterpoint milestones: Bronze, Silver, Ruby, Gold, Sapphire, Diamond, Emerald and Platinum or Grand Life Master.

Many Unit 390 players already satisfied the requirements of the new ranks and their designations were appropriately updated.

Member Milestones (continued)

New Ruby Life Masters (1500+ MPs; a Life Master with at least 300 pigmented points)

Lamya Abougoush	Alex Knox
Dinesh Agrawal	Ilya Kuzkin
Rajendra Agrawal	Carl Lawless
Elizabeth Allen	Marlene Lenstra
William Basler	Charles Liegerot
Terri Bedard	Pamela Liegerot
Brenda Bertrand	Garry Lietz
Perry Chan	Ross Maclean
Margaret Cooke	Crystal Mann
Irene Cull	Douglas Mann
Juanita Cutmore	Torchy McCarthy
Lois Dunsmore	Carol McManus
Sheila Evans	Margret McMeekin
Edward Faichuk	Hash Mohamed
Marlene Fuller	Faiz Nadir
Olga Furlan	Pam Peard
Christopher Galbraith	Marion Pennell
John Gilchrist	Russ Peterson
Ruth Gilchrist	Anne Primeau
Doreen Green	Garry Ramsden-Wood
Marilyn Haggins	Mary Ross
Murray Haggins	Gordon Sharp
Delores Hedley	Janet Sharpe
Merle Hickey	Stanford Shedd
Rod Hilderman	Hazel Skelton
Pauline Huculak	Lois Solinger
Tanja Hurlbert	Gamil Tadros
Mae Jardine	Yvette Tapuska
David Johnson	Linda Thierman
Vaughn Johnson	Maged Wafa
Susan Julius	Jean Ward
Frank Kettner	Garth Wiggins
Nancy Klym	Olga Wright

New Sapphire Life Masters (3500+ MPs; a Life Master with at least 350 gold or platinum and 350 additional pigmented points)

Frank Ayer	Perry Khakhar
Nicole Beauregard	Martin McDonald
Jim Berglund	Ken Penton
Ian Boyd	Elaine Stewart
Janet Galbraith	



2nd Annual Rookie Master Team Game

Spearheaded by Ken Anderson and Gail Bews, Unit 390 once again hosted our (now annual) Rookie Master team event on February 6, 2016. As far as we know, we are the only Unit to offer this unique experience, opening it to all Calgary and area players regardless of whether they are members of Unit 390 or the ACBL. Players from several other bridge groups in the city, who might never otherwise experience Swiss Teams play, were invited and many took advantage of the opportunity to attend. A total of 28 teams (112 players) came out to enjoy the fun.

The Master players generously contributed to the delicious chili pot luck dinner, enjoyed by all.

This was a Unit Game, offering extra masterpoints to the participants. Rules of the event were as follows:

- Any player with less than 100 MPs who had not played in an A/X event was considered a "rookie" and any player with greater than 100 MPs was considered a "master".
- A master could register as a pair with any qualifying rookie partner, but could not register as a team of four.
- Players registering as singles were matched with appropriate partners.
- Pairs were then arranged into teams of four.
- Every effort was taken to ensure that the pairings of teams was as fair as possible for team averages.

Congratulation to the first place winners of the event who won all four of their matches:

Mark Manzer playing with Nancy Hughes and Caroleigh Houghton playing with Anne Olthof.



Photo courtesy Susan Julius

Second went to the team of Janet Galbraith, Devra Drysdale, Joanne Anson and Kim Rahme.

One final note! In keeping with the Rookie Master theme, the Directors for the evening were newly-graduated director, Clarende Duby alongside our well-seasoned team director, Doug Mann.

Losing Trick Count - Quick Notes

By Judith and Nicholas Gartaganis

In bridge, the bidding is all about partners describing their hands to each other so that they can reach the optimum contract. A key part of this process is for players to evaluate their hands after each round of bidding to determine how best to proceed.

Virtually everyone uses the high card point (HCP) count for the initial step in hand evaluation and it remains the best tool we have.

However, experts adjust for other factors, possibly adding or subtracting from the basic HCP count:

- distributional points: add length points at the opening bid stage; add shortage points once a trump suit has been agreed
- quick tricks or control points: as implied, these determine not only the defensive worth of a hand but also the suitability for slam

Positive Features:

A hand is improved in value by these factors

- honours in your long suits
For example, ♠ Axxxx ♥ AKxxx ♦ x ♣ xx is a much better hand than ♠ xxxxx ♥ xxxxx ♦ A ♣ AK
- a fit has been found: partner raises your suit or bids a suit you can raise
- supported honours versus unguarded honours: honours in the same suit work together to add value.
For example, ♥ KQx ♦ xx is stronger than ♥ Qxx ♦ Kx
- supporting intermediate cards in important suits: 10s, 9s, and 8s have no point value but they strengthen and support honours. They are also good trump cards on their own.
For example, compare a trump holding of ♠ AJ1098 (guaranteed to take 3+ tricks) to ♠ AJ432 (even 2 tricks are not certain)
- control cards: Aces are really worth a little more than 4 HCP and Queens are really worth a little less than 2 HCP. More Aces than Queens is a positive feature. Queens and jacks in partner's suit or in your long suit are worth full value.

Losing Trick Count (LTC):

- counting losers is a good way to estimate the playing strength of a hand once a fit has been found
- assessing losers can help in determining the optimum level to bid to
- LTC is not suitable for no-trump type hands
- if you have a self-sufficient suit, you can count losers without a raise from partner

Steps to apply LTC:

1. count your losers
2. estimate partner's losers based on the bidding
3. calculate the trick-taking potential of the two hands combined

How it works:

Every suit has three losers. Losers are cancelled by high cards (A, K or Q) or by shortness. The maximum losers on one deal are 24.

Your hand	4 suits x 3 losers = 12 losers
Partner's hand	4 suits x 3 losers = 12 losers
Total combined losers	12 + 12 = 24 losers

1. Count your losers: For each of the 4 suits

Length in the suit	Loser Count
0 (you have a void)	Count 0 losers
1 (you have a singleton)	Count 1 loser, then subtract 1 if you have the Ace i.e. singleton Ace = 0 losers any other singleton = 1 loser
2 (you have a doubleton)	Count 2 losers, then subtract 1 if you have the Ace and subtract 1 if you have the King
3+	Count 3 losers, then subtract 1 for the Ace, 1 for the King and 1 for the Queen

Try counting your losers on each of these three hands:

Hand 1:	Hand 2:	Hand 3:
♠ J54 ♥ AK4 ♦ KQ54 ♣ 654	♠ KQ6 ♥ AQ543 ♦ Q43 ♣ Q7	♠ 10 ♥ AKQJ94 ♦ AQ732 ♣ 8
Hand 1: 3 spades with no high honours = 3 3 hearts with two high honours = 1 4 diamonds with two high honours = 1 3 clubs with no high honours = 3	Hand 2: 3 spades with two high honours = 1 5 hearts with two high honours = 1 3 diamonds with one high honour = 2 2 clubs with no Ace or King = 2	Hand 3: 1 spade but not the Ace = 1 6 hearts with three high honours = 0 5 diamonds with two high honours = 1 1 club but not the Ace = 1
		} 8 } 6 } 3

[continued next page]

2. Estimate partner's losers:

Deal 2: Dealer: West

	♠ Q1083	
	♥ 94	
	♦ K1064	
	♣ AJ10	
♠ 65	<div style="background-color: #005596; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> N W ■ E S </div>	♠ A94
♥ AK763		♥ Q1052
♦ 3		♦ QJ85
♣ KQ983		♣ 75
	♠ KJ72	
	♥ J8	
	♦ A972	
	♣ 642	

East has a healthy raise of partner's 1♥ opening to 2♥, 6-9 HCP, and might even consider giving a limit raise. Positive features of the hand are 8 losers (for a simple raise, partner will estimate 9) and possession of 4 trumps. However, on the negative side, East has more Queens than Aces. What should West do after partner makes a simple raise? Although he has only 12 HCP, it is a good 12 because the points are in the long suits and the honours support one another. The West hand has 5 losers. Partner's raise usually delivers 9 losers or fewer. So 14 total losers. That means the trick potential is 24 - 14 = 10 tricks. West should bid game. Because hearts break, 4♥ is a great contract. That might not always be the case; sometimes you might need a little luck; sometimes no amount of luck will help. But you can't be right all the time.

Deal 3: Dealer: East

	♠ QJ9	
	♥ A75	
	♦ KQJ83	
	♣ A2	
♠ 5	<div style="background-color: #005596; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> N W ■ E S </div>	♠ 8742
♥ K1098		♥ Q3
♦ 1072		♦ 654
♣ Q9853		♣ K1064
	♠ AK1063	
	♥ J642	
	♦ A9	
	♣ J7	

After partner opens 1♠, how should North proceed? The North hand has 6 losers. A minimum opening is typically 7 losers or fewer. So the total losers are 13 or less, and the trick potential is 24 - 13 = 11 or more. North knows his side is in the slam zone and his long, strong diamond suit is a big positive. North should head for 6♠ by bidding 2♦ and later

showing strong spade support. South, with the ♦A and excellent trumps, should cooperate. The complete auction might go something like this (with the opponents silent):

North	South
	1♠
2♦	2♥
3♠ ¹	4♦
4NT	5♥ ²
6♠	Pass

¹ or 2♠ if you play 2 over 1 game forcing

² or show 3 key cards, if you play Key Card Blackwood

With a poor hand, South will just sign off in game when North raises spades.

Deal 4: Dealer South:

	♠ QJ	
	♥ J7	
	♦ J1084	
	♣ QJ953	
♠ A876	<div style="background-color: #005596; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> N W ■ E S </div>	♠ K432
♥ 65		♥ AK432
♦ AQ76		♦ K32
♣ 876		♣ 2
	♠ 1095	
	♥ Q1098	
	♦ 95	
	♣ AK104	

The auction starts simply enough. Counting HCP, East opens 1♥. Remember, you only use the losing trick count when you have found a fit. When West responds 1♠, East knows that his side has found a fit and now he counts losers: a hand with 6 losers is better than a minimum (which is typically 7). Thus East can afford to jump to 3♠, even though he just has 13 HCP. Now it is West's turn to assess. He has 8 losers. Partner should have 6 or fewer because he has shown a non-minimum. The trick potential therefore is 24 - 14 = 10 tricks. West can bid game without fooling around.

If you'd like to read more about Losing Trick Count, there is lots of material available online, including Ron Klinger's book, *Modern Losing Trick Count* which, as the title suggests, identifies many refinements to the basics.

Many thanks to our hard-working proof-readers: Janet and John Sharpe, along with Delores Hedley.

Introducing Dickson or How to Avoid a Hopeless 3NT Contract

By Dick Yuen

Consider these two hands:

Hand 1:

♠	KJ8
♥	KJ
♦	KQ987
♣	J109

Hand 2:

♠	KJ8
♥	A9
♦	KQ987
♣	J109

You open 1♦ and partner bids 2NT, showing 11-12 HCP with no 4-card major. You have an automatic 3NT bid, right?

Partner's hand is: ♠ A76 ♥ Q10 ♦ J1065 ♣ KQ87

Alas, 3NT rates to go down when the opponents lead hearts. On the first hand, you will lose 4 heart tricks and 2 aces. On the second, you might have a chance if the opening leader has the ♥K, but if it is offside, you will lose the same 6 tricks.

Clearly, all bids are according to the book, so it is nobody's fault. Bad luck or bad system? Once partner has denied a 4-card major, the opponent has at worst a 50% chance to find the right lead!

Instead of bidding 3NT, do not waste available space! There is a **risk-free** way to solicit partner's input to place the final contract.

Presenting Dickson, an alertable treatment after the auction begins 1m - 2NT. Why 'Dickson'? Well, 'Stayman' has been serving bridge players very well. 'Stay-man' **asks** partner for a 4-card major while 'Dick-son' **shows** partner your doubleton major.

After the auction

1♣ or 1♦ - 2NT

3♣ shows a doubleton ♥

3♦ shows a doubleton ♠

This allows partner to discover mirror doubletons which can be a real killer in 3NT. In the worst case scenario, you may end up playing 3 of a minor in a 4-3 fit but that must be better than attempting a hopeless 3NT. An extra benefit is that you may be able to find a 4-3 **major** suit contract.

When should you use Dickson to show a major suit doubleton? The obvious hints are:

- your 5-card minor suit is not ready to run (missing an honour)
- you have fewer than two aces

- a good portion of your HCPs, say one-third or more, are quacks (queens and jacks)

Even with AK doubleton in a major, Dickson is still a useful treatment, since after the opening lead, you have only one stopper remaining unless partner has Qxx.

Let's examine the treatment in more detail. The auction has started 1m - 2NT.

Since opener can pass 2NT with a light opening, bidding on promises sound opening values. One would usually bid 3NT with a running 5-card or longer minor suit. If the opponents interfere, all doubles are for penalty!

After

1♦ - 2NT

3♣ shows exactly 2 hearts in one of four hand patterns

3-2-4-4

3-2-5-3

4-2-4-3 with weak spades

2-2-5-4 with weak diamonds

3♦ shows exactly 2 spades in one of four hand patterns

2-3-4-4

2-3-5-3

2-4-4-3 with weak hearts

2-2-5-4 with good diamonds

3♥ shows 4 good hearts (at least 2 of the top three honours or AJ10/KJ10) in one of five hand patterns

1-4-4-4

1-4-5-3

1-4-6-2

4-4-4-1 with better hearts than spades

2-4-4-3

3♠ shows 4 good spades (at least 2 of the top three honours or AJ10/KJ10) in one of five hand patterns

4-1-4-4

4-1-5-3

4-1-6-2

4-4-4-1 with better spades than hearts

4-2-4-3

All these bids are non-forcing and partner places the final contract based on the additional information about distribution. The main goal is to avoid landing in a hopeless 3NT or 5♦ contract. The additional benefit that you may uncover a Moysian major suit game or partial which is otherwise impossible with a direct jump to 3NT.

[continued next page]

3NT is to play with one of three hand types

3-3-4-3

3-3-5-2

any hand with a running diamond suit

Higher level bids are **picture bids** showing opener's specific distribution:

4♣ shows 5-5 in ♦ and ♣

4♦ shows 6+ ♦, no other 4-card suit

4♥ shows 6-5 in ♦ and ♥

4♠ shows 6-5 in ♦ and ♠

4NT is Keycard for diamonds

5♣ shows 6-5 in ♦ and ♣

5♦ shows specifically 2-2-7-2

All the above bids are alertable as they carry specific meanings.

After 3♣ (showing a doubleton heart), responder's follow-ups are:

pass - with a mirroring doubleton in hearts, to rest peacefully in a playable club fit (4-4, 5-3 or better) but lacking the controls for a club game

3♦ - signoff, better diamonds than clubs, not enough controls for a diamond game

3♥ - forcing, shows 3 hearts with one and a half stoppers (e.g. AJx), promises one of the top three diamond honours

Opener continues with

3NT with help in hearts (10x or better)

3♠ shows A or K of spades

4♣ weakest (responder's 4♦ is signoff)

3♠ - forcing, shows 2 heart stoppers with worry about spades, promises one of the top three diamond honours

Opener continues with

3NT with spade stopper(s)

4♣ weakest (responder's 4♦ is signoff)

3NT - to play

4♣ - shows 5+ clubs, invitational to 5♣ or 5♦

4♦ - shows 4+ diamonds

After 3♦ (showing a doubleton spade), responder's follow-ups are:

pass - with a mirroring doubleton in spades, to rest peacefully in a playable diamond fit (4-4, 5-3 or better) but lacking the controls for a diamond game

3♥ - forcing, shows 2 spade stoppers with worry about hearts, promises one of the top three diamond honours

Opener continues with

3NT with heart stopper(s)

4♣ weakest (responder's 4♦ is signoff)

3♠ - forcing, shows 3 spades with one and a half stoppers (e.g. AJx), promises one of the top three diamond honours

Opener continues with

3NT with help in spades (10x or better)

4♣ weakest (responder's 4♦ is signoff)

3NT - to play

4♣ - shows 5+ clubs, invitational to 5♣ or 5♦

4♦ - shows 4+ diamonds

After 3♥ (showing a good 4-card heart suit), responder's follow-ups are:

pass - to rest peacefully in a playable heart fit with poor game prospects

3♠ - 100% forcing, last train to 3NT, shows ♠A, one of the top three diamond honours, weak hearts

Opener continues with

3NT to play

4♣ weak retreat with 3+ clubs (responder's 4♦ is signoff)

4♦ weak retreat with fewer than 3 clubs

3NT - to play, two spade stoppers and help to run diamonds

4♣ - non-forcing, shows 5+ clubs, invitational to 5♣

4♦ - non-forcing, shows diamond preference, invitational to 5♦

4♥ - to play in the Moysian fit

4♠ - **DOES NOT EXIST**

4NT - game-forcing to 5♣ or 5♦, shows 3-2-3-5 with a maximum, asks opener to choose the game
Note: only opener can use 4NT to ask for aces

5♣ - to play, doubleton diamond

5♦ - to play, at least 4-4 fit (rare)

After 3♠ (showing a good 4-card spade suit), responder's follow-ups are:

pass - to rest peacefully in a playable spade fit with poor game prospects

3NT - to play, two heart stoppers and help to run diamonds

4♣ - non-forcing, shows 5+ clubs, invitational to 5♣ (opener's 4♦ is to play)

4♦ - non-forcing, shows diamond preference, invitational to 5♦

4♥ - **DOES NOT EXIST**

4♠ - to play in the Moysian fit

4NT - game-forcing to 5♣ or 5♦, shows 2-3-3-5 with a maximum, asks opener to choose the game
Note: only opener can use 4NT to ask for aces

5♣ - to play, doubleton diamond

5♦ - to play, at least 4-4 fit (rare)

[continued next page]

After opener makes a picture bid (4♣ or higher), responder can follow-up naturally.

Let's go back to the two original hands:

Hand 1:

♠ KJ8	♠ A76
♥ KJ	♥ Q10
♦ KQ987	♦ J1065
♣ J109	♣ KQ87

Hand 2:

♠ KJ8	♠ A76
♥ A9	♥ Q10
♦ KQ987	♦ J1065
♣ J109	♣ KQ87

Using Dickson, it is easy to avoid the hopeless 3NT with this auction:

1♦ - 2NT
 3♣* - 3♦
 Pass

* alertable, shows a doubleton heart

Let's look at two more examples:

Hand 3:

♠ AQ87	♠ K76
♥ KJ	♥ Q10
♦ KJ98	♦ Q1065
♣ 1097	♣ KQ87

Hand 4:

♠ AQ87	♠ K76
♥ A9	♥ Q10
♦ KJ987	♦ Q1065
♣ 109	♣ KQ87

The auction becomes:

1♦ - 2NT
 3♠** - Pass/4♠ depending on your mood

** shows 4 good spades, usually short hearts

3NT is out because of the potential problem in the heart suit.

Dickson Extension After 1♣ - 2NT

The Dickson treatment can be applied to this sequence as well, mostly by simply interchanging the diamond and club bids. Opener is expected to pass with a light opening, so bidding on promises sound opening values. 3NT is automatic with a running 5+ card club suit. If the opponents interfere, all doubles are penalty.

After

1♣ - 2NT

3♣ shows exactly 2 hearts in one of four hand patterns
 3-2-4-4
 3-2-3-5

4-2-3-4 with weak spades

2-2-4-5 with weak clubs

3♦ shows exactly 2 spades in one of four hand patterns
 2-3-4-4
 2-3-3-5

2-4-3-4 with weak hearts

2-2-4-5 with good clubs

3♥ shows 4 good hearts (at least 2 of the top three honours or AJ10/KJ10) in one of five hand patterns

1-4-4-4

1-4-3-5

1-4-2-6

4-4-1-4 with better hearts than spades

2-4-3-4

3♠ shows 4 good spades (at least 2 of the top three honours or AJ10/KJ10) in one of five hand patterns

4-1-4-4

4-1-3-5

4-1-2-6

4-4-1-4 with better spades than hearts

4-2-3-4

All these bids are non-forcing and partner places the final contract based on the additional information about distribution. The main goal is to avoid landing in a hopeless 3NT or 5♣ contract.

3NT is to play with one of three hand types

3-3-4-3

3-3-2-5

any hand with a running diamond suit

Higher level **picture bids** show opener's specific distribution.

4♣ shows 6+ ♣, no other 4-card suit

4♦ shows 6-5 in ♣ and ♦

4♥ shows 6-5 in ♣ and ♥

4♠ shows 6-5 in ♣ and ♠

4NT is Keycard for clubs

5♣ shows specifically 2-2-2-7

After 3♣ (showing a doubleton heart), responder's follow-ups are:

pass - with a mirroring doubleton in hearts, to rest peacefully in a playable club fit (4-4, 5-3 or better) but lacking the controls for a club game

3♦ - signoff, 5+ diamonds, heart weakness, not enough controls for the diamond game

[continued next page]

- 3♥ - forcing, shows 3 hearts with one and a half stoppers (e.g. AJx), promises one of the top three club honours
Opener continues with
 3NT with help in hearts (10x or better)
 3♠ shows A or K of spades
 4♣ weakest (responder's 4♦ is signoff)
- 3♠ - forcing, shows 2 heart stoppers with worry about spades, promises one of the top three club honours
Opener continues with
 3NT with spade stopper(s)
 4♣ weakest (responder's 4♦ is signoff)
- 3NT - to play
4♣ - shows 4+ clubs
4♦ - shows 5+ diamonds, invitational to 5♣ or 5♦

After 3♦ (showing a doubleton spade), responder's follow-ups are:

- pass - with a mirroring doubleton in spades, to rest peacefully in a playable diamond fit (5-2 or better) but lacking the controls for a diamond game
- 3♥ - forcing, shows 2 spade stoppers with worry about hearts, promises one of the top three club honours
Opener continues with
 3NT with heart stopper(s)
 4♣ weakest (responder's 4♦ is signoff)
- 3♠ - forcing, shows 3 spades with one and a half stoppers (e.g. AJx), promises one of the top three club honours
Opener continues with
 3NT with help in spades (10x or better)
 4♣ weakest (responder's 4♦ is signoff)
- 3NT - to play
4♣ - shows 4+ clubs
4♦ - shows 5+ diamonds, invitational to 5♣ or 5♦

After 3♥ (showing a good 4-card heart suit), responder's follow-ups are:

- pass - to rest peacefully in a playable heart fit with poor game prospects
- 3♠ - 100% forcing, last train to 3NT, shows ♠A, one of the top three club honours, weak hearts
Opener continues with
 3NT to play
 4♣ weak retreat (responder's 4♦ is signoff)
- 3NT - to play, two spade stoppers and help to run diamonds
4♣ - non-forcing, club preferences, invitational to 5♣
4♦ - non-forcing, shows 5+ diamonds, invitational to 5♦
4♥ - to play in the Moysian fit
4♠ - **DOES NOT EXIST**
4NT - game-forcing to 5♣ or 5♦, shows 3-2-5-3 with a maximum, asks opener to choose the game
 Note: only opener can use 4NT to ask for aces
5♣ - to play, at least 4-4 fit (rare)

After 3♠ (showing a good 4-card spade suit), responder's follow-ups are:

- pass - to rest peacefully in a playable spade fit with poor game prospects
3NT - to play, two heart stoppers and help to run clubs
4♣ - non-forcing, shows club preference, invitational to 5♣
4♦ - non-forcing, shows 5+ diamonds, invitational to 5♦
4♥ - **DOES NOT EXIST**
4♠ - to play in the Moysian fit
4NT - game-forcing to 5♣ or 5♦, shows 2-3-5-3 with a maximum, asks opener to choose the game
 Note: only opener can use 4NT to ask for aces
5♣ - to play, at least 4-4 fit (rare)



Annual General Meeting

The Calgary Duplicate Bridge Association UNIT 390

When: Saturday, May 14, 2016
Where: Kerby Centre
Time: Light Lunch: 11:00 a.m.
Meeting: 12:00 noon
Pairs Game: to follow

- Card fees \$5.00
- Unit championship points

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome and Introduction
3. Confirmation of Quorum
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes from 2015 AGM
6. President's Report
7. Treasurer's Report - Approval of Financial Statements
8. Appointment of Auditor for 2016/2017
9. Presentation of Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney Awards
10. Election of Directors
11. Questions from the floor
12. Adjournment

Please RSVP by May 7, 2016 if you are coming. Contact Ken Anderson at 403-547-4781 or nek.nosredna@icloud.com

An attendance estimate is needed to finalize the catering arrangements.

Unit 390 Pays Tribute to Steve Bates

On April 2, 2016, members of Calgary Unit 390 gathered at the conclusion of the Saturday afternoon session to pay tribute to Steve Bates, one of the hardest working and most respected ACBL tournament directors around. Steve has been directing Calgary Sectionals and Regionals for 3 decades and we hope to work with him for many more years.



Steve joined the ACBL in the '70s as a young lad, and soon learned that, although it cut into his playing time, he could earn a few bucks directing club games. He became an ACBL director in 1980.

He directed at the Canmar Club founded by Monsignor LeFort and, in fact, managed that club for several years in the early '80s. He also did some directing at the Calgary Bridge Centre which in those days was operated by Doug Marwood.

In 1985, the Edmonton Bridge Society came into being and Steve was hired to be general manager of the Bridge Centre. In addition to his managerial duties, he directed many of the club's bridge sessions. In 1993, he resigned his position as general manager of Edmonton Bridge Centre but continues to this day, to direct club games at that venue whenever he is able.

In 1992, Steve was promoted to ACBL Associate National Director and then in June 2010, he was promoted to the rank of National Tournament Director, the highest rank within the ACBL. He has since served as Director in Charge of many North American Bridge Championships, including the recently concluded Reno NABC in March of this year.

Though he has little time to actually compete, Steve is an accomplished player, having earned the rank of Gold Life Master in January 2015.

Steve's friend and colleague, Tournament Director Matt Smith of Vancouver, sent a very nice note which was read by MC, Judith Gartaganis. Additionally, Charlie Lamb of Red Deer, along with Allan Simon and Michael Farebrother, both of Calgary, shared stories about Steve.



I remember working a Swiss team event with him many years ago. In processing the event, one director is needed to type the names and enter data into the computer, and the other is needed to write names and match results clearly on charts we hang on the wall. Not surprisingly, Steve's charts are perfect and clear. Frankly he lacks faith that anyone quite rises to his standard in performing that task. Anyone can type into a computer, but only an artist can do the Swiss charts properly.

But Steve knew that the unwritten rules of our work environment meant that deciding who should do which task should be arrived at by mutual agreement. So he asked me if my handwriting was clear enough to make the charts. "Why yes it is," I replied. "I'm actually pretty good at it." Not the answer he wanted to hear. He thought about my unexpected and unwelcome answer for a few moments, and then he said "Well, mine is GREAT, so you type."

Matt Smith

A/X SWISS TEAMS	
1	ABRINGTON 24 19 11
2	DILLON 3 1
3	ARMSTRONG 27 14 2
4	POWELL 32 30 11
5	REIDING 29 12 7
6	REIDING 41 25 13
7	GILBERTSON 56 39 11
8	MOSE 7 1
9	AGOST 28 22 14
10	COLLIER 28 21 4
11	NAPA 54 27 12
12	PENNINGTON 20 13 5
13	LAFFERTY 3 0
14	PENNINGTON 40 27 11
15	SMITH 32 18 0
16	ATKIN 51 35 20
17	SCHWAB 39 18 4
18	REIDING 30 24 8
19	LAFFERTY 36 21
20	SCHWAB 41 33
21	PHILIP 3 0

On behalf of the Unit 390 members, Steve was presented with a gift in recognition of his outstanding service and contribution to bridge in Calgary.



What Suit?

By Gordon Campbell

It's the last match in a Sectional Swiss Teams event and you need a healthy win to claim the top prize. The start of the match is relatively tame and then you pick up:

♠ AQJx ♥ 108xx ♦ A9xxx ♣ --

Partner opens 1♦. Earlier that day you had discussed your methods, and decided that 2♦ would be game forcing (inverted minor), and 3♣ would be a limit raise in diamonds (criss-cross raise). What do you respond? Do you really want to bid that moth-eaten heart suit? Do you want to set the trump suit with 2♦? If so, most people play that you deny a 4-card major, so you cannot uncover a 4-4 major fit.

If Opener is balanced he must hold at least a 4-card diamond suit unless he is exactly 4432, otherwise he would open 1♣. So it is reassuring that we hold either a 9+ diamond fit or a 4-4 major fit. If Opener is unbalanced, he will be short in one or both majors, although conceivably the opponents have 12 clubs which leaves only one for partner.

Enough procrastination! I compromised by bidding 1♠, ignoring the heart suit.

My choice caused some discomfort for partner who held:

♠ 10 ♥ AKxx ♦ Kxxxx ♣ Axx

What should he rebid? All choices are flawed! 1NT is tempting, but that promises a balanced hand; 2♥ is a reverse and he is not strong enough; 2♦ seems wrong with a relatively short and anaemic suit. So Dan Bertrand made the fine flexible bid of 2♣.

The auction proceeded as follows:

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
--	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥ ¹
Pass	3♥ ²	Pass	4♦ ³
Pass	4♥ ⁴	Pass	4♠ ⁴
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

¹ artificial 4th suit establishing a game-force

² patterning out to show 1444 (or similar!)

³ sets the trump-suit

⁴ cuebid

6♦ makes easily, whereas 6♥ needs a 3-2 heart break. They weren't!! You found the best contract and picked up 13 IMPs in the process.

The moral of the hand? Plan the auction ahead and try to pick the best of all the wrong bids ... and have a little bit of luck.

2016 Alberta Sectionals Masterpoint Race

Year to Date - April 6

1	78.45	Chris Galbraith	Calgary AB
2	74.88	Nicholas Gartaganis	Calgary AB
2	73.29	Judith Gartaganis	Calgary AB
4	68.89	Dan Bertrand	Calgary AB
5	54.17	Allan Simon	Calgary AB
6	52.62	Janet Galbraith	Calgary AB
7	51.33	Perry Khakhar	Calgary AB
8	41.83	Steve Lawrence	Calgary AB
9	40.60	Ray Grace	Sherwood Park AB
10	40.28	Abdul Fakh	Calgary AB
11	39.95	Bernie Lambert	Acme AB
12	36.24	Elsie Johnson	Calgary AB
13	35.99	Fi Nadir	Calgary AB
14	31.31	Delores Hedley	Calgary AB
15	30.90	Doug Mann	Calgary AB
16	28.18	Lois Dunsmore	Calgary AB
17	27.81	Garry Karst	Edmonton AB
18	27.16	Gerry Marshall	Las Varas MX
19	24.89	Frank Ayer	Calgary AB
20/21	24.37	Lee Barton	Edmonton AB
20/21	24.37	Lucille Barton	Edmonton AB
22	24.27	Jean Ward	Calgary AB
23	23.82	Crystal Mann	Calgary AB
24/25	23.04	Bob Wright	Calgary AB
24/25	23.04	Olga Wright	Calgary AB

2015 District 18 Masterpoint Races

Final Standings

Unit 390 players were winners in 6 of the 13 masterpoint categories. Considering there are 26 units in our District, that is a fantastic showing. Congratulations to the following:

5 to 20	1. Shelley Mardiros	Banff AB	84
50 to 100	1. Richard Bickley	Calgary AB	178
500 to 1000	1. Helen Dillen	Calgary AB	224
1000 to 2500	1. Dave Adelman	Calgary AB	389
2500 to 5000	1. Abdul Fakh	Calgary AB	494
Over 10,000	1. Nicholas Gartaganis	Calgary AB	319

♣♦♥♠ ♣♦♥♠ ♣♦♥♠ ♣♦♥♠ ♣♦♥♠ ♣♦♥♠ ♣♦♥♠

Answers to Bridge Puzzles:

- Two-way Stayman
- Singleton
- Inverted minors
- Falsecard
- Partscore
- Laydown contract
- Renegé
- Simple overcall
- Top of nothing
- Takeout double
- Loser on loser
- Bidding box
- Coded 9's and 10's
- Double dummy
- 2 down doubled
- Third hand high