

# I/N News ... especially for you!

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## Bidding Over Interference by Jim O'Neil

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Bidding Over Interference	1	Competitive bids by the opposition can take away valuable bidding space. Often we will be able to bid as if there had been no interference; but sometimes this will not be possible. There are two important points to remember when dealing with interference:  1) We should stretch to show a fit for partner's suit, especially if that suit is a major. 2) No bid by partner is forcing if RHO does anything other than pass. Partner is guaranteed another chance to bid. With minimum values and nothing to show, it is often best to pass.  Remember "Majors, Notrump, Minors"
Calling the Director	7	Our first priority is to find a playable major suit fit if there is one. The best thing we can do is raise partner's major suit when we have support. If we don't have support for partner's major suit, we can introduce our own major suit - either by bidding the suit, or making a "Negative Double". If we do not have a major suit fit, we should next look to Notrump - our second priority is to show partner a stopper or stoppers in the opponents' suit; we can show our strength at the same bid. If we lack a major suit fit, we can look to raise partner's minor suit, or to introduce a minor suit of our own. Finally, with no fit at all and no stoppers in the opponents' suit, it is often right to defend. We can pass, or even double.
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Terms Explained	9	<b><u>I. RAISING PARTNER</u></b> When partner opens with 1 of a major, we should generally raise partner whenever we have 3-card support or better. After a simple overcall or double, we can make the same bid we would have made without the interference. After a preemptive overcall, we must sometimes stretch a bit. It is usually right to bid when there is a fit; even when we go set, we find the opponents could have made something.  After a simple overcall by RHO: (For example, 1♥ - 2♣ - you) A simple raise (e.g., 1♥ - 2♣ - 2♥) still shows about 6 to a bad 10 points; a double raise (e.g., 1♥ - 2♣ - 3♥) shows about a good 10-12, just as without the overcall. A jump to 4 (e.g., 1♥ - 2♣ - 4♥) is still preemptive, showing a weaker, distributional hand.
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\*\*\* Another way to play the cue-bid and jump raise is described at the end of this article.

After a double by RHO: (For example, 1♠ - double - you)

Again, a simple raise (1♠ - double - 2♠) shows 6 -10-; a double raise (1♠ - double - 3♠) is about 10+-12, and a jump to 4 (1♠ - double - 4♠) is preemptive, as without the overcall. With a game going hand and support, we start by redoubling (1♠ - double - redouble), then jumping in partner's suit. When our first bid as responder is a redouble, it shows a good hand (at least a good 10 points; with support at least 13 points).

After a jump overcall by RHO: (For example, 1♠ - 3♣ - you)

After a preemptive overcall, we do not have as much room to maneuver. We can no longer raise to the 2-level. Still, we should stretch a little to show support; and partner should allow for this. A simple raise (1♠ - 3♣ - 3♠) should show about 8-10; we can even shade this a point or so with extra trump length. A jump raise to 4 (1♠ - 3♣ - 4♠) shows 11 or more, and may include a lot of distribution. With a very good hand, say 15-16 points or more, we can cuebid (1♠ - 3♣ - 4♣); this lets partner know we have a very good hand and are thinking about slam if he has better than a minimum opening bid.

After a double jump overcall by RHO: (Eg: 1♥ - 3♠ - you)

We should still stretch to bid if we have a good fit - we can raise (1♥ - 3♠ - 4♥) with about 10 points, and may shade this a bit with distribution.

## **II. NOTRUMP BIDS**

Notrump responses after an overcall show about the same high-card strength as without the overcall, but also promise stoppers in the opponent's suit. A 1NT bid, if available, shows about a good 7 to 10 points. (With a bare minimum response, it is best to pass; with a good hand partner can bid again). A 2NT bid shows about 11-12 and a 3NT bid promises 13 or more. After a double by RHO, a redouble by responder shows at least a good 10 points. With a good hand and no particular fit, it is often best to try to penalize the opponents. Rather than bidding 2NT or 3NT natural, start with a redouble and see if you or partner can double the opponents in whatever suit they run to. So a 2NT or 3NT response after a double should be based on a source of tricks in a good suit, usually a minor suit.

After 1♠ by partner and a double by RHO:

♠ - 74 ♥ - QJ76 ♦ - AQ9 ♣ - KT94

Rather than bidding 2NT, start with a redouble. Unless partner has a lot of distribution, we will probably get a better score by doubling and defending.

♠ - 74 ♥ - K6 ♦ - AKJ97 ♣ - T974

We may not be comfortable if partner doubles the opponents in 2♥, so we might as well bid 2NT.

\*\*\*\*Another use for the 2NT bid, the Jordan Convention, is described at the end of this article.

## **III. NEW SUIT BIDS**

After an overcall by RHO: A new suit bid at the 1 level, if available, shows at least a good 6 points, and at least 4 cards in the suit bid. (With a bare minimum response, it is best to pass; with a good hand partner can bid again). A new suit bid at the 2-level shows at least a good 10 or more points, and usually at least 5 cards in the suit bid. It is permissible to bid a 4-card minor suit on occasion - especially with a game-going hand; a major suit at the 2-level or higher promises at least a 5-card suit. A new suit at the 3-level always promises a 5-card suit. A new suit bid by responder is forcing. When bidding a new suit at the 2-level, take care to note at what level partner can rebid. If partner can rebid 2 of his suit, it is permissible to make a new suit bid with 10 points. If partner will be unable to rebid 2 of his suit, it is best to have close to an opening hand.

Consider these two hands:

♠ - 84 ♥ - AQJ74 ♦ - 732 ♣ - K64

If partner opens 1♠ and RHO overcalls 2♦, a 2♥ bid is best. With no fit for Hearts, partner can always go back to 2♠.

But: ♠ - AQJ74 ♥ - 84 ♦ - 732 ♣ - K64

If partner opens 1H and RHO overcalls 2♦, a 2♠ bid can get us too high. Best to start with a Negative double. After a new suit bid, Opener rebids naturally, much the same as he would have without the overcall. If overcaller's partner acts, Opener should stretch a bit to show a fit, and can pass with a balanced minimum.

If RHO makes a takeout double: A new suit at the 1-level shows at least a good 7 points, and at least a good 4-card suit. (Remember that the takeout doubler implies a good holding in this suit.) It is best to treat 1-level bids as forcing. Years ago, it was thought best to redouble with all hands with a good 10 or more points; but this can lead to problems:

♠ - 84 ♥ - AQJ74 ♦ - KJ6 ♣ - A54

If partner opens 1♦ and RHO doubles, we may not be able to conveniently show our Hearts if we start with a redouble. What if LHO jumps in Spades and partner doubles? Do we pass and find we would have done better in our Heart suit? Or do we bid hearts and find partner with no fit. Best to bid Hearts now. A new suit at the 2-level should be played as non-forcing, showing a good 7 to a bad 10 points and at least a 5-card suit. A jump in a new suit is weak, showing a good 6+ card suit and nothing else. Responder should not have any fit for Opener's suit, especially if that suit is a major.

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#### **IV. THE NEGATIVE DOUBLE**

When the opponents overcall, the Negative Double is a most useful convention.

An example: ♠ - 843 ♥ - QJ74 ♦ - 73 ♣ - AJ64

Partner opens 1♦ and our right-hand opponent overcalls 1♠. Had RHO passed, we would have an easy 1♥ response. But the overcall has deprived us of the chance to show Hearts at the 1-level. We cannot bid 2♣ or 2♥ (we are not strong enough - we need at least a good 10 points for a 2-level response, and should have a 5-card suit), nor can we bid 1NT (that would promise a stopper in Spades). The solution is to use the "Negative Double" here. Once called the "Informatory Double" and sometimes called the "Sputnik Double", the Negative Double provides a way to show many types of hands that cannot be shown any other way.

What are the requirements for a Negative Double?

Distribution. Ideally, a Negative Double promises 4 or more cards in each of the two unbid suits. If there is one unbid major, doubler should have 4 cards in the unbid major; he may not necessarily have the unbid minor. In any case, Doubler must be prepared for any rebid by opener; if Opener cannot support a major, Doubler must have another place to play the hand. Some examples: In each case partner opens 1♦ and RHO overcalls 1♠.

♠ - 843 ♥ - QJ74 ♦ - 73 ♣ - AJ64

This is the ideal negative double. We have 4 cards in each unbid suit.

♠ - 843 ♥ - QJ74 ♦ - AJ64 ♣ - 73

This hand is worth a double as well. If partner rebids 2♣, we can easily go back to 2♦.

♠ - 84 ♥ - KJ8754 ♦ - 73 ♣ - Q64

Double. We will bid Hearts next. Partner will know we have long Hearts but not enough points to bid 2♥ initially.

♠ - AQ3 ♥ - KJ74 ♦ - 7432 ♣ - K6

Double. If partner does not have 4 Hearts, we will bid 3NT next.

The situation is trickier when there are 2 unbid majors. After 1♣ - 1♦, responder can bid either major at the 1-level; but after 1♦ - 2♣, it is difficult to bid hands with a 4-card major and fewer than 4 in the other major. Again, doubler must be prepared should Opener bid the major he does not have. In each case partner opens 1♦ and RHO overcalls 2♣.

♠ - 84 ♥ - QJ74 ♦ - 743 ♣ - AJ64

Pass. There is no good rebid should partner rebid 2S.

♠ - 84 ♥ - Q874 ♦ - AJ64 ♣ - 743

We cannot double. If we were a little stronger, we could double and bid 3♦ over 2♠. But this hand is not good enough to commit to the 3-level. However, it is worth a 2♦ raise.

♠ - J3 ♥ - KJ74 ♦ - 7432 ♣ - AQ6

Double. If partner bids 2S, we can bid 2NT.

Strength. As in the case of the takeout double, the minimum strength required for a negative double depends on the level at which partner can respond. The higher the level, the more points are required. If partner opens 1♣, and RHO overcalls 1♦, partner can bid either major at the 1-level. With no 4 card major, partner can rebid NT at the 1-level. Responder can make a negative double here with as few as 6 points. If partner opens 1♦, and RHO overcalls 1♠, partner will have to bid Clubs or Hearts at the 2-level. He will be able to rebid 1NT. Responder should have at least a good 7 points to double. If partner opens 1♥, and RHO overcalls 2♦, partner will have to bid Spades or NT at the 2-level, or clubs at the 3-level. Responder should have 8 or more points to double. If partner opens 1♦, and RHO overcalls 2♠, partner will have to bid 2NT or a suit at the 3-level. Responder should have at least 10 points to double. (Responder could have less with a good diamond fit) If partner opens 1♦, and RHO overcalls 3♠, partner will have to bid 3NT or 4 of a suit. Responder should have a full opener, a good 12 or more, to double here.

Sometimes the choice is between a Negative Double or another bid - a raise, a NT bid or a new suit bid. A raise of partner's major suit is preferable to a negative double, a negative double is usually preferable to a raise of partner's minor, a NT bid, or a new suit bid. Partner opens 1♠ and RHO overcalls 2♦.

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♠ - J43 ♥ - KJ74 ♦ - 432 ♣ - Q64

Bid 2♠. You have an 8-card major suit fit. Let partner know.

♠ - J3 ♥ - KJ74 ♦ - AQ2 ♣ - Q64

Double. If partner does not have 4H, we will bid 3NT.

♠ - K3 ♥ - KJ74 ♦ - K4 ♣ - AQ764

Double. We are strong enough to bid 2C, but we don't want to miss a potential Heart fit.

Partner opens 1♦ and RHO overcalls 1♠.

♠ - J3 ♥ - KJ74 ♦ - 7432 ♣ - AQ6

Double. We can go back to Diamonds later if necessary. Our first priority is to find an 8-card major suit fit.

When is a double a "Negative Double"? A double is negative when partner has opened 1 of a suit and RHO has overcalled in a suit at a low level. Negative doubles are not used when the opening bid is 1NT, 2♣, or a preempt; doubles of NT overcalls are always for penalty. Exactly what does "low level" mean? Different partnerships define this differently. Some partnerships play Negative Doubles "through 3♦", meaning that a double of a suit overcall of 3♦ or lower is negative, while a double of an overcall of 3♥ or higher is for penalty. Perhaps the most common level is "through 3♠", meaning that a double of a suit overcall of 3♠ or lower is negative, while a double of 4♣ or higher is for penalty. Whatever level you decide to play, make sure that you and your partner agree. **After an opening of 1 of a suit, Doubles of a suit overcall of 4♥ or lower are not alertable if "Negative", but alertable if for penalty. Doubles of a suit overcall of 4♠ or higher are alertable if "Negative", but not alertable if penalty.**

How should Opener respond to a Negative Double?

Opener's first duty is to support a major suit that Doubler has shown. Without support, Opener should bid NT with a stopper. With no support and no stopper, Opener can rebid a good suit or bid an unbid minor that Doubler has implied - Doubler must be prepared for any rebid by Opener. With a minimum, Opener rebids as cheaply as possible. With a bit more, Opener can jump. With game-going values, Opener can jump to game. If Opener is unsure of which game, he can cue-bid. Do not jump to 4 of a major after 1♦-2♣. Remember that partner may have only 1 major. Start with a cue-bid of 3♣. For example: 1♦ - 1♠ - double - pass // you ... Opener should rebid Hearts if he has them. A 2♥ rebid here would show 13-15; 3♥ would show About 16-17 and 4♥ would show 18+. Without 4 Hearts, but Spades stopped, Opener can rebid 1NT With 13-15, 2NT with 16-17 or 3NT with 18+. Otherwise Opener can rebid 2♣ or 2♦ with 13-15, or 3♣ or 3♦ with 16-17. With 18+, Opener should not rebid 4 of a minor, but should instead cue-bid 2♠. After a 2-level overcall, there is sometimes not as much room.. For

example: 1♠ - 2♦ - double - pass // you ... We can still rebid 2♥ with 13-15, 3H with 16-17, or 4H with 18+. And we can rebid 2♠ with 13-15, or 3♠ with 16-17 if we have a good suit. But there is not as much room in Clubs or NT. This is why doubler should be a little stronger here than in the previous example. A 2NT rebid would show about 13-16, and a 3NT rebid about 17+. A 3♣ bid should show about 13-16; with 17+ Opener should cuebid 3♦.

Sometimes Opener's rebid is awkward:

♠ - QJ743 ♥ - KQ3 ♦ - 32 ♣ - AQ6

We open 1♠, LHO overcalls 2♦ and partner doubles. We cannot rebid such a bad spade suit, nor can we bid NT with no stopper. We must bid one of the other suits. In this case the best bid is 2♥. (We must have at least 7 Hearts between us, and may have more; we have at most 7 Spades between us, and may have fewer.)

♠ - AQJ73 ♥ - AQ3 ♦ - 32 ♣ - AQ6

Again we open 1♠, LHO overcalls 2♦ and partner doubles. We have enough for game, but which game? Start with a cue-bid of 3♦. Only with a great holding in the opponents suit can Opener convert partner's negative double to penalties:

♠ - KQ764 ♥ - 9 ♦ - AJT82 ♣ - K4

We open 1♠, LHO overcalls 2♦ and partner doubles. We should collect a bigger score by defending 2♦ doubled than anything else.

What if we wanted to make a penalty double?

♠ - 43 ♥ - A74 ♦ - KJ973 ♣ - Q74

Partner opens 1♠ and our right-hand opponent overcalls 2♦. We could bid 2 or 3 Notrump, but what we would really like to do is defend 2 Diamonds doubled. We cannot double ourselves, for that would be a negative double, promising 4+ Hearts.

The solution is to pass. Even if LHO also passes, partner will get another chance to speak. He should balance with a takeout double, which we can happily convert to a penalty double. Whenever partner is short in overcaller's suit (in this case Diamonds), he should balance with a double, rather than rebidding his suit, or introducing a new suit.

♠ - AK642 ♥ - KJ63 ♦ - 2 ♣ - K86

After opening 1♠, LHO overcalls 2♦ and two passes follow. Opener should reopen with a double. If partner has the previous hand, 2♦ doubled will go down about 3 or 4 tricks. An we may not even make 3NT. If partner was not waiting to penalize 2♦, he can bid 2♥, 2♠ or even 3♣.

But: ♠ - AK642 H - 4 ♦ - Q842 ♣ - A74

Again we open 1♠, LHO overcalls 2♦ and two passes follow.

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We should pass. Partner surely was not waiting to double 2♦. And where are the Hearts? If partner has Hearts, he has a very bad hand, as he did not make a negative double. If partner does not have Hearts, the opponents have missed their 9-card Heart fit. They will likely find it if given another chance. We should always be wary of balancing when short in an unbid suit, especially an unbid major. We should strain to balance when short in the opponents' bid suit.

**V. PASS**

Finally, with no other bid available, we can pass. While we would like to bid with any hand containing a good 7 points or more, sometimes we hold a hand for which there is no bid available.

♠ - J43 ♥ - 74 ♦ - QJ73 ♣ - A64

Partner opens 1♥ and the RHO overcalls 2♣. We cannot raise with a doubleton. Nor are we strong enough to bid 2NT or 2♦. We should have at least 4 spades to make a negative double. We must pass and hope to get another chance to bid.

Sometimes an overcall comes after an opening bid and response: (For example, 1♦ - pass - 1♠ - 2♣ // you)

Again, frequently we can make the same bid we would have made without the overcall. A simple raise (in this case, 2♠) shows a minimum opener (13-16 or so), and promises support - usually 4 cards, but occasionally 3, especially with ruffing value; a jump raise (3♠ here) shows an intermediate hand (17-18) with 4-card support, and a double-jump raise (4♠) promises a maximum (19-20) with 4-card support.

Notrump bids are approximately the same as without the overcall. If a 1NT rebid is available,

(example: 1♦ - pass - 1♥ - 1♠ // 1NT) it shows a sound opener, with the opponents' suit stopped. A 2NT rebid after a 1-level response by partner shows about 18-19, with good stoppers in the opponents' suit. With better than a minimum and a good holding in the opponents' suit, especially with no fit for partner, Opener can double for penalties. After 1♥ - pass - 1♠ - 2♦, opener should double with:

♠ - 3 ♥ - AKT74 ♦ - KJT3 ♣ - A64

A simple rebid of opener's suit (2♦ in this case) shows a minimum opener but with a good suit - at least 6 cards, preferably headed by some honors. A jump rebid to 3 (3♦ here) shows about 16+-18 with a good suit. A nonjump rebid to 3 (example: 1♣ - pass - 1♠ - 2♦ // 3♣) shows better than a bare minimum

(perhaps 14-17) with a good suit. When Opener chooses to rebid a new suit, he must be careful. Remember that if Opener bypasses the cheapest rebid of his own suit, he is making a *reverse* bid, which promises extra values - at least 17 or so. For example:

After 1♥ - pass - 1♠ - 2♣, opener can safely rebid 2♦ with a minimum. With a minimum response, partner can pass or correct to 2♥. But after 1♦ - pass - 1♠ - 2♣, Opener needs reversing values to bid 2♥ - Partner may have a minimum response with no fit and no rebiddable Spade suit; he may have to correct to 3♦, which will often be too high if opener does not have reversing values. With a balanced maximum opener (19-20) but no obvious bid (no 4-card support for partner, no stopper in the opponents' suit), Opener can cue-bid overcaller's suit (example: 1♦ - pass - 1♠ - 2♣ // 3♣). Now responder can bid 3NT with a stopped, rebid Spades, show Hearts, etc. With a balanced minimum and no good stopper in the opponent's suit, Opener can pass. Partner will get another chance to bid. With a bare minimum and a balanced hand, pass may be preferable to rebidding 1NT with a marginal stopper, or rebidding a poor 6-card suit.

If an Opponent doubles after an opening bid and response (Example: 1♦ - pass - 1♠ - dbl // you), we can generally make the same we would have made without the double. Two exceptions: with a strong balanced hand (17+) we can redouble, and with a balanced minimum we can pass.

\*\*\*Another use for the Double and Redouble by Opener is described at the end of this article.

**PROBLEM HANDS**

Partner opens 1♥. RHO overcalls 2♣. What is your call?

1. ♠ - Q64 ♥ - KQ64 ♦ - J4 ♣ - K642
2. ♠ - A64 ♥ - KQ64 ♦ - J4 ♣ - AJ42
3. ♠ - KQ64 ♥ - 84 ♦ - J84 ♣ - K942
4. ♠ - KQ64 ♥ - 984 ♦ - J842 ♣ - K4
5. ♠ - KJ64 ♥ - 84 ♦ - KJ842 ♣ - K4
6. ♠ - KJ6 ♥ - K4 ♦ - AK42 ♣ - 9842
7. ♠ - QJ642 ♥ - 84 ♦ - J42 ♣ - K4
8. ♠ - KQ2 ♥ - 84 ♦ - A42 ♣ - AJ842

You open 1♠. LHO overcalls 2♦. Partner doubles and RHO passes. What is your call?

9. ♠ - KQJ64 ♥ - A984 ♦ - 42 ♣ - K4
10. ♠ - AQJ64 ♥ - KQ84 ♦ - 42 ♣ - A4
11. ♠ - K8764 ♥ - K84 ♦ - AK4 ♣ - 42
12. ♠ - K8764 ♥ - K84 ♦ - 42 ♣ - AK4
13. ♠ - AKQ64 ♥ - A84 ♦ - Q2 ♣ - K43

Partner opens 1♠. RHO doubles. What is your call?

14. ♠ - KQ64 ♥ - 984 ♦ - QJ42 ♣ - K4
15. ♠ - 42 ♥ - KQ75 ♦ - A982 ♣ - AQT

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16. ♠ - K4 ♥ - 94 ♦ - QJ842 ♣ - K74

17. ♠ - A7642 ♥ - 9 ♦ - JT842 ♣ - 74

Answers to Bidding over Interference, Hands 1-17

1. **3♥**. We have a limit raise. Don't consider a natural NT bid when you have a 9-card major suit fit.

2. **3♣**. We are too strong for anything else. A jump to 4♥ here would be preemptive.

3. **Double**. We are not strong enough for 2NT.

4. **2♥**. There is no reason to double. We have trump support.

5. **Double**. We could bid 2♦, but we might as well show both suits at once. If we were stronger, say ♠KJ64 ♥K4 ♦AJ842 ♣K4, we could start with 2♦, then bid Spades. With less than game-going values, it is best to start with a double.

6. **2♦**. An off-shape negative double is also possible, but what we would like to do is get to 3NT whenever partner has a club stopper. We do not want to encourage a spade bid.

7. **Double**. We are not nearly strong enough to bid 2♠.

8. **Pass**. Partner is short in Clubs, and should reopen with a double, which we will happily pass.

9. **2♥**. What else? We have a minimum hand with four cards in partner's suit.

10. **3♥**. This shows more than a minimum, again with four cards in partner's suit.

11. **2NT**. We have a minimum hand with the opponents' suit well stopped.

12. **2♥**. There is really no other choice. We have at least 7 Hearts between us and should have at most 7 spades.

13. **3♦**. We have game somewhere, but where? Start by cue-bidding the opponents' suit.

14. **3♠**. We have a limit raise; this is the way to show it. (For those who wish to play the Jordan convention, a bid of 2NT is appropriate.)

15. **Redouble**. We have a very good hand with no fit; we would like to penalize the opponents in whatever suit they try to run to.

16. **2♦**. Over a takeout double, a new suit at the 2-level is not forcing.

17. **4♠**. A double jump is preemptive. The opponents may have a game or save in hearts; we will try to keep them from finding it

## NEW CONVENTIONS FOR ADVANCING PLAYERS

**Before playing any convention, make sure you discuss it in detail with your partner.**

### Cue-Bid showing a Limit Raise or Better

Some pairs prefer to play that, after a simple overcall, a jump raise of partner's suit (1♥ - 2♣ - 3♥) is preemptive - too weak for a simple raise, yet not quite distributional enough to raise all the way to 4. A simple raise still shows about 6-10-; a jump to 4

is still preemptive).

But now a cuebid (1♥ - 2♣ - 3♣) shows 10+ or more (and support). If Opener is bare minimum, he rebids 3 of his suit; now responder can pass if he has a limit raise, or bid on if he is stronger. Of course, if Opener has more than a bare minimum, he can go to game himself. **Cue-bids are not alertable. The jump raise is no longer alertable.**

### The Jordan Convention

After a takeout double by RHO, it is often right to try and penalize the opponents when you have a majority of the points and no fit. Rather than bidding 2NT or 3NT natural, start with a redouble and see if you or partner can double the opponents in whatever suit they run to. A convention devised by Robert Jordan gives up the natural meaning of 2NT, and allows Responder to make a weak raise. A jump raise (1♠ - double - 3♠) is preemptive - too weak for a simple raise, yet not quite distributional enough to raise all the way to 4. (A simple raise still shows about 6-10-; a jump to 4 is still preemptive).

Now the 2NT bid (1♠ - double - 2NT) shows 10+ or more, and support for partner. If Opener is bare minimum, he rebids 3 of his suit; now responder can pass if he has a limit raise, or bid on if he is stronger. Again, if Opener has more than a bare minimum, he can go to game himself. Another important point: a redouble (1♠ - double - redouble) denies support for partner's suit; it shows about 11 or more points. **The Jordan 2NT bid is alertable. The jump raise is not alertable.**

And one more convention you might think about:

### Support Doubles (and Redoubles)

In competitive situations, it is often critical to know whether our major suit fit is an 8-card fit or a 9-card fit (or perhaps only a 7-card fit) when deciding how high to compete. A convention devised by Eric Rodwell formerly of Naperville called the "Support Double" can help us do just that. If the opponents intervene with a simple overcall after an opening bid and a response of 1 of a major (For example: 1♦ - pass - 1♥ - 2♣; you):

1) a raise of partner's major (2♥, or even 3♥ or 4♥) promises at least 4-card support; 2) a double promises 3-card support; 3) any other call, including pass, denies 3-card support; If Opener really wants to penalize the opponents, he must pass; Responder, when short in Overcaller's suit, should reopen with a double. An extension of this: If the opponents intervene with a double, a redouble shows 3-card support; a raise shows 4 or more and anything else denies as many as 3.

**Support doubles and redoubles are alertable.**

*Martha McGhee, chair of the 1998 Orlando NABC, was IN chairman at the 1992 NABC. This article appeared in the Daily Bulletin at that tournament.*

Call the who ...? The Director! It's okay to call the director. If fact, if you don't, you may lose your right to call him later if you are damaged.

The director is the one who sold you an entry, the one who passed out the board, the one who passed out the hand records and said, "Duplicate, please." The director is the one who organized the players and the boards so that everything runs smoothly at the right time, the right speed and the right direction.

The director is the one you need help from if and when an irregularity happens at your table. The director gives rulings pertaining to the "Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge."

In order for the conditions of the game to be fair, everyone has to follow the same rules. The director is familiar with these rules and is responsible for seeing that they are correctly applied.

The director is also the one who calls the rounds when it is time for you to meet your new opponents. The director puts the results of each board into the computer and posts the computer print-out of results after each session.

When you need a director, raise your hand and call out "Director, please" -- loudly enough for him to hear but not so loudly that it disturbs the other players. When the Director arrives at your table, he will listen to what happened and explain to the players the ruling that pertains to the irregularity.

Some rulings have several options so if you don't understand them fully, don't hesitate to ask for them to be repeated.

Since the conditions at each table must be duplicated as much as possible, all the players must adhere to the same set of rules. The Director's main objective is to make the game as fair as possible for all the players involved, while ensuring that everyone has an enjoyable time.

Irregularities that may happen at your table for which you must call the director: a lead out of turn, an insufficient bid, a revoke, a card missing from a hand, a bid or pass out of turn, failure to Alert an artificial bid, changes of call, disagreements of tricks won, claims with trumps outstanding or disputed claims, bidding errors, etc.

The Director is your friend. Do not hesitate to call him or her. In fact, if you don't call the Director, you may have lost the right to call him later when you discover you have been damaged.

*Taken from a Daily Bulletin, Fall NABC, 2001 - Susan Freeman, who teaches bridge at the Miami Valley Bridge Center in Dayton OH, prepared these tips for her players new to duplicate:*

Count cards face down before sorting to make sure all hands have 13 cards.

Recount after sorting to make sure no card is hidden.

Decide your bid before you touch the bid box so you don't give extra information.

Place bidding cards sequentially on the table so all bids can be seen and reviewed.

Bid in tempo to avoid giving information, which may result in partner being banned from further bidding.

Ask about opponent's bids only when it is your turn to bid.

Direct questions to bidder's partner.

For first lead, place your card face down on the table and ask your partner if there are any questions. This will avoid leading out of turn or being influenced by partner's question.

Play each card in tempo to avoid giving extra information to your opponent or your partner.

Call the Director of the game if there is any question about any part of the game and let him or her make any decisions or rulings. The directors are there to help.

Arrive early when playing with a new partner to decide partnership agreements and fill out a convention card.

Be sure your convention card is complete, available and visible during the game.

### **Using Bid Boxes**

*Taken from a Daily Bulletin, Fall NABC, 2001 - The use of bid boxes at clubs and tournaments has become standard, but if you're new to duplicate, bid boxes may also be new to you.*

Here are some tips to make your first encounters pleasant:

Decide on your call before you touch a bid card. Don't think with your fingers -- decide whether you're going to bid 2 Spades or 3 Spades before you reach for that bid card.

Look at the bid card before pulling it completely out of the box. You'd find it hard to convince a director that you inadvertently pulled the 'pass' card when you meant to bid 6 Spades.

Display your bid cards neatly left to right in front of you. If all four players do this, a complete record of the auction is displayed.

Conclude the auction properly by placing your "pass" card on the table.

Even when the auction has concluded, don't rush to gather up your bid cards and place them back in the box. Many players find it helpful to let all bid cards remain on the table until North

*(Continued on page 8)*

*(Tips for New Duplicate Players, Continued from page 7)*

has recorded the final contract and the opening suit symbols lead has been made.

Try to avoid inadvertent calls. What is normally a clear situation with spoken bidding becomes somewhat hazy when bid boxes are used.

The Laws reads: "Until his partner makes a call, a player may substitute his intended call for an inadvertent call but only if he does so, or attempts to do so, without pause for thought."

An inadvertent call is inadvertent if -- and only if -- it was a "slip of the fingers" the bid box equivalent of a "slip of the tongue" You reached for the 3 Club card but the 3 Diamond card accidentally came out.

In these situations, the correct call may be substituted without penalty. A player who calls attention to the inadvertent bid as soon as he notices what he actually pulled from the bid box has done so without pause for thought, even if some time has elapsed.

This is the "oops" rule: with spoken bidding, you would have said, "Three clubs -- oops, I meant three diamonds" With bid boxes, you may say, "Oops" and substitute the 3 Club bid card for the 3 Diamond bid card.

#### **Everyday Resolutions**

*Note: This list of 10 resolutions appeared in the Daily Bulletin at the 1992 Fall NABC in Orlando.*

1. I will not criticize or express disapproval of an opponent's play or bid.
2. I will politely call "Director, please" whenever there is an irregularity.
3. I will not comment that an opponent's error was anticipated or needed for my action to succeed.
4. I will refrain from offering unsolicited advice.
5. I will not discuss previously played boards with my partner in the presence of new opponents.
6. I will stop all cross table conversation as soon as one hand is removed from the next board.
7. I will not engage in lengthy postmortems between hands and between rounds.
8. I will keep cards in my hand until it is my turn to play.
9. I will not take the cards of other players from the board after play.
10. I will remain at the table until the next round is called and will pass the boards immediately

#### **65th ANNUAL Minocqua-Lakeland Bridge Sectional June 8- 12, 2005**

**Lakeland Retirement Center, 412 Balsam, Woodruff**

**0-5 ACBL members play free all sessions**

**June 8 – 7:00 pm Stratified Pairs**

**June 9– 1:00 & 7::00 Stratified Pairs**

**June 10 – 1:00 & 7:00 Stratified Pairs**

**June 11 – 10:00 am Stratified Pairs**

**3:00 pm Stratified Pair-Team Game**

**June 12 – Swiss Teams, Playthru, Meal Included**

**Judy Gaarder, Tournament Chairman, (715) 356-7220**

**JoAnne Zickert, Partnerships, (715) 356-6303**

#### **ALERT: On October 1, 2005, there will be a Special Pro-Am to Benefit the 2006 Chicago NABC.**

Any non-life master with fewer than 500 masterpoints is eligible to play as an amateur. And **ANYONE** who meets this criteria is good enough to enter this competition! It is designed with **YOU** in mind! All you need to do is sign up. Your "pro" will be assigned by the tournament chairman.

This special event is being held at the **Darien Community Center**, at **1:00** in the afternoon. Pre-registration is **MANDATORY** on or before **September 27th please**. Entry fees are \$25.00/amateur, the proceeds from which will go toward supporting the upcoming District 13 2006 Summer Nationals.

This Pro-Am gives all novice and intermediate players a rare opportunity to play with a Chicago area "professional". The game is sectionally-rated which means more masterpoints will be given than in a regular club game.

You cannot imagine how exciting it is to play with the best players in the area. The experience affords a great learning opportunity, and one that could cost hundreds of dollars were it not for this special occasion.

After the event, you will have made a new friend who will meet you and greet you at future District 13 tournaments and events ... someone who will be approachable and can answer your bidding and play questions and discuss hands with you after the games.

The directors are donating their services. There will be lots of homemade goodies ... and an excellent time is guaranteed for all the players involved. For more information on this fun occasion or to register now, please call **Jackie Addis at 630-515-0101**.



Excerpted from *Bulletins, Fall NABC 1998, Orlando Florida.*

## ACBL EVENTS: TERMS EXPLAINED

New members of ACBL are often confused by the array of terms they hear: knockout teams, red points, rookie. Here's a list of terms and their meanings:

**Knockout Teams:** an event in which a team (of four, five or six players -- with only four playing at a time) plays another team. The losers are eliminated or "knocked out" while the winners play other winners until only one winning team remains. A KO match can last for a single session or go on for a full day (the Vanderbilt and Spingold) or longer (the Bermuda Bowl).

**Bracketed Knockout Teams:** a KO event in which teams are divided into groups -- usually of 8, 12 or 16 -- based on their masterpoint holdings. Each group competes in a separate event with its own set of winners.

**Compact Knockout Teams:** a shorter version of Bracketed KO teams.

**Swiss Teams:** an event in which a team (of four, five or six players -- with only four playing at a time) plays other teams short matches -- usually 7, 8 or 9 boards. Team A sits North-South at Table 1 and East-West at Table 2 while Team B sits East-West at Table 1 and North-South at Table 2. The results are compared and scored by International Match Points (IMPs). Pairings for the first round are random. Pairings for succeeding rounds are determined by a team's win-loss record or Victory Point total.

**International Match Points (IMPs):** the most common method of scoring Team matches. If Team A scores plus 620 for bidding and making 4♣ on Board 4 and Team B scores only plus 170 (they didn't bid the game), the difference is 450 -- which converts to 10 IMPs. The IMP chart is shown on the inside of your convention card.

**Victory Points (VPs):** a method of scoring Swiss Team matches. After the scores are compared and converted to IMPs, the IMP total is converted to Victory Points. A team's VP total may be used to determine its next opponents and its final standing.

**Continuous/Side Pairs:** single-session pair games that pay red points. The Vancouver Morning Continuous/Side Pairs, for example, is being played at 9 a.m. the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the Orlando NABC. Pairs may play in one, two or three sessions. Only pairs who play in at least two sessions are eligible for overall gold points.

**Stratified Pairs:** The idea is to compete against everyone but to be ranked only with your peers. Each pair is assigned a stratum or "strat" based on the masterpoint holding of the partner with more masterpoints. Example: A=1000+ masterpoints; B=300-1000 MP; C=0-300 MP. Thus, the most experienced players are placed in Strat A, intermediate players in Strat B and less experienced players in Strat C. Masterpoints are awarded for placings in all strats but gold points are awarded only in A and B. The game proceeds normally -- the difference comes when the scores are tabulated and ranked. In a three-strat game, the scores are ranked three times. The first ranking is done as in a regular open game. These are the Strat A results. If a B or C pair does well in this ranking, they receive full credit for that performance. It is not all that uncommon for a Strat C pair to place first overall, and they receive the full masterpoint award for that game. Note: A pair is eligible for only one set of masterpoint awards and automatically receives the highest award. The second ranking compares the scores of only the B and C pairs -- the scores of the Strat A pairs are eliminated. Once again, if a C pair does well, they receive points for their finishing position in the Strat B results. The 3rd and final ranking compares the scores of only the C pairs -- all the scores of the Strat A and B pairs are eliminated.

**Strati-flighted Pairs:** The top group plays in a game of their own -- Flight A. The rest of the field is divided into strats and plays as in a regular stratified pairs. A recent innovation has been stratifying within Flight A. Flight A-1 may be listed as 3000+ MP while Flight A-2 may be listed as 0-3000 MP.

Summerfest Regional, July 11-17, Sheraton Chicago NW, 3400 W Euclid, Arlington Heights

Monday 7:30, Stratified Future Master Charity Pairs

Tuesday through Friday, 1:00 and 7:30 Single Sessions, Future Master Stratified Pairs, 0-20, 20-50, 50-100

299er Pairs 0-100, 100-200, 200-300

Saturday 1:00 & 7:30 Single Sessions, 49er Pairs Stratified 0-20, 20-50, 299er Stratified Pairs, 0-100, 100-200, 200-300

Double Win Pairs Saturday Night

Sunday 11:00 am & 2:00, 299er Statified Swiss Teams, 0-50, 50-100, 100-200, 200-300, 2 Single Sessions, More Points

Chairman: John Goldstein 773-278-9113 – Partnerships: Carl Sharp 773-483-3734 or [ibsharp2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ibsharp2@sbcglobal.net)

Newcomer Chair: Angie Clark 847-272-1060, [angieclark@comcast.net](mailto:angieclark@comcast.net)

**Tournament Results:****Lake Geneva Regional****Monday Evening 299er Pairs**

- 1 1 Eleanor Nuellen - James Nuellen, Hinsdale IL
- 2 Mary Herzog, Elm Grove WI; Audrey Gehrig, Janesville WI
- 3 Amit Jain - Shreya Jain, Oak Brook IL
- 4 Mary Methe, Wilmette IL; Dolores Amandes, Northbrook IL
- 5 David Wollman, Lake Geneva WI; Brent Peterson, Waukesha WI
- 2/3 Craig Smith, Round Lake IL; James Fordham, Fairburn GA
- 2/3 James Baumeister, Marion IL; Ann Smith, Johnston City IL
- 4 1 Mary Lofgren - Margie Havermann, Chicago IL
- 2 Ginger Griffin - Bonnie Clarke, Chicago IL

**Tuesday Morning 299er Pairs**

- 1 1 1 Bonnie Clarke - Ginger Griffin, Chicago IL
- 2 2 2 Sharon Donahue, Wausau WI; A Joan Fischer, Burton MI
- 3 Maurice Champagne, Mt Prospect IL; Joe Durlak, Evanston IL
- 4 3 James Baumeister, Marion IL; Ann Smith, Johnston City IL
- 5 4 3 Susan Heisler - Diane Kelley, Chicago IL
- 6 Marilyn Mathews - Thomas Jones, Lake Forest IL
- 5 Margery Hedegard, Homewood IL; Fred Mohl, Matteson IL

**Tuesday Afternoon 299er Pairs**

- 1 1 Nancy Meylor, Pewaukee WI; Irene Bolton, US
- 2 2 1 Daniel Stone - Janet Stone, Madison WI
- 3/4 Joe Durlak, Evanston IL; Maurice Champagne, Mt Prospect IL
- 3/4 3 2 Bonnie Clarke - Ginger Griffin, Chicago IL
- 5/6 Judy Filler, Northbrook IL; Janice Hannsz, Kenilworth IL
- 5/6 4 3 Ann Smith, Johnston City IL; James Baumeister, Marion IL
- 5 4 Gale Shillington, Downers Grove IL; Philip Voorhees, Willowbrook IL
- 6 5 Ann Maul, Oostburg WI; Beatrice Boyd, Milwaukee WI

**299er Pairs**

- 1 Frank Greenwald - Farlin Caufield, Woodstock IL
- 2 1 Jerald Wendt - Nancy Wendt, Whitewater WI
- 3 Carolyn Koehler, Western Springs IL; Donald McGoorty, Oak Park IL
- 4 2 Elizabeth Sibbach, Hoffman Estates IL; George Brandt, Palatine IL
- 5 Tom Jorgensen, Huntley IL; Robert Fraser, Crystal Lake IL
- 3 1 Gale Shillington, Downers Grove IL; Philip Voorhees, Willowbrook IL
- 4 Daniel Chamberlain - Kathryn Chamberlain, Rockford IL
- 2 Steve Spitzer - Dennis Price, Burlington WI
- 3 Bonnie Clarke - Ginger Griffin, Chicago IL

**Wednesday Afternoon 299er Pairs**

- 1 1 Jerald Wendt - Nancy Wendt, Whitewater WI
- 2 2 1 Bonnie Clarke - Ginger Griffin, Chicago IL
- 3 3 2 Steve Spitzer - Dennis Price, Burlington WI
- 4 4 3 Cynthia Bixel - Sandra Petrille, Naperville IL
- 5 5 William Barnes - Elinor Barnes, Mount Prospect IL
- 6 6 4 Inez Petersen, Vernon Hills IL; Robert Judd, Algonquin IL
- 5 Colleen Ryan - Cally Jennison, Brookfield WI

**Stratified 299er Pairs**

- 1 1 1 Nancy Bruick - John Bruick, Libertyville IL
- 2 2 2 Ann Smith, Johnston City IL; James Baumeister, Marion IL
- 3 3 3 Earl Bromstedt - Marion Rhoads, Lake Bluff IL
- 4 4 William Barnes - Elinor Barnes, Mount Prospect IL
- 5 5 Eleanor Nuellen - James Nuellen, Hinsdale IL
- 4 Cally Jennison - Colleen Ryan, Brookfield WI

**Stratified I/N Pairs**

- 1 Carol Herr, Greenfield WI; C Jean Bluemner, Franklin WI
- 2 1 Thomas Shepro, Fitchburg WI; Mary Shepro, Madison WI
- 3/4 2/3 1 Daniel Stone - Janet Stone, Madison WI
- 3/4 2/3 Steve Phelps - Leslie Phelps, Vero Beach FL
- 5 4 Ellen Gilman - Virginia Grace, Lake Forest IL
- 6 Daniel Chamberlain - Kathryn Chamberlain, Rockford IL
- 5 2 Ann Smith, Johnston City IL; James Baumeister, Marion IL
- 3 Bonnie Clarke - Ginger Griffin, Chicago IL
- 4 Linda Scheible - Michael Scheible, Kenosha WI

**Wednesday Stratified I/N Pairs**

**West Suburban Bridge Club  
features special Newcomer  
Games every Friday night in  
Darien, IL at 7:30 p.m.**

**Jim O'Neil, popular columnist  
for the I/N News, directs the  
game. For more information,  
you can reach  
Jim at 708-660-9673 .**

- 1 1 1 Jennifer Musson, Racine WI; Sharon Gierahn, Franksville WI
- 2/3 2 Virginia Grace - Ellen Gilman, Lake Forest IL
- 2/3 Marilyn Mathews - Thomas Jones, Lake Forest IL
- 4 3 Mildred Schelkun - Penny Hirsch, Milwaukee WI
- 4 Thomas Shepro, Fitchburg WI; Mary Shepro, Madison WI
- 2 Joanne Behling, Wauwatosa WI; Nancy Meylor, Pewaukee WI

**Stratified 299er Pairs**

- 1/2 1/2 1 Steve Spitzer - Dennis Price, Burlington WI
- 1/2 1/2 Eleanor Nuellen - James Nuellen, Hinsdale IL
- 3/4 Tom Jorgensen, Huntley IL; Robert Fraser, Crystal Lake IL
- 3/4 Amit Jain - Shreya Jain, Oak Brook IL
- 3 Daniel Chamberlain - Kathryn Chamberlain, Rockford IL
- 2 Cynthia Bixel - Sandra Petrille, Naperville IL

**Friday 299er Pairs**

- 1 Steve Oshen, Glen Ellyn IL; Bruce Derylo, Plainfield IL
- 2 Mildred Schelkun - Penny Hirsch, Milwaukee WI
- 3 Maxine Cohn, Glendale WI; Irene Bolton, US
- 4 1 1 Paula Demlow - William Demlow, Sandwich IL
- 5 2 2 Chuck Markos - Yvonne Markos, Deerfield IL
- 6 3 Judy Niesing - Ronald Niesing, De Pere WI
- 4 Ann Smith, Johnston City IL; James Baumeister, Marion IL

**Friday Evening 299er Pairs**

- 1 1 1 Judy Niesing - Ronald Niesing, De Pere WI
- 2 2 Lynne Marley, Downers Grove IL; Craig Wakefield, Des Plaines IL
- 3 3 2 James Karolewicz - Kathy Karolewicz, Mequon WI
- 4 4 3 John Gardner - Carolyn Gardner, Arlington Hts IL

**Friday Afternoon 299er Pairs**

- 1 1 Mary Spyers Duran, Shorewood WI; Joanne Behling, Wauwatosa WI
- 2 2 Susan Zellin - Elaine Gordon, Glendale WI
- 3 3 Mildred Schelkun - Penny Hirsch, Milwaukee WI
- 4 4 Steve Oshen, Glen Ellyn IL; Bruce Derylo, Plainfield IL
- 5 5 1 Pearl Freedman - Betty Zucker, Skokie IL
- 2 Sharon Gierahn, Franksville WI; Jennifer Musson, Racine WI
- 3 William W. Demlow - Paula Demlow, Sandwich IL

**Saturday Morning 299er Pairs**

- 1 Judie Hlavka - Dee Becker, Racine WI
- 2 Thomas Didelot - Jay Eggener, Hartford WI
- 3 1 Elijah Hall, Brookfield WI; Michael Wagner, Delafield WI
- 4 2 1 Judy Niesing - Ronald Niesing, De Pere WI
- 5 3 Lynne Marley, Downers Grove IL; Craig Wakefield, Des Plaines IL
- 6 Marilyn Mathews - Thomas Jones, Lake Forest IL
- 4 2 Steve Boger - Diane Boger, Buffalo Grove IL
- 5 James Murvihill, Chicago Heights IL; Claire Murvihill, Chicago IL

**299er Stratified Pairs**

- 1 Pat Rutherford - Scot Rutherford, Brookfield WI
- 2 1 Thomas Didelot - Jay Eggener, Hartford WI
- 3 2 1 Steve Boger - Diane Boger, Buffalo Grove IL
- 4 3 2 Patricia Leatherwood - Richard Leatherwood, Aurora IL

*(Continued on page 11)*

*(Tournament Results, Continued from page 10)*

- 5 4 3 Elijah Hall, Brookfield WI; Michael Wagner, Delafield WI  
6 5 Maxine Cohn - Ronald Cohn, Glendale WI  
6 4 Bill Nelson - Jeri Nelson, Neenah WI  
5 James Karolewicz - Kathy Karolewicz, Mequon WI

**Saturday Evening 299er Pairs**

- 1 Wende Dallain - Gerard Dallain, Oak Park IL  
2/3 1/2 1/2 Richard Leatherwood - Patricia Leatherwood, Aurora IL  
2/3 1/2 1/2 J Thomas Johnson - Barbara Chasnoff, Park Ridge IL  
4 3 3 Judy Niesing - Ronald Niesing, De Pere WI  
5 Steve Oshen - Julie Oshen, Glen Ellyn IL  
4 4 Robert Allan - Lydia Wachal, Villa Park IL

**Sunday Afternoon Stratified Swiss**

- 1 1 Eleanor Nuellen - James Nuellen, Hinsdale IL; Thomas Hurt - Mary Hurt  
2 Nancy Meylor; Joanne Behling; Bryan Delfs, Pleasant Prairie WI; Irene Bolton, US  
3 Walter Krueger; Barbara Mack; Myles Cunningham Md; Honor Mogul  
4 Maxine Cohn - Ronald Cohn, Glendale WI; Richard Edholm - Sue Edholm  
1 Anna Rindfleisch - Jennifer Musson - Sandra Hetrick - Elaine Howell, Racine WI

**Sunday Evening Stratified Swiss**

- 1 1 Eleanor - James Nuellen, Hinsdale IL; Thomas Hurt - Mary Hurt, Lombard IL  
2 2 Nancy Meylor, Pewaukee WI; Joanne Behling; Bryan Delfs; Irene Bolton  
3 3 Edward Bacher III; Edward Bacher Jr - Pat Bacher, Powell OH; Jin Hu, Evanston IL  
4 Walter Krueger, Glenview IL; Barbara Mack; Myles Cunningham Md; Honor Mogul

**Stars of Tomorrow Sectional, Darien, IL**

**Stratified 299er Pairs**

- 1 James Wong, Wheaton IL; Frederick Thielsen, Palatine IL  
2 1 Claire Murvihill, Chicago IL; James Murvihill, Chicago Heights IL  
3 Brian Meltzer, Buffalo Grove IL; Jan Ratliff, Highland Park IL  
4 Earle Miller, Lisle IL; Catherine Fashingbauer, Elmhurst IL  
5 2 2 Celeste Jacklin - Ann Witt, Aurora IL  
6 Margaret Holmes, Elmhurst IL; Jack Eilrich, River Forest IL  
3 Bernice Frederick, Elwood IL; Carol Davilo, Tinley Park IL  
4 Steve Oshen - Julie Oshen, Glen Ellyn IL  
5 Martha Noyes - Rosede Olson, Chicago IL  
3 Sally Gill, Bloomingdale IL; Laura Bro, Downers Grove IL  
4 Robert Subkowsky - Elizabeth Subkowsky, Chicago IL

**Stratified 299er Pairs**

- 1 1 1 Celeste Jacklin - Ann Witt, Aurora IL  
2 Boguslaw Humienik, Mount Prospect IL; Stanislaw Kolesnik, Glenview IL  
3 2 Martha Noyes - Rosede Olson, Chicago IL  
4 Brian Meltzer, Buffalo Grove IL; Jan Ratliff, Highland Park IL  
5 3 Jill Randell, Delray Beach FL; Cindy Alpert, Glencoe IL  
6 4 2 Nancy Bruick - John Bruick, Libertyville IL  
5 3 Pauline Wiseman - Ivan Somoff, Naperville IL  
4 William Shepherd, Evanston IL; Christopher Robinson, Chicago IL  
5 J Thomas Johnson - Barbara Chasnoff, Park Ridge IL

**Bracketed KO A**

- 1 Candace Timson; Diane Laforte; James Blocker; Edward Casey; Fred Dix - James Roth  
2 Charles - Demaris Johnson; Craig Wakefield; Lynne Marley, Downers Grove IL

**Bracketed KO B**

- 1 Ronald - Jo Kohn; Ronald Zachary, Burr Ridge IL; Louis Larson, Darien IL  
2 Jonathan Fry - Gerard Dallain; Rose Ann Donzelli; Lydia Wachal, Villa Park IL

**Stratified Swiss Teams**

- 1 Bruce Bengtson; Donald Schramek - Martha Noyes - Rosede Olson, Chicago IL  
2 Craig Wakefield; Edward Casey; Lynne Marley, ; James Blocker, Westchester IL  
3/4 Candace Timson - Diane Laforte - Kathleen Gleason - Jane Morrissey, Hinsdale IL  
3/4 Chere Morrison - Les Morrison; Rachel Campbell - Roger Dieringer, Elgin IL  
5 1 1 William Shepherd - Jin Hu; Christopher Robinson; Edward Bacher III  
2 Wende - Gerard Dallain, Oak Park IL; Charles - Demaris Johnson, Aurora IL  
3 2 Ronald Zachary; Gale Shillington; Philip Voorhees; Louis Larson, Darien IL  
4 Stephen Bell; Robert Kucaba; Ronald Kohn - Jo Kohn, Schaumburg IL

**Marquette Sectional, Masonic Building, Marquette, MI**

**Friday, August 26** 1:30 pm & 7:00 pm

Stratified 99er Pairs — Prizes!

**Saturday, August 27** 1:30 pm

Stratified 99er Pairs — Prizes!

**Sunday, August 28** 9:00 am

Stratified (Team Average) Swiss Teams

(FREE breakfast AND lunch - Upper Peninsula Specialties)

Chairman: Denise Hoffman (906) 226-3108

Partnerships: Theresa Fowler (906) 225-1907

**Three Lakes Sectional, Three Lakes, Wisconsin**

Friday, Sept 16 1:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs

7:00 pm Stratified Open Charity Pairs

Saturday, Sept 17 9:00 am

Jamboree Pairs (Non-ACBL members only)

1:30 pm Stratified Open Pairs

4:30 pm Wine Tasting

Sunday, Sept 18 10:00 am Stratified Swiss Teams

(Play Through Includes Luncheon)

0-5 Members Play Free All Games

Chair Terry McCloskey 715.546.8306

Partnerships Kaye McCardle 715.479.8963

Hospitality Mary Ann McCloskey 715.546.8306

**ROCKIN' ROCKFORD REGIONAL**

Indoor Sports Center – 8800 E Riverside Dr – Loves Park, IL

(On I-90 exit Riverside Drive and go east one mile)

**TUESDAY – June 14:**

299'er Pairs (single sessions) 9:30 AM, 2 PM

**WEDNESDAY – June 15: A = 1500+ points**

299'er Pairs (single sessions) 9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

**THURSDAY – June 16: A = 200 to 300 points**

299'er Pairs (single sessions) 9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

**FRIDAY – June 17:**

299'er Pairs (single sessions) 9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

**SATURDAY – June 18:**

299'er Pairs (single sessions) 9:30 AM, 2 PM and 7 PM

**LABOR DAY SECTIONAL**

**Weber Leisure Center, 9300 Weber Park Place, Skokie IL**

**Friday, September 2**

10:30, 3:30, 7:30 Future Master Stratified Pairs

**Saturday, September 3**

1:30, 7:30 Future Master Stratified Pairs

**Sunday, September 4**

1:30 Stratified 199er Pairs, A: 100-200; B: 50-100; C: 0-50

7:30 Stratified 199er Pairs, A: 100-200; B: 50-100; C: 0-50

**Monday, September 5**

11:00 299er Stratified Swiss Teams, 100-300 and 0-100

Kay Hathaway, Chairman, 847-998-9642

Suzi Subeck, Editor

Email: [stansubeck@prodigy.net](mailto:stansubeck@prodigy.net)

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District 13: <http://acbl-district13.org/>

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### **Upcoming Tournaments**

Minocqua Sectional, June 8-12, Minocqua

Rockford Regional, June 14-19, Rockford

Madison Regional, June 20 - 26, Madison

Summerfest Regional, July 11 - 17, Arlington Heights

Marquette Sectional, August 26-28, Marquette

Labor Day Sectional, September 2-5, Skokie

Three Lakes Sectional, September 16-18, Three Lakes

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## **Tips for Better Partnerships... Better Communication... And Less Mistakes**

Often you get a chance to help partner out in the auction by making a lead directing double. This is fine and good and can be very valuable to the defense. It is important, however, to remember that you can also tip off the opponents with this double. It can result in their staying out of a going down contract because they become aware they have an unstopped suit, or it can cause them to right-side a contract by playing it from the hand with the protected holding.

Evaluate your hand as best you can during the auction. If the high cards you hold are in partner's suits, bid aggressively. If, on the other hand, your high cards are in the opponents' suits, bid carefully.

Light preempts are most valuable if you are in first or third seat. They are safest when you are not vulnerable.

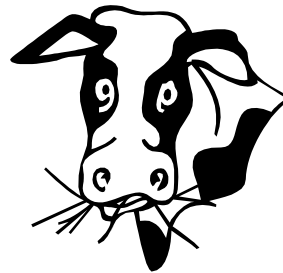
When counting your points, consider the fact that singletons and voids are only valuable if you have enough trump support to ruff partner's losers.

Against a grand slam, make a neutral lead.

Against a small slam, be aggressive and lead the closest thing to a trick. This can result in setting up a second trick for your side that is readily cashable if you or partner has an ace.

Do not bid Blackwood with two small cards in one suit! While sometimes this can work to your advantage, it is difficult to evaluate when to do it and when not to do it. If you never do it, you will be right more times than not.

Count! Count winners, losers, points and never stop counting!



**Madison Regional**  
**Alliant Energy Center**  
**Exposition Hall**  
1919 Expo Way, Madison  
June 20-26, 2005  
**Novice/Intermediate Schedule**  
**0-50, 50-100, 100-200, 200-300**  
**0-5 plays FREE all week**  
**Partners guaranteed 1 hour before game time.**  
**Tuesday through Saturday**  
**1:30 & 7:30 Stratified Pairs**  
**Sunday**  
**10:30 & 1:30 Single Sessions – Baby Swiss Teams**  
**Tailgate party Thursday between sessions**  
**Trophies/Section Top Awards**  
**Mary Olsky, chairman (608) 277-8621 [olsky@mailbag.com](mailto:olsky@mailbag.com)**

Check out the new  
2006 Chicago Summer NABC website at:  
<http://www.geocities.com/thesubecks@sbcglobal.net/>