

I/N News ... especially for you!

Volume 3, Issue 2
Online Edition

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Information of Use to Intermediate/Novices by Jim O'Neil

Inside this issue:

Information of use to Intermediate/Novices	1	MASTERPOINT AWARDS The masterpoint plan is the means by which ACBL ranks each member's accomplishments. The winners of events receive masterpoints in amounts consistent with the importance and size of the events. Players who achieve rankings lower than first place, both overall and within their designated comparison group, receive proportionately fewer masterpoints. The formulas for computing masterpoint awards take into account various factors, such as the class of the event, the size of the field, the number of sessions, and the level of competition.
On Earning Masterpoints ... A Poem	6	OVERALL, SECTION AND MATCH AWARDS Players are awarded "Overall" awards for placing high among all players playing in an event, or "Section" awards for placing high among their group (for example, all the East-West pairs in Section "B"). In a typical Pairs game, the top 1/3 or so of the pairs in each section will win "Section" awards. In team games, players can win "Match" awards for each match that they win.
Letter to the Editor	7	Players are credited with either their "Overall" award, or the total of their "Section" or "Match" Awards, whichever is greater, but not both.
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Tournament Results	9	BLACK POINTS <i>Black</i> points are awarded for success in most club games. (Some special events at clubs will award points where some portion of the award will be in black points and the remainder in another color.
Counting the Hand	11	SILVER POINTS <i>Silver</i> points are awarded for success in events at Sectional tournaments. Progressive Sectionals and Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaCs).
General Tips for Better Results	12	RED AND GOLD POINTS Some club games award <i>Red</i> Points. Points earned in Grand National Teams (GNT) and North American Open Pairs (NAOP) Qualifying games held at clubs will be 50% <i>Red</i> , 50% <i>Black</i> . Point awards for many World wide and ACBL-wide Simultaneous Pair Games will also award 50% <i>Red</i> ,

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Marquette Sectional

(Information, continued from page 1)

Wahlstrom's
5043 US 41 South
Marquette, Michigan
August 29-31, 2003

Friday, August 29

1:30 Stratified 199er
Pairs (prizes!!)
7:00 Stratified
Pair/Team Game

Saturday, August 30

9:00 Bracketed KO
Stratified Pairs (1 sess)
1:30 Bracketed KO
Stratified Pairs (1 sess)
7:00 Individual (Cash!!)
Bracketed KO

Sunday, August 31

10:00 Stratified Swiss
Teams including buffet
lunch

Chairman: Denise
Hoffman (906) 226-3108

**ACBL members with 0-
5 points play free at all
games!**

The 50% *Black*. Certain club games can award a small number of *Gold* points. ACBL-wide Instant Matchpoint Game in September will award one *Gold* point for a section first, and "Club Appreciation" Team Games throughout October may award up to .25 *Gold* Points

Events at Regional tournaments, Regionally-rated events at NABCs award *Red* points, except for "Overall" awards and Section firsts, which usually award *Gold*. Higher stages of the GNT and NAOP events also award *Red* and *Gold* Points. In lower Flights, Strata or Brackets, awards for Overall placings and section firsts may be all *Red*, or may be part *Red* and part *Gold*. Awards for single session events are usually *Red*.

PLATINUM POINTS

Platinum points are awarded for NABC+ events (which are National-rated events with no upper masterpoint limit). These events last 2 or more days, and are held at the three National Tournaments.

UNPIGMENTED POINTS

These points are awarded for success in online play and are colorless. The maximum number of Unpigmented points that can be applied to achieve any Honor Title is 1/3 of the total masterpoints required for that level.

HONOR TITLES

ACBL awards "Honor Titles" to members as they accumulate masterpoints. The Honor Titles and the number and color of masterpoints that player must acquire to gain these titles are:

ROOKIE:	an ACBL member with less than 5 MP's
JUNIOR MASTER:	at least 5 masterpoints.
CLUB MASTER:	at least 20 masterpoints.
SECTIONAL MASTER:	at least 50 MP's, of which 5 must be silver.
REGIONAL MASTER:	at least 100 MP's, of which 15 must be silver and 5 must be red or gold.
NABC MASTER:	at least 200 masterpoints, of which 50 must be pigmented, with at least 5 gold, 15 or more red or gold, and 25 silver.
LIFE MASTER (LM):	at least 300 masterpoints, with 50 silver, 25 gold, and 25 more red or gold.

(Any new member or player in an inactive status for six months or more after January 1, 1999 must also earn 50 black points to become a Life Master.)

Life Masters can earn additional Honor Titles:

BRONZE LM:	Life Master with at least 500 masterpoints.
SILVER LM:	Life Master with at least 1,000 masterpoints.
GOLD LM:	Life Master with at least 2,500 masterpoints.
DIAMOND LM:	Life Master with at least 5,000 masterpoints.
GRAND LM:	Life Master with at least 10,000 masterpoints and who has won either an NABC+ event (a National-rated event with no upper masterpoint limit) or a major World Championship Event.

TYPES OF EVENTS

(Continued on page 3)

*If it weren't for the last
minute, nothing would
get done!*

Anonymous



No chicken bidders in
this partnership!

PAIRS:

Pairs is the most common form of duplicate bridge play. Each player will play with one partner throughout an entire event. Each pair will play many other pairs throughout the course of a session. Almost all Pairs games are scored by matchpoints, though a few are scored using IMPs.

Most pairs games use one of two types of movements. For larger games, perhaps 8 or more tables, a "Mitchell" movement is used. North-South pairs remain stationary throughout; East-West pairs move to the next higher numbered table after each round is completed, while the boards move to the next lower-numbered table. In games where a Mitchell movement is used, East-West pairs will remain East-West, and play most or all of the North-South pairs; North-South pairs will remain North-South and play most or all of the East-West pairs.

In case of an even number of tables, there may be a "skip" (East-West pairs will skip one table) near the middle of the game. Or there may be a "relay and by-stand" (two tables share a set of boards while another set of boards is out of play). In the case on a half-table, there may be a "phantom pair" (the pair scheduled to play the non-existent pair will sit out for one round), or a "bump" (a roving pair will replace a different North-South or East-West pair each round).

Smaller games will usually use a "Howell" movement. There will be a small number of pairs who remain stationary (frequently only one). Other pairs will move around throughout the session, switching back and forth between North-South and East-West. Table cards indicating how each pair is to move are usually provided. Each pair will play most or all of the other pairs in the game.

SWISS TEAMS:

Swiss Teams is 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 somewhere between 5 and 9 boards. Each team sits North-South at one table, and East-West at a corresponding table, while a second team, its opponents for that match, sits East-West at the first and North-South at the second. (With an odd number of teams, a "three-way match", lasting for two rounds, may be required.) The results are almost always 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.

In events where the number of teams is small, each team may play every other team once. This is a "Round Robin" Team event. The scoring is the same as for Swiss Teams, but the pairings are usually predetermined.

KNOCKOUT TEAMS:

Knockout Teams is an event in which a team (of four, five or six players - again only four playing at a time) plays another team in a long match - each match usually lasts an entire session (about 24 boards). The losing team is eliminated or "knocked out" while the winning team advances to the next round. Play continues until only one team remains.

Unless the number of teams is an exact power of 2 (8,16,etc.), some three-way matches are required in the earlier rounds. In this case usually the top 2 teams in each group of 3 will advance, while one team is eliminated.

A "Compact Knockout" is a shorter version of Bracketed KO teams. Matches

(Continued on page 4)

**Oconomowoc Area
Summer Fun
Sectional**

Dousman Lion's
Community Center
235 N. Main Street
Dousman, WI

Friday, June 27
2:00 Stratified 199er Pairs
7:00 Stratified 199er Pairs

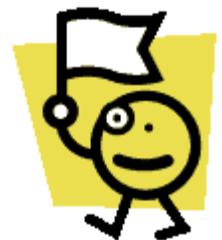
Saturday, June 28
2:00 Stratified 199er Pairs
7:00 Stratified 199er Pairs

Sunday, June 29
11:00 Stratified Swiss
Teams

Chairman:
Marilyn Charlson
(262) 646-2246

*If you want to see a
comic strip, you should
see me in the shower!*

Groucho Marx



I'd rather concede than
let declarer squeeze me!

**63rd ANNUAL
Minocqua-Lakeland
Bridge Sectional**

June 4-8, 2003

Lakeland Retirement
Center

412 Balsam
Woodruff, Wisconsin

Chairman:

Judy Gaardner
(715) 356-7220

Partnerships:

JoAnne Zickert
(715) 356-6303

*Never be afraid to tell
the world who you are!*

Anonymous



I threw away way too
many overtricks this
afternoon at the club!

usually last 1/2 session (about 12 boards), and only 4 players are permitted on a team.

BOARD-a-MATCH TEAMS

Board-a-Match Teams is an event where players enter as a team, but the scoring is similar to Matchpoints. Each team plays a small number of boards against many other teams during a session. At the end of the session, the results are compared and each board is worth 1 point - a Team scores 1 point for a net score greater than zero, 1/2 point for a net score of zero, and 0 points for a negative net score.

INDIVIDUAL

The Individual is a form of bridge where each contestant enters individually, and plays with many different partners during a session. The scoring is usually Matchpoints.

CONTINUOUS PAIRS:

Continuous Pairs events, or "Side Game Series" are a series of single-session pair games held at tournaments. Players may play in as many of the sessions as they wish, with the same or different partners. Players who play in at least two sessions are eligible for overall awards.

PLAYERS CHOICE PAIRS:

A "Player's Choice Pairs" event is a pair event that is run over 3 sessions (the Morning, Afternoon and Evening on a single day) Pairs may play in any two of the sessions. This allows a pair to choose to play in the Morning and Afternoon sessions, or the Afternoon and Evening sessions (or even the Morning and Evening).

While many events are simply "Open", that is, all pairs or teams compete against each other on an equal basis, it has become more popular in recent years to include other types of events which allow players with limited experience a chance to earn more masterpoints, even while competing against stronger competition.

HANDICAPPED:

Handicapped events allow players with limited experience to be competitive against stronger players. Each player is assigned a "handicap", usually based on that player's masterpoint total. The handicaps of both members of a pair or all participating members of a team is averaged. The result is then added to the pair or team's score for a session, and the pairs or teams are then ranked.

There may be one single ranking which includes handicap, or two separate rankings - one which includes handicap, and one for score without handicap.

Clubs will often assign handicaps based on a player's previous performance at that club.

STRATIFIED:

Stratified events give players the opportunity to compete against everyone but to be ranked only among their peers. Each pair or team is assigned a stratum, or "Strat" based on the masterpoint holding of the player with the most master points.

In a typical "Stratified Pairs" game, there may be three Strats. Frequently, Strat "A" will be 1000+ masterpoints, Strat "B" 300-1000 MPs, and Strat "C" 0-300 MPs. The most experienced players will be placed in Strat A, intermediate players in Strat B and less experienced players in Strat C. Master points will

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be awarded for placings in all strats, but: a pair or team is eligible for only one set of masterpoint awards (they will receive whichever masterpoint award is highest.)

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. 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 third and final ranking compares the scores of only the C pairs - all the scores of the Strat A and B pairs are eliminated.

FLIGHTED:

Flighted events are events subdivided into 2 or more "Flights" based on players' masterpoint holdings. The top Flight, Flight "A" is open to everyone. The second flight, Flight "B", is limited to players with fewer than a specified number of masterpoints. Lower Flights will have lower masterpoint limits.

STRATI-FLIGHTED:

"Strati-flighted" events, are, as the name suggests, a combination of "Stratified" and "Flighted" events. The top group, Flight A, plays in a game of their own. The rest of the field is divided into two or more Strats and plays as in a regular stratified game. Sometimes Flight A itself is split into 2 Strats. (These Strats are usually called "A" and "X".)

BRACKETED:

"Bracketed" events are events in which teams are divided into groups based on their masterpoint holdings. The teams with the highest average masterpoint total are placed in the top bracket, and so on. The number of teams in each bracket is determined by the number of sessions available. For a 4-session Knockout, for example, each bracket will have between 9 and 16 teams.

Each group competes in a separate event with its own set of winners. Bracketing is usually used for Knockout Team events, but occasionally Swiss, or Round Robin Team events are bracketed.

OPEN:

In an Open event, there are no restrictions on gender, age, or masterpoint holding.

MEN'S/WOMEN'S/MIXED/SENIOR EVENTS

In a Men's event, both members of a pair or all members of a team must be male. In a Women's event, both members of a pair or all members of a team must be female. In a Mixed event, one member of each partnership must be male, and one must be female.

In a Senior event, both members of a pair or all members of a team must be at least 55 years old.

These types of events are often Flighted or Stratified as well.

LaCrosse Sectional Tournament:

Friday, August 22, 2003

- 1:30 Stratified Pairs (single session)
- 7:30 Stratified Pairs (single session)

Saturday, August 23, 2003

- 1:30 Stratified Pairs (single session)
- 7:30 Stratified Pairs (single session)

Sunday, August 24, 2003

- 10:30 & TBA Stratified Swiss Teams (two sessions)
- Strata for all events:
- C: 0-300; B: 300-1500; A: 1500+

Chairman & Partnerships:
Tom Olson (608-784-7299)
Tolson144@aol.com



Green Bay Regional

August 11-17, 2003

RADISSON HOTEL

2040 Airport Drive
Green Bay, WI 54313
920-494-7300

Special Casino Package
at \$109.00 /night

Make reservations

Before July 21, 2003

199er Schedule:

Single Session Games

Tues. through Sat.

9:30am and 2:30pm

0-5 members play free
all week!

Awards & Pictures for
winners of all
sessions.

Free mini-lesson Daily
at 2:00 p.m.

199er Chairman:

Marian Sabee

(920) 836-2926

*Remember, as far as
anyone knows, we are
a nice, normal family.*

Bart Simpson



From the bidding, you
should be able to picture
partner's hand.

On Earning Masterpoints by Ellyn Batko

United we stand, divided we fall.

Tournament bridge is one helluva ball.

The people keep flowing like the tides of an ocean.

How does one live through all this commotion?

The tall and short, joining as one,

Now I ask you where else could you have so much fun?

Everyone striving for a little piece of glory

To win overall... what a wonderful story

To tell to your grandchildren on a cold winter night,

How back in '69 you won your first flight.

Picture a campfire, the coals burning brightly,

Spinning your yarn about the Zip Swiss's nightly.

The kids all a wonder with eyes all aglow

"Please, Gramma, tell us all that you know."

"Well, bridge is a game, son, played mostly by four,

But often it winds up to be even more...

It takes lots of courage to play it mine kin.

Mainly it's stamina that's needed to win.

You play with a partner. It matters not who.

As long as he does it the same way as you.

You read all the books, attend all the schools.

When you've mastered the game, they change all the rules.

You travel to play o'er land and o'er sea

To win masterpoints, son. They're precious, you see.

They cannot be transferred as a gift to another...

Can't buy them or sell them or gain them undercover."

"Gramma, can I get some if I'm good to my mother?"

"No son, you see they have to be earned.

A long arduous task but now don't be concerned.

They're not thrust upon you. They pass not by heir.

You must play well to earn them. Now, doesn't that sound fair?

They're sought after greatly by the young and the old,

Especially the ones that are entitled 'gold.'

They're awarded to people like you and like me.

Like little paper Oscars that say - You won this event - Boy, golly, gee."

"But gramma, what do masterpoints do?"

"Why heavens my son, in some distant age,

They'll all be recorded on one giant page.

The weight of the paper, a tedious load,

Stored forever in archives on Democrat Road.

So now, son, you know you must grow up to be

Healthy and strong like a young man should be.

If you eat all your veggies and take vitamins too..."

"Gramma, I hope I can be a life master like you!"

My Friend Irma

Rockin' Rockford Regional



June 16-22, 2003

Indoor Sports Center (ISC),
8800 E. Riverside Drive, Loves
Park (Rockford), IL
(1 mile east of I-90, E.
Riverside Drive exit)

Host Hotel:

Quality Suites

7401 Walton, Rockford

Approximately 5 miles south of
ISC via I-90; exit State St, then
right - 815-227-1300

King suite: \$70

Double suite: \$85

Complimentary HOT breakfast
and evening social hour.

Two single session events every
day, Tuesday thru Saturday,

Plus a Special Newcomers

Game for players with under 20
masterpoints on Saturday.

AWARDS FOR WINNERS

199er & Newcomer Chairman:

Mary Jo Sergent

815-874-4157

mjosarge@aol.com

*Partnerships guaranteed up until 1
hour before game time.*

Letter to the Editor

Overheard at Lake Forest Academy's (high school) Bridge Club:

Brooke Wesley (freshman) told club instructors, Jim Abbot and Ginny Schuett, "I just love playing with Nick Seltzer. He never gets mad at me, even when the opponents make our contract." However, Brooke promised it would never happen again.

Barbara Harris

Ethics and Etiquette at the Bridge Table by Suzi Subeck

There are certain things players do just to be polite at the bridge table:

First, it is always correct to greet your opponents when they come to your table. It never hurts to get the proceedings off on the right foot, and you will be surprised how much more relaxed you, your partner, and the opposition will be. It is not necessary to introduce yourselves to each other, but what harm can it do? In novice situations especially, you may find yourself at another tournament without a partner and maybe left hand opponent will be there in the same situation. This could be your chance to meet up with a possible new partner as well as make a possible new friend.

Second, when laying down the dummy, it is always correct to say, "Good luck partner." And partner should respond with a friendly, "Thank you." At this point, the table chat should cease, and the only chatter during the hand should be that of declarer asking dummy to play designated cards. (i.e. "low heart please" or "six of diamonds please")

When the round is over, it is proper to wish your opponents good luck, and they should do the same for you.

After the hand, gloating is deemed poor conduct at the table, however, it is fine to compliment either partner or opponent on a particularly good play or bid. Just don't overdo it.

(Continued on page 8)

*If I promise to miss
you, will you go away?*

Anonymous

*Normal is getting dressed
in clothes you buy for
work and driving
through traffic in a car
you are still paying for,
in order to get to the job
you need to pay for the
clothes, the car, and the
house you leave vacant
all day so you can afford
to live in it.*

Ellen Goodman

(Conduct and Ethics, Continued from page 7)

During the hand, it is sometimes necessary to call the director. Again, there is a correct way to do this so that no one feels it is a personal attack on their character. The best way to call is simply to put your hand in the air and say, "Director, please!"

The director will approach your table and attempt to right whatever wrong has occurred. Situations that demand such a summons include clear improprieties such as opening leads out of turn, revokes, and hands with too few or too many cards in them. Other stickier situations include hesitations during the bidding, improper explanations of calls during the auction, or simply rudeness by one or another of the participants at the table.

Whatever the situation, the director is a friend to all four people, and will attempt in a courteous, business-like manner to clear up the problem to everyone's liking. It is important to remember that when someone calls the director at your table, he is not accusing you of anything. He is simply trying to protect himself, or to right a wrong or to simply restore equity to a difficult problem.

Directors are paid for their services whether we use them or not. Therefore, it is best to take advantage of their presence and use them when they are needed. Directors will give all the table members a chance to talk. You and your partner and your opponents should be certain to allow the director to do just that. There should be no cross-talk amongst the four of you. The director will ask you each to speak in turn starting with the one who actually called him to the table.

After everyone at the table has spoken, the director will determine the proper course of action. If it is necessary, he will make a ruling. Whatever he rules, it is the law. All four table participants are bound by his decision. If you feel the director has ruled improperly for the situation at hand, you are entitled to appeal the ruling to a committee.

You may not appeal a "matter of law" (e.g. the penalty for a revoke). You may only appeal matters of judgement or factual disputes.

A committee is generally held after the session and until such time as the committee is held, the director's ruling will stand. A committee is made up of bridge players (usually three or five), some with extensive table experience, and often some who are at your level. One of the committee members will chair the proceedings. These players will review the problem and the director's decision. They will ask questions of you and your partner as well as of your opponents and the director. It is their job to determine the facts and come up with a fair and equitable settlement of the actions. Committees are, for all intents and purposes, the final word on the subject. Committee members, generally speaking, are volunteers. They are people like you and me who are interested in promoting values of fair play in competition. They are donating their time to see that bridge decisions are decided properly within the framework of the ACBL guidelines.

The people are not perfect, but they never make a bad decision on purpose. They take the time to deliberate the facts and they try to come up with Solomon-like decisions. Some decisions will go your way and some will go the way of your opponents. Please try your best not to take their actions personally. The people involved are selected for their fairness and ability. Always remember that.

Chicago's SummerFest Regional

Donald E. Stephens
Convention Center,
5555 N. River Road,
Rosemont, IL

I/N Events

Entry fees for I/N
games are \$10.00 per
person per session.

Monday 7:30 Stratified
Future Master 2-for-1
Pairs

Everyone who plays
gets a free, 1-session
entry to use later in
the week.

Tuesday - 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

Sunday 11:00 am & TBA

199er Statified Swiss
Teams, 0-50, 50-100,
100-200
2 Single Sessions

Newcomer Events: Special Party Registration Gift Guest Speakers

Chair: Jackie Addis
(630) 515-0101

**District 13 Regional - Spring, 2003 -
Monday Evening 199er Results (14 pairs)**

	A	B	C	
2.26	1	1		Steven Wilson - Thomas Aldrich III, Palatine IL
1.70	2			Thomas Hardy, Huntley IL; Farlin Caufield, Woodstock IL
1.11	3/4			John Ackenhussen - Anne Ackenhussen, S Charleston WV
1.47	3/4	2	1	Jagdish Shah - Shobha Shah, Oak Brook IL1.10
	5	3	2	Lynne Marley, Tony Guercio, Downers Grove IL
0.83		4	3	Sandra Hetrick, Racine WI; Mary Fregien, Franksville WI

Tuesday Morning 199er (19 pairs)

2.66	1	1		Keith Farral, Lisle IL; John Pruitt, Naperville IL
2.00	2			Sue Waggershauser, Waukesha WI; Donald Mason, Woodridge
1.52	3	2	1	Jeannette Chase, Lk Barngtn, Jane McCaffrey, Hofmn Est.
1.33	4	3	2	Audrey Danocup - Katherine Freeman, Beloit WI
0.93	5	4		Caralee Hopman - Ron Hopman, Huntley IL
0.67	6			Carol Herr, Greenfield WI; C Jean Bluemner, Franklin WI
0.64		5		Linda Rough, Lake Zurich IL; Janet Gron, Wooddale IL

Tuesday Afternoon 199er (20 pairs)

2.66	1			Lorraine Chase, Highland Park, Adrienne Kamp, Skokie IL
1.56	2/4	1/3		Keith Farral, Lisle IL; John Pruitt, Naperville IL
1.56	2/4	1/3		Jack Sanders, Cry Lake, Patrick Haverty, Woodstock IL
1.56	2/4	1/3	1	Cheri Zosel - Nancy Kisten, Hawthorn Woods IL
0.84	5			Joan Bailey-Murray, Rockford IL; Dolores Witte, Roscoe
0.85	6	4		Laurie Hamachek, Elgin IL; Chere Morrison, Poplar Grove
0.67		5		Barb Dettmering - Carol Kallas, Pewaukee WI
0.91			2	Audrey Danocup - Katherine Freeman, Beloit WI
0.60			3/4	Jeannette Chase, Lk Barngtn, Jane McCaffrey, Hofmn Est.
0.60			3/4	Eleanor Nuellen - James Nuellen, Hinsdale IL

Wednesday Morning 199er (24 pairs)

2.93	1	1		Kanti Chandarana, Indhd Park, Nanak Shukla, Glen Ellyn
2.20	2	2	1	Arlene Vuturo - Christine Weiler, Libertyville IL
1.65	3			Carol Fischer, Rockford IL; Jane McCurdy, Davis IL
1.24	4	3	2	Linda Rough, Lake Zurich IL; Cheri Zosel, Hawthorn Wds.
0.07	5	4		James Karius - Barbara Loporchio, Waukesha WI
0.70	6	5		Mary Lou Findley - Susan Zlotocha, Hartland WI
0.75			3	Irma Larsen - Sandra Hetrick, Racine WI
0.55			4	James Nuellen - Eleanor Nuellen, Hinsdale IL

Wednesday Afternoon Stratified 199er (23 pairs)

2.93	1			Ruth Kraemer, Madison WI; Barbara Mattes, Milton WI
2.20	2			Carol Herr, Greenfield WI; C Jean Bluemner, Franklin WI
1.65	3			Bill Heimlich, Waukesha WI; Susan Radichel, Hartland WI
1.24	4			Jane McCurdy, Davis IL; Carol Fischer, Rockford IL
0.93	5			James Karius - Sue Waggershauser, Waukesha WI
2.14	6	1		Marlene Benzuly, Hghlnd Park, Suzanne Friedman, Glencoe
1.61		2		Susan Zlotocha - Mary Lou Findley, Hartland WI
1.20		3		Rachel Campbell, Elgin IL; Audrey Danocup, Beloit WI
1.30		4	1	Dorothy Schoonover - John Schoonover, Rockford IL
0.98		5	2	Cally Jennison - Colleen Ryan, Brookfield WI
0.75			3	Jeannette Chase, Lk Baringtn, Agatha A Pope, Deer Park
0.55			4	Ken Costun - Bev Costun, Pewaukee WI

Thursday Morning 199er (26 pairs)

3.06	1	1		Mary Herzog, Elm Grove WI; Jeanette Steiner, Naperville
2.30	2			Carol Herr, Greenfield WI; C Jean Bluemner, Franklin WI
1.72	3	2		James Karius - Barbara Loporchio, Waukesha WI
1.29	4	3	1	Linda Rough, Lake Zurich, Jeannette Chase, Lk Baringtn
0.97	5			Barbara Mattes, Milton WI; Sue Waggershauser, Waukesha
0.73	6			Eleanor Langhenry, Arltn Hts; Carole Gleason, Des Plns
0.91		4	2	Nancy Meylor, Pewaukee WI; Pauline Steiner, Pawaukee WI
0.68		5		Thomas Shepro, Fitchburg WI; Mary Shepro, Madison WI
0.68			3	Sharon Gierahn, Franksville WI; Jennifer Musson, Racine

Thursday Afternoon 199er (21 pairs)

2.80	1	1		Mary Herzog, Elm Grove WI; James Karius, Waukesha WI
2.10	2	2		Audrey Gehrig - Mary E. Cooke, Janesville WI
1.58	3	3		Thomas Shepro, Fitchburg WI; Mary Shepro, Madison WI
1.18	4	4		Tom Dearing - Lois Hoyer, Geneva IL
0.98	5			Barbara Mattes, Milton WI; Sue Waggershauser, Waukesha
0.75	6	5		Holly Rozner, Glencoe IL; Shirley Blatt, Highland Park

*If we are not inspired by
our goals in life, we need
to find new ones to
pursue.*

Anonymous

1.12		1		Jeannette Chase, Lk Barngrtn, Linda Rough, Lake Zurich IL
0.84		2		Shelly Costello, Barrington IL; Cheri Zosel, Hawthorn Wds
Friday Morning 199er (27 pairs)				
3.19	1			Rick Lepscier, Tinley Park IL; Jean Jolin, Middleton WI
2.39	2			Stanley Dembinsky, Wadsworth IL; Thomas Morgan, Zion IL
2.02	3	1		Judi Singer, Highland Park IL; Judy Filler, Deerfield IL
1.35	4			Sue Wagershauser, Waukesha WI; Donna Billings, Slinger
1.52	5	2	1	Alexander Zaporozec - Tony Blasczyk, Madison WI
1.14	6	3		Mary Primeau - Paul Primeau, Hinsdale IL
0.85		4		Jack Sanders, Crystal Lake IL; Patrick Haverty, Woodstock
1.03		5	2	Maripat Shaw - Patricia Kornfeld, Shorewood WI
Friday Afternoon Stratified 199er (25 pairs)				
3.06	1			A Kevorkian, Barrington IL; Keith Farral, Lisle IL
2.30	2	1		Maurice Champagne, Mt Prospect IL; Joe Durlak, Evanston
1.72	3	2	1	Barbara Morgan, Park Ridge IL; Fred Johnston, Chicago IL
1.29	4	3		Mary Primeau - Paul Primeau, Hinsdale IL
0.97	5	4		Patrick Haverty, Woodstock IL; Jack Sanders, Crystal Lake
0.77	6			Loren Ameen - Marvin Zehnder, Marquette MI
1.03		5	2	Laurie Hamachek, Elgin IL; Audrey Danocup, Beloit WI
Friday Evening 199er (19 pairs)				
2.66	1	1	1	Audrey Danocup, Beloit WI; Rachel Campbell, Elgin IL
2.00	2			Earle Miller, Lisle IL; Donna Billings, Slinger WI
1.52	3	2		Maurice Champagne, Mt Prospect IL; Joe Durlak, Evanston
1.19	4	3	2	Bill Grisham - Vi Grisham, Algonquin IL
0.84	5			Loren Ameen - Marvin Zehnder, Marquette MI
0.89	6	4	3	Louis Sharp, Libertyville IL; Patricia Sharp, Libertyville
0.67		5	4	Judie Hlavka - Dee Becker, Racine WI
Saturday Morning 199er (14 pairs)				
2.26	1	1		Barbara Morgan, Park Ridge IL; Fred Johnston, Chicago IL
1.70	2			Carole Gleason, Des Plaines IL; Eleanor Langhenry, Arlington Hts
1.27	3	2		Joan Orth - Michael Orth, Clarendon Hills IL
0.95	4			Stanley Dembinsky, Wadsworth IL; Thomas Morgan, Zion IL
0.94	5	3		Keith Farral, Lisle IL; John Pruitt, Naperville IL
Saturday Afternoon 199er (30 pairs)				
3.33	1	1		Ken Prouty, ; Jonathan Fry, Oak Park IL
2.50	2	2	1	Walter Karbonik, Palantine IL; Joan Karbonik, Palatine IL
1.87	3			Mark Irwin - Donald Cherney, Skokie IL
1.41	4	3		Stanislaw Kolesnik, Dekalb; Boguslaw Humienik, Des Plns
1.05	5			Carole Gleason, Des Plns; Eleanor Langhenry, Arl Hts IL
1.05	6	4		John Pruitt, Naperville IL; Keith Farral, Lisle IL
0.79		5		Kathryn Guthrie, Winnetka IL; James Knowles, Elgin IL
0.91		6/7	2	Joan Orth - Michael Orth, Clarendon Hills IL
0.72		6/7		William Artz - Kevin Litz, Chicago IL
0.68			3	Celeste Jacklin - Ann Witt, Aurora IL
Saturday Evening 199er (21 pairs)				
2.80	1	1		William Artz - Kevin Litz, Chicago IL
2.10	2	2		Kenneth Prouty, Batavia IL; Jonathan Fry, Oak Park IL
1.58	3	3	1	Mark Nehs - Lisa Nehs, West Allis WI
1.18	4	4		Sue Holbert, Evanston IL; Janice Gerstein, Chicago IL
0.98	5			Richard Voltz, Rock Island IL; Donna Billings, Slinger WI
0.68	6	5		Jennifer Parello, Chicago; Claudia Bliss, Lake in the Hls
1.10			2	Bill Grisham - Vi Grisham, Algonquin IL
0.83			3	Walter Karbonik, Palantine IL; Joan Karbonik, Palatine IL
Sunday Morning 299er Swiss Teams (14 teams)				
3.39	1	1	1	Douglas & Amy Utter, Judie Hlavka - Dee Becker, Racine WI
2.54	2	2		Richard & Sue Edholm - Patricia & Louis Sharp, Librtylvlle
1.91	3	3		William Artz, Jeffery Smith, Colette Novich, David Kuchar, Kevin Litz, Chicago IL
1.43	4			Jonathan Fry, Evelyn Schneider, Hartland WI; Mary Herzog, Elm Grove WI; Ken Prouty
1.24	5	4		Jay Cone - Edward Soderstrom II - Jennifer Parello, Chicago IL; Brad Finger
Sunday Afternoon 299er Swiss Teams (14 teams)				
3.39	1	1		William Artz, Jeffery Smith, Colette Novich, David Kuchar - Kevin Litz, Chicago IL
2.54	2	2		Daniel Cieslik, David Reynolds, Diana Burns, Chicago IL; Walt Werner, Arl Hts IL
1.91	3	3		Susan Zlotocha, Mary Lou Findley, Susan Radichel, Hartland; Bill Heimlich
1.47	4	4	1	Jagdish & Shobha Shah, Rose Ann Donzelli, Lombard; Lynn Robinson, N Aurora IL
1.07	5			Richard & Sue Edholm - Patricia Sharp & Louis Sharp, Libertyville

Counting the Hand by Suzi Subeck

Really good bridge players are always counting. As defenders they are counting declarer's hand as well as partner's hand. As declarers they are counting each opponent's hand. Where do they start? With the auction and the play. They are constantly gathering information from what they see and hear at the table. They put it all together in their minds and come up with a reasonable picture of the total card position. Then they base their play on what they see.

The first step in becoming a card counter is to keep track of the cards as they are played. Say you are declarer and hearts are trump. What if Left Hand Opponent follows suit to four rounds of hearts and shows out on the fifth ... what do you know about his hand? You know he started the hand with four hearts and that he has nine cards outside the heart suit.

In Karen Walker's article on card counting, she says, "As declarer, there are two main techniques you can use to keep count of the cards remaining in a suit:

(1) Count up from the number of cards you and dummy hold in the suit. If you have a total of 8 cards in a suit in your hand and dummy, you would start your count at 8 and then mentally count up to 13 as the opponents play their cards in the suit. If both opponents follow to the first lead of the suit, you would count 9-10, then 11-12 on the next trick. Subtracting the last number from 13 will tell you how many cards the opponents still hold in the suit.

(2) Count down from the number of cards that are missing. With an 8-card fit, you would start your count at 5 and then mentally count down to 0. If both opponents follow to your first lead of the suit, you would count 5-4. The next number in the sequence is the number of cards the opponents still hold."

The better your memory, the better you will be at card counting. To count all the cards in all the suits in all the hands requires not only good memory but good concentration. You must work hard to remember spot cards in order to piece together an accurate picture of how the hand lies. You must watch every card as your partner plays, as well as every card as your opponents play. Signals can tell you more about a hand than just attitude. A high - low signal by a player often tells you that he holds an even number of cards in a suit, while a low - high signal shows you an odd number.

It is as important to listen to the bidding as it is to watch the play. When a player opens one of a major, for example, you learn immediately that he holds at least five cards in that major. That is an excellent start for counting out his hand. If he rebids the major during the auction, he is likely to hold at least six cards in the suit. Or, if he bids another suit after opening the major, he is known to be at least five-four in those suits, and you have discovered nine of his cards just by listening.

Counting isn't an exact science. Some of the time you are guessing how the missing cards in a suit are distributed. In addition, you must remember that your opponents are under no obligation to card honestly when it will help you more than it will help their partner.

Still, counting is a really important component of good play and defense. It is the first step in building an accurate picture of a hand.

*Make the most of
yourself ... for that is
all there is of you. --*

*Ralph Waldo
Emerson*

The District 13 I/N Newsletter, April, 2002

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Upcoming Tournaments

Minoqua-Lakeland Sectional, June 4-8, Minoqua

Rockford Regional, June 16-22, Rockford

Midsummer Madness, July 7-13, Rosemont

Green Bay Regional, August 11-14, Green Bay

From the Editor

We hope you have enjoyed this online only edition of the *I/N News... especially for you!* Since we are experimenting with the concept of some hard copy issues and some online only issues, we would greatly appreciate your feedback. You can write me or email at the above addresses. I will look forward to hearing your comments. Our reason for the online only issues is economic. The mailing and handling costs to produce the hard copy issues are really steep. If we can offer you an extra issue or two a year online, without all the expense, it is to everyone's advantage. We hope you share our enthusiasm in this. Thanks in advance for your cooperation and your feedback.

Ed.

General Tips for Better Results:

Never pass your partner's cuebid!

Never trump your partner's ace!

Never revoke! ... And when partner fails to follow suit, always inquire, "No spades, partner?" to keep him from revoking too!

Always watch where you win tricks and lead from the correct hand.

As declarer, count your tricks before you play to trick one.

Plan ahead ... it will make the whole hand easier.

Never make faces at the table ... and never shake your head!

Remember the conventions you have agreed to play and play them correctly.

We all make mistakes, but the fewer mistakes you make, the better your score will be.