

NEWSLETTER

May 2016

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WHERE ARE OUR

Alpharetta Duplicate Bridge Club

6250 Shiloh Rd. #30
Back of Building Lower Level
Alpharetta, GA 30005
Larry Rich: 770-272-2429
E-mail: info@alpharettadbc.org
Website: alpharettadbc.org

Atlanta Duplicate Bridge Center

5 Dunwoody Park South
Atlanta, GA 30338
Dan Papineau: 770-248-0306
E-mail: atlantaduplicate@bellsouth.net
Website: atlantaduplicatebridgeclub.com

Bridge Club of Atlanta

4920 Roswell Road., Suite 33
Atlanta, GA 30342
Sam Marks: 678-812-4324
E-mail: sam@sammarksbridge.com
Website: bridgeclubatlanta.com

Dan's Duplicate Atlanta North

1715 Millside Terrace
Dacula, GA 30019
Dan Osburn: 678-827-1776
E-mail: danosburn@bridgeteachers.us
Website: <https://www.facebook.com/DansDuplicateAtlantaNorth>

Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta

5 Dunwoody Park South
Atlanta, GA 30360
George Powell: 770-594-1874
E-mail: gpowell622@aol.com
Website: <http://www.dbaa.us/>

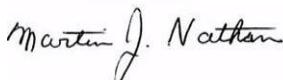
President's Letter

Here's a couple of bridge tips. Neither involves bidding, play or defense. Both might help you get more enjoyment from the game.

Let me preface this first suggestion: I hate to exercise. NBA Hall of Famer Bill Russell once said, "I love exercise. I could watch it all day." I – and many of you – couldn't agree more. But if your doctor hasn't told you yet, she'll be warning that you need to walk several times a week. Unfortunately, that sounds like exercise. But here is the solution that's worked for me. Grab a bunch of bridge friends and walk together. Get a large enough group so that when one or two can't make it, you are still out there. It actually makes exercise enjoyable. And I've learned a thing or two as well.



Suggestion two requires some history. When I started playing duplicate, I kept dropping hints with my neighbor that we ought to play some time. She with 1000+ points, me with maybe 25. She finally broke down (persistence pays!) and offered this rule the first time we played. "Whenever I play with a new partner, we agree before we start that we will play a second time." Wow! That took off all the pressure, and we did well. I've now dubbed that "Maureen Rule" and try to invoke it each time I play with a new partner. By the way, Maureen and I now have earned over 1000 master points playing together. I heartily recommend the "Maureen Rule" to you. And this being mentoring month in the DBAA, what a great time to start.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marty J. Nathan".

Marty Nathan

The real test of a bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble, but in escaping once he's in it.

Which leads to...

One advantage of bad bidding is that you get practice at playing atrocious contracts.

- both from the great mind of Alfred Sheinwold

Bridge Clubs

KSU Bridge Club

KSU Center
3333 Busbee Drive
Kennesaw, GA 30144
Janice Ripley: 770-726-9881
E-mail: bridge4jr@gmail.com

Midtown Bridge Club

First Presbyterian Church (**Wednesday**)
1328 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, GA 30309
Ansley Golf Club (**Friday**)
196 Montgomery Ferry Drive
Atlanta, GA 30309
Alvin Daigle Jr.: 770-313-5124
E-mail: midtownbridge30309@gmail.com



Bill Kulbersh

Roswell Duplicate Bridge Club

St. David's Episcopal Church
1015 Old Roswell Rd.
Roswell, GA 30076
Bill Marks: 770-855-6952
E-mail: billmarks13@gmail.com
Website: billsbridge.com

Ruff 'n Sluff Bridge Club

1809 Roswell Rd.
Marietta, GA 30062
Priscilla Smith: 770-973-7717
E-mail:
priscilla@ruffnsluffbridgeclub.com
Website: ruffnsluffbridgeclub.com

Silver Belles and Beaus

5285 Lakeside Drive
Union City, GA 30291
Bettie Harden: 770-306-3461
E-mail: travell33@gmail.com

2016 DBAA Pairs Championship

by Roz Howell



Bill Kulbersh & Bob Fendrick win the 2016 DBAA Pairs Championship!



Bill Kulbersh

This year the DBAA Board established six annual Championship Events for our Unit. The Pairs Championship at the February Sectional was won by Bill Kulbersh and Bob Fendrick who posted a 60.42% game in a very tough field. Second place finishers with 58.15% were Sam Marks and Tom Carmichael. Ron & Linda Smith finished third with a very close 58.02%. Margaret Peabody and Sanjeev Pathak won the first session and finished 5th overall.

The B Pairs Champions are Bruce Byrne and Jeff Cathrall who won overall with a 65.15% second session game. Second place finishers were Elliot Gillespie and Keith Honnold. Third place was Laura Wade and Asaka Ahmed. Ed Eller and William Edwards, Jr. finished 5th overall after winning the first session. Congrats to all the winners and thanks to all those who participated.



Bob Fendrick

The June Sectional will feature an Open three-session KO Championship. Organize your team now and plan to enter. You could be our next DBAA Champion! Please note that the tournament schedule shows 'Trophy' Knockouts". We are no longer providing individual trophies or engraved trophies for any championship event. We will be engraving brass plates for our lovely new walnut championship plaques that will be displayed in one or more area bridge clubs.

In 2017, we will add a Championship Friendship Game to our summer schedule. It is expected to be the culmination of our May, 2017 Mentor Program. Unfortunately, we were unable to get it on the schedule for this year.

Our Fall Sectional will host a two-session Open Swiss Team Championship and a NLM Swiss Team Championship. More about these events in the fall newsletter.

Godfrey's Grand Slam Bridge Benefit

May 15, 2016

Rollins School of Public Health

Supporting The Center For Spina Bifida

We are excited to present **Frank Stewart**, celebrated bridge columnist and author, as the featured guest.



Much work has been accomplished to help the cause of eliminating Spina Bifida throughout the world, but much remains to be done and you can help! Plan to attend the next Godfrey's Grand Slam Bridge Benefit. Enjoy an afternoon of bridge with speaker, Frank Stewart and support this important cause! For more information, find the flyers/registration forms at your club or contact Janet Edwards or Brenda Shavin at trumpspinabifida@gmail.com.

Jenni Carmichael Wins Big at Spring NABV

by Becky Butler

Congratulations to Jenni Carmichael and her partner Greg Humphreys of Charlottesville, VA for winning the spring NABC Mixed Pairs Event. They crushed the field with 75%, 69%, 65% and 60.51% sessions. After the first day everyone knew that 2nd place was all they could hope for. For this victory Jenni and Greg won 100 Platinum Master Points. We are proud of you Jenni. This is most impressive. Jenni not only plays good bridge, but she also is a great director at various tournaments and at Bridge Club of Atlanta.



Open Season for Hall of Fame Recommendations

by Mike Sheldon

The Hall of Fame (“HOF”) Committee has begun soliciting recommendations for membership in the DBAA Hall of Fame. **The period for submission of recommendations to the HOF Committee ends on June 30.** If you want to recommend someone for consideration, please submit a summary of your reasons to HOF Committee Chairman Mike Sheldon at mikesheldon@bellsouth.net, or to one of the HOF Committee members (Mike Sheldon, Sara Medlin, Jim Stogner) in person. Any approved inductions will be announced at the Atlanta Labor Day Regional or similar venue later this year.

The award of HOF induction is primarily intended to be recognition of achievements by the candidate in playing in ACBL sanctioned bridge events. This recognition should include accomplishments in Sectional, Regional, National, and International events. Accomplishments in club and online play may also be considered, including Sectional Tournaments at Clubs results (“STAC”), ACBL Instant Matchpoint results, McKenney and Mini-McKenney award recognition, and Ace of Clubs recognition. These achievements are intended as examples, and are by no means exclusive. Activities in and relating to the DBAA should be given particular emphasis. Significant achievement playing in ACBL bridge events shall be considered integral to this award. On the other hand, induction into the HOF is NOT to be considered a “lifetime achievement” award, and may occur at any time during or after a player’s career.

Award consideration should also include recognition of a level of service or contribution to the game of bridge within the DBAA. Other awards, such as the ACBL and Unit Goodwill Committee selection have been developed to recognize outstanding service to the game of bridge, so this factor, although given considerable importance, shall be considered a criteria secondary to bridge accomplishment for purposes of this award.

The candidate’s ethics and conduct (including both sportsmanship and general behavior) should also be given some weight in choosing a candidate.

Non-Life Master Sectional

by Priscilla Smith

Non-life masters have a great chance to earn silver points without going out of town. Our annual NLM sectional will be held May 13 - 15 at Ruff ‘n Sluff Bridge Club, 1809 Roswell Road in Marietta. Games start Friday at 1:30 and continue at 7:30; Saturday games are at 9:00, 1:30 and 7:30; Sunday starts at 10:00, followed by lunch and the second session at 2:00. You can find the complete schedule [here](#).

This sectional always has lots of snacks and a cordial atmosphere. 0-20's have their own game. Trophies are awarded to first place overall in each category.

Call 770-973-7717 if you need a partner.

Bridge Hand

He who hesitates, all is not lost, or is it?

North Deals	▲ 8
E-W Vul	♥ QJ95
	♦ AQ1096
	♠ K105
	▲ K972
	♥ 87
	♦ K7
	♠ A8732
	▲ 10654
	♥ A1032
	♦ J832
	♠ J

The auction goes:

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Dbl	1♥
2♠	3♥	3♠	Pass ¹
Pass	??		

1. All agree, long hesitation

What are your obligations? Did your brain remind you of your partners pause?

The usual answer is, "I was always going to bid." (Why didn't you?).

"I didn't want to push them to game." (You just did).

What hand could or should you have to continue?

According to The Laws of Duplicate Bridge, Law 16, you may not choose from among logical alternative actions one that may have been suggested over another.

What does this mean when you think you have choices your partner may have taken away from you?

We polled several players on what they might do. Most said pass was a logical alternative. So you must pass. If you were going to bid to the four level, do it before partner ties your hands.

Remember, all players are allowed to take the time to think when they have a problem but their partner must not take any inference. In this hand, you have already bid the full extent of the cards you were dealt.

Thanks to Carey Snider and Sara Medlin for providing this lesson on Unauthorized Information.

For more on handling Unauthorized Information, see Dan Plato's columns in earlier issues of the DBAA Newsletter.

While we're on the subject of ethical behavior, this story from Eddie Kantar is worth repeating:

Alvin Roth, a very ethical player, is defending 7NT vulnerable in a money rubber bridge game where the declarer reduces to a three card ending. Dummy has the ♠ Axx and declarer the ♠ KJ10. The lead is in declarer's hand and he leads the ♠ J. Second hand has ♠ xxx and Roth the ♠ Qxx. Second hand goes into an act trying to make declarer think he has the queen and finally plays low. Declarer, taken in by the hesitation, also plays low. Roth, holding the queen, also plays low allowing the jack to take the trick and the declarer to make 7NT. When Roth's partner asks him why he didn't take the ♠ Q, Roth says: "Because I thought you had it!"

Limited Games – Up to 500 MPs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Roswell DBC 11:00 0-500	Alpharetta DBC 12:00 0-500	Atlanta DBC 1:00 0-199 (12:30 lesson)	Ruff 'n Sluff 10:30 0-20 (10:00 lesson)	Alpharetta DBC 12:00 0-500	Bridge Club of Atlanta 12:00 0-50
	Ruff 'n Sluff 7:30 0-300 (7:00 lesson)	Bridge Club of Atlanta 12:00 0-300		Atlanta DBC 11:00 0-299	
		Ruff 'n Sluff 10:30 0-20 (10:00 lesson)		Bridge Club of Atlanta 10:00 0-50	

You can find the web pages for each club – including phone numbers, addresses and directions – starting on [page 1](#) of this newsletter or on our web page at www.dbaa.us. Just click on Club Websites on the menu along the left side of the home page.

The numbers next to the times reflect masterpoint limits. A 0-20 game would be mostly those new to duplicate while 0-500 would have more experienced but not expert players.



New Sectional Location

Next month the DBAA sectional moves to a new location. The Perimeter Marriott – walking distance from the MARTA station at Perimeter Mall – offers a wonderful playing site. Join us there, June 15 through June 19.

DBAA Game Schedule

The DBAA game is held on Wednesday nights at 7PM at the Atlanta Duplicate Bridge Center at its new Dunwoody location.

May 4	Grass Roots Fund (Double Points)
May 11	Grass Roots Fund (Double Points)
May 18	Grass Roots Fund (Double Points)
May 25	Grass Roots Fund (Double Points)
June 1	Unit Championship (Double Points)
June 8	AJB Charity (Double Points)
June 15	NO GAME (Atlanta Super Sectional)
June 22	NAP Qualifier (Triple Points)
June 29	Club Championship (Double Points)
July 6	Regular Game
July 13	NAP Qualifier (Triple Points)
July 20	Regular Game
July 27	ACBL Charity (Double Points)

Upcoming Special Games

The ACBL and the DBAA offer many special games to clubs, giving you the opportunity to maximize your masterpoints. The ACBL events often include expert hand analyses. Here is what is on tap for the upcoming three months.

Wednesday, June 1 (night)	Unit Championship
Friday, June 3 (night)	*Worldwide Bridge Contest
Saturday, June 4 (day)	*Worldwide Bridge Contest
Monday, June 6 (day)	Unit Championship
Monday, June 20 (all day)	Longest Day games for the Alzheimer's Association
Tuesday, June 21 (day)	Unit Championship
Sunday, June 26 (night)	Unit Championship
Monday, June 27 (night)	Unit Clarity Championship for ACBL Charity Foundation
Wednesday, July 6 (day)	Unit Clarity Championship for ACBL Charity Foundation
Thursday, July 7 (day)	Unit Championship
Thursday, July 14 (afternoon)	*ACBL-wide Internationals Fund Game
Tuesday, July 19 (night)	Unit Championship
Friday, July 29 (day)	Unit Championship

* Includes hand records and expert analyses

Throughout May clubs can run Grass Roots FUNd games – check your club's calendar for any it is holding. A portion of each entry fee goes to support players representing District 7 at the finals of the North American Pairs (NAP) Championships and the Grand National Teams Championships. These are the only two ACBL national events that start in clubs. They are flighted from Non-Life Master <500 points through Open.

Tournament Schedule

May 2016 – April 2017

Atlanta offers players so many opportunities to play in tournaments and earn those coveted pigmented points. Here's what's on tap for the upcoming twelve months.

Make your plans now to play in all of these tournaments!

+ May 13-15	NLM Sectional	Ruff 'n Sluff Bridge Club
+ June 15-19	DBAA Sectional	** Marriott Perimeter Center
Aug 22-28	District 7 ST@C	Your Club
Aug 30-Sept 5	Atlanta Regional	Crown Plaza Ravinia
Nov 9-13	DBAA Sectional	Marriott Perimeter Center
Dec 12-18	District 7 ST@C	Your Club
Feb 2017	DBAA Sectional	TBA

** New Location

+ Revised date

Bridge on the Web

(An Occasional Feature)

Cheating Scandal Update

The President's Letter in our November 2015 issue referred to the numerous cheating scandals at the highest levels of the game, including a link to a *Newsweek* feature article. Two more recent magazine articles have further addressed our problem, one in [The New Yorker](#), the other in [Vanity Fair](#). It's unfortunate that the non-playing world learns of our game at its worst.

Our [November President's Letter](#) also addressed what you can do about unethical behavior in clubs and tournaments. It's worth rereading.

A Great Source of Information

Want to know what Red Ribbon Pairs Qualifications means when you look up your masterpoints? What is that "Board-A-Match on the regional schedule? Why does NAP appear on my club's calendar.

You can get the answers to these questions – and many more – in the ACBL's Member Guide called "**The ACBL from A to Z**". It's just been updated and is [available here](#). While you're there, check out "**Benefits of ACBL Membership**"; I bet there are some you didn't know about.

Rules

by Dan Plato

Without a doubt the Atlanta area is blessed with many very fine Directors for club games and tournaments. Every day they are challenged to make great rulings, solve interpersonal problems, deliver culinary delights, listen empathetically about the crazy drivers who made the players late to the game... Besides an occasional “thank you, you run a great game” you can help maintain the sanity of your favorite directors with a few simple suggestions.



- Wait your turn. “I called the director! I get to speak first!” Does it *really* matter? Is that the battle you really want to fight? A good director will listen for the facts. If there are additional facts needed the Director will dig for them. If your partner or opponent has forgotten a piece of information, politely let the director know you’d like to add something to the conversation. Four people talking at once solves nothing.
- Ask for clarification. If the rectifications offered don’t make sense then ask the director to repeat your options. You’re entitled to know the full impact of a selection even if, and maybe especially when, that impact is on the opponents. Law 8C1 explains:

C. Choice after Irregularity

1. When these Laws provide an option after an irregularity, the Director shall explain all the options available.

- Do NOT take any action until the director arrives. When an irregularity occurs call the director. Don’t turn over cards that have been played, don’t change your insufficient bid, don’t make comments or share your thinking process. Remember the sage advice to criminals, “Anything you say can and will be used against you...” Your thinking process, when stated aloud, becomes Unauthorized Information and may well work against you and your partner in the final ruling. Be silent, be patient, and call the director.

[Continued on p. 11](#)

- Do. Not. Make. Your. Own. Rulings. Period. Want to make a grown director cry? Tell him all about how you had this ruling yesterday and you were sure you knew that this situation was the same and you didn't want to bother him and it was only a lead out of turn and... At this point the director is finally called to the table because four players are yelling at each other, fourteen previously played cards are exposed face-up on the table, someone is yelling about East having three penalty cards, West having two penalty cards, declarer having made a false claim, and how dare dummy call the director! Most directors I know would rather clean up four cups of spilled coffee than try to clean up a ruling made by the players. There are a couple of Laws we hate to but have to apply. Law 9C, for instance:

C. Premature Correction of an Irregularity

Any premature correction of an irregularity by the offender may subject him to a further rectification (see the lead restrictions in Law 26).

Or Law 10B:

B. Cancelation of Enforcement or Waiver of Rectification

The Director may allow or cancel any enforcement or waiver of a rectification made by the players without his instructions.

When an opponent is trying to make the ruling at your table remind yourself, does this opponent really have your best interests at heart? Trust me, you have a much better shot of getting the protection you deserve from an unbiased Director whose job it is to protect the rights of all players at the table.

Years ago there was a pretty good local player who I overheard telling his inexperienced opponents “your partner hesitated. You’re barred from the auction.” This behavior happened more than once. After a couple of warnings to this player I finally had to penalize him for saying this. Not only was he making his own ruling, he was blatantly making the wrong ruling. Who knows how many times he got away with it because those opponents chose to believe him rather than call the director.

- And finally, Directors make mistakes. They may have misheard the facts. They might have forgotten to ask a critical question. They may have gone down the wrong path and selected the wrong law to apply. It happens. Just ask yourself, how do you like to have your mistakes pointed out to you? Yelling and arguing, name-calling and threats have absolutely no place in a bridge club or at a tournament. A non-threatening “are you sure?” or “can you show me in the book?” or “can we talk about this at the break?” will invariably bring about the cooperation of the Director in solving the problem. Every director wants to get it right. Really and truly. We don’t rule “for” or “against” people – we simply apply the Law.

May is Mentoring Month

by Joan Duffy & Janice Ripley

The time is here! The DBAA is sponsoring a fun program for a Life Master to play with a Non-Life Master, preferably several times. As a token of our appreciation for LM's giving back to the game, the DBAA pays for his/her entry fee. It's a terrific way to mingle and share knowledge of the game we love. Look for the sign up sheets in all clubs or arrange your partnerships independently. You may play at any or all venues anytime during the month of May. The club owners and directors are familiar with the program and are very willing to assist. For further info, contact:

Joan Duffy, chapman.duffy44@gmail.com or
Janice Ripley, bridge4jr@gmail.com

Board Meetings

DBAA/Unit 253 Board meetings are open to all members. Come see how hard we all work to enhance your enjoyment of bridge through our various activities and programs. You might even find an opportunity to volunteer. Meetings are held Saturday mornings at Bridge Club of Atlanta from 9:30 to 11:30, unless otherwise noted. The tentative schedule for 2016 meetings is as follows:

May 21

August 27

July 9

October 15

December 10

Bridge Teachers

When Starbucks wants to sell more coffee, they open more stores. When the bridge community wants more players, we turn to our teachers. Bridge teachers are the lifeblood of the game. While they do help each of us to learn to play better, their vital role is to bring in new players. New customers are the key to any enterprise; given an average age around 70 for ACBL members, they are especially critical to the future of duplicate bridge.

We've added even more teachers to our already exceptional list of talent in the Atlanta area. Whether you are looking to raise your game to the next level or know someone who wants to join our ranks, check out the list of Atlanta teachers at www.DBAA.us.

New Members of District 7

Goodwill Committee

by Judy Fendrick



Congratulations to Helen Browdy and Janice Ripley on being selected as Unit 253's honorees for the District 7 Goodwill Committee for 2016! They were selected by the

Unit Board from a group of outstanding nominees this year. Helen and Janice each bring their own unique qualities to the game and demonstrate why goodwill makes the game fun. We appreciate all that they've done for bridge in the Atlanta area. Helen and Janice will be inducted to the committee at the Goodwill Banquet on May 27 at the Raleigh Regional Tournament. To learn more about goodwill in bridge, go to the Unit's website and click on the [Member Recognition link for Goodwill](#).



Atlanta Junior Bridge

by Patty Tucker

Summer Camps for Kids are Here!

Atlanta Junior Bridge needs your help to spread the word!
Think sons, daughters, nephews, nieces, grandkids and neighbors!

The **camps scheduled** thus far are:

June 6-10	Atlanta Duplicate Bridge Club	Dunwoody
June 6-10	Bridge Club of Atlanta	Sandy Springs
June 13-17	Atlanta Duplicate Bridge Club	Dunwoody
June 13-17	Bridge Club of Atlanta	Sandy Springs
July 11-15	Roswell (Norcross St.) Library	Roswell
July 18-22	East Roswell (Holcomb Br) Library	Roswell



More information on the existing camps and updates as new camps are formed can be found here
<http://www.atlantajuniorbridge.org/camps.htm>

Save the Date!

Atlanta Junior Bridge Youth Game
at the Atlanta Super Sectional
Saturday, June 18th at 10:00 a.m.
Atlanta Marriott Perimeter Center
246 Perimeter Center Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30346

The next Atlanta Junior Bridge Youth Game will be held at the Atlanta Super Sectional, Saturday, June 18 at 10:00am at the Atlanta Marriott Perimeter Center, 246 Perimeter Center Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30346. Call Patty Tucker or email her at patty@atlantajuniorbridge.org if you need help finding a partner.

Atlanta Junior Bridge is teaming up to fight Alzheimer's!

Our youngest players need not worry about Alzheimer's for quite awhile but they nevertheless are joining ACBL's fight against this terrible disease. From June 1 through 20, you can signup and pledge as little or as much as you can for every hand of bridge played by an Atlanta Junior Bridge youth member. All proceeds will go the Longest Day initiative. Be on the lookout for more information coming soon to your club.