

ISLANDER

The Official Newsletter of the NSBA

Volume XXXIV, Number 2 Spring 2010

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President's Message

I really like to compete, don't you? There is something about this game that makes us keep coming back for more. Of course I like to win as well as the next guy but I don't win all the time. I don't even win most of the time. But I almost always enjoy coming to the table and trying to do the best that I can. If this issue gets to you soon enough, you should consider playing in the Life Master/Non-Life Master event that kicks off our tournament on the evening of April 20. Lesley Decker Lucas always does a wonderful job coordinating it and I have seen many NLMs make the move over the years to the LM side of the table. I hope you will consider playing in that game. Please notify Lesley ASAP (see page 4).

For those of you still in the hunt for gold points to become a Life Master, make sure you check out our new Gold Point Pairs being held on Saturday, April 25 at the Spring Regional. This is an event for players with up to 750 points to compete against each other for those elusive gold points.

Speaking of competing, it won't be that long until the weather gets warmer and clubs will be holding qualifying games for the North American Pairs. Those are the games played during June, July and August which pay half-red and half-black points and which qualify players to enter District Final in the Fall. Winners in each stratum get lots of points and subsidized trips to the Spring NABC to play in the NAP event there. The date and location of the District Final is not known at the time of this writing but I know the competitors among you will check for that information at www.libridge.com and put it on your calendars.

I look forward to seeing you at the clubs and at all of the exciting events taking place both on Long Island and elsewhere. Keep competing!

Farley Mawyer

**NASSAU-SUFFOLK BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
THE LONG ISLAND SPRING REGIONAL
APRIL 20-25, 2010
at THE SHERATON LONG ISLAND HOTEL
Check Out The New Gold Point Pairs on Saturday!!**

DISTRICT 24 NEWSLETTER

By Alvin Levy, District 24 Director

<http://www.ny-bridge.com/allevy/>

I'm going to dwell on the big and the small. The big and exciting is the upcoming world championships, to be held in Philadelphia, October 1-16. Go by car, train or plane. This is a great opportunity for Long Islanders to take part in a world championship. Along with world championship events, there will be Regional events every day. When you're not playing you can watch the top players on vugraph, with shows every day. Of course, you can see some action on the Internet as well, but there is nothing like being at a world championship.

All of the nine world championship events are open to everyone and all the events are transnational, so you can play with players from other countries. The championships are the Mixed Pairs and Swiss, Open and Ladies Teams and Pairs, Senior Pairs and Teams (age 60+) and IMP pairs. Alongside this will be the World Youth Teams and Youth Individual Championships. Rounding out the events will be the 14th world computer-bridge championship, which I will be running. All entrants to any world event can attend the opening and closing ceremonies for free, while others can purchase tickets for these elaborate ceremonies. The host hotel is the Marriott Philadelphia Downtown. To get more information regarding registration and hotel accommodations, go to www.usbf.org or www.worldbridge.org.

Now for the small and boring. As a member of the World Bridge Federation Laws Committee, I would like to mention some changes related to infractions. You should know these changes just in case your partner or the opponents revoke or make an insufficient bid...infractions that you would never commit.

Under the old Laws, if a player revoked and his side did not win the revoke trick, the offending side would have to transfer back two subsequently won tricks if the offending player won a subsequent trick with a card that he could legally have played to the revoke trick. Under the new Laws, if the offending player did not win the revoke trick, only one subsequently won trick is transferred back.

Under the old Laws, to possibly avoid any penalty or restriction on partner, an insufficient bid could only be replaced by a sufficient bid that is not conventional and is the lowest sufficient bid in the same denomination. Under the new Laws, in addition to the above, if the insufficient bid is replaced with a legal call that, in the Director's opinion, has the same meaning as or a more precise meaning than the insufficient bid, the auction and play proceeds without further rectification. An example, 1D-1S-1H, if the next player doesn't accept the 1H bid, a sufficient bid of Double (negative) can be made without barring partner from the bidding. The test is to see if there is unauthorized information given by the insufficient bid. In this case, the partner of the 1H bidder doesn't know anything more about partner's hand by knowing that partner bid 1H thinking the auction had gone 1D-Pass-, so there is no unauthorized information. In some cases where there could be some slight unauthorized information, the Director may allow the auction to proceed and then review the final result. If the Director judges, at the end of play, that the result could have been different without the insufficient bid, then the Director will adjust the score. The idea is to (try to) have a normal bridge result.

Sorry to bore you, but for excitement, come to the NSBA's April 20-25 Long Island Spring Regional, and the GNYBA's May 26-31 Eastern States Regional, before going to the world championships in October.

The Islander

Volume XXXIV, Number 2 Spring 2010

EDITOR -- Mark Shaiman

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Phone: (631) 588-8292. E-mail: TheIslanderMS@gmail.com

2009 NSBA Player-of-the-Year Results

FLIGHT A (2000+ points)

1. David Paull
- 2/3. Geoffrey O'Connor
- 2/3. Ljudmila Kamenova
4. Mark Leibowitz
5. Robert Gordon
6. Lesley Decker Lucas
7. Stephen Lucas
8. Martin Feldman
9. Peter Bisgeier
- 10/11. Marvin Levine
- 10/11. Robert Frick



FLIGHT B (0-2000 points)

1. Marvin Levine
2. James Schneider
- 3/4. Elizabeth Randall
- 3/4. James Doig
5. Jack Sage
6. Robert Frick
7. David Schwartz
8. Farley Mawyer
9. Elyse Fields
10. Mark Shaiman

Player-of-the-Year is based on points won at NSBA events — the regionals, the STaC's, and the I/N tournament (when applicable). Thanks to Barry Elberg for compiling these results.



Less than 100 points

1. Peggy Burns
2. Susan Katz
3. Lisa Pomerantz
4. Richard Levin
5. Mary Tuthill
6. Jeffrey Blank
7. Myron Hirsch
8. Gair Betts
9. Joan Cowie
10. Susan Candell

**COME AND PLAY IN THE
SPRING REGIONAL KICKOFF EVENT**

****NON-LM/LIFE MASTER CHARITY
PAIR GAME****

TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010 AT 7PM

Each partnership consists of 1 Life Master
and 1 non-Life Master (who has less than 300 points).

Life Master plays free.

Arrange your own partnership or we will find a partner for you.

Pre-registration on the form below is greatly appreciated.

Tear off and mail to:

Lesley Decker Lucas

231 Baird Court

Woodbury, New York 11797

Fee: \$14 for Non-LM; LM plays free

Please send forms in by April 5, 2010.

Call Lesley at 516-364-2388 for further information.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Partner's Name _____

I am a Life Master I am a non-Life Master

I need a partner Yes No

Please do not send money -- you can pay at the tournament.

NASSAU-SUFFOLK BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

THE LONG ISLAND SPRING REGIONAL

APRIL 20-25, 2010

at THE SHERATON LONG ISLAND HOTEL

Check Out The New Gold Point Pairs on Saturday!!



Franklin



**Bridge Centre
340 Dogwood Avenue
Franklin Square, N. Y. 11010
516-481-4311**



**www.franklinbridge.com
tflbc@aol.com**



OPEN GAMES

**Mon. thru Fri
12:30
Sat. and Sun.
12:45**

EVE. GAMES

**Wednesday
7:30
Friday
8:00**

LIMITED GAME

**Tue. Thur. & Fri
10:30
Lecture 1/2 hour
before game**

Sunday **Swiss Teams the first & third
Sunday of every month at
12:30.**



**Where you will always find
good competitive games in the
most friendly atmosphere.**

(This is a paid advertisement)

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Claim With Colchamiro

By Mel Colchamiro



LI Player of the Year
2008, 2003, 2001, 1999, 1998, 1997,
1996
LI Senior Player of the Year
2008

If you get a chance, check out my new website www.melbridge.com. It's got some fun free stuff and some ugly guy hawking a new book that's got both Zia Mahmood *and* Catherine Zeta-Jones! Rumor has it, it's pretty good!

“How To Play Like An Expert”

(Without Having To Be One).

by

Mel Colchamiro

\$21.95 soft cover, 276 pp.

Available at my website or at amazon.com.

Sincere thanks to those who have taken the time to tell me how much you have enjoyed my book.

Last Train to Clarksville

Some of you may recall the hit song by that old group “The Monkees” called “*(Take the) Last Train to Clarksville*” that reached #1 on the Billboard charts in September, 1966. Somewhere along the line some unknown(to me) expert bridge player took that title and shortened it to summarize a concept concerning the last chance—because of bidding space considerations—to make a forward-going bid. Such bids have no direct relationship to the holding in the bid suit and are known in the trade as “Last Train.” I have researched it a bit, and as far as I have been able to determine, this concept has never been explained in print.

Until now.

Let me show you some of the situations where “last train” bids can apply, but before I do a note of warning: Discuss these situations with partner lest your “train” run her(him) over.

Suppose you hold the following hand...

S-KJx

H-AQxxxx

D-xx

C-Ax

...and the bidding has gone:

You	Opponent	Partner	Opponent
1H	2C	2H	3C
???			

With a 6-loser hand, we certainly want to try for game. But a bid of 3H here is purely competitive, just trying to buy the contract in 3H. Partner should not go on, even with a maximum. So instead, we need to bid a side suit where we need help. Many of you know that these bids are known as “side suit game tries.” On this hand, we would want to make a try in spades but can’t because 3S catapults us to 4H no matter what partner has; We can’t stop in 3H even if partner wants to. So the only thing left is 3D—a “Last Train” game try; And because 3D is the only suit below 3H, the try has no direct relationship to diamonds. You could have anything in diamonds, even a singleton. All partner knows is that you have interest in going to 4H. 3D was your “last chance to try for game below 3H.” Hence, “Last Train.”

Another example is after a splinter bid. For example, suppose you hold...

S-AKxx
H-KJxxx
D-xx
C-Ax

.....and the bidding has gone...

You	opponent	partner	opponent
1H	P	4C(1)	P
???			

(1) at most 1club, 4 hearts and 10-13 high card points

Because you know you have no wasted points in clubs your hand merits a (mild) slam try; but the only one below 4H is 4D. There is no room to do anything else without forcing partner to the 5-level which may prove to be too high. So a bid here of 4D says nothing about diamonds other than, “I am interested in slam.” A “Last Train” bid.

(continued on page 10)

Long Island Spring Regional April 20-25, 2010

at the *Sheraton Long Island Hotel*

110 Motor Pkwy • Smithtown, NY 11788 • 1-888-627-7144

Results posted nightly
at www.libridge.com

Room Rate: \$129, *Cutoff date: March 20, 2010* (ask for the Nassau-Suffolk Bridge rate)

DIRECTIONS: FROM THE SOUTH Take Sagtikos Pkwy to I-495 East, then follow directions "From the West."
FROM THE WEST Take I-495 to Exit 53. Take service road, and keep slightly right at fork, towards the ramp to Wicks Rd. Left at 1st light. Quick right onto Motor Pkwy. Hotel is 0.2 miles on left. **FROM THE EAST** Take I-495 to Exit 55. Take service road towards Central I slip/Motor Pkwy. Turn right onto Motor Pkwy. Hotel is 1.7 miles on right.

TUESDAY, April 20

Non LM/LM Charity Pairs (Each pair must have a LM and an under-300 player) (Red) 7 PM

WEDNESDAY, April 21

Stratified Newcomer Single-Session Pairs (0-200, Red) 10 AM & 3 PM

Early Stratified Open Pairs 10 AM & 3 PM

Stratified Open Pairs 1 & 7 PM

Limited Compact Bracketed KO Teams (0-3000, 4 players/team, 12 brds/match) 1 & 7 PM

Stratified Open Swiss Teams (Single-Session, Red) 7 PM

Stratified Side Game Series 1 (1 & 2 of 4) (Single-Session Pairs) 1 & 7 PM

THURSDAY, April 22

Stratified Newcomer Single-Session Pairs (0-200, Red) 10 AM & 3 PM

Stratified Open Pairs 10 AM & 3 PM

Stratified Open Swiss Teams (7 rds of 8 bds, 4+3) 1 & 7:30 PM

Stratified Side Game Series 1 (3 & 4 of 4) (Single-Session Pairs) 1 & 7 PM

FRIDAY, April 23

Stratified Newcomer Single-Session Pairs (0-200, Red) 10 AM & 3 PM

Bracketed Round-Robin Swiss Teams (7 rds of 7 or 8 bds) 10 AM & TBA (ends ~ 7 PM)

Teams are split into brackets by avg. masterpoints & play a round robin within their bracket.

The top bracket is a SWI SS event and is open to all teams that want to play in the top bracket.

***GOLD AWARDED IN EVERY BRACKET (In each bracket of 8 teams, 3 receive gold.)**

Stratified Open Pairs 1 & 7 PM

Stratified Side Game Series 2 (1 & 2 of 4) (Single-Session Pairs) 1 & 7 PM

SATURDAY, April 24

Weekend Special GOLD POINT PAIRS (0-100, 100-300, 300-750) 10 AM & 3 PM

Stratified Open Swiss Teams (7 rds of 8 boards) 10 AM & TBA (ends ~ 7 PM)

Stratified Open Pairs (0-3000, 3000+) 1 & 7 PM

Stratified Side Game Series 2 (3 & 4 of 4) (Single-Session Pairs) 1 & 7 PM

SUNDAY, April 25

(Lunch available during 30-minute break)

Flighted / Bracketed Round Robin Swiss (not stratified) 10:30 AM & TBA (ends ~ 6:30 PM)

Teams are split into brackets by avg. masterpoints & play a round robin within their bracket.

Open Top Flight (A/X) Swiss, A(5000+) / X(0-5000), (7 rds of 8 brds)

Bracketed Round Robin: (0-4000), teams play a round robin within their bracket (7 rds of 7 brds)

***GOLD AWARDED IN EVERY BRACKET (In each bracket of 8 teams, 3 receive gold.)**

All *Stratified Events* (unless otherwise indicated): A(2000+) B(750-2000) C(0-750, Red)

All Newcomer Events (single-session, Red): A(100-200) B(50-100) C(0-50) (if possible)

Tournament Chairman: Steve Conrad 516-365-5656 • e-mail: SRConrad@aol.com

PARTNERSHIPS ARRANGED (at the tournament only)

Gold pts: all events, except as noted.

SIDE GAME SERIES: Best 2 of 4 (*Overall gold • Session red • Different partners OK*)

SESSION FEE: \$14 ACBL, \$16 non and unpaid ACBL

FREE UNLIMITED COFFEE and TEA

EVENT DESCRIPTIONS FROM THE ACBL

GOLD POINT PAIRS

This stratified event has 3 strata. The player with the higher masterpoint holding determines the stratum in which a pair plays. All strata play each other. Players are eligible for masterpoint awards in their own or any higher stratum. In this playthrough event, the 300-750 stratum pays **GOLD** for section tops and overall. The other strata pay red points.

BRACKETED EVENTS

In these events, very popular today, teams are grouped by their average masterpoint holdings, **not** by the masterpoint holding of the highest ranked player (as is done in strat-ified events). This allows the players to compete mainly against their equals, while allow-ing for a reasonable number of contestants in each bracket.

COMPACT KO (2 Sessions) & BRACKETED KO (3-4 Sessions) TEAMS

Both of these KO (knockout) team games are bracketed (see the paragraph above this). About 25% of the players who enter will win **GOLD** points. **A team winning its first two matches gets gold points.** KO Team events can be 2, 3, or 4 sessions long. A **COMPACT KO** team event lasts only 2 sessions, and teams play two 12-board matches each session.

BRACKETED ROUND ROBIN SWISS TEAMS

In this event, roughly **35% of the players get GOLD points!** Teams are grouped by average masterpoint holdings, **not** by the highest ranked player's holdings (as done in stratified events). Below the top, the 8 teams in each bracket play only against other teams in that bracket. This playthrough event is not a knockout. In an 8-team bracket, each team plays once against every other team in its bracket. This is called a complete round-robin within a bracket. In the **highest** bracket, there may be more than 8 teams. *The highest bracket, **open to ANY team**, is played as a traditional Swiss Team event.*

STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS & STRATIFIED OPEN SWISS TEAMS

These events usually have three mutually exclusive strata. For a pair or team, the play-er with the highest masterpoint holding determines the stratum in which they play. In these events, all strata play against each other. Players are eligible for masterpoint awards in their own or a higher stratum. All stratified events are playthrough. Only the top two strata pay **GOLD** points. The C stratum pays red points.

SIDE GAME SERIES

These are single-session red point stratified pairs games. For those who play more than one session of the same series, a bonus is: **GOLD points are given to individuals, not partnerships, with the best performance in any two single sessions of the same series.** For gold point "bonus" purposes, the event is NOT stratified. Also, any player who earns a **stratum A** section top will receive **GOLD** points for the section top as long as that player plays at least two sessions in the same series.

Claim with Colchamiro (continued from page 7)

How do you feel about this situation? You hold:

S-J10x

H-xxxx

D-xx

C-AQxx

Partner opens 1S and you raise to 2S. Partner now tries for game with 3D. Since partner had choices of which side suit to try in, this shows length in diamonds, needing help—maybe Kxxx. So how do you feel?

In my book “How You Can Play Like An Expert,” I suggest that in these situations responder should look at the help suit—in this case diamonds—and if you have 1 loser in diamonds by Loser Count you bid 4S no matter how weak your hand; with 3 losers by Loser Count you sign off in 3S no matter how strong your hand and with 2 Loser Count losers in diamonds you use your judgment.

That’s the situation we have here. We’re in the middle. We have 8 HCP the mid-point of our promised 6-10; We have 2 Loser-Count losers in diamonds—a so-so holding; our connected AQ in clubs are good and the J10 of trump may prove quite useful. So, do you bid an aggressive 4S or a conservative 3S? Well, how about a compromise: 3H—a “Last Train” bid because it’s the only suit below 3S that’s left. It says nothing about hearts, just that you too are interested in going to 4S, but not quite sure what to do. We give partner another chance to reconsider.

All aboard!

NOTICE TO BRIDGE TEACHERS

Please check the Teacher’s Corner at LIBridge.com for a list of job openings.

The NSBA has started LI Bridge for Youth, an effort to promote teaching bridge to young people. If you are interested, contact Carol Mathews at 631-360-8456.

ATTENTION: INTERMEDIATES AND NEWCOMERS! SPRING REGIONAL EVENTS JUST FOR YOU!

What are you doing from April 20-25, 2010?

What did you say? You have consulted your social calendar and you have no plans? Not to worry....

I have a suggestion for you!

Come and play in the I/N (that's Intermediate/Newcomer games) at our Spring Regional at the Sheraton Long Island Hotel from April 20-25.

What did you say now? A tournament is only for the experienced player. Not so! Really...would I kid you? The tournament includes lots of events especially for our newer players. These stress-free games are limited to those players with fewer than 200 masterpoints.

There will be a registration gift and lots of goodies.

Trust me....this is the place to be this spring. All the cool people will be there!



The I/N player who has won the most masterpoints playing in newcomer events during the tournament will be the recipient of our I/N trophy. It could be you! And at this tournament - newcomers are invited to participate in our popular BRACKETED ROUND-ROBIN SWISS TEAM EVENT. This means that your team will be playing against opponents who have similar masterpoint totals to you - and that you could even win GOLD points in this event. No kidding!

And Saturday is a special chance to earn GOLD Points! See pages 8-9 for details.

Make your plans now to play with your favorite partner.

Tuesday, April 20	7 PM	Non LM/LM Pairs
Wednesday, April 21	10 AM & 3 PM	Single Session Pairs
Thursday, April 22	10 AM & 3 PM	Single Session Pairs
Friday, April 23	10 AM & 3 PM	Single Session Pairs
Friday, April 23	10 AM & TBA	Bracketed RR Swiss
Saturday, April 24	10 AM & 3 PM	GOLD POINT Pairs!!
Sunday, April 25	10 AM & TBA	Bracketed RR Swiss

For information and encouragement: call Susan Scholer,
I/N co-ordinator at 631-360-8456.

You can do this tournament! See you in April!

2009 NSBA Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs Winners

Mini-McKenney

(Points won at tournaments and clubs)

0-5	Arnold Fox
5-20	Paula Morse
20-50	Bobby Madorsky
50-100	Susan Toporovsky
100-200	Susan Denenholz
200-300	Barbara Cooper
300-500	Rick Blume
500-1000	Farley Mawyer
1000-2500	Leslie Sarf
2500-5000	Ljudmila Kamenova
5000-7500	David Paull
7500-10,000	Valentin Kovachev
10,000+	Mel Colchamiro



Ace of Clubs

(Points won at clubs)

0-5	Arnold Fox
5-20	Paula Morse
20-50	Bobby Madorsky
50-100	Susan Toporovsky
100-200	Jan Frey
200-300	Barbara Cooper
300-500	Rick Blume
500-1000	Farley Mawyer
1000-2500	Leslie Sarf
2500-5000	Louis Lessinger
5000-7500	David Paull
7500-10,000	Ruth Stober
10,000+	Harry Stappenbeck



MILESTONES

The ACBL Ranks:

Rookie: less than 5 masterpoints (mp)

Junior Master: 5+ mp

Club Master: 20+ mp

Sectional Master: 50+ mp, of which 5 are silver

Regional Master: 100+ mp, including 15 silver and 5 red or gold points

NABC Master: 200+ mp, including 50 pigmented points of which 5 must be gold, 15 must be red or gold, and 25 must be silver

Life Master: 300+ mp, including 100 pigmented points of which 25 must be gold, 25 must be red or gold, and 50 must be silver; **Bronze:** LM w/500+ mps; **Silver:** LM w/1000+ mps; **Gold:** LM w/2500+ mps, **Diamond:** LM w/5000+ mps, **Emerald:** 7500+ mps,

Platinum: 10,000+ w/o a National Title, **Grand:** LM with 10,000+ mps with a National Title

Jeri Rueben
Dominique Schneider
Miriam Silverman
Burt Simon
Helen Solomon
Gail Sussman
Linda Wels

New Club Masters

Judy Anthony
Denis Bagle
Richard Cohen
Henry Conston
Lester Davidoff
Richard Ericson
John Fiorillo
Marie Fiorillo
Marilyn Irwin
Polly Johnson
Sandra Jones
Carol Kamp
David Kirschenbaum
Carol Leinwand
Rosemarie Luttinger
Diana Maniscalco
Michael Maniscalco
Ling Maris
Grace Middlemiss
Safwat Mosad
Suzanne Nussbaum
Dale Peritz
Karen Vincenzini
Marjorie Schwed
Sheila Silver
Majorie Tamaro
Yalcin Tarhan
Lorna Verdone

New Gold Life Masters

Irving Davis

New Silver Life Masters

Martin Brownstein
Robert Frick
Leila Schwartz

New Bronze Life Masters

Maita Blume
Albert Cowen
Barbara Deutsch
Allen Greenbaum
Loretta Koenig
Joan Levy
Marvin Meyerson
Marilyn Ritter
Barbara Spilker
Natalie Treanor
Barry Wilderman

Phyllis Gladstone
Rhoda Haimson
Alexandra Howard
Loretta Koenig
Joan Levy
Gloria Marmor
Marvin Meyerson
Marilyn Ritter
Ketan Shevde
Jocelyn Simon
Barbara Spilker

New NABC Masters

Larry Eulner
Jan Frey
Burton Goodman
Roy Goodman
Barbara Ostrick
Steven Perrin
Judy Pressner
Florence Rubin
Padma Soma
Claire Stiepelman
Paulette Valenza

New Regional Masters

Richard Arluck
Bart Cirker
Howard Eisenman

Joan Fruchter
Mona Graber
Roberta Gross
Brew Grunther
John Hanlon
Alan Hyman
Caroline Lesser
Jane Morley
Ted Reich
Terry Sullivan
Pravin Vadhan
Silvana Zangri
Dorothy Zeitlin

New Sectional Masters

Susan Arlen
Nancy Baltimore
Turan Genc
Stanley Gerard
Leslie Giffords
Martin Haberman
Patricia Hurleigh
Debra Katz
Joan Kempf
Kathaleen Lang
Donna Launer
Melanie Luftig
Rosellen Mensch
Helen Rappaport
Rose Reede

New Life Masters

Maita Blume
Albert Cowen
Barry Fleischman

(continued on page 14)

Milestones

(continued from page 13)

New Junior Masters

- Ellen Belsky
- Geri Boxer
- Eileen Brod
- Michael Brod
- Diana Browner
- Nadine Eltman
- Phyllis Feldman
- Sandra Gray
- Stuart Gray
- Harold Grill
- Carolyn Haley
- Natalie Hecht
- Phillip Hecht
- Abby Heyligers
- Evelyn Iagrossi
- Marlene Israel
- Linda Karp
- Merle Levy
- Safwat Mosad
- Tina Oms
- Helene Orlando
- Michelle Roberts
- Bernard Schenck
- Phyllis Schenck
- Randi Shea
- Robert Silver
- Francine Soltz
- Rita Winter

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING (OR VERY LITTLE)

(continued from last issue)

by **Frank Anshen**

3) 4 SPADES AS BLACKWOOD

While the first two treatments (see previous issue) are relatively well-known (there are places to mark them on the official ACBL convention card), there is another I would like to offer for your consideration which is relatively obscure. Several expert partnerships, (and possibly some inexpert ones who don't make the bridge columns) use 4S as Blackwood, in cases where 4S would not be natural. Thus the bidding goes 1H-3H-4S, or 1H - 2D - 3C - 4C - 4S, whatever meaning the 4S (I think most would consider it a splinter in both sequences) has in your system, it is clearly not an offer to play in 4S. If we let 4N mean whatever 4S meant and 4S be Blackwood, it is hard to see any cost and the advantage is obvious, especially in the latter case: you have one more step to show your keycards: 4N is 0 or 3 keycards (or 1 or 4, if you attend the Church of the 1430), 5C is 1 or 4, etc. You can now check that you have enough key cards to play slam with less worry about partner's response forcing you into an unmakeable slam. In the first case, you will often have room to check for the heart Q without committing to slam.

Now comes the place where I fess up. The treatments suggested above are not really cost free. In bridge terms they are as near to cost free as to make no difference, surely they cost less than Stayman, Blackwood, Jacoby transfers, forcing NT or any number of other popular conventions. However, there is a personal cost: you must learn something new and, worse, you must convince your partner to try something new. And you must be prepared for a learning curve. Once in a while, in the beginning, you (or your partner) will be happily playing on automatic pilot and play the old way. On these occasions, partner always remembers the new way and disaster strikes. Not only must you accept that this is going to happen, hopefully very few times before you learn, but not let it affect your game or your rapport with your partner. After all, isn't something for nothing worth a small price?

MOVING?

Staying in the Unit: If you are moving to another location but staying on Long Island, please contact the ACBL directly at 901-332-5586, ext. 1234 or ext. 5586, or e-mail them at Addresschange@ACBL.org. The Islander receives its mailing list directly from the ACBL so your address change should be filed directly with them, not with us. We have no ability or authorization to change your address.

Snowbirds: File your new address directly with the ACBL at the above listed contacts. But please make sure to tell them that you want to remain listed as a permanent Unit 242 member! The NSBA receives funds from the ACBL according to the numbers of our membership. Be counted for us!

LONG ISLAND MASTER CLUB SCHEDULE

	Vanderbilt 516-328-9704 2500 Marcus Ave Lake Success Diana Schuld	FrankLin 516-481-4311 340 Dogwood Ave Franklin Square Lin Fisher	110 631-454-6775 135 Spagnoli Road Melville Irma Korenstein	Smithtown 631-360-8456 22 Lawrence Ave Smithtown Sue Scholer, Carol Mathews
Monday	12:30 pm	12:30 pm	10:30 am 7:30 pm	10:30 am
Tuesday	9:45 am Open 12:30 pm	10:30 am Limited 12:30 pm	10:30 am 7:30 pm	10:00 EZ Bridge
Wednesday	9:30 am 0-1000 12:30pm & 7:00 pm	12:30 pm 7:30 pm	10:30 am Open 7:30 pm Bridge +	10:30 am Handicap 7:00 pm Bridge +
Thursday	12:30 pm	10:30 am Limited 12:30 pm Open	10:30 am	7:00 pm
Friday	9:00am newplicate 12:30 pm open	10:30 am Limited 12:30 & 8:00 pm Open	10:30 am 7:30 pm	10:30 am 7:00 pm
Saturday	1:00 pm	12:45 pm	1:00 pm	12:00 pm Lesson 12:30 pm game
Sunday	1:00 pm	12:45 pm 12:30 Swiss - 1st & 3rd Sundays		12:30 pm

OTHER SANCTIONED GAMES

Great Neck BC Cumberland Ave School 30 Cumberland Ave Great Neck 516-248-6191 Rob Goldman Fri 9:15 am	Bridge School of LI 123 Merrick Ave, Merrick 516-379-3000 Michael Kufs Mon 10 am & 7:30 pm Thur 10:00 am All Open and non-smoking	Eastern Suffolk BC Hampton Bays Sr Ctr 25 Ponquoge Ave Hampton Bays 631-728-9372 Pat Allen Mon 7:15 Open (Reservation Required)	Garden City BC DBC Senior Rec Center Golf Club Lane Garden City 516-781-4651 Ellen Davidoff Thur 7:30 pm	Gardiners Bay BC Gardiners Bay CC Shelter Island 631-749-2021 Lillian Kessler (summers only)
Sands' Point BC Manhasset Bay Yacht Club, 455 Main St 516-747-5461 Ann Schwartz Tues 7:15 pm	Mattituck Library DBC Main Rd Mattituck 631-734-8096 Kathy Fibkins Tues 12:00 pm	Montauk BC St Luke's Church East Hampton 631-267-6378 Duke Morrell Mon 7:30 pm Wed 1:00 pm	Plandome BC Our Lady of Grace 29 Shelter Rock Road Manhasset 516-883-9248 Jo Ann Damato Tues 7:15 pm	Riverhead BC Riverhead Com Ctr Jamesport Thur 12:30 pm & Quogue VFW Hall Fri 12:30 Sun 12:30 631-790-1331 Richard Baumer
Emmanuel BC Hicks Lane, Kings Point 516-747-5461 Ann Schwartz Mon 7:15 pm	Water Mill Bridge Club 160 Main St Southampton 631-726-4540 Kathleen McLaughlen Tues 12:30 pm	South Shore BC 9 Northwood Lane Patchogue 631-654-5313 Pat Mahoney Thurs 11:00 am Sun 12:30 pm	Jack & Carol's Bridge Friedberg JCC 15 Nell Ct, Oceanside Jack Fleissig Fri 9:30 am Lesson & Game	Grumman DBC 110 Bridge Club 135 Spagnoli Rd Melville 631-790-1331 Richard Baumer Thur 6:00 pm
East Hampton DBC 1st Presb. Church 120 Main St, E Hampton 631-329-2411 Rose DeLeonardis Thur 7:30 pm	Temple Judea BC 333 Searingtown Rd Manhasset Mon 12:30 pm Lyn Weiss 718-279-1005 ----- Thur 10:00 am Shelley Ganz 516-621-8049		Sterling Glen BC 146 Glen St Glen Cove 516-671-2095 Meyer Wiesen Tues 7:15 pm	

NSBA 2010 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Unit Party	Sheraton LI Hotel	March 28
LM/NLM Game	Sheraton LI Hotel	April 20
Spring Regional	Sheraton LI Hotel	April 20-25
STaC	Local Clubs	June 7-13
I/N Tournament	TBA	August

**For Up-To-Date Information About Bridge On Long Island, Go To:
WWW.LIBRIDGE.COM**

Nassau-Suffolk Bridge Association
The Islander
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