

2016 - 2017 Cup Races

Thru February 1

Jack Self

Like the previous month, January has been a productive month for several of our members in the cup races. With lots of extra masterpoints awarded during the Junior Fund games, there are several new entries in the top ten lists as well as considerable jockeying for position.

In the **Sol Lourie Open** Mohan Ball continues to steamroll ahead in first place widening his lead over second place Hap Neuffer by just over 54 masterpoints. Bob Webb, Pat Webb, and Jay Shahani are all in a tight race for 3rd, 4th, and 5th places just 2 1/2 points and a half separating the three of them. Alice Moore is comfortably retaining her sixth place ranking while Al Kirkland is a distant seventh. Harold Moore claims the eighth spot while Mary Townhill joins the top ten list this month checking in at number nine. Ken Fasching is right behind Mary rounding out the top ten.

In the **Henry Mills Under 2000** category the ten who made up last month list are the same ten who make up this month's list but there is considerable movement among them. Al Kirkland is racing ahead of the rest of the field to once again claim the top spot leading second place Jack Wilkinson by just over 31 masterpoints. Scott McPherson and Carolyn Cromer are locked in a tight battle for the third and fourth places with just over a half masterpoint separating the two. Mike Bitonti and Francis Robinson are also dueling for fifth and sixth place with less than a half point between them. The last four places are held by Bernetha Henry, Bill Charlwood, Jack Self, and Helen Young with only a one masterpoint difference between them.

In the **Coleman-Farrell Non-Life Master** race, the top ten masterpoint holders from both December and January remain in the top ten for February but there is some movement within the listing. Helen Young continues her lead over second place Kenyon Stevenson who trails by over six points, but Dot Jones has surged ahead to claim third place just 2 1/2 points back. Janet Sheridan, Kathy Kimmerling, Mary Frame, and Karen Faulkenberry are bunched up together in the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh slots all within a point of each other. Myra Jaynes has moved up to eighth place, while Brenda Isbell and Shelby King round out the top ten.

In the **Centurion** category, Brenda Isbell has overtaken Myra Jaynes to claim the top spot this month leading Myra by almost six masterpoints. Olivia Smith, Sue Kline, Charles Williams, and Doug Rice all hang on to their respective third through sixth slots, while Jerry Isbell joins this month's top ten list at number seven. Craig Lemrow, Glenn Mitchell, and Rob McCordle trail Jerry to complete the top ten.

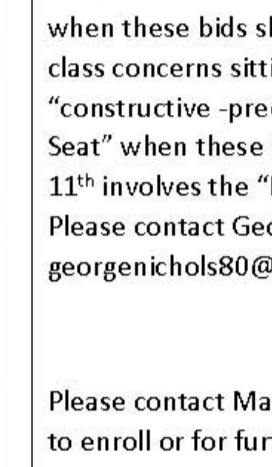
February is a short month but there are still plenty of extra matchpoint games so there is still time to put in your bid to join the top ten in your category. So grab your favorite partner and head to the table.

FEBRUARY 2017

	(Open)	Henry Mills	(Under 2000)	Coleman-Farrell	(Non-LM)	Centurion	(Under 1000)
Sol Lourie	218.87	Al Kirkland	116.87	Helen Young	61.13	Brenda Isbell	42.86
Mohan Ball	164.08	Jack Wilkinson	85.70	Kenyon Stevenson	54.53	Myra Jaynes	36.95
Hap Neuffer	152.12	Scott McPherson	78.98	Dot Jones	51.71	Olivia Smith	33.43
Bob Webb	150.72	Carolyn Cromer	78.35	Janet Sheridan	47.78	Sue Kline	27.43
Pat Webb	150.63	Michael Bitonti	68.72	Kathy Kimmerling	47.11	Doug Rice	21.10
Jay Shahani	146.48	Francis Robinson	66.24	Mary Frame	46.46	Charles Williams	20.22
Alice Moore	116.87	Bernetha Henry	62.32	Karen Faulkenberry	46.12	Jerry Isbell	17.98
Al Kirkland	100.86	Bill Charlwood	61.75	Brenda Isbell	42.86	Craig Lemrow	17.34
Harold Moore	98.46	Jack Self	61.50	Shelby King	41.34	Glenn Mitchell	16.50
Mary Townhill	95.69	Helen Young	61.13	Myra Jaynes	36.95	Robert McCordle	15.82
Ken Fasching							

PALMETTO STATE WINTER SECTIONAL

February 17 - 19, 2017



The Sectional tournament will be held this weekend, Feb 17 - 19th at TriCity Leisure Center.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided all three days. Lauren Alexander is chairing the breakfast. Chris and I will be serving hotdogs with fixings, chips, and a salad on Friday. Saturday we will serve grilled hamburgers, chips, and salad. We will have a vegetarian option both days. Sunday lunch will be catered by Zoe's. We will have dessert and snacks throughout the tournament.

We are asking for volunteers to assist in the purchase of the food and supplies. Donations of any amount are welcomed and can be provided to the Club Treasurer, Pat Webb or any of the game directors. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

We are asking for volunteers to help set-up tables and chairs Friday morning, Feb.17. We will begin set-up around 8:30am.

We wish to thank all the generous members of the Columbia Bridge Club who have given their time and money to make this a successful tournament. Most of all, we need members to come play and support the tournament.

See you there!

Lee Webb

CBC Renovation Project



The building construction is progressing nicely. The metal framework is almost complete. Openings were added to the wall in the kitchen to house "cubbies" for placing items when entering the club.

The rough walk inspection was Thursday which went well. Insulation will begin this week, followed by hanging, finishing, and painting the drywall. The ceiling will start the week after and should take approximately 2 weeks depending on inspection. We hope to be done by the end of March.

Lee Webb CBC President

GNT SECOND QUALIFIER - MARCH 11

Two Session Event - 10:00 AM

GNT THIRD QUALIFIER - MARCH 24

One Session - 12:30 PM

Grand National Teams

Columbia Bridge Club
77 Brighton Hill Road
Columbia, SC
www.columbia-bridge-club.org

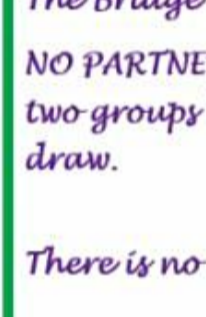
QUALIFICATION CLUB LEVEL

ALL FLIGHTS — CHAMPIONSHIP (Open to all)
FLIGHT A to 2500
FLIGHT B to 6000
FLIGHT C to 500 NLM

Saturday, January 28 th	10:00 AM	Two Sessions
Saturday, March 11 th	10:00 AM	Two Sessions

BRING A SANDWICH
FREE Beverages and dessert

Contact:
Dode De Fiori (803) 738-0725
Brent Holcomb (803) 772-6919



Congratulations!

Masterpoint Milestones

Regional Master (100+ MP)

Olivia Smith

Junior Master (5+MP)

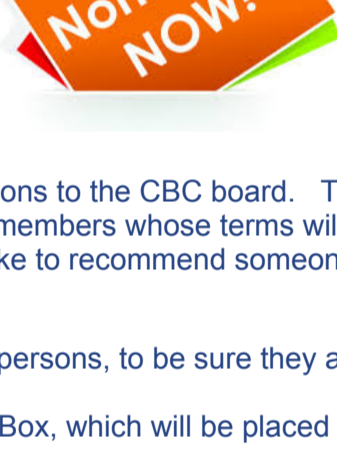
Carole Baloun

Gregory Baloun

Sarah Bannister

Ely Winter

Call for Nominations



It's that time of year again, elections to the CBC board. This year we have two three-year positions to fill to replace board members whose terms will be up May 31; Scott Dunn and Carolyn Cromer. If you would like to recommend someone to serve on the CBC board, these steps are required:

- Check with the person or persons, to be sure they are willing to fill a three-year position.
- Look for the Nominations Box, which will be placed on or near the Directors' desk at the Club.
- Write the candidates' names on a slip of paper, sign your name and place paper in the box. Unsigned petitions will not be considered.

The annual General Meeting to vote will be on Monday, May 15th at 6:00 PM.

Your Nominating Committee:

Frazer McCrorey, Chair

Sallie Blackwell and Robert McCordle.

Learn Bridge in a Day

Coming to Columbia Regional

Can you Learn Bridge in A Day?®

Yes!

Whether you are a beginner or returning to bridge, it's the perfect place to start.

Come with a friend — or make new ones!
See why bridge is the world's most popular card game.

Date: Wednesday, August 2, 2017
Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Double Tree - Columbia
2100 Bush River Road
Columbia, SC 29210
Cost: \$25 includes class materials and a light lunch
Please Preregister (see below)

Registration: Website: www.columbia-bridge-club.org
Questions: Email: cbc.news.sc@gmail.com
or call Kathy at (734) 476-4046 All Ages Welcome!



Patty Tucker - the creator of Learn Bridge in a Day is coming to our regional to teach this session! Ms. Tucker is being supported by the ACBL and the CBC has applied for additional grants to make this happen.

We will need help from the members of the CBC to make this a success:

Fliers and Postcards will be available to distribute to potential students. Please post in churches, neighborhood newsletters, Facebook, etc. This session is for true beginners as well as those coming back to the game. All ages are welcome!

Helpers will be needed at the session - more info to follow on this.

Registration for the session is on the CBC webpage - we need to have a minimum number of students registered 60 days out for ACBL to support this session.

If you have any questions or suggestions for how to make this a success - please contact Kathy Kimmerling or Lee Webb.

Upcoming Special Games and Area Tournaments

Special Games at the CBC

Feb 16	Individual Game (7:00 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed
Feb 17 - 19	Palmetto State Winter Sectional Tournament at Tri City (CBC Closed)
Feb 23	Hi-Low Game (12:30 PM) Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
Feb 26	CBC CLOSED
Feb 27	MARDI GRAS Party (5:30 PM) - Hi/Lo Random Draw game (7:00 PM)
Mar 2	Eight is Enough Team Game (7:00 PM)
Mar 5	CBC CLOSED
Mar 9	Mentor/Mentee (12:30 PM) NO Open Pairs game
Mar 11	Eight is Enough Team Game (7:00 PM) (Green Theme)
Mar 19	Grand National Team - 2 sessions (10:00 AM & TBA) NO Open Pairs game
Mar 12	CBC CLOSED
Mar 16	Individual Game (7:00 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed
Mar 18	Youth Bridge Game (9:30 AM)
Mar 18	Birthday Party (12:30 PM) Open Pairs
Mar 19	CBC CLOSED
Mar 23	Hi-Low Game (12:30 PM) Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
Mar 24	Grand National Team - 1 session (12:30 PM) NO 0-1000 or Open Pairs
Mar 26	Individual Game (1:30 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed

Area Sectional and Regional Tournaments

February 17 - 19	Palmetto State Winter Sectional (West Columbia)
February 20 - 26	Asheville Regional
March 3 - 5	Charleston Swamp Fox Sectional
March 24 - 26	Hilton Head Island Pinecone Sectional

Click on Tournament to download flyer

Strictly for Beginners

by Jack Self

Suppose you open 1NT and your partner raises you to 3NT. Then your right hand opponent leads the J♣. Here is what you see.

Dummy: ♠ 865 ♥ 974 ♦ AKQ73 ♣ 75

You: ♠ AQ43 ♥ AK6 ♠ 54 ♣ A923

Now put what you have learned from all the bridge classes you have taken to good use and stop and make a plan. First count your tricks. How many do you have for sure? The answer is, of course, 8 tricks. You have two spades, two hearts, three diamonds, and one club. How many more tricks do you need? Of course, you need one more. Where is the most likely place you can get an extra trick? Clearly, it is in diamonds. How do you play to make an extra diamond trick?

Stop right now before you read on and make up your mind what cards you are going to play for the next trick. Do not read ahead until you have made up your mind. (I will give you a hint: Since you and dummy have seven cards in diamonds, the opponents have six between them).

Did you play the ♠A planning to play the King and Queen hoping that the opponent's six diamonds split 3-3? If so, you are probably going down in this contract. Whenever the opponents have six cards in a suit, they are going to split 3-3 approximately one-third of the time, and 4-2 about half of the time (and about 15% of the time they are going to be 5-1 or 6-0).

So you should plan on them splitting 4-2 since that is the most likely distribution. If you play the Ace, King, and Queen, then one of the opponents now has a good diamond. You can go ahead and let him have it but you have no entry in dummy to get back to your good diamond.

The best play is to play a small diamond from your hand and then a small one from dummy. Let the opponents have their diamond trick right away. Then win whatever they return and lead your remaining diamond and play the Ace, King, and Queen. If the diamonds split 4-2, you last diamond in dummy will be good and you will make 9 tricks.

Play Along with Jack

By Jack Self

You are playing in your first tournament and, as luck would have it, the first round is against two top ranked players. On the first board you and your partner bid your way to 4 Spades on the following hands with the following auction.

Partner: ♠ A J 10 7 2

♥ 7 5

♦ K Q J 5

♣ A K 2

You: ♠ K 6 5 3

♥ 9 8

♦ 10 6 4

♣ 7 6 3

LHO Partner RHO You

Pass Double Pass Pass

Pass 4 Spades Pass Pass

LHO leads the ♥A and then a low heart to his partners King. Now RHO switches to the ♠Q which you win in dummy with the Ace. You have already lost two tricks and are going to lose the ♠A no matter what. So you have to avoid losing a spade trick to the ♠Q. So how do you play the spades? Do you play the Ace and King and hope the Queen drops or do you finesse? And, if you finesse, which opponent do you finesse and why? Go ahead and decide before you read any further, and, as I tell my students, give a reason for your answer.

What you SHOULD NOT do: Do not recite the old rule "Eight ever, nine never" and play the Ace and King hoping the Queen will drop (That works only about half the time). Do not say to yourself, "East opened the bidding so he probably has the Queen (East could easily have opening points without the ♠Q). Do not say to yourself "East has 5 hearts so he is more likely to be short in spades, so I will finesse West for the ♠Q.

What you should do first: Ask yourself, "Do I have any clues at all as to who has the ♥Q (The answer to that question is "Yes, you do.")

What You SHOULD do: RHO must have the ♠Q in this hand. Remember what LHO did during the auction? He passed, and passed, and passed. Yet he did have the ♥A (he led it). If he had the ♠Q also, he would have had 6 points, enough to respond to his partner's opening bid! So he cannot have it and, thus, RHO must have it. So lead a spade to the Ace and return the Jack and finesse RHO right out of his Queen.

...at the Columbia Bridge Club.... Late March or early April....

more details to follow....

Have a comment or an article you would like to submit? Reply to this email or send to cbc.news.sc@gmail.com. This is your Club newsletter and all suggestions or submissions for future articles are welcome! Please submit articles by the 5th of the month. All articles are subject to editorial approval and edit.

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