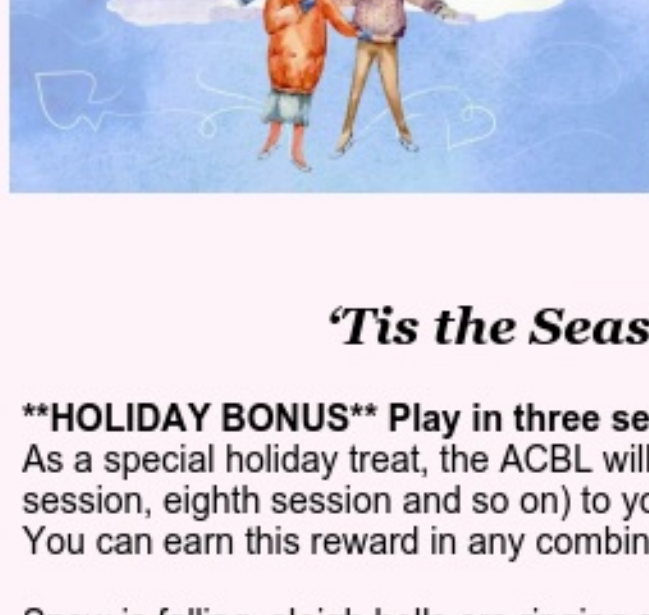


CBC NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2020



Winter Wonderland ACBL TOURNAMENT

'Tis the season for gold points
December 17-20

[Click for more information](#)

'Tis the Season for Gold Points!

****HOLIDAY BONUS** Play in three sessions and get the fourth session free!**

As a special holiday treat, the ACBL will refund every fourth session entry fee (ex., fourth session, eighth session and so on) to your Bridge Base Online account the following week. You can earn this reward in any combination of one- and two-session events.

Snow is falling, sleigh bells are ringing and gold masterpoints® are waiting for you in the next regionally rated tournament – Winter Wonderland (Thurs.-Sun., Dec. 17-20).

NEW - CBC Virtual Game Schedule

Effective January 1, 2021

Monday	12:55 PM 0-500 Pairs 1:05 PM Open Pairs
Tuesday	1:05 PM Hi-Lo Pairs 1& 3 weeks Partnership +/- 500 - Stratified by Average
Wednesday	12:55 PM 0-300 Pairs 1:05 PM Open Pairs
Thursday	12:55 PM 0-300 Pairs 1:05 PM Open Pairs
Friday	1:05 PM Open Pairs
Saturday	Special Games Only - Check Calendar
Sunday	1:05 PM Open Pairs

Every Online Bridge Player Needs to Read This

By Jack Self

It has become obvious to me, both as a game director and as a player, that many people apparently do not know how to handle bids that need to be ALERTED and announcements playing on BridgeBaseOnline (BBO).

So, let's make this simple:

1) If you make a bid that that requires that ALERT, YOU have to alert it yourself - NOT your partner, YOU do. Before you click on your bid, you click on the ALERT button, and type in an explanation of your bid, THEN you click on your bid. A small window will pop up on your opponents' screens with your explanations. Your partner will not see the alert.

2) If you make a bid that requires an announcement, you treat it like an alert. You click on the alert button, type in a brief explanation, and then make your bid. That small window will pop up on your opponents' screen with your explanation. Again, your partner will not see the announcement.

Please - make sure you understand that YOU (the person who is making the bid) must alert your own bid. Partner will not alert for you.

So, let's look at some examples

You pass first round, and your partner opens in third seat with 1♠. The next player passes and you make a 2♣ Drury bid. You MUST ALERT that bid YOURSELF and type in an explanation. It is improper for partner to alert.

Your partner opens 1♥ and you bid 1NT, which is FORCING. You MUST ALERT that 1NT is forcing. (It is really an announcement rather than an alert, but you treat it the same way).

You open 2♦, showing a balanced 18 or 19 HCP. You MUST ALERT that bid YOURSELF and type in an explanation.

You open 1NT. You MUST ALERT that the range is 15 – 17 HCP (or whatever range you play). Again, it is really an announcement but you treat it as an alert.

By the way, DO NOT ALERT using the chat box. That is improper and could lead to an adjusted score by the Director.

Okay, you got it now? Let's take a quiz to see.

Question: Who alerts YOUR bids?

Answer: YOU do.

Question: Who alerts your partner's bids?

Answer: He (or she) does.

Question: How do I announce No Trump ranges and Forcing No Trumps?

Answer: Treat it like an alert - just type on the line.

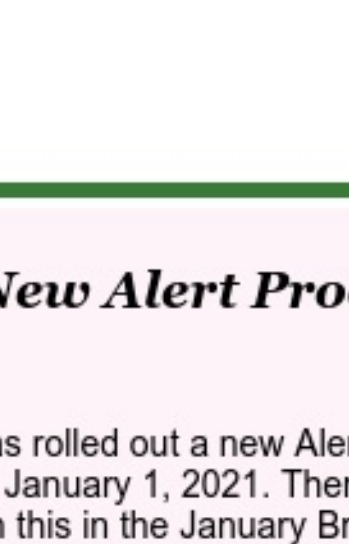
Question: When do I alert my partner's bids?

Answer: Never

You scored a perfect 100% on the quiz, didn't you?

Good! That's terrific! I'll "see" you at the bridge table.

Masterpoint Milestones



Congratulations!

Bronze Life Master (750+)

Sue Kline

Bronze Life Master (500+)

Judy Sellers

NABC Master (200+)

Hansa Patel

Regional Master (100+)

Linda Mitchell

Sectional Master (50+)

Melissa Meadows

New Alert Procedure Coming January 1, 2021

ACBL has rolled out a new Alert Procedure effective January 1, 2021. There will be an article on this in the January Bridge Bulletin.

You may also review the new booklet by clicking on the link:
<https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/AlertProcedures2.pdf>

A Zoom Session planned for the near future that will deal with ALERTS and any other topic you may want to DISCUSS about playing on BBO. This session will be hosted by Michael Biltoni.

Watch your inbox for the invite!



CBC Members Match District and Unit Charity Donations!

by Scott Dunn

For their December charity contributions, District 7 and Unit 160 donated \$834 to the Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services (PALSS, www.palss.org), a local Columbia charity organization that helps South Carolinians fight the war against AIDS.

PALSS offers free services to individuals who have been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS or are at risk of contracting HIV, and also works with their families and caregivers. In addition to testing and education, they also sponsor a women's support group, a men's clinic, a women's health council, offer housing support, and run a food pantry.

In honor of World AIDS Day on December 1st, members of the CBC graciously matched the District and Unit donations! The generosity of our members helped make a truly special December for this organization.

Below is a picture of the CEO, Carmen Hampton Julious, and one of the volunteers at PALSS.



CBC VIRTUAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

**December 24 Thursday 12:55 PM 0-300 Pairs
1:05 PM Open Pairs**

December 25 Friday No Virtual Games

**December 31 Thursday 12:55 PM 0-300 Pairs
1:05 PM Open Pairs**

January 1 Friday 1:05 PM Open Pairs

Upcoming Special CBC Virtual Club Games and Online Tournaments

Special Games and Events at the Virtual CBC

December 25	CHRISTMAS DAY - No Virtual Games Today
December 31	NEW YEAR'S EVE - Regular Game Schedule
January 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY - Regular Game Schedule
January 5	Hi-Lo Game +/- 500 MP Pairs
January 18-24	Silver Linings Week
January 19	Hi-Lo Game +/- 500 MP Pairs (SILVER POINTS)

Virtual Regional Tournaments and Other National Events

December 17-20 [Winter Wonderland Online Regional](#)

Happy Holidays CBC Members,

I hope this finds you all well and celebrating the season, some of us in new and creative ways.

As a matter of business, Jack Self is now officially the Education Chair and we will look to Jack to lead us in our education endeavors. Jack is a loyal member of our club and has given much of his time over the years to improve our club in a variety of ways. Thank you, Jack.

As of January, we hope to change our calendar for the under 500 group. The Monday game has been very successful. We will be making some changes based on the results of the survey which many of you responded too. So you know, BBO is not set up for any individual games such as the one we held at CBC on Sundays, so this is not an option. Our Hi Low has been very successful so please join in on the first and third Tuesday. If you want a partner contact Judy Rockwell or Pat Webb. Better yet, just ask someone you have been wanting to play with.

Please check our web site regularly for news and changes which may occur. Kathy Kimmerling sends out blasts when something new is available or when there is a change in schedule.

The board has been discussing a plan for reopening and we hope it will be late spring. We will know more as the vaccine is released. CBC will provide a safe environment for all players when we do reopen.

Some of you expressed some interest in learning more about navigating BBO. Please call Judy Rockwell or me to assist you.

We miss each of you and want to thank you for your continued support by playing in our club games. If you are not playing in our club games, we would love to have you back.

Stay well and keep playing,
Shelby King, CBC President

Kahlil Gibran

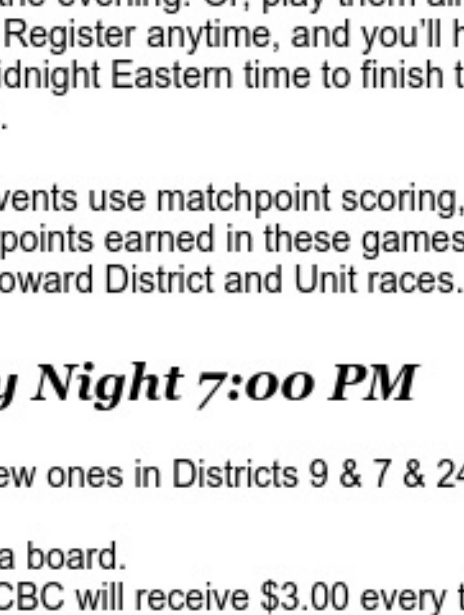
"There are those who give with joy, and that joy is their reward," in his book *The Prophet*.

Support the CBC - Play in Daily ACBL SYC Games

ACBL has partnered with [Bridge Base Online \(BBO\)](#) and The Common Game to give you chances each day to earn black masterpoints online. Additionally, the majority of the game fees you pay will be given to your local club to support them during this difficult time.

Support their Club ACBL Black Point Games are pair events. Games are held on BBO three times a day:
10:00 am, 5:10 pm and 7:30 pm.
Registration opens two hours before game time. You can play with any other ACBL member who has a BBO account.

NEW! Daylong Tournaments are solo events played with robots. In this game, you have up to 24 hours to complete your game, and it doesn't have to be played all at once. You can even pause in the middle of a hand.



Play a few of the 18 total boards in the morning, some more after lunch and the rest in the evening. Or, play them all in one sitting! Register anytime, and you'll have until midnight Eastern time to finish the boards.

Both events use matchpoint scoring, and masterpoints earned in these games will count toward District and Unit races.

99'er Virtual Game - Every Night 7:00 PM

Play with your friends from the CBC, or make some new ones in Districts 9 & 7 & 24 !!

Play 12 relaxed boards at approximately 7½ minutes a board. This game pays back to the players' home clubs; the CBC will receive \$3.00 every time you play in this game. Lesson before the game and Hand Analysis after. Great way to improve your game and support your club!

2021 Online Event Schedule

[Click to see what's next and plan your year.](#)



Free Beginner Bridge Lessons

The course is for those that want to learn to play bridge using the modern version of the Standard American bidding system. It also introduces how to play online on the Bridge Base Online (BBO) website and provides information about the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL).

The course has twelve online Zoom lessons. Attend as many or as few as you want. Each lesson is about 1 hour followed by a brief Q&A session. Lesson handouts and the Zoom link are emailed to participants before each lesson. The Zoom Online lessons will be on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 pm (EST).

The course schedule:

January 5	General Concepts
January 12	Opening Bids
January 19	Responses to 1NT Open
January 26	Responses to Suit Open
February 2	Rebids by Opener
February 9	Rebids by Responder
February 16	Overcalls
February 23	Takeout X (Double)
March 2	Stayman, Jacoby Transfer, 2♠ Minor Suit Transfer
March 9	Reverses and Splinters
March 16	Strong 2♣ with 2♦ Waiting, Traditional Weak 2's and Preempts
March 23	Gerber and Blackwood

To register, click on the following registration. Fill out and submit. That is all it takes to register!

<http://keepurl.com/mfh-BX>

Have fun! Learn to play bridge! Share with a friend.

Bridge is a great game for families and children – playing bridge develops math skills, logical thinking, strategic planning and partnership. It's a game you can play for a lifetime.

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 3rd of the month. All articles are subject to editorial approval and edit.

The CBC Newsletter is published monthly by the Columbia Bridge Club - Columbia, SC
www.bridgewebs.com/columbiabridgeclub/

