

JUNE NEWSLETTER



A FEW WORDS FROM CBC PRESIDENT...

Well, things in Columbia are heating up! Literally...the temperature is rising and it's gonna be hot for a long time! Too hot to be outside much...please plan on coming to CBC for some of our face to face games...we've had the air conditioning system serviced and things are pretty cool at the Club! The current schedule is on our website...find a game or two that work with your schedule...please register for those games on the "Reservation" part of the blue column on the left side of webpage. Don't know how? Tons of us do...reach out to me or just about anyone for help! Have you heard? Columbia is hosting the District 7 Regional Tournament, June 20-26 at the Doubletree by Hilton located at the intersection of



I am always learning something new, somethings I should have known already, particularly with the amount of bridge I play.

Last Sunday at the Individual game, my partner, a new player at CBC, opened in third seat with a two-spade bid. My RHO passed and with four spades KQXX, Hrts XX, Clubs XX and J109XX Dia. and non-vulnerable I decided to raise to interfere with any opponents bidding. All passed.

My partner made four spades. His holding was JXXXXX of Spades as trump. AX of Dia. XX of Hrts and AXX Clubs. E/W can make 5 hearts.

Copied directly from LOEB Bridge:

The ACBL Convention

Charts govern legal bidding agreements. The Open and Open+ Charts are intended for events with no masterpoint limits. The Basic and Basic+ Charts are intended for limited master point events. The Basic+, Open, and Open+ Charts allow "Any opening bid in a suit which is Natural, as long as it shows at least Near-Average

Strength." **An artificial opening bid at the 1 level must, by Agreement, have at least 10 HCP or meet the Rule of 19. The Basic Chart is more restrictive requiring an opening bid in a suit to show at least Average Strength.**

Average Strength is defined as "A hand that has at least 10 HCP or meets the 'Rule of 19'." Near Average Strength is defined as "A hand that has at least 8 HCP or meets the 'Rule of 17'."

I-20 and Bush River Road. It's gonna be great! Complete info on the website, flyers at the Club. Our own Lee and Chris Webb are Co-Chairs for the tournament. Lots of choices for games...morning, noon and night throughout the week...many opportunities for "colorful points"...Don't miss out! Summertime, always reduces the number of players for our games...folks are away on vacation and/or have family and friends visiting. Comes with the territory...that being said, I look forward to seeing you at CBC very soon and very often. Stay well and happy!

Judy (Rockwell), cause there are a lot of others!

Ps Any questions, concerns, comments? I want to hear from you! 803 730 8181, judyrockwell@msn.com

Congratulations to the following for JUNE:

NABC Master:
Cassandra Jackson
Nancy Morris
Sectional Master:
Peter Graham

**SODA CITY
REGIONAL IN COLA
TOWN: June 20-26
at the Hilton Double
Tree on Bush River
RD. SEE YOU THERE!**

As he dropped his aces, I thought perhaps in third seat I may have opened his hand with 1 spade. After the round he and I looked at the hand. I count my hand as HCP's plus one point for the 5th plus a point for any more cards in that suit. I counted 9 HCP plus 2 for the 5th and 6th spade to equal 11 points, thus in 3rd seat, I might open with 1 spade.

We checked with the director and were told I should not open that or any hand with less than 10 HCP, even in third seat. He told us this was an ACBL CONVENTION CHART RULE for OPENING a HAND. To clarify, he refined and expanded his statement to include the below information I copied from LOEB Bridge and ACBL.

You may find this helpful in opening at the 1 level in any seat.

The Rule of 19 considers the length of a player's 2 longest suits. If the number of cards in a player's 2 longest suits plus their HCP are 19 or more, the player's hand meets the Rule of 19. A hand like ♠A76532 ♥8 ♦KQ ♣8742 has just 9 HCP, but meets the Rule of 19 because it has 10 cards in their 2 longest suits and has 9 HCP.

The Rule of 17 is similar but has a threshold of 17. If the number of cards in a player's 2 longest suits plus their HCP are 17 or more, the player's hand meets the Rule of 17. A hand like ♠A76532 ♥8 ♦K8 ♣8742 has just 9 HCP, but meets the Rule of 17 because it has 10 cards in their 2 longest suits and has 7 HCP.

Further, ACBL states in it's handbook:

- In 1st & 2nd chair, a NATURAL 1 level opening bid requires AVERAGE strength (10+ HCP)

- In 1st & 2nd chair, a NATURAL or QUASI-NATURAL (3+ length) of a minor (1C/1D) requires AVERAGE strength (10+ HCP).

- In 3rd/4th chair, a NATURAL or QUASI-NATURAL 1 level opening bid requires NEAR-AVERAGE strength (8+ HCP) or satisfies the rule of 19.

CONFUSED?

Below is the web site for the most recent ACBL CHARTS.

<https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/about/Convention-Charts.pdf>



beginning Monday, June 6

**Come join us on Monday
mornings in June and**

**learn trick-taking skills
while defending a bridge
hand**

Kevin Wilson, an NABC champion and an ABTA master teacher, is offering this set of lessons to us at NO CHARGE - but only at the CBC.

The lessons are each Monday* in June from 9 am-10 am. Kathy Kimmerling will be on board to moderate the session, which will be presented on the TV in the classroom. Laura and Susan will be available for review after the lesson and will appreciate your feedback.

The classes are open to everyone, but it is our desire that those of you who are under 300 masterpoints will consider staying for our 0-300 game at 10:30 am. We usually finish up between 1-1:30 pm and play 18-20 boards.

Call Susan/Laura/Kathy with questions.

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