



Future Life Masters Sectional Tournament Columbia, SC

The Columbia Bridge Club hosted a two day non-life master tournament on February 3 and 4 with 35 tables in play for the 4 sessions. There were a total of 97.62 master points awarded over the four sessions of play. Thirty-five out of the 44 tournament participants were awarded silver points for their efforts. The following is a list of all the masterpoint winners for the Future Life Masters Tournament. CBC Members are listed in bold.

	Masterpoint
race	
1	7.36 Cecilia Cannon, Spartanburg SC
2	7.36 Bill Cannon, Spartanburg SC
3	5.02 Caroline Grimball, Columbia SC



A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you all had a nice Valentine's Day! Spring is in the air...our season of renewal and reawakening from Winter. CBC is experiencing that also. Our games continue to grow and we continue to welcome new faces.

Once again, Lee Webb and her helpers put together a wonderful, successful Future Life Master Tournament. Thanks to all who helped and all who played. Shortly after I played in the FLM, I attended part of the Regional Tournament in Hilton Head (my first time there). It was a great event and I was pleased to see so many of you there. CONGRATULATIONS, Laura Bro, on completing the Best Practices certification course that was offered at the tournament!

As I communicated to you earlier this month, negotiations with Circle K have ended. Apparently, they didn't love our property as much as we do! I

4 5.02 Ellis Tesh, Blythewood SC
 5 5.01 George Ward, Martinez GA
 6 5.01 Mike Hitchler, North Augusta SC
 7 4.01 Ginna Tate, Charlotte NC
 8 4.01 Kathryn Wholey, Charlotte NC
9 3.99 Melissa Meadows, Columbia SC
10 3.99 Judy Rockwell, Columbia SC
11 3.68 Doug Rice, Columbia SC
12 3.46 Jim Bull, Heath Springs SC
13 3.46 Ellen Brown, Columbia SC
 14 3.29 Martha Meier, Wagener SC
15 3.29 Robert McCardle, Columbia SC
16 3.01 Toni Elkins, Columbia SC
17 3.01 Sandra Poliakoff, Columbia SC
 18 2.70 Dana Scutt, Indian Land SC
 19 2.70 Larry Kosowsky, Indian Land SC
20 2.28 Donna Hunter, Columbia SC
 21 1.90 Cynthia Webster, McCormick SC
 22 1.90 Drew Frostholt, McCormick SC
23 1.52 Charmelle Staples, Columbia SC
24 1.52 Barbara Hinton, Columbia SC
25 1.49 Patti Suggs, Columbia SC
26 1.49 Nancy Morris, Columbia SC
27 1.40 Charles Williams, Columbia SC
28 0.89 James Bass, West Columbia SC
29 0.89 Vicki Strasler, Columbia SC
30 0.55 Catherine Chiles, Columbia SC
31 0.55 Olivia Smith, Chapin

believe things mostly work out as they should. With that in mind, the Board will have lot's of time to focus on Columbia Bridge Club's continuing success.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please reach out to me (or any Board Member). I hope to see you soon and often at the Club!

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Alerts, Transfers, and Relays....Oh My!

In duplicate bridge partnerships are not allowed to have secret bidding understandings. You are required to inform your opponents anytime your partner makes a bid that is not "standard." In addition to listing their bidding methods on their convention cards, partners are required to let the opponents in on the meanings using announcements and alerts. However, there is a bit of confusion regarding transfers and relays. This article will attempt to clear up that confusion.

First let's look at two definitions:

A **transfer** is a bid that promises that you hold a specific suit that you want your partner to bid. The most common transfers are Jacoby transfers and Texas transfers used when your partner opens 1NT or 2NT. Suppose your partner does open 1NT. If you play Jacoby, then your bid of 2 Diamonds promises that you have a heart suit and you want partner to bid hearts.

SC

32 0.49 Pamela
Brackett, Columbia SC

33 0.49 Gwynne
Dilday, Columbia SC

34 0.44 Jane
Hyatt, Columbia SC

35 0.44 David
Graves, Columbia SC

We are waiting on the final figures from the FLM. CBC did make a profit and we will share when all those numbers are in. Thanks to all who attended. We got many compliments on our club, food and US! LEE OUT DID HERSELF ON THAT SALAD!.



A **relay** is a bid that asks partner to bid a specific suit but you are NOT necessarily promising that you hold that suit in your hand. A common example of a relay occurs when your partner opens 1N T and you bid 2 Spades asking partner to bid 3 Clubs. Sometimes you have Clubs and you intend to pass, but other times you hold Diamonds and you intend to rebid 3 Diamonds over partner's 3 Club bid as a signoff. The key point is that your 2 Spades bid asks partner to specifically bid 3 Clubs but you are NOT promising clubs.

We handle informing the opponents about partner's transfers and relays differently. If you partner bids a **transfer**, you are required to immediately state the transfer suit. If you open 1NT and partner transfers by bidding 2 Hearts, you immediately say "Spades" (It is okay if you say "Transfer to Spades" but it is not okay to just say "Transfer." You must state the suit your partner is transferring to). Remember, when your partner bids a transfer, he or she is promising a holding in that suit and is asking you to bid the suit so you can be the declarer.

When partner makes a **relay** bid, you inform the opponents by saying "Alert." If they want to know the meaning of the Alert, they can ask. It is NOT proper to inform them that partner is making a relay bid if they do not ask. Contrary to popular belief, the word "Relay" is never announced voluntarily. You alert the opponents and they must inquire about the meaning if they want to know.

In summary, you immediately announce the transfer suit to the opponents when you partner bids a transfer but you announce a relay bid by saying "Alert"



We welcome your comments, input and articles you may want to share that are bridge related or other matters of interest to our members. Contact Shelby King prior to the middle of the month! Shelbypk46@gmail.com

By the way, whenever you make an announcement of any kind, you should also pick up the "Alert" card and show it to the opponents. Not many players do this but it is an ACBL regulation primarily because some of us have hearing problems and do not hear the announcements when made. The Alert card lets them know that you said something.

Next month we will talk about other announcements that you must make about your partner's bids other than transfers and relays.

Until then, happy bidding!



MARCH 2023

Ruby Life Master	Susan McFadden
Bronze Life Master	Kathy Belknap
NABC Master	Ellen Brown
	Robert McCardle
	Sally McCardle
Junior Master	Julia Mikell

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