



Check out what is going on at CBC the next two months!



***10 workshops –
Reservations
Starting April 6, 2023 –
2 hours in length
starting at 1:00 pm
Cost \$100.00 for all 10
\$15.00 for individual
workshop attendance
Topics:**

- 1. Ruffing Losers –
Card Playing Series –
April 6, 2023**
- 2. Play of the hand –
No Trump Contracts
(Declarer Play) – Card
Play Series
April 13, 2023**
- 3. Doubles – (Take out,
Negative, lead
directing, penalty) –
April 20, 2023**



**A FEW WORDS FROM THE
PRESIDENT:**
Happy Spring, Y'all! Here in Columbia (besides the abundance of pollen) we see much evidence of "budding out" and new growth of plants. I'm happy to report that that same phenomenon is happening at CBC. We had a wonderfully productive Board meeting at the end of February. If you haven't gone on the website and read the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on February 21, I encourage you to take a look...lots of good news there. Much evidence of the same "positive vibe" that springtime affords us! If you don't want to read the Minutes, call me...I'll be happy to recap the meeting for you! You all have received an email blast regarding the upcoming



The Columbia Bridge Club will hold a sectional April 28 - 30, 2023 at the TriCity Leisure Center. We will host Flights Championship, A & B Grand National Teams (GNTs) finals. The top 2 teams in each flight at our site will get a stipend to represent the District at the Nationals. We would love to have a team

(This will include some defense and some declarer play.)

4. Big hands – 2 club openers, reverses – May 4, 2023

5. Preempts – May 11, 2023

6. Cue bids (limit, western cue, controls) – May 11, 2023

7. Opening minors – May 18, 2023

8. Jacoby 2nt & splinters – May 25, 2023

9. Playing Safely or Finesses – Card play Series – June 1, 2023

10. Balancing – June 8, 2023



JUST A REMINDER. CBC belongs to YOU, the members. We need your help in the kitchen and also to remember to put recyclable items in the bins and clean your table when you leave. We also need our members to clean the kitchen counters and wash any used utensils after our game. We appreciate any snack, sweet or treat you bring in for the games. Thank you. It takes a village.

(beginning April 6) Workshop Series. Kudos to our brand new Education Coordinator, Laura Bro...she wasted no time in putting this together. \$100 for 10 workshops, or \$15 per workshop, is a steal. I'm signing up for the series...I hope many of you will, too! Please be conscientious about referring to our calendar on CBC's website. We've made some changes to game scheduling (no Tuesday games scheduled at this time and the Sunday game will be conducted EVERY Sunday (BASED ON DIRECTOR AVAILABILITY!). We don't want anyone to be inconvenienced, but...from time to time...stuff happens! Please continue to register online for games when you are planning to play. For me, this is one of the positives that came out of lockdown...it's great to go online to register you and your partner and see which of your CBC friends will be playing that day, too! Additionally, it helps the Director to plan for that game. Thanks.

Third Thursday each month... Eight is Enough Potluck and Team Game! The first two months have been a roaring success! Please put a team together (if you need help on the criteria, call me, or ask any Board member). We have one small issue that we need to work out about that game... WE HAVE WAY TOO MUCH FOOD!!! LOL

I am so happy to see and experience the continuing growth and returning vitality of CBC. Thanks to all who play and all who contribute their time and talents...Y'all are just so great! I hope to see many of you soon and often at the Columbia Bridge Club! Judy Rockwell, President of

of our very own go to the Nationals. Red and Gold points will be awarded at the GNT event. This sectional gives players a chance to win silver, gold, and red points. We need volunteers. Please let us know if you can help with set up, bring tables from the club, bring refreshments, and with clean up. This is our chance to show our famous hospitality! Come and play often! See flier for details on games and times.

Lee Webb

803-331-6894

LeeWebb1@sc.rr.com

On this note, Shelby King is posting a sign up sheet for the GNT/Sectional: We are trying to reduce our cost of providing food for all by asking our members to bring at least one dish on the day they play. We will also have a donation can/box at the front desk should you want to contribute. We need desserts each



afternoon; preferably home made or from a local bakery, deviled eggs all three days and fresh fruit for the early sessions. Bananas, apples, grapes, mixed fruit, etc. are appreciated. If you can't sign up at the club let me know which day you will bring your offering. The sign up will be on our back bulletin board.
shelbypk46@gmail.com..
Thanks.



Article Heading

The Difference Between an Announcement and an Alert?

by
Jack Self

Last month I discussed the difference between an alert and a relay. If you missed that article, be sure to go to this month's March Bulletin, turn to page 42, and read the first letter in the Ruling of the Game article. You will find a discussion about the difference between transfers and relays and the proper way to inform the opponents.

This month we will discuss what an "announcement" is and when and how you should make one. Plus, we will see how an "announcement" differs from an "Alert!"

An "Alert" is a way of informing your opponents that your partner's bid conveys a special meaning other than the suit bid. Once you make the alert, it is up to your opponents to ask what the alert means. An "announcement" is an immediate statement made by you that explains a bid that may imply something that is not used by all players. Notice the use of the word "immediate." An announcement should be made right away without the opponents having to ask for information. Those bids that require announcements are written in blue on the convention card, but make sure you have the latest version of the convention card

At a recent club game, I saw a very good A-level player make a mistake when playing the trump suit. Would you do better? Here was the situation.

Dummy: ♠ K952

Me:

♠7

My Partner: ♠8

Declarer: ♠Q643

She led the ♠3 from her hand and, when I played the ♠7, she played the ♠K, and my partner played ♠8. She then led the ♠2 from the dummy, and, when my partner played the ♠10, she played the ♠Q, which I won with my ♠A. Now my partner's ♠J was the high

trump, allowing us to win two trump tricks.

So what did she do wrong? And what should she have done?

When the ♠K won the first trick, that marked me with the ♠A. Partner would never duck the ♠K if he had the ♠A. So playing the ♠Q the second time around had NO CHANCE of success. Her only hope to avoid losing two trump tricks is that I held a doubleton ♠A. Therefore, she should have just played a low spade from her hand. Now when I win my ♠A, she can get back in the lead and cash her ♠Q drawing my partner's ♠J right out of his hand.

In fact, that was exactly the situation:

Dummy: ♠ K952
Me:
♠A8
My Partner: ♠J107
Declarer: ♠Q643

I can hear you thinking "But what if you had held the ♠AJ8?" In that case I would win the two trump tricks that we won anyway and there is nothing she could have done about it.

The whole purpose in playing low on the second trump trick is to cater to the possibility that I had a doubleton Ace allowing her to hold her trump losses to one trick. Playing the Queen on the second trick guaranteed that she would lose two trump tricks.

Would you have done better?

The most common announcement is made when your partner opens 1NT. The partner of the 1NT opener is required to state the HCP range immediately. All you need to do is to say "15-17" or "12-15" or whatever your 1NT range is. And, yes, you still need to state the range for a 15-17 HCP no trump opener. Anyone who tells you otherwise does NOT know what he or she is talking about (I have that in writing from the ACBL).

Notice that the announcement of the range does not apply to 1NT overcalls or 2NT openings. It is the opponents' responsibility to ask about those ranges.

Another common announcement is made when you open a major suit and partner responds with a forcing 1NT. You are supposed to say immediately "Forcing". Okay, if you play it as semi-forcing, you should state it as "Semi-Forcing" (and perhaps one day you can explain to me exactly what "semi-forcing" means).

Another example of announcement occurs when your partner opens 1 Club or 1 Diamond and it could be shorter than a three card suit. Your obligation is to inform the opponents just how short the suit could be. You might say, "Could be 2" or "Could be as short as 1." Do NOT just say "Could be short" since the opponents are entitled to know exactly how short it could be. Notice that this does not apply to opening 1 Club when you are playing Precision since that 1 Club bid is artificial and forcing. You would alert that bid instead.

Those transfers discussed last month are also announcements. Notice that the transfer is announced regardless of the level. Transfers after a 1NT, after a 2NT, or a 2Club opener followed by a rebid of 2NT all require announcements. Some people play transfers at the four level (called Texas Transfers). Those also require announcements.

If you play minor suit transfers, you must also announce those by naming the suit to which you are being transferred. This occurs if you are playing Four Suit Transfers, in which a 2 Spade response to a 1NT opening is a transfer to Clubs and a 2NT response is a transfer to Diamonds. Again, you just state the word

“Clubs” or “Diamonds.” Be sure you understand the difference in a transfer and a relay, because a relay requires an alert rather than an announcement (NEVER say the word “Relay” as an announcement....NEVER).

If you are playing Stolen Bids over 1NT interference, you also announce any transfers. Suppose you open 1NT and your opponent overcalls 2 Hearts. If your partner Doubles and that double means he or she would have made a transfer bid of 2 Hearts, you must announce “Spades”.

A recent ruling by the ACBL on announcements applies to those partnerships who play Flannery where a 2 Diamond opening shows 5 Hearts and 4 Spades. If you open 1 Heart (implying that you do not also have 4 spades) and your partner will often bid a forcing 1NT even though he or she has four spades, you must announce “Forcing, may have 4 spades.”

The ACBL continues to refine its Alerts and Announcements policies so be on the alert (no pun intended) for any changes that come down the pike.



Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7

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