

UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF ALERT!

Official Publication of ACBL Unit 191

June 2011

Bright Leaf Sectional Only a Few Weeks Away!

The tournament committee has been busy with preparations for the 2011 Bright Leaf Summer Sectional which will be held on July 7-10 at the Triangle Bridge Club in Durham. Some new enhancements this year should make it another enjoyable Unit 191 tournament.

Thirteen events for players of all levels. Separate open and 299er games for all events including Swiss teams on Sunday. Novice and intermediate players can feel comfortable playing with others with similar experience. Bracketed Knockouts start Thursday evening and continue through Friday. No events on Friday evening.

Pre-dealt boards for all pairs events and **computerized score entry.** Games will start promptly and results will be available immediately afterwards. No waiting to see how you did. Time between sessions has been extended by 30 minutes. This will give you more time for lunch and to review your results from the first game. This will also give us the time to offer a 30 minute **novice/intermediate lesson between sessions** on Friday and Saturday.

Plenty of delicious food. Our members always provide a wonderful selection of snacks and refreshments for each session. On Friday, the "OnlyBurger" food truck will be selling juicy burgers between sessions, just outside the door at TBC - no need to fight the traffic to get lunch. On Sunday, the Swiss Team lunches will be provided by Panera Bread. A guide to nearby restaurants will be available as well for your between-sessions meals.

Registration gifts. Check-in at the Registration Desk and receive a Tournament ballpoint pen and a complimentary set of 30 labels, printed with your name, hometown, and ACBL number, for use on your entry forms.

Partnership Desk. Partnership co-chairs are Jim Bean (Open) and Leonard Beeghley (299ers). If you need a partner, let them know as soon as possible. Email Jim at VBean3557@aol.com or Leonard at lenbeme@gmail.com.

Help Wanted!

Putting on a successful tournament can't be done without the support of volunteers who do what they can to make the event run smoothly. Here's how you can help put support this year's tournament:

Hospitality:

The Carolina Dreamin' Hospitality Committee set a high standard back in March. We are hoping our members will again donate the special treats, snacks, and baked goods that have helped make the Unit 191 tournaments so successful in the past. A poster is mounted at the TBC on which members may list what they plan to bring and for what session. For those unable to get to the TBC to sign up, email one of the co-chairs, B. J. Medford at bjonline@mindspring.com or Robin Marin at rmarin1@nc.rr.com.

Playing Area Setup and Cleanup:

Facility co-chairs Harrison Brooke and Joe Mandel will need support in setting up, maintaining the playing area between sessions and cleaning afterward. If you can help, let one of them know.

Partnerships

Jim Bean and Leonard Beeghley are looking for a stand-by player for each event who would be willing to play in exchange for a free play. Contact one of them if you are available.

"Only Burger"

At our tournament two years ago, we had very favorable feedback on the food provided by "Only Burger", so we will be offering their services again between sessions on Friday. For those who haven't heard of this Durham icon, take a look at the video on their website, www.onlyburger.com. They were also featured in an article in Our State magazine this month which you can read at www.ourstate.com/food-trucks. Between sessions, you will have plenty of time to enjoy their delicious fare, go over your results and attend the free lesson on "Deception" by ACBL Bridge Teacher, Henry Meguid.

Membership Report

Harrison Brooke, Membership Chair

During May our membership dropped very slightly -- from 542 to 540 -- but remains 32 (6.3%) higher than this time last year.

I'm pleased to introduce and welcome to our group new ACBL members **Christine and William Ingram** of Durham as well as **Jill and Cliff Kaufman** of Cary who have transferred from Unit 119.

The following advanced in rank during May:

Junior Master	Jian Liu
Club Master	Cindy Ahlbom Lyna Rogers John Schwering
Sectional Master	Emily Stafford
Regional Master	Ann Vaughan Ovunc Yilmaz
NABC Master	Deanna Larus

We're proud of and very happy for you !! Keep up the good work.

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As a reminder for our Future Life Masters (FLMs), the masterpoint requirements for achieving the rank of Life Master changed the first of January **last year**. One now must have a minimum of 500 points rather than 300 and those must include the required numbers of color points. A FLM who was active (that is whose dues were paid up) as of 12/31/09 was **grandfathered** at the 300 level **provided he/she remains active until he/she reaches the rank of Life Master**. One's dues paid-through date appears on the second line of the mailing label on the monthly ACBL Bulletin. ACBL sends to each member a first and then, if necessary, a second renewal bill so failing to keep one's dues current can be very costly for those who qualify for the grandfathering.

For those who joined ACBL 01/01/10 or later and those who have allowed their memberships to lapse, a new rank -- Advanced NABC Master -- has been established, the master point requirements for which are the same as those for Life Master at the previous

300 minimum -- at least 50 black, 50 silver, 25 red or gold/platinum, 25 gold/platinum -- no more than 100 of which can come from online play.

ACBL President Visits Triangle BC

ACBL president, Craig Robinson, has committed to visit "100 clubs in 100 days" this summer. One of the first clubs he stopped at on his nationwide tour was Triangle BC in Durham, and he proved his playing ability by pairing up with Jay Bates to take first overall with a very nice 70 percent game.

Craig has been keeping a log of his travels which you can see at www.acbl.org. Here are his comments on his visit to Durham.

Club #11: Triangle Bridge Club in Durham, NC

Posted on May 6, 2011 by ACBL

Wednesday, May 4, 2011

They recently held a sectional at Triangle Bridge Club and had 63 tables at one session. How many bridge clubs can hold 63 tables? Jay and Darleen Bates own the club and direct games. Jay is a part-time TD with the ACBL. Everyone brought food and they had 17 tables. Sigrid Olin, Unit 191 President, spoke glowingly about the unit and the activities. The Unit has been growing, and no wonder with the programs available for teaching new players and games (0-20, 0-100, 0-199, and 0-500 are offered once a week at Triangle).



Jay and Darlene Bates welcome ACBL president, Craig Robinson, to the Triangle BC on May 4th

Upcoming Tournaments

Jun 16-19	Raleigh
Jul 7-10	Bright Leaf Summer Sectional
Jul 15-17	Winston-Salem
Jul 29-31	Morganton
Aug 19-21	Fayetteville
Aug 22-28	District 7 STAC
Aug 30- Sep 5	Atlanta Regional

Changes To The Unit 191 Mentoring Program Announced

Sign-Up Period Now Through August 20th

Now is the time to starting thinking about whether you would like to participate in our Unit's mentor/mentee program. This year the program will be co-chaired by Barbara Haskell and Sharon Crane. This program lost popularity last year, so a survey of participants was taken. The results brought to light some areas of concern that the chairs will be addressing in the coming year's program.

There was less participation in the special games on Saturday afternoons, and some suggested that play on weekends was difficult due to personal scheduling. Some of the mentees felt that they did not have enough non-competitive play with their mentors. Some of the mentors felt that they had put more effort into the program than their mentees. Overall, everyone enjoyed the program and mentees appreciated the guidance of more experienced players.

In light of the these findings, we have decided to make some changes for next year. First, we suggest that the mentor/mentee pairs commit to play together at least monthly. The limited games may be an excellent opportunity to play with less stress, but these pairs will not compete for master points (unless the mentor qualifies for these games). Second, the mentees will be expected to pay the entry fees for their mentors, as happens at most clubs. We will only schedule three special games (the first one will probably be a Tuesday afternoon in November), and the Board has generously offered to supply the food for all of them.

We hope that many of our past mentors will volunteer to share your time and expertise once again. Non-life masters can serve as mentors to beginning players, and we also hope that we will see some of you in the program again. Several players were both mentors and mentees, and we encourage and appreciate this level of enthusiasm. Only non-life master players who are members of Unit 191 are eligible to have assigned mentors. If you are willing to be a mentor, please get in touch with Barbara or Sharon.

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Mentoring (Continued)

Sign up forms will be available on the table at the front of the Triangle Bridge Club. All participants must complete a form in order to enroll and clarify your goals and interests. If you have already set up an arrangement for next year, please fill out a form, indicating both names. If you would like us to find a mentor for you, please fill out a form and specify this. The deadline for sign up is August 20th, and the program will start in September and run through May.

Please refer to the guidelines for the mentoring program, which can be found on the unit website (www.unit191bridge.org). Click on education at the top of the page, and then click on the sentence at the bottom of the page that refers to the mentoring program. For further information, please contact either Barbara barbara.haskell41@gmail.com, (919) 542-1202 or Sharon Scrane531@earthlink.net (919) 489-4903.

Bridge Lessons & Workshops

All of our classes are taught by ACBL-certified teachers:

Henry Meguid's TBC Classes. All classes will be held at the Triangle BC. For more information or to sign up, contact Henry at hmeguid@nc.rr.com.

Advanced Bridge Defense- Starts Monday, September 12th. 9:30-noon. Learning to think and plan the defense; clues from the lead, bidding and dummy; counting distribution and tricks; doubles; strategic plays; and IMPs vs matchpoints.

Intermediate Bridge Classes - Play and learn with Jack Whetstone. Every Tuesday morning at TBC from 9:30-noon. \$10 per session, 6 for \$50. Subjects include overcalls, competitive bidding (takeout, negative, support doubles), negative free bids and more.

Friday Play and Learn Classes with Marty Demko Classes have finished for the summer and will resume again in late August. See the July Alert! for information on our next course. Contact Marty at 467-4827 or email him at martyd2@aol.com with questions.

www.unit191bridge.org

**All Club Results
Game Schedules
Bridge Conventions**

**Latest Unit News
Member Directory
Special Events**

UNIT 191 DOUBLE KNOCKOUT MAY RESULTS AND PAIRINGS

May	June	July	August
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Bracket I

No Losses	
	Lin
One Loss	
Drake	
Tremblay	

Bracket II

No Losses		
		Bates
One Loss		
Whetstone		
	Cunningham	
Cunningham		
Wehrman	Wehrman	
Bye		

Bracket III

	No Losses		
Kelley			
	Marcus		Marcus
Marcus	Bye		
	One Loss		
Jenzano			
	Wachs		
Wachs			
Vaughan			
	Schooff		
Schooff			
	Kelley	Kelley	
	Bye		