

THE BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UNIT 191

JULY 2019

from the president ...

New Website for Unit 191

Unit 191 has a new website hosted by BridgeWebs.com. Many, many thanks to **Marc Goldberg**, the new Webmaster, not only for getting it up and running, but also for a refreshing new website. If you haven't seen it already, please check it out at

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/unit191brightleaf/>.

Hopefully, the transition has been painless for you. The web address for the old web site (i.e., the domain name: unit191bridge.org) will take you to the new website. Or, you can use the new address at www.bridgewebs.com.

No doubt we may not have migrated to the new website everything you might want. If so, please let us know. We welcome any comments or suggestions for how to make the new website more useful for you. Contact Marc at goldberg73@gmail.com or me at edwin.fuller@gmail.com.

Hospitality for Bright Leaf Unit 191 Summer Sectional

Unit 191 Summer Sectional tournament is next week, **July 11th-14th**. I hope everyone is eager to play bridge! I am. Get your pairs and teams together. See the tournament flyer on page 9 for a list of the events. Need a partner? See below.

The **Hospitality Committee** is working hard to make this sectional a fun and enjoyable event by providing snacks and drinks during the tournament. The Committee needs additional volunteers to help with a variety of activities. If you are willing to do some cooking, do some baking, do some shopping, or help with setting up snacks and meals, please let us know.

Contact Suzie Goldberg, seg1040@gmail.com, (717) 580-8586.

Need a Partner for the Bright Leaf Summer Sectional?

Only a week and a half to arrange your partners and to get your teams together for the Bright Leaf Summer Sectional, July 11th-14th. See the tournament flyer on page 9 for a list of the events. *Note the **new A/X format** for the **Open Pair games** on Saturday.*

Need a partner? Contact me for the **OPEN** games or Ray McEntee for **499er** games:

Ed FULLER, (301) 906-1667 (cell), edwin.fuller@gmail.com;

Ray McENTEE, (919) 967-1712 (home), (984) 220-6467 (cell), rmcentee2@gmail.com.

Note: the tournament flyer incorrectly lists Jennie Robinson for 499er Partnership Requests. Please contact Ray McEntee instead.



Play every card well,

Ed Fuller, Unit 191 President

DO YOU KNOW WHAT I KNOW? #4

LEADING IS REALLY HARD

By Kay Joyce

No one sympathizes with a disastrous lead more than the Joyces. No matter how careful, inspired, thoughtful, or diligent you might try to be, your opening can produce a bottom board at matchpoints or be the only lead to “give them the contract” at IMPs. We wish there were rules, but, alas, there are only guidelines and opinions.

Why the unusual byline of Kay only? Randy thought this article, due to its subject, would be too preachy. It is not meant to be at all; it is intended to be helpful. I will share anecdotal experience on the subject, as well as recent examples. The guilty and innocent will remain nameless.

SUBJECT : Underleading aces against suit contracts

Let’s be clear on what this mean, exactly. “Underlead” means to lead a card lower than. You know what an Ace is. So, if you underlead an Ace, you might have something like A853, and you lead the three (4th best) or the five (3rd best). You don’t lead the Ace, but you “underlead” it. The last part, “against suit contracts” mean that you are on defense against opponents who are playing in a suit, not notrump.

We all know that we routinely lead 4th best against notrump, and that often includes underleading an ace. That is perfectly fine, because you are working on setting up tricks in your longest suit.

When you underlead an ace against a suit contract, consider:

- You are doomed if either the dummy or declarer has a singleton king.
- Declarer has the King, but wasn’t going to be able to take a trick with it.
- Partner is never going to play you to have done this, because it is the big “NO-NO” in leading guidelines.
- Partner may “misdefend” and fail to play their king when appropriate, because they aren’t expecting you to “underlead an ace.” For example, Dummy has the queen, but partner doesn’t play the king, trying to use his 10 to force declarer’s Ace. Instead declarer wins the Jack, possibly Jx, when you and partner have the ace and king between you.
- Partner won’t lead it back, because he’s sure declarer has that card, and something else must have more potential for your side.

Up until recently, I taught bridge for about 12 years. One thing that I tried to teach was the guideline: Don’t underlead aces against suit contracts. Why? There aren’t really any rules about leading. There are guidelines like leading 4th versus notrump and leading top of a sequence of honor cards, but Randy admonished me to teach this one, particularly. Why? He saw people making this mistake all the time and said it was the mark of a beginner, someone who doesn’t know any better.

I frequently told my students not to do this out in public, because people would know immediately that they didn’t know much!

I had it happen against me 5 times in the last few weeks! None of my students, thank Goodness! Two very experienced players and two less experienced and one that I can't remember! How did they fare? Surprisingly, the 2 experienced players scored very badly; their trick didn't "come back."

One of the experienced players and his partner had bid and raised hearts, but he had to defend against 3S. On lead, he led a low heart from x, Axx, Txxx, QJxxx. A club or a diamond probably would have told his partner that he had the Ace of hearts and didn't want to plunk it down, in case declarer had the king.

One of the less experienced players hit a home run because my partner didn't play the K from Kxx opposite xx. Her hand was a real dilemma leading into 3C after a strong notrump by RHO, ATxx, AQTx, 98x, Kx.

By the 5th time it happened, I had learned and played the King from Kxxx opposite a small singleton.

Even though my results weren't conclusive with this small sample, "underleading an Ace against a suit contract" is very bad practice! Trust me, I'm conveying the expert viewpoint:

- Of the thousands of hands I've played with Randy, he has never done it, not once. That should speak volumes!
- Of the thousands of hands I've played with Bill Wisdom, he has done it one time (against a slam and with great success!)
- Have I ever done it? Yea, I'm a little bit of a maverick, but only 5-7 times in 40+ years. I did it against "Pepsi" in a KO match when he had opened a strong notrump and was declaring 3H. About the middle of the hand, he began chuckling, not in a mean way. He had figured out that I held Kx of trumps and the A in all of the other suits. Luckily, I underled the one to cause him a problem!
- Hendersonville, NC is a hotbed of bridge in our state. A popular teacher there, Walt Murphy, tells his classes that "You can only underlead an Ace against a suit contract if you have 10,000 masterpoints."

Well, what do you lead then? One of the culprits complained bitterly that he didn't have a good lead with Axxx, Kxxx, Q9653 void against 3C. You "can't" lead a spade, a heart is very dangerous, (but it may work well for you, so do it!), hence you lead your 4th best diamond, the 5. That would have worked fine! Rule of thumb, anything else: no underleading Aces against suit contracts!



UNIT 191 POINT GETTERS AT GREENVILLE

1. Bud McKinney - 85.14
- 2/3 Kay and Randy Joyce - 78.28
- 4/5/6/7 Bill McCartney—John Schachte—Vernon and
Carol Grizzard - 31.59
8. Joy McKenzie-Smith - 20.87
9. Chris Moll - 19.60
- 10/11 Pat mcFeeley and Susan Ingelbinck - 8.31

Congratulations to All!



**Valerie
Zentil—
Unit
191's
newest
life mas-
ter!

Well
done!**

Membership Report

Submitted by Jane Kiernan
As of June 1, 2019

Total Membership as of June 1, 2019	586
New Members	2
Transfers In	3
Transfers Out	1

Advancing in rank during May were:

Junior Master

Janet Broughton
Carl Harris
Carolyn Harris
Jim Harris

Sectional Master

Diane Eastwood
Gayle Streifford

Regional Master

Larry Stanczyk

Life Master

Michael Mendelsohn

ETHICS AND COURTESIES

Thank you, **Nancy Young**, for sending the following article. Each of these are suggestions we have heard many times, however, it never hurt to be reminded once again.

After the bidding is over and the opening lead is made, it is dummy's obligation to put his/her hand down. Many players have the bad habit of writing the contract down on the personal score before putting the dummy down. Remember, there are three people anxiously awaiting to see your cards! Learn to put your hand down immediately, then write the contract down. The same is true of making the opening lead. Fill out the contract etc. after you have placed your card on the table.

Are you curious where partner got his bid from or why an opponent made a call and would like to see their hand. It is a courtesy to ask your partner or another player if it is okay to look at their hand. A polite, "May I look at your hand on board 14," is all that is required.

Don't discuss hands at the table. The next table over will be playing the very same hand next round. When North says a little too loudly, "Gee, I should have bid six clubs!" it makes it difficult for North at the next table to bid ethically.

Don't touch or get your hand near the bidding box until you have decided what bid you are going to make. Do your thinking with your brain, not your hand! Place your bidding cards on the table at an even tempo. Slapping the "Alert" or "Double" card on the table with added emphasis is not an allowed way to wake up partner to your bid or tell him/her it is a penalty double.

North "owns" the table. North has responsibility for everything that goes on at the table. (If you are uncomfortable with that responsibility, don't sit North). North should ask the incoming pair their pair number to verify they are at the right table. North should check to make sure the correct boards are on the table in the correct order and pointed north. North is "technically" responsible for changing the boards, but usually delegates this function to South. Most Norths are not that

fussy. But SOME take offense if East/West even touch the boards.

Bridge is a timed event. You are normally given 7 minutes a board to complete a round. Everyone at the table should be aware of the time constraints. Players should learn to make their opening lead before writing the score down and likewise lay the dummy down before writing the score. It is okay to take time to think about a problematic bid or a difficult card to play, but after a minute or so, make a decision. It is not fair to the opponents to take more than your share of the time. Claiming is part of the game. You should claim as soon as you realize the hand is going to play out. Claiming is especially important if either pair has taken excess time on another hand. Never claim when there are trump still out or at least state, "I will pull the outstanding trump." Lay your entire hand on the table and explain how you will take the remaining tricks. Don't pick up your cards until both opponents are satisfied.

By the simple expedient of placing your opening lead face down, avoid making an opening lead out of turn.

There is no specific rule as how to play your cards, but most lay their cards gently on the table as they play them. Unfortunately, others have different styles:

- Card-snappers: they hold up the corner of the card and snap it onto the table when they place it down. This is exceptionally hard on the cards. Also it is bothersome to those wearing hearing aids as the "snap" is amplified.
- Car-tossers: they throw 'em on the table, and the cards go flying every so often.
- Card-flippers" they play a card and immediately turn it over before anyone has a chance to see it.
- Card-slappers" they slap their card onto the table with a thud, especially when they want to draw partner's attention to the card.

* Card-hiders: Their hand or wrist or elbow blocks your view of the card just played.

Most important of all, learn to make the play of your card in tempo.

Once the auction is over, dummy cannot ask about the bidding. He/she should not touch a card until declarer asks for it. Dummy is not allowed to tell declarer which hand he is in, but he is allowed to stop a lead from the wrong hand. Dummy can not call attention to a defender's revoke until the hand is over. But he/she is allowed to say, "No hearts, partner," when declarer does not follow suit. Dummy is allowed to tell declarer he has a card turned the wrong way, but only on the trick the error occurs.

Without a doubt, the biggest ethical problem in bridge is information transmitted by hesitations in the bidding. The rule book refers to this as a "break in tempo" or BIT. This conveys unauthorized information to partner and one must bend over backwards not to use that information. For example, a snap pass tells partner you have no hand worth thinking about. On the other hand, taking thirty seconds and passing tells partner that you definitely have something to think about.



Bright Leaf Unit 191 Summer Sectional

The Hospitality Committee invites each and every one of you to the Unit 191 Summer Sectional, July 11th to 14th. We hope you are eager to play bridge. We are striving to have goodies "fit for a King and Queen" and perhaps a *Jack* as well, or at least good eats to enjoy during breaks from the bridge games at the Triangle Bridge Club (Open events) and The Bridge Academy (499er events).

Please invite friends from near and far! Feel free to bring your own delectables to share with all!

The Hospitality Committee needs volunteers to help with a variety of activities. If you are willing to do some cooking, do some baking, do some shopping, or help with setting up snacks and meals, please let us know.

Contact Suzie Goldberg, seg1040@gmail.com, (717) 580-8586.

**The Bright Leaf Alert is
the official newsletter
of Unit 191.**

**If you have ideas for
articles or questions,
please**

Contact

Barbara Martin

Editor



What do you do when the opponents interfere with your NT bid? Real friends don't let friends play stolen bids!

Lebensohl Review

Lebensohl over NT, weak 2's, and reverses

THURSDAYS JULY 11TH & 18TH

10:00AM - 11:30AM

COST IS \$45 FOR BOTH CLASSES OR DROP IN FOR \$25

Advance registration is appreciated.

Chris Moll 504-495-7485

trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com



TRIANGLE BRIDGE CLUB JULY 2019 NEWS

Play early, late, and often!

July is filled with Club Championship, NAP, and Charity games. All of these special games pay extra points. See the calendar on our website to find the ones that fit your schedule. <http://www.trianglebridgeclub.net/schedules.html>

July 4th 12:30pm

Our Fourth of July game is at 12:30pm. Please join us for pie and ice cream and friendly competition at its best.

Eight is Enough

Sunday, July 7th at 2:00pm is the "Eight is Enough" Team Game. Although teammates are not guaranteed, please contact Chris Moll (504) 495-7485 or trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com by 1pm on Saturday July 6th for assistance.

ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game

Monday, July 8th is the ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game. One gold point to section tops in each direction. Remaining points red/black 81.8% sectional rating. Winners recognized on ACBL website and in the Bridge Bulletin.

Unit 191 Sectional July 11-14

Unit 191 is hosting its Summer Sectional July 11th –July 14th. All Open games are held at Triangle. We will host Open A/X and **Mid-Flight (B/C/D)** Pairs games on Saturday at 10am and 2:30pm. Check the website for details.

NAP Qualifiers

NAP Qualifying season has begun and will run all summer. We will host 13 NAP qualifying games in July. Check the calendar for times.

Learning Opportunities

Chris Moll is teaching ***Lebensohl Review*** Thursday mornings July 11th and 18th at 10am, and ***Supervised Play*** Tuesdays July 2nd and 16th at 10am. Please register at trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com and see our website for more details at <http://www.trianglebridgeclub.net/learning-opportunities.html>

Looking forward to August

Future Life Master Sectional August 8-11th

Triangle Bridge will host the Future Life Master Sectional August 8-11th with pair and team games. Grab your partner and your team and come on down!



Bright Leaf Unit 191 Summer Sectional

July 11-14, 2019



Only players under 500 MP may play at The Bridge Academy



Tournament Chair
Chris Moll (504) 495-7485

Tournament Co-Chair
Henry Meguid (919) 724-6239

All Open Events:
Triangle Bridge Club
5110 Revere Road
Durham, NC 919-405-2016

Thursday, July 11
7:00 pm Open and 499'er Swiss Teams

All 499er Events:
The Bridge Academy
2634 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd
Durham, NC 919-724-6239

Open Stratification:
0-1000, 1000-3000, 3000+
A/X: 0-5000, 5000+
B/C/D: 0-1000, 1000-2000, 2000-3000

Friday, July 12

10:00 am Open & 499'er pairs
*2:30pm Open & 499'er pairs



499er Stratification:
0-100, 100-300, 300-500

Partnership Requests:
Ed Fuller
301-906-1667
edwin.fuller@gmail.com



Saturday, July 13

10:00 am A/X, B/C/D & 499'er pairs
*2:30pm A/X, B/C/D & 499'er pairs
*Both 2:30 games are Regionally-rated silver points



Partnership Requests:
Jennie Robinson
828-773-9577
5223jrobinson@gmail.com

Nearby Lodging:
La Quinta Inns & Suites
1910 Westpark Drive, Durham
919-484-1422

Sunday, July 14

10:00 am & TBD Stratified Open and 499'er Swiss Teams
(stratification based on team MP average)
Play through with lunch included

Nearby Lodging:
La Quinta Inns & Suites
4414 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd
Durham 919-401-9660

Triangle Bridge July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	2 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	3 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Swiss	4 Independence Day 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	5 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	6 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
7 Eight is Enough 2:00 Open Swiss	8 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Swiss	9 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	10 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	11 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs Bright Leaf Sectional 7:00 Open Swiss	12 Bright Leaf Sectional 10:00 Open Pairs 2:30 Open Pairs	13 Bright Leaf Sectional 2:00 Open Pairs 2:30 Open Pairs
14 Bright Leaf Sectional 10:00 & TBD Open Swiss	15 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	16 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	17 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Swiss	18 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	19 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	20 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
21	22 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Swiss	23 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	24 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	25 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	26 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	27 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
28	29 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	30 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	31 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game Charity Game Club Championship Game NAP Qualifiers		