

District 10 Bridge News

VOLUME 2023, ISSUE 1

EDITOR: CHARLES S DURRIN III

In this issue:

- Upcoming Events
- New Orleans NABC
- North American Pairs
- Club and Unit Corner
- Significant Recent Results
- Changes in Rank
- Expert Bridge Tips
- A Tour of the District 10 Website
- A Word from Larry Sealy, District 10 President

Welcome to the new ACBL District 10 Bridge Newsletter

After a long break, we are starting a new District 10 Newsletter to keep our many members informed and to try build closer coordination and relationships between District 10 units and clubs. The newsletter will be published Quarterly. It will only be distributed using email, and will be available on our District 10 website, <https://www.bridgewebs.com/acbl10/>. If your friends do not use email, please be sure to tell them about our website or feel free to print the newsletter to provide them a copy.

WHAT IS DISTRICT 10?

The American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) authorizes bridge clubs around North America to offer games complying with ACBL rules and regulations. In order to have efficient coordination and governance, the ACBL is divided into 25 Districts. Each District has its own elected officers who help coordinate and make decisions that guide its many units and clubs.

District 10 comprises fourteen Units. Each unit has its own clubs. There are 69 ACBL-sanctioned clubs in District 10, and about 5,500 ACBL members.

District 10 includes Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, the Eastern portions of Arkansas, the Western portions of Tennessee, and four (inactive) counties in Kentucky.

District 10 runs all Regionals or delegates Regional Operation to a Unit. All Units are required to have at least one Sectional every two years unless they apply for an exemption due to an identified hardship.

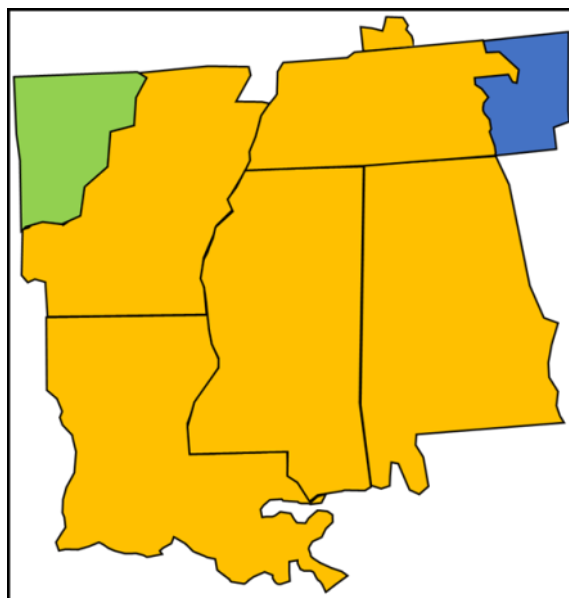


Figure 1. District 10 Covers all or parts of six states.

Unit 134 Louisiana (4 Clubs)

Unit 138 Mississippi (5 Clubs)

Unit 144 Tennessee (6 Clubs)

Unit 157 Central Alabama (10 Clubs)

Unit 161 Arkansas (6 Clubs)

Unit 170 Shreveport, LA (4 Clubs)

Unit 179 Nashville, TN (12 Clubs)

Unit 180 Mississippi Gulf Coast (3 Clubs)

Unit 182 Baton Rouge, LA (2 Clubs)

Unit 211 Northeast Louisiana (3 Clubs)

Unit 214 Hattiesburg/ Laurel, MS (2 Clubs)

Unit 215 South Alabama (5 Clubs)

Unit 221 Southwest Louisiana (4 Clubs)

Unit 232 North Alabama (3 Clubs)

Figure 2. District 10 Units

DISTRICT 10 TOURNAMENTS

Click on the city to go to the online flyer or tournament schedule.

D10 Non-Life Master Sectionals through April 2023

DATES	CITY	STATE	TOURNEY	
Jan 13-14	<u>Montgomery</u>	AL	Sectional	I/N
Feb 3-5	<u>Little Rock</u>	AR	Sectional	I/N

D10 Open Sectionals through April 2023

DATES	CITY	STATE	TOURNEY	
Jan 5-7	<u>Metairie [New Orleans]</u>	LA	Sectional	Open
Jan 6-8	<u>Memphis</u>	TN	Sectional	Open
Jan 20-22	<u>Gulfport</u>	MS	Sectional	Open
Jan 27-29	<u>Flowood</u>	MS	Sectional	Open
Feb 10-12	<u>Hattiesburg</u>	MS	Sectional	Open
Feb 23-26	<u>Birmingham</u>	AL	Sectional	Open
Feb 28-Mar 4	<u>Nashville</u>	TN	Sectional	Open
Mar 24-26	<u>Hot Springs Village</u>	AR	Sectional	Open
Mar 30-Apr 1	<u>Huntsville</u>	AL	Sectional	Open
Apr 28-30	<u>Ridgeland</u>	MS	Sectional	Open

D10 STaC Tournaments through April 2023

DATES	CITY	STATE	TOURNEY	
Feb 13-19	STaC D10	All	Sectional	STaC

D10 Non-Life Master Regionals through April 2023

DATES	CITY	STATE	TOURNEY	
Mar 30-Apr 1	<u>Huntsville</u>	AL	Regional	I/N
Apr 20-23	<u>Gulfport</u>	MS	Regional	I/N

D10's New Orleans hosts Spring 2023

NABC. More information on the next page



BY PARTICIPATING IN OUR DISTRICT 10 TOURNAMENTS YOU CAN ENJOY COMPETITION, COMARADERIE, MASTERPOINTS, AND MUCH MORE!

All data was current as of December 15th, but schedules can change. Please check our District 10 website [here](#) or the ACBL website [here](#) for changes.



The Spring North American Bridge Championship (NABC) occurs March 9-19, 2023, in **New Orleans**. Join us for more than a week of bridge in a charming city with vibrant culture and one-of-a-kind dining.

If you have never been to an NABC, what is holding you back? There are events for every skill level. The NABC-rated events are the only place players can win Platinum Masterpoints, which are required to reach Grand Master, the ACBL's highest rank. The NABC has Regional Events and Novice Events every day, with lots of opportunities for Gold points. Events include pair and team games.

There are famous expert speakers (*you know, the people you always read about in the ACBL Bulletin—well now you can see some of them in person*).

Individuals can earn their Best Practices Teacher Certification. Teaching bridge or want to start? This workshop equips you with proven techniques for increasing student engagement and will help you be a more effective teacher. The focus is on how, rather than what, to teach. Participants have the opportunity to demonstrate their Best Practices proficiency after the workshop to earn certification as an ACBL Best Practices Teacher.

You and your friends ought to be there. For detailed information, including hotel reservations, game schedules, seminar schedules, local contacts, and more, please click on the following link:

[NEW ORLEANS, MARCH 9-19](#)

Let's meet in New Orleans, win lots of Masterpoints, eat great food, and just have a fantastic time!



NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS (NAP)

The ACBL holds the North American Pairs (NAP) annually. If you qualified in a club game in District 10, get ready for a chance at fame and, well, just fame (*sorry, no fortune*). Club qualifying events were held in June, July, and August. Players qualify in one of three Flights:

- Flight A — Open to any player
- Flight B — Less than 2500 MP
- Flight C — Non-Life Masters with less than 500 MP

If you are uncertain whether you qualified for a specific Flight, click on the following link to find a list of all District 10 Qualifiers and the flights in which they qualified: [NAP D10 QUALIFIERS \(https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/NAP_Qualifiers/NAP_D10.htm\)](https://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/NAP_Qualifiers/NAP_D10.htm). Your Individual masterpoint totals for flight eligibility are determined based on the June 2022 masterpoint cycle run by ACBL data processing on May 6, 2022.

The NAP District 10 Finals will be held in January in two locations. Pairs that finish high enough in the District 10 Finals can represent District 10 in the North American Pairs Finals at the New Orleans NABC. Top District pairs in each flight get a stipend from District 10 to help offset some of the costs associated with attending and playing in the NAP Finals.

The Flight B District 10 Finals will be a two-session event on Saturday, January 7, at 10:00 am and 2:30 pm at the Nate Silverstein Sectional, in Memphis, TN. The NAP game and the sectional will both be played at the Lightman Bridge Center, 8180 Sedgewick Way, Memphis. The event schedule is available [here](#).

The Flight A and C District 10 NAP Finals will be a two-session event on Saturday, January 28, 2023, at 9:30 am and 1:30 pm at the Jackson Bridge Association Sectional, at TABLE 100, 100 Ridge Way, Flowood, Mississippi. The event schedule is available [here](#).

Any player who qualified in Flight B or C who also qualified in Flight A can also play in the District 10 Flight A finals. Any player who qualified in Flight C and B can play in either flight finals, or both. You do not have to play with the same player you played with when you qualified. Your partner must be a District 10 member who also qualified in the Flight in which you plan to play. If you and your partner finish high enough in the District 10 Finals to proceed to the National Finals, you must play with the same partner in the National Final that you played with in the District Finals.



Could I win
the District 10
NAP Finals?
Heck yeah!
Why Not!

ALL PLAYERS PLANNING TO COMPETE IN THE DISTRICT 10 FINALS ARE ASKED TO INFORM THE our NAP COORDINATOR, **JERRY BURFORD**, OF THEIR INTENTIONS BY EMAIL AT jerryburford6@gmail.com SO HE CAN PLAN THE APPROXIMATE FIELD SIZE.

The **North American Finals will be held at the New Orleans NABC**. Approximately the highest 50% scores at the end of the first day qualify to play in the second day Finals.

FLIGHT A: Wednesday, March 8 at noon & 5 pm qualifying and Thursday, March 9 at 10 am & 3 pm Finals

FLIGHT B and C: Saturday, March 18 at 10 am and 3 pm qualifying, and Sunday March 19 at 10 am and 3 pm Finals

GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS (GNT)

The Grand National Teams local qualifiers are starting in District 10. If you have not heard an announcement about this team contest, please contact your local Club Manager or Club President.

District 10 does not require qualification at the Club-level for any flight. However, clubs are permitted to conduct club qualifying team games as a fundraiser; clubs should request appropriate sanctions from ACBL for these games. All Club Qualifiers must be completed by February 28 (unless our District applies for an extension to March 31).

Teams may consist of four, five, or six members from anywhere within District 10 (i.e., may comprise members from more than one Unit in District 10.)

District 10 will announce the dates and places for the D10 GNT finals soon.

The District 10 Finals District 10 winners and possibly other high finishing teams qualify to play in the North American Bridge Championship (NABC) in Chicago, at the NABC in mid-July. More information will be provided in our next District 10 Newsletter!

Note that if there are eight or more teams participating in the District 10 Flight B or Flight C qualifying event, the top two teams in those flights in the final event will be invited to represent the district in the NABC. Flight eligibility will be established by ACBL's September 2022 masterpoint cycle.

Masterpoint totals for flight eligibility are determined by the ACBL September 1, 2022 masterpoint cycle as produced by ACBL on August 6, 2022

The winning team from each flight in the District Final will be invited to represent the district at the national championship games to be held at the 2023 Summer North American Bridge Championship (NABC) to be held in Chicago,

FLIGHT	MASTERPOINT LIMITS
Open Championship Flight	Unlimited
Flight A	Under 6000 Masterpoints
Flight B	Under 2500 Masterpoints
Flight C	Non-Life Master under 500 Masterpoints

More information about the Conditions of Contest on the District 10 website at [District 10 NAP/GNT](https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoo/bw.cgi?club=acbl10&pid=display_page9) (https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoo/bw.cgi?club=acbl10&pid=display_page9) or contact the District 10 NAP/GNT Coordinator, Jerry Burford at jerryburford6@gmail.com.

FORM YOUR TEAMS NOW TO BE READY FOR THE 2023 GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS CONTEST!



Club and Unit Corner — news submitted by some of our Units and Clubs.

Happy 100th Paula Huber!

Eastern Shore Duplicate Bridge Club (Fairhope, Alabama) celebrated longtime member **Paula Huber**'s milestone birthday in November. An avid bridge player for 65+ years, **Paula** encourages beginning bridge players "to stay with it, learn all you can and constantly update your skills." Her encouragement and support have helped dozens of players throughout the years. Always elegant, **Paula** is known and admired for being lovely both on the inside and out. She attributes her long life "to two really good husbands and exceptionally nice friends." Though fiercely independent, she allows her 3 sons, 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren to dote on her which they do!



Paula Huber with son David at her bridge birthday celebration at the Nix Center, Fairhope.

The following BIG GAME was reported to the District 10 Newsletter: **Joan Highsmith & Cathy Gersh** scored a 75.3% game playing on November 30 in an eight table Open game at the **Hattiesburg Duplicate Bridge Club**. Fantastic!

The **Hattiesburg Duplicate Bridge Club** also announced that **Linda Valentine** is teaching beginning bridge free of charge to six new members. (Started in September 2022)

The **Louisiana Bridge Association** had it's first "**Chat**" game ever. It was a big success for us. We had 8 tables of people who had mostly taken Easy Bridge before the pandemic, but had never played a game. We had a volunteer mentor at each table. This was so successful that we have decided to make it monthly on the Monday before our board meeting as several board members served as mentors.

NASHVILLE REGIONAL TOURNAMENT NEWS

Unit 179 (Nashville) successfully conducted its enjoyable October Regional upon delegation by District 10. With attendance at all ACBL tournaments not yet up to pre-pandemic levels, the Unit 179 conducted the tournament at the Vanderbilt Bridge Club facility. Attendance totaled and excellent 517.5 tables. 4,229.96 masterpoints earned by 332 people. Congratulations, Unit 179 and VBC, on a successful Regional!

Queen City Bridge Club

The Queen City Bridge Club in Meridian, Ms. has approximately 48 active members. ACBL sanctioned games are held three times weekly: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Typically, we have 3 to 5.5 tables each day. Our members have a wide range of bridge skills, and there are usually enough players to stratify the games. This encourages our newer members and gives them the chance to accumulate points.

Although our common love of bridge has brought us together, the friendships we have formed unite us and are important! **Tommie Pritchard**, a member of the club for over 50 years, said "Bridge has enhanced my life. The members of our bridge club are like my extended family." **Tommie**, an Independent bridge instructor for over 40 years, is responsible for introducing bridge to many of our regular players. **Tommie** enjoys watching her students improve their game and takes much pride in their accomplishments.

Although our main focus is playing bridge, we celebrate and support our members in many ways including a birthday party the first Monday of each month. **Kathy Fulton**, our bridge playing artist, summed it up perfectly: "I sat down with strangers six years ago for my first bridge lesson. Since then, we have all become dear friends! Good times and bad, bridge friends stick together. " Recently, **Kathy** had a painting exhibition downtown, and the bridge club turned out in force to support her. It was very evident that she appreciated the support. **Ruthie Davis-Jones**, a newcomer to Meridian, commented "This club has given me the opportunity to make new friends and have a stronger connection with the community." What a wonderful testimony to our members. They really care about each other!

Recently, we lost one of our long time members- **Dr Habib Bazyari**. He is greatly missed, and the loss has renewed our commitment to growing the bridge club. As we look to the future, we continue to seek ways to draw in inactive and party bridge players. In addition, beginner lessons are being taught by **David and Jean Makey**. Students from these classes are progressing and showing a lot of potential.

We strive to be friendly and welcoming. We love to have visitors and would be happy for you to join us for an afternoon of bridge and fellowship. Please call Mary Gilmore, club president, at 601.479.4925 for more information. The future looks bright for the Queen City Bridge Club!

Written by Diane Wells, club member



VANDERBILT BRIDGE CLUB (NASHVILLE) ANNOUNCES “VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR”.

MARY MARGARET HAMLETT - Mary has been the treasurer of VBC since 2008. All VBC officers serve in a purely volunteer capacity. Being treasurer is both time consuming and stressful. The stress has increased since post-COVID attendance has not rebounded to profitable levels yet. During her tenure, the VBC purchased and relocated to the present facility, which called upon her abilities to budget, analyze, make projections, and negotiate with bankers. The VBC Bridge Notes were created by **Mary Margaret**, and she continues to produce them to this day, sometimes multiple times a week. Along the way, she also volunteered to chair four regional tournaments!

DAVID BIRNBAUM - **David** is a bridge professional, whose skills at both teaching and directing allowed him to make his living for the recent decades of his working life. But, **David** has served in volunteer capacities over that whole time and even before he devoted his energies to bridge full time. Much of what he has done has been in ways that have not been readily apparent to everyone. Although now retired from the Unit 179 Board of Director's, he may own the record for the longest continual service as a board member, including several terms as president.

HUNTSVILLE (AL) FOCUSES ON EDUCATION

Huntsville Bridge is located in a vibrant, fast-growing, well-educated community. With 250+ Unit members and an average age over 70, the future of our club depends on bringing in new members through educational programs and providing a friendly welcoming environment for the new players.

Introductory Bridge Classes. In 2022, we drew over **60 students** to introductory bridge classes in January and August. Some players only want to learn how to play “party bridge,” but a substantial number have become “hooked” on duplicate bridge. Four tables of new players from the January class have continued with us and are regularly playing in our limited games. The August class twelve players who will continue with Easy Bridge 2 in January 2023.

Our Club Manager, **Donna Merchant**, hosts a “Learn and Play” game on Monday afternoons that has proven to be effective in providing a fun, non-threatening game for new players. No player is turned away because they do not have a partner. This is a great place for students to earn their first masterpoints and to become comfortable with duplicate bridge.

One of our members, **Bob Darnall**, teaches bridge classes at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) through the Osher Life Long Learning (OLLI) program using the Audrey Grant series.

Mentoring Program. For the past four years, we have organized a mentoring program for our new and intermediate players. Our experienced players have offer their time and expertise to help players improve their game and gain confidence.

Improving Your Game. We have also been offering special classes, like our popular 2/1 class taught by NABC Champion **Drew Cavalier**. We will expand offerings for Advanced Beginners and Intermediate Players in 2023.

Ideas. We welcome ideas that have worked for other clubs and we will happily share details of our experiences with any who are interested. Contact **Donna Merchant** at donnamerchant51@gmail.com

Written by **Susan Bridges**, Outgoing President.



HUNTSVILLE
BRIDGE
ASSOCIATION



Larry Sealy, current District 10 President, has been elected to be the Representative for Region 7. The ACBL is rolling out the new Regions structure over several years. Region 7 includes all of Districts 8, 10, and 11, as shown on the map at the following link: [Regions and Districts Map](#). Larry's new duties begin in January 2023 and continue through December 31, 2026, a four year term. Congratulations to our President and, now, Regional representative-elect!

RANK CHANGES BY DISTRICT 10 BRIDGE PLAYERS: SEPTEMBER—DECEMBER 2022

Bridge players are climbing up the ranks in District 10! The following pages include all accomplishments calculated by the ACBL in October, November, and December 2022. For the requirements to achieve specific masterpoint ranks, please go to the ACBL website by clicking [here](#).

The ACBL runs its masterpoint cycle on/about the 6th of each month. If you have advanced in rank in December 2022 and your accomplishment is not listed below, the ACBL probably did not have the reported masterpoints prior to December 6th. The ACBL will update the record again on/about January 6th. Rank changes after December 6th will be reported in the next District 10 Newsletter.

Each Newsletter will include three months of Rank Increases.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO ACHIEVED A NEW RANK! KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Frances S Adcock	Baton Rouge LA
Marcia W Arlington	Fairhope AL
Yvonne Bayhi	New Orleans LA
Melinda H Bornfleth	Mobile AL
Sharon Bounds	Homewood AL
Carol O Bourke	Baton Rouge LA
Christopher A Brown	Vestavia Hills AL
Linda L Crotwell	Morton MS
Ellen L Dabbs	Brandon MS
Lawrence Fikes	Pine Bluff AR
Randall L Gammill	Hot Springs AR
James R Garnett	Helena AL
Alan Greer	Germantown TN
Arthur J Hanes	Birmingham AL
Marilyn Jenkins-Johnson	Birmingham AL
Christopher J Jones	Anniston AL
Mary Klompus	Hot Springs AR
Beth Lumb	Huntsville AL
Mary Lou Matthews	Bay Saint Louis MS
Ruth Minter	Huntsville AL
Mike Moeller	Huntsville AL
Sally B Moore	Clanton AL
Judy A Murchison	Brentwood TN
Marilyn S Nevin	Tuscaloosa AL
Karen C Raley	Hot Springs AR
Emily P Saile	Huntsville AL
Richard Saylor	Tuscaloosa AL
Carol F Schramm	Hot Springs Vlg AR
Anne F Shearer	Mobile AL
Donna J Sorensen	Huntsville AL
Lyn C Stafford	Vestavia AL
Melinda J Voorhies	Lafayette LA
Michael Walsh	Madison AL
Carol A Yaffe	Memphis TN

NEW CLUB MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Frannie J Ambrose	Nashville TN
John Black	Baton Rouge LA
Sharon E Blane	Indian Springs AL
Susan B Broyles	Shreveport LA
Deborah Culler	Gulfport MS
Bob Duling	Columbia TN
Cassandra Estes	Nashville TN
Robert L Estes	Nashville TN
Ernest M Evans	Shreveport LA
Matt Giffin	Memphis TN
Linda E Hamilton	Tulahoma TN
Arthur J Hanes	Birmingham AL
Betty Holland	Biloxi MS
Barbara J Jones	Huntsville AL
Lynn L Lightfoot	Metairie LA
Alex Lindsey	Mount Juliet TN
Ann M Manning	Baton Rouge LA
Dana Merrill	Baton Rouge LA
Keith Moody	Gulfport MS
Susan K Moody	Gulfport MS
Donnie Pennington	Nashville TN
Donna L Porter	Nashville TN
Barbara J Sallen	Little Rock AR
Paul Snow	Madison MS
Anita Vondra	Benton LA
Diane Wells	Toomsaba MS
Steve H Van Wezel	Birmingham AL
Marilyn Williams	Cullman AL

RANK CHANGES BY DISTRICT 10 BRIDGE PLAYERS SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO ACHIEVED A NEW RANK! KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Mary Anderton	Fairhope AL
Sherry Andrews	Nashville TN
Karen M Ardoin	Lafayette LA
Beatrice M Bartmess	Florence AL
John E Bartmess	Florence AL
William L Buffat	Anita Springs LA
Antoinette R Bush	Gulf Shores AL
Gary L Calligas	Shreveport LA
Ruth C Casey	Clarkville TN
Wendell F Cavalier	Gulfport MS
Julia S Cavalier	Gulfport MS
Alverna M Champion	Lafayette LA
Anne D Collier	Baton Rouge LA
Liz A Conway	Fairhope AL
Kathleen M Coward	Meridian MS
Judith S Gentry	Nashville TN
Ronald D Gray	Columbia TN
Carol S Heavin	Mabelvale Ar AR
Sherry K Kinkopf	Hattiesburg MS
John E Nikolic	Pearl MS
Carla D Seyler	New Orleans LA
Marietta M Shipley	Nashville TN
Hilary M Sikes	Hot Springs Vlg AR
Martha H Stokes	Carrollton AL
Susannah W Talbert	Fairhope AL
Denise Weeks	Hattiesburg MS

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Charlotte Atwood	Nashville TN
Sylvia W Carraway	Jackson MS
Susan F Chaisson	Baton Rouge LA
Lorene W Dillingham	Germantown TN
Maxine R Doyle	Hot Springs Vlg AR
Venita A Eve	Jacksonville AR
Marilyn Hutchison	Benton AR
Joe Jones	Memphis TN
Evelyn B De Laureal	Metairie LA
Judy Marchbanks	Fairhope AL
Ashlyn Meneguzzi	Franklin TN
Laurie Milani	New Orleans LA
Linda M Oatway	Brandon MS
Margaret A Palmer	Nashville TN
Mary D Pepper	Nashville TN
Jodie Ruck	Madison MS
Cecile Shetler	Baton Rouge LA
Renee B Spratt	New Orleans LA
Yong-Dong Wang	Memphis TN

NEW NABC MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Sheila A Bosarge	Long Beach MS
Margie B Christian	Metairie LA
Fran M Early	Mandeville LA
Elizabeth C Farris	Hot Springs AR
Clarence E Foreman	Jackson MS
Kay C Gray	Nashville TN
Jenny F Hornby	Huntsville AL
Jan L Johnson	Ridgeland MS
Rodney J Nichols	Ocean Springs MS
Mary Ann O'Brien	Ridgeland MS
Sandra K Ray	Florence AL
Janice E Sardina	Mount Juliet TN
Deborah H Skorlich	Kenner LA
Margaret M Smith	Nashville TN
John Venable	Birmingham AL
Don Waters	Pelham AL
Judith E Zartman	Nashville TN



RANK CHANGES BY DISTRICT 10 BRIDGE PLAYERS SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO ACHIEVED A NEW RANK! KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!

NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Hilary C Hart-Brown	Nashville TN
GINNA DOMM	Germantown TN
William R Flanagan	Murfreesboro TN
Kathy A Ganske	Nashville TN
Mary Gilmore	Meridian MS
Joanne N Hilton	Baton Rouge LA
Rebecca J Ingle	Nashville TN
Tim Kauffman	Arkadelphia AR
Mary M Lewis	Nashville TN
Martha McAlister	Hot Springs Vlg AR
Wendy S Murphy	Harvest AL
Dorothy Pace	Nashville TN
Carleen V Sandoz	Lafayette LA
Carol L Schnaars	Nashville TN
Anne Slosky	Franklin TN
Larry T Stafford	Opelika AL
D Stewart	Hattiesburg MS
Noel B Stewart	Hot Springs Vlg AR
Donna Terry	Meridian MS
Suzanne J Torrence	Nashville TN

NEW LIFE MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Susan Bridges	Madison AL
Marianne Dethardt	Hot Springs Vlg AR
Carleen A Dowell	Antioch TN
Donna D Evans	Jackson MS
Theresa M Federico	Kenner LA
Charlotte H Frattini	Baton Rouge LA
Mary Jane G Gelpi	Baton Rouge LA
Sara T Helfrich	Nashville TN
Barbara M Fitz-Hugh	New Orleans LA
Tommy M Mook	Shreveport L LA
Charles Tapp	Hot Springs AR
Charles E Waldrop	Metairie LA
Reveland M Wheat	Brandon MS

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Michele J Bass	Murfreesboro TN
Wanda R Bergeron	Lafayette LA
Susan Bridges	Madison AL
Stella Byrd	New Albany MS
Janice W Clifford	Fairhope AL
Marianne Dethardt	Hot Springs Vlg AR
Carleen A Dowell	Antioch TN
Donna D Evans	Jackson MS
Mary Jane G Gelpi	Baton Rouge LA
Becky S Gilbreath	Little Rock AR
William E Golden	Little Rock AR
Loretta T Holmes	Jackson MS
Judy Kane	Mobile AL
Carla Makowski	Huntsville AL
Kay Nichols	N Little Rock AR
Dupree Parker	Baton Rouge LA
Leslie D Pfeiffer	Hot Springs Vlg AR
Beth Simpson	Memphis TN
Carolyn S Townes	Ridgeland MS
Charles E Waldrop	Metairie LA
Reveland M Wheat	Brandon MS
Mickey Wilson	Nashville TN
Lee Wyatt	Nashville TN

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Judy D Anderson	Nashville TN
Sue R Atwood	Nashville TN
Thomas L Cupit	Brandon MS
Robert Dietrick	Brentwood TN
Ethel J Gibson	Jackson MS
Gloria E Ives	Huntsville AL
J Walker Jones Jr	Thibodaux LA
Nancy A Linzy	Mandeville LA
Susan B McNamara	Jackson MS
Mary A Morton	Baton Rouge LA
Mae V O Neil	Mandeville LA
Vicki A Poecker	Hot Springs AR
Ann Williams	Monroe LA

RANK CHANGES BY DISTRICT 10 BRIDGE PLAYERS SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO ACHIEVED A NEW RANK! KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Cathy P Alford	New Orleans LA
Sandra F Baggett	Hattiesburg MS
Kay K Black	Germantown TN
Herbert Dotzauer	Nolensville TN
Mark H Friedman	Birmingham AL
Laurie Howorth	Nashville TN
Jim Jones	Brentwood TN
Guy V Martin	Montgomery AL
Lisa Rowland	Little Rock AR
K. K. H Weinberg	Memphis TN
Abe Zanayed	Hoover AL

NEW GOLD LIFE MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Bonnie W Angers	Lafayette LA
Richard Bryant	Ocean Springs MS
Diane B Callahan	Germantown TN
Marge K Chipman	Hendersonville TN
Joyce S Clarke	Lake Charles LA
Ron Goldfon	Hoover AL
Clifford S Kent Jr	Nashville TN
Leah G Miciotto	Lake Charles LA
Jean Paul Nicol	Auburn AL
Jeffrey Perigoni	Slidell LA
Neil Thomas	Birmingham AL

NEW SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Ranajit Chakraborty	Memphis TN
Barbara A Denley	Memphis TN
Larry R Jackson	Memphis TN
Barbara B Johnson	Memphis TN
Lowell F Lynde Jr	Choudrant LA
Charles M MacCracken	Memphis TN
L M Snyder	St Francisville LA

NEW DIAMOND LIFE MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Michael E Reeslund	Nashville TN
Connie L Spector	Franklin TN
Judy Steinfeld	Shreveport LA

NEW EMERALD LIFE MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
Mike L Cook	Memphis TN
Kristina Oliver	Birmingham AL

NEW PLATINUM LIFE MASTERS

NAME	RESIDENT CITY
David H Birnbaum	Pegram TN



David Birnbaum, new Platinum Life Master, surpassing 10,000 Masterpoints earned to date!





EXPERT BRIDGE TIPS.

GREAT DISTRICT 10 BRIDGE PLAYERS SHARE IDEAS, EXPERIENCES AND HANDS FOR YOUR EDIFICATION AND ENJOYMENT.

In this issue:

⇒ **Chuck Said (Nashville)**

⇒ **Mark Jones (Birmingham)**

HAND FROM CHUCK SAID:

THINKING LIKE AN EXPERT

Grand Champion **Chuck Said**, Nashville, shared a tactical way of thinking with us. **Chuck** has more than 45,000 Masterpoints and is a Grand Master with five North American Championships and three second place finishes in NABC events.

You are playing in a high-level pair game, perhaps a national championship. Both are Vulnerable, your partner is dealer. Your hand is:



♠ KQ763

♥ AK5

♦ A4

♣ KQ2

Twenty-one High Card Points (HCP), five spades, and a doubleton. The hand has potential.

Partner reaches for the bidding box, pulls out a bid and opens **one spade!** You inconspicuously glance at the back of partner's cards and then at the back of your cards to be sure that you are playing the same hand.

Slam looks likely. It's time to concentrate and get to the "best" contract. What is "best"? Playing pairs getting the highest possible score is a must. If you do the same as everyone, the result is average, which isn't bad, but average doesn't win pair games.

It is your bid. What is your instinct? Let me guess: Jacoby 2NT. Did I read your mind?

That's OK, because that is exactly what most people would bid. Let's see where it takes us. Partner would respond 4♠ showing nothing extra, no singletons or voids, and no side five card or longer suit good enough to be a source of tricks. You bid 4NT to ask for key cards, and partner responds 5♥, showing two key cards without the Q♠. Now bid 5NT asking for specific kings and partner responds 6♦ (showing the King of diamonds). Your auction has been:

Partner	You	
1♠	2NT ¹	1. Jacoby 2NT, game forcing in spades with at least four card support
4♠ ²	4NT ³	2. No shortness, no extra values, and denies a good five card suit on the side
5♥ ⁴	5NT ⁵	3. Key card ask in spades
6♦ ⁶	?	4. Two key cards (Ace of ♣ and ♠) without the Q♠
		5. Ask for partner to bid lowest specific King if partner has one below trumps (Spades)
		6. K♦

Employing Jacoby 2NT you know that you and partner have five spade tricks, two heart tricks (AK), two diamond tricks (AK), and three club tricks (AKQ). That is twelve top tricks. You bid 6NT. That was easy!

(continued)

However, partner might have additional useful cards (such as the Q♥ or Q♦ or maybe four clubs with the Jack in addition to the Ace), but you have no way to know using Jacoby 2NT. Partner has eight points in Aces and three points in the K♦ and may have no additional honor cards. From the auction, you know partner has no shortness. Jacoby 2NT leaves you guessing whether to bid higher.

Chuck Said wants to get to the highest score possible **without guessing or hoping**. **Bridge should be as scientific as possible.**

The expert asks: what would it take to make seven spades or seven notrump? Here is **Chuck's** thought process. Partner would have to possess the two missing Aces. Partner opened the bidding, so two aces is possible. Assume that partner has both missing Aces. You will be able to stop if partner doesn't have them.

What if partner has three or more small hearts? One way to not lose a heart is to pitch it on a winner in a long suit partner may have. Or one could ruff the third heart, which works if partner has two or fewer hearts. Or maybe partner has the Q♥.

Chuck concludes that you want to know about partner's hearts. How? Respond by bidding 2♥! Partner will raise your 2♥ bid with three or more hearts. If partner has two or fewer, partner will bid something else.

Partner responds 2NT, denying three hearts and denying a six card spade suit. There is no heart loser playing in spades. You can already count twelve tricks **and you are on the two level**: five spades, two hearts, a heart ruff, the A♦, and three clubs (remember, we temporarily assume partner has both missing aces).

But what if partner has the Q♥? How many tricks do you have then? Five spades, three hearts, the A♦, three clubs for twelve tricks in NT. How can you find out about the Q♥?

If partner has two hearts and you rebid 3♥, partner will raise you to four because partner assumes you have six of them. **Chuck** bids 3♥. Partner raises to 4♥. You know partner has two hearts. But you wanted to know about the Q♥. Bid 4NT to ask for Key Cards. Partner responds 5♣, showing two key cards and the Q♥!

Bingo! You now know without guessing that you have twelve tricks in NT. You've already beat a some of your opponents. You now bid 5NT to ask for specific kings (**be sure you and partner agree whether you are asking for specific kings or the quantity of kings**). Partner responds 6♦ showing the K♦.

Hurray! You can count thirteen tricks in notrump **without guessing**: five spades, three hearts (AKQ), two diamonds (AK), and three clubs (AKQ). Science wins. You confidently place the 7 NT bid on the table.

The complete hand between you and partner:

♠ A10542

♥ Q8

♦ K???

♣ A???

Partner's Hand

♠ KQ763

♥ AK5

♦ A4

♣ KQ2

Your Hand

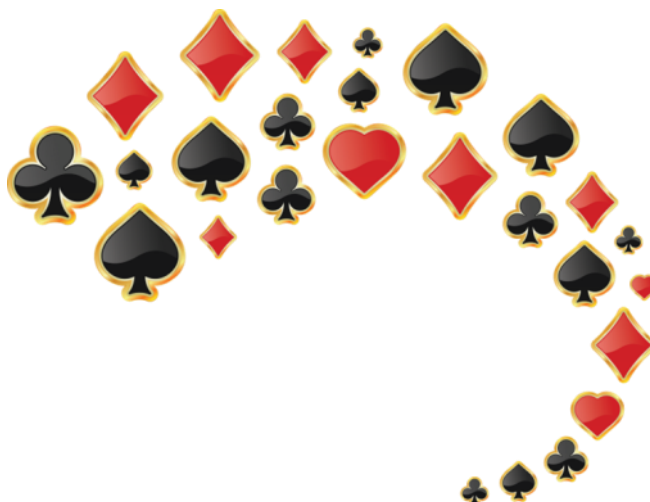
You don't care about partner's remaining distribution or low cards because you can count to thirteen tricks with your current knowledge. Bidding and making 7NT.

The lesson for this hand? Chuck says that experts think in the following steps:

- ♦ Ask yourself what the best contract might be.
- ♦ Figure out what you need to know to get to the best contract.
- ♦ Figure out how to determine whether partner has the cards needed to make the best contract.

Additional thought. The point of this example is **NOT** to make up a bid of a fake suit. The point is to approach each hand as scientifically as possible. Think about what tools you have to find out what you need to know to determine whether the "best" contract where you want to go. There will be many times when Jacoby 2NT is the best tool. View every convention as a "tool".

*EDITOR: Thank you, **Chuck**, for sharing an example of expert thought!*



HAND FROM MARK JONES: COUNTING TO 13

Mark Jones, playing with **Clay Hall**, both from the Birmingham area, won the North American Championship in IMP Pairs in the 2018 NABC in Philadelphia. They won 100 Platinum masterpoints, which will qualify both for Grand Master when each passes a cumulative 10,000 Masterpoints won.



Mark and Clay Victory Photo

Playing matchpoints, you are not vulnerable. The opponents are vulnerable. You pick up:

♠ AQ53
♥ 8
♦ AQT82
♣ A75

Partner deals and opens 2♥, and your RHO over calls 2♠. You have an easy penalty double. If partner has the A♥, this could get bloody.

Everyone passes. You lead your stiff heart. Dummy places the following on the table:

♠ 84
♥ T52
♦ 954
♣ KQJ83

Dummy plays small, and partner plays the Q♥. Declarer wins the A♥ and plays a small club. You give it some thought, and duck. Partner signals that he has three clubs.

Declarer leads a small spade, and partner shows out, pitching a club.

Let's do some counting. What is Declarer's hand? Declarer has seven spades (worth five tricks). Three hearts (likely two tricks). We know at trick one that declarer has AJx in the heart suit, two clubs (partner signaled an odd number), leaving room for only one diamond. Declarer's hand looks like this (an 'x' is a card whose rank you do not know):

♠ KJT9762
♥ AJx
♦ x
♣ xx

Declarer also has the club trick he has already scored. That's eight tricks. ***The defense that looked so promising is now in trouble!***

If we can get partner in, he can cash his heart trick, and then we can ruff declarer's second heart trick.

How can you get partner in the lead? The only possibility is that partner has the K♦.

You must underlead the A♦. You cannot lead the A♦ and a small diamond to get to partner because you figured out that declarer has a singleton diamond).

Your luck is in. Partner plays the K♦, cashes a heart, and gives you a ruff. You are +200 for a great score.

What if declarer had the KD? You would be -990 instead of -790. A zero either way.

LESSON OF THE HAND.

Counting is an important skill in setting an opponent.

When defending, start out by counting declarer's suit distribution. Try to count declarer's tricks and where they may be coming from.

Then ask your self what it takes to set declarer, or at least hold them to the fewest tricks possible.

If you need to get partner in the lead, how might it be possible to do so?

Then be brave: execute your plan.

*EDITOR: Thank you, **Mark**, for an excellent example of the value of counting!*



TOUR THE DISTRICT 10 WEBSITE

A WEALTH OF INFORMATION!

Your website has a wealth of information to keep you informed about our District. Here is a short tour of the website. The D10 website is skillfully Managed by **Frank Greg** of the Hot Springs Village in Arkansas.

The ACBL District 10 website address <https://www.bridgewebs.com/acbl10> takes you to the Home Page. This page includes a menu (top left), a link to BridgeWhiz for Kids, players achieving recent rank changes with photos and biographies (if provided by the individual's club), announcements, and other information.

The **Home Page** also includes at the right a table of all D10 Units with links to their websites, when applicable.

About District 10	
District 10 serves 5700 members.	
14 Units that fall within the District:	
• Unit 134 :	Louisiana [798]
• Unit 138 :	Mississippi [515]
• Unit 144 :	Tennessee [544]
• Unit 157:	Central Alabama [872]
• Unit 161 :	Arkansas [926]
• Unit 170 :	Shreveport, LA [183]
• Unit 179 :	Nashville, TN [997]
• Unit 180 :	Mississippi Gulf Coast [193]
• Unit 182 :	Baton Rouge, LA [336]
• Unit 211:	Northeast Louisiana [130]
• Unit 214:	Hattiesburg/Laurel, MS [78]
• Unit 215 :	South Alabama [242]
• Unit 221:	Southwest Louisiana [311]
• Unit 232 :	North Alabama [256]

The top left menu is visible wherever you go within the D10 website. The **Home Page** link always takes you back to page shown above.

Clicking on **Contacts** all D10 contacts and presidents/representatives of each D10 unit.

Clicking on **Governing Documents** gives you a page with links to the following documents:

- Bylaws (9/27/2021)
- Regional Tournaments Policies (9/15/17)
- Educational Reimbursement Policies Procedure

The **Board Meeting Minutes** link gives you links to all D10 Board minutes since 2001.

continued



TOUR THE DISTRICT 10 WEBSITE

(continued)

The **Tournaments** links on the Menu takes you to a page with all D10 tournaments with links to their flyers and results, when available.

Regional Tournaments						
Start	End	Year	Location	Type	Flyer	Results
Mar 17	Mar 20	2022	Gulfport, MS	I/N	Flyer	Results
May 19	May 21	2022	Huntsville, AL	I/N	Flyer	Results
Aug 12	Aug 13	2022	Flowood, MS	I/N	Flyer	Results
Oct 10	Oct 16	2022	Nashville, TN	Open	Flyer	Results
Apr 20	Apr 23	2023	Huntsville, AL	I/N	-	
Jun 12	Jun 16	2023	Conway [Little Rock], AR	Open	-	

Sectional Tournaments						
Start	End	Year	Location	Type	Flyer	Results
Feb 14	Feb 20	2022	D9 (U219), D10	STaC	-	Results
Mar 3	Mar 5	2022	Birmingham, AL	Open/Down	Flyer	Results
Mar 25	Mar 26	2022	Hot Springs Village, AR	Open/Down	Flyer	Results
Mar 28	Apr 3	2022	D10	STaC	-	Results

(As a reminder to tournament organizers, you need to provide the flyer to the ACBL as soon as possible because players use the flyers to help plan their participation.)

The **GNT/NAP** Menu selection takes you to a page with the Conditions of Contest (CoC) for those competing in either the North American Pairs (NAP) or the Grand National Teams (GNT). Upon completion of the most recent of these two, the webpage is updated to show the results of the D10 Finals.

The **Player Masterpoints** gives you links to several Masterpoint-related reports, including:

- ◇ District 10 Top 100 (November 7, 2022)
- ◇ 2022 District 10 Ace of Clubs Leaders by Category¹
- ◇ 2022 District 10 Mini-McKenney Leaders by Category²
- ◇ 2021 District 10 Ace of Clubs Winners by Category¹
- ◇ 2021 District 10 Mini-McKenney Winners by Category²
- ◇ 2020 District 10 Ace of Clubs Winners by Category¹
- ◇ 2020 District 10 Mini-McKenney Winners by Category Clubs and Mini-McKenney²

You can see how you are doing in the current year against other D10 players in the Ace of Clubs (players winning the most points at the club level) and Mini-McKenney (players winning the most points in tournament and club play together).

The Menu's **Contact Us** link gives you the mechanism to send feedback regarding the D10 website to our WebMaster, **Greg Frank**.

The **Administration** link on the Menu is for the Webmaster or other empowered individuals to maintain the D10 website.

CHECK OUT the D10 website and see the useful information contained thereon. If you have an idea for improving the website, use the Contact Us link to offer your idea to Greg Frank for consideration. And if you see Greg, thank him for his valuable volunteer work managing the website!

1. Ace of Clubs awards recognize players in each ACBL rank who win the most points at the club level in a calendar year.
2. The Mini-McKenny recognizes players in each ACBL rank for winning the most masterpoints in a calendar year.

Significant Recent Results among District 10 Bridge Players

Drew Cavalier, a member of the **Huntsville (AL) Bridge Club**, won the **North American Bridge Championship (NABC) Open Pairs** in July in Providence, Rhode Island. **Drew** played with frequent partner **Christian Jolly** (formerly of Huntsville, AL, now living in New Hudson, Michigan). They played consistently strong bridge in the four session event and won by a full board. **Drew** is an Air Traffic Controller in Huntsville AL and **Christian** is a Web Developer. Congratulations **Drew** and **Christian**!



Drew and Christian

IMPORTANT DISTRICT 10 ANNOUNCEMENT!

Greg Frank (Hot Springs Village), **Drew Cavalier** (Huntsville), and **Pat Williams** (Nashville) represent District 10 on the ACBL Advisory Council. **Larry Sealy**, District 10 President, represents District 10 on the ACBL Board of Governors. As our representatives, they have the opportunity to bring topics important to you, the District 10 Bridge players, to the attention of these two important ACBL governing bodies.

If you have any issues that you believe need to be addressed by the ACBL (and not just in District 10 or your unit or club) **or** if you have suggestions about how the ACBL as a large organization can increase membership or improve your experience playing the game, please send your thoughts to one or all of the following:

Larry Sealy, District 10 President

Greg Frank, D10 Webmaster, Hot Springs Card Club President

Pat Williams, D10 Treasurer

Drew Cavalier, D10 At Large Representative

cigar13@comcast.net

hgfrank@icloud.com

stopgaap@yahoo.com

ATCavalier@gmail.com

A WORD FROM OUR DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT.

After a long hiatus, the District 10 Newsletter has returned. I would like to thank everyone who provided input into this initial issue – the Units and clubs for sending in news, the experts (**Chuck and Mark**) for their fine lessons and especially, our editor, **Charles Durrin**. In addition to his responsibilities as D10 Vice President and Recorder, **Charles** has spent numerous hours learning a new software program, contacting people for information, and collating everything. Thank you, **Charles**!



We plan to publish the newsletter on a quarterly basis. Please provide any information you want included in a timely manner (typically by the 15th of the month before the publication date). It will be available on the D10 website (www.bridgewebs.com/acbl10/).

Larry Sealy

I also want to thank all of our club managers (face-to-face and virtual) and teachers for keeping games going for us and new players joining over the last 3 years. We are in your debt.

Good luck at the tables and I hope to see you at a tournament in 2023.

Larry

District 10 Officers

(also available on our website at D10bridge.org, select CONTACTS)

Position	E-Mail Address	Home	Mobile
Board of Directors	<u>Larry Sealy</u>	256-682-1544	
Advisory Council Representative	<u>Pat Williams</u>	615-423-6472	
Advisory Council Representative	<u>Drew Cavalier</u>	850-341-5438	
Advisory Council Representative	<u>Greg Frank</u>	501-922-6710	501-209-0908

District 10 Contacts

Position	Name	Home	Mobile
President	<u>Larry Sealy</u>	256-682-1544	
Vice President	<u>Charles Durrin</u>	256-652-6186	
Secretary / Electronic Contact	<u>Judy Knox</u>	901-737-8087	
Treasurer	<u>Pat Williams</u>	615-423-6472	
Appellate Chairman	<u>Ric Logan</u>	228-254-5245	601-380-0117
Disciplinary Chairman	<u>Paul Munafo</u>	256-883-7532	256-714-2696
Recorder	<u>Charles Durrin</u>	256-652-6186	
Tournament Coordinator	<u>Charlie MacCracken</u>	901-365-1094	
STaC / NAP / GNT Coordinator	<u>Jerry Burford</u>	601-925-0506	
Webmaster	<u>Greg Frank</u>	501-922-6710	501-209-0908
Education Liaison	<u>Karen Jennings</u>	337-257-5086	
Tournament Oversight Chairman	<u>Chuck Wilkinson</u>	601-982-2268	601-750-5830
Newsletter Editor and Production	<u>Charles Durrin</u>	256-652-6186	



The District 10 Newsletter is written and published by Volunteers four times annually. It is distributed by email using addresses on file with the ACBL. It is also available of the District 10 website at:

D10bridge.org

If you have comments on this Newsletter or future newsletters, or wish to provide news for the next newsletter, please send to the Editor, Charles Durrin, at csd35758@gmail.com. All news items and constructive comments are appreciated!