



OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER INDIVIDUAL GAME

On Friday, September 29, we held our third ever Individual Game. We had eleven full (thankfully) tables. I was a kibitzer since we had no no-shows. This was quite a learning experience for me since I witnessed some bidding and play that would never have occurred to me. It was fun for me (apparently I am easily amused) and I hope fun for all who participated.

The do-gooders were Rose Coldiron (1st), Jay Jacobs (2nd) and Dee Barron (3rd) in a field of 44 players. Interestingly, (I told you I am easily amused) 1st was an A player, 2nd a B player and 3rd a C player.

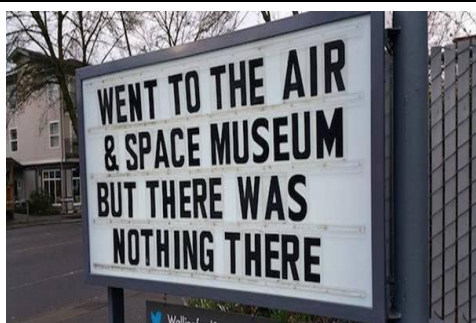
RANK CHANGES

Following is the rather sporadic list of members who have achieved new ACBL Ranks. It encompasses some unknown number of months since the last list.

Gold Life Master: Mohan Bali
 Ruby Life Master: Chris Nicholson
 Bronze Life Master: Diane Davies, BB McGhee, Selwyn Skinner, Lynn Smith, Faye Waldrop
 Life Master: Genie Johannsen, Faye Waldrop
 NABC Master: Cathie Lindler, Mike McComb
 Regional Master: Phil Haggerty, Dotty Hartnett
 Sectional Master: Marc Carney
 Club Master: Sherry Buck
 Junior Master: Chris Amabile

Congratulations to all of you.

**Sign
Of the
Month**



GAMES IN OCTOBER

In its never ending quest to sell masterpoints the ACBL has created all sorts of games, and in October we will try many different flavors. We will have three NABC Fund Games (to support the 2017 Nationals in Atlanta, most likely to buy food and booze for all the pros and their clients), three Charity Games (two for ACBL Charities and one for local charities), four Jane Johnson Club Appreciation Games (three Pairs and one Team game) and even a Club Championship.

These games all reward considerable extra masterpoints to participants. Most other clubs add a surcharge for these games, but we do not.

Game Schedule - October 2017

Monday 1:30pm	Wednesday 1:30pm	Friday 1:30pm
2-Oct Open Pairs\$	4-Oct Open Pairs	6-Oct Open Pairs#
9-Oct Open Pairs#	11-Oct Open Pairs\$	13-Oct Sectional at Weeks Center
16-Oct Open Pairs &	18-Oct Open Pairs &	20-Oct Open Pairs &
23-Oct Open Pairs%	25-Oct Open Pairs#	27-Oct Open Pairs\$
30-Oct Handicapped Teams#		
Charity Game = \$	Jane J Appreciation = #	NABC Fund = &
Club Championship = %		

THE GAME OF TEAMS

Well, one more time. If you think I'm getting a little fixated on this team game stuff, you are probably right. Our usual second Friday Perfect 10 Team Game in October has been preempted by our Sectional. However, we do have a fifth Monday in October, so that day, October 30, we will have a Swiss Team Event. This will be an open game, meaning no restrictions on the makeup of the team. However, it will also be handicapped based on one Imp per Perfect 10 team point. So, a team of two ones and two twos (total 6) would receive an 8 Imp handicap from a team of two fours and two threes (total 14) for a six board match. The handicaps are an attempt to level the playing field, so, put a team together and see what happens. The game will also be stratified.

One of the reasons I have scheduled this game is that October in ACBL Land is Jane Johnson Appreciation Month, which means extra points for you at no extra cost to the club (kind of an actual free lunch).

Speaking of team games, the November and December second Friday team games will be Grand National Team Qualifying Games. The Grand National Teams is one of the two "Grass Roots" Events sponsored by the ABCL. The **Perfect Ten format will not apply** since the strats are set by the ACBL. They are, based on highest team member, Flight A – unlimited, Flight B – 2500, and Flight C – Non Life Master under 500. Marterpoint awards are half red/ half black at 85% Sectional Rating.

Qualifying teams are eligible to play in the District finals, and, if successful, at the 2018 Summer Nationals in Atlanta. District winners will also receive a stipend to help offset costs of attending the Nationals if they do so.

FALL SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

Our annual Sectional will be held on October 13th through October 15th at the Odell Weeks Center on Whiskey Road. We are hoping to be an exception to the downward attendance trend at tournaments being experienced across ACBL Land. This, of course, is pretty much up to you. I hope you will support your tournament.

The tournament is basically a volunteer operation run by our usual suspects, who put in a huge number of hours to make it happen. But, you know what, without even making a commitment, you can help. After the game, push some chairs back under the table, move some trash into the garbage bins and just tidy the place up a touch. If 25 of us spend five minutes after the game doing these things, that's two less hours of work for our usual suspects. Many of us already do this at the Croft House, so why not do it at the tournament? Anyway, just a thought.

RULES UPDATE

The rules of duplicate bridge have been updated once again. Some of the changes are easy to say, but not so easy to do. A few examples: 1) If the Director deems it necessary to issue an adjusted score, he is to calculate the expected value of the result based on the percentage probability of reaching various contracts and the probability of making or not making those contracts. 2) Insufficient bids can be changed to any sufficient bid that says the same thing or is a subset thereof. 3) Unintentional bids can be taken back before partner's next call (current rules say in same breath) if the Director thinks the inadvertent call was not the result of a lack of concentration, a senior moment, or a brain fart (I guess the smell will tell).

So, Directors now need to be statisticians, know every player's bidding system and be mind readers. If you think you've seen strange rulings in the past, you ain't seen nothing yet

Thankfully, I have run out of room so I'm going to stop writing about this craziness. More on this next time or not.