



# APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER



Sunday	Monday BBO	Tuesday	Wednesday F2F	Thursda y	Friday BBO	Saturda y	All games start at 1:30
					1 Open Pairs	2	
3	4 ACBL Charity	5	6 ACBL Charity	7	8 ACBL Charity	12	F2F games at Lessie Price Center
10	11 Open Pairs	12	13 ACBL Charity	14 LUNCH	15 Open Pairs	19	
17	18 Open Pairs	19	20 ACBL Charity	21	22 Open Pairs	26	
24	25 STARDUST	26	27 ACBL Charity	28	29 STARDUST	30	
1	The ACBL does not always notify us about special games in time for the newsletter. We will send an email for any changes.						

## Aiken Senior Life Services

Most of you know the Board was looking into the possibility of renting space for our F2F games at ASLS's new site. After two meetings to discuss our needs and what they could provide, one of which was a site visit, ASLS came back with a rental rate of \$400 per day. The Board felt this was not in the best interest of the Club but will continue to look for other options as they might arise.

*The Guaranteed Partner Program exists for Wednesday F2F games. Volunteers get one free play and play free that day if needed. Linda Knox (514-2243) coordinates the GPP and needs volunteers. GPP's success depends on you.*

## BBO Virtual Stardust Games

**April 25 - May 1, 2022**

**2x regular master points**

**25% gold, 75% black**

We are always looking for material and suggestions for articles in the newsletter. Contact Jay Jacobs with your ideas: [jayjacobs44@gmail.com](mailto:jayjacobs44@gmail.com)

Members of the Bridge Club meet for lunch at 1:00 PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at O'Charleys. Contact Dorothy Johnson (803-443-5500) for details.

Congratulations on ACBL Rank Change

Ann Mayenschein      Club Master

Steve Banwarth      Ruby Life Master



## Volunteers Needed

**Directors for F2F Games** – Mary Townhill has graciously stepped in to direct for the two games she plays at the Club per month, but we still are dangerously short on people who can direct and/or operate the computer for our F2F games. Several of our ACBL-certified directors have agreed to handle Director calls but are not interested in running the computer. The F2F games are in danger of being cancelled if no one is available to operate the computer. Please consider learning this responsibility to allow the Club to continue to function.

**Directors for BBO Games** – the need here is not as evident as in F2F since BBO handles a lot of the inputs and prevents a number of items that result in director calls. However, we can foresee an issue on the horizon as Lauren and Steve both have significant travel planned for the summer, which will prevent them from administering these games. Although it may not be “allowed” under ACBL rules, we believe we might be able to get by in these games without an ACBL-certified director. Lauren has assembled a notebook with instructions for administering these games. If you are willing to give this a try, please contact her.

**Making hands for F2F games** – Jim Gossage took this responsibility over from Alan but is now facing some medical challenges in his own family. We need another volunteer to run the dealing machine and bring the pre-dealt hands to our F2F games. Contact any Board member if you are willing to take on this task

## Special ACBL Charity Games to Support Ukraine

***Benefiting the [United Nations World Food Program](#),  
with funds earmarked for Ukraine***

**March 24-27:** All net proceeds from the Hollywood Magic online event will be donated.

**March 28-31:** Any face-to-face club game during this time may be designated as a charity game, and the proceeds will be donated.

**March 28-31:** All virtual club games during this time will automatically be classified as charity games with proceeds to be donated.

ABCL is also proud to announce that [Bridge Base Online](#) is joining our effort and donating a separate \$10,000 to this cause.

***Benefiting [UNICEF's Children in Ukraine fund](#)***

*April 4-10: During Charity Week in the virtual clubs, a portion of the table fees will be donated to the [ACBL Charity Foundation](#), which has pledged to dedicate 50 percent of their proceeds up to \$25,000 USD.*

## RESPONSIVE DOUBLES

Responsive doubles are takeout doubles when there has been a raise to the two or three level after partner's takeout double, regardless of whether the double is of an opening bid or a preempt. Thus, if an opponent opens 1D, partner doubles, next opponent bids 2D, a double by me would be a responsive double, which is for takeout since it is highly unlikely my double of 2D is for penalty.

Responsive doubles apply to all unbid suits. However, specifically, if hearts are opened, partner doubles, and second opponent bids 2H, a double on my part denies 4 spades since I would otherwise bid 2S. Generally, you would need 6+ points to make a responsive double at the two level and 9+ points at the three level.

Suppose, instead, an opponent opens at the one level, partner overcalls, and next opponent raises opener's suit, then my double is for the two unbid suits. Some people play that if partner overcalls in a major, a double would be for the unbid major with tolerance for partner's suit. Discuss with your partner whether you want to play this.

Most people play responsive doubles through 4D. Likewise most people play when partner doubles a preempt and the opponents raise, my double is responsive (through 4D). Thus, if opponent opens 2S, partner doubles, next opponent bids 3S, my double is responsive. Similarly, if opponent opens 3D, partner doubles, next opponent bids 4D, my double is responsive. But, if opponent opens 2H or 3H, partner doubles, and next opponent bids 4H, my double is NOT responsive (probably penalty) since we are above 4D.

## TROLLS

You are on your way to visit your Grandma, who lives at the end of the valley. It's her birthday, and you want to give her the cakes you've made.

Between your house and her house, you have to cross 7 bridges, and as it goes in the land of make believe, there is a troll under every bridge! Each troll, quite rightly, insists that you pay a troll toll. Before you can cross their bridge, you must give them half of the cakes you are carrying. But, as they are kind trolls, they each give you back a single cake.

How many cakes do you have to leave home with to make sure that you arrive at Grandma's with exactly 2 cakes?

## DROP AN EGG

How do you drop a raw egg on concrete without cracking it?

## RANDOM THOUGHTS

If people from North Carolina are not cowards, why does their license plate say "First in Flight"?

I decided to try out the seven deadly sins, but never got past sloth and gluttony

**Q:** What do you call a cow with no legs? **A:** Ground beef

If I had a pet lion, I would take great pride in it

Greatest feat of strength = Wheeling West Virginia

Accretion = an inhabitant of a small Mediterranean island

Ecoli eats s\*\*t

**Q:** What's the difference between ignorance and indifference?

**A:** I don't know and I don't care.

An optimist thinks this is the best of all possible worlds. A pessimist fears that is true.

A bachelor's last words: "I do."

A sundial is a timepiece with no moving parts. What timepiece has the most moving parts? (an hourglass)

Does grout hold tiles together or apart?

If life were a multiple choice exam, I'd have an A

I set a new record today – I saw 3 SC drivers actually use their turn signals

How do you first know when a SC driver is turning? Their brake lights go on.

The secret to success is setting low goals.

As in bridge, try to go through life on average plus

It is easier to get forgiveness than permission

What does it say about Pittsburgh that their NFL team is the Steelers and their baseball team is the Pirates?

If you put your glove in the mud, the mud doesn't get "glovey".

Sometime less is more. Can more be less?

I don't drink any more (don't drink any less either)

Don't try to teach a pig to sing – all you do is frustrate yourself and annoy the pig

A cat had three kittens: Mopsy, Topsy and Spot. What was the mother's name. (What)

Does grout hold bricks together or apart?

Our country has a sugar addiction – if sugar were illegal, they would be selling it in baggies on street corners

Wisdom from my mother-in-law: make sure your doctor is younger than you are.

On guilt: it is not the fault of the seeds that land on fertile earth that other seeds land on barren ground

When I was first learning grammar, I had trouble differentiating between nouns and verbs. My teacher said a verb was a "state of being". I thought, for example, a hammer was a verb because it was the state of being a hammer. When I got to college, I learned I was not a bad grammarian, I was an existentialist.

The first human made object to break the sound barrier was the whip

Advice from my mother-in-law: never trust a skinny chef

Advice from Judy: never trust anyone who says "trust me"

## **SPIRAL STAIRCASE**

Construction of a stronger and more massive bell tower for the monastery to replace the one destroyed during the last civil strife with a neighboring lord was well underway when the old Monk visited the site. The Abbot showed the Monk the drawings and model for the three-bell tower. The Monk was impressed until he stood where the bell chamber would be and saw the spiral staircase in this medieval bell tower running the wrong direction (counterclockwise).

"The staircase direction must be changed," said the Old Monk. The Abbot looked at the staircase and agreed. Why?

## BLACKWOOD AFTER INTERFERENCE

Traditionally, if opponent overcalls Blackwood, double is for penalties, pass shows no aces, the next higher suit shows one ace, two suits higher shows two aces, etc. However, since penalties rarely outscore what can be made, most experts use the double as part of one of the following conventions:

DOPI – double 0, pass 1 – two or more aces bid up the line – the next higher suit is one ace, two suits higher = two aces, etc. – some people play PODI (= pass 0, double 1), but this is far less common

DEPO – double = even number of aces, pass = odd number of aces – thus, a double shows 0, 2, or 4 aces and a pass shows 1 or 3

While DOPI is the most used, some people play DOPI only if the overcall is below the trump suit at the 5 level and DEPO when it is above the trump suit. Likewise, some people play DOPI at the 5 level and DEPO at the 6 level.

You can also adapt DOPI to key card responses, where double = 0 or 3 aces, pass = 1 or 4 aces, the next suit up = 2 aces without the queen, and two suits up = 2 aces with the queen. However, if you are playing this, you need to discuss what to do if the suit bids take you above your suit.

Some people play ROPI over a double of 4NT (redouble = 0, pass = 1), etc., although most simply ignore the double of 4NT and bid DOPI.

*And now for some very rare bids that may be helpful ...*

### 5NT OPENING

Shows a balanced hand with 11 tricks – responder raises the bidding one level for each ace, king, or queen held.

### 5 OF A MAJOR OPENING

Promises a hand missing the top two trump honors with no outside losers. Partner raises to six with one of the two top honors and to seven with both. Otherwise, partner passes.

### STRIPE-TAILED APE DOUBLE

A double of an opposing game contract when doubler feels the opponents can make a slam or the double of a 6 bid when the doubler thinks they can make a grand slam. In both cases, as long as making the double contract, with overtricks, is less than the value of the unbid slam, you come out ahead. But first, make sure that is also true if they redouble and you have no place to run.

## **ANSWER TO TROLLS**

2: At each bridge you are required to give half of your cakes, and you receive one back. Which leaves you with 2 cakes after every bridge.

## **ANSWER TO DROP AN EGG**

Concrete is hard to crack.

## **ANSWER TO SPIRAL STAIRCASE**

Spiral staircases in medieval castles, towers and keeps were run clockwise. This is because all knights were right-handed. When the intruding army would climb the stairs they would not be able to use their right hand, which was holding the sword because of the difficulties of climbing the stairs, giving clear advantage to the defenders. During the middle ages, many orders of clergy had military training to learn to defend monasteries and abbeys.

Left-handed knights would have had no problem, except left-handed people could never be knights because it was assumed that they were descendants of the devil.