



**October 2023 Newsletter
Chicago Duplicate Bridge
47 W. Polk St., Lower Level**

<http://www.bridgewebs.com/chicagodbc>
chicagoduplicatebridge@gmail.com

It's That Time Again!

October is membership month. Your \$60.00 membership fee helps to keep the wolf from our door and allows you to pay an entry fee of \$2.00 less than nonmembers. Please remember that Chicago Duplicate Bridge Inc. is a 501c (3) Not For Profit Corporation that runs a bridge club in the Dearborn Park (Printers Row) area.

For more from CDB President Barry Little, see the next page.

****Tuesday, October 3 – Mentor/Mentee Game at 6:30 pm****

****Monday, October 2 – Royal STaC****

****Wednesday, October 25 – Instant Matchpoint Game****

Mon, Wed, Thurs – Open Games at 12:15 pm F2F

Monday – Open Game at 6:30 pm on BBO

Friday – 299er Games at 12:15 pm F2F

Tues, Thurs – Open Games at 6:30 pm F2F

Staying in Touch

chicagoduplicatebridge@gmail.com is the best way to reach us. If possible, please let the director know if you will be attending evening games. Email David Schroeder at dave8459@yahoo.com for Tuesday evening games; Matthew Dyer at msdyer@gmail.com for Thursday evening games.

Barry Says...

As all of you know, the last few years have been very difficult ones, not only for Chicago Duplicate Bridge, but for hundreds of clubs across the country that have had to either merge with other clubs or shut down completely, leaving a void for face-to-face bridge games.

At this time, I would like to personally thank our board members and directors for their creative efforts to keep our club open. I would also like to thank those members who have made monetary contributions far beyond the scope of their membership dues. If you want to continue playing face-to-face bridge, the fate of our club is in your hands.

Note that your membership entitles you to elect the 9 Board directors on a rotational basis. Our mission is to encourage and facilitate the growth of bridge in the City of Chicago. Our annual election will be held in early December.

CDB's Board has discussed ways to build attendance. We are open to fresh ideas. Please let us know what we can do to encourage more people to turn out for CDB's games. Given the rental market, changing locations is not an option, at least in the near term. In 2021, before we reopened post-pandemic, we investigated over 50 possible locations, including CDB's old space on Orleans, and were unable to find a space on the near north side that was affordable and had accessible parking. Those conditions have not changed.

We know other local games compete with CDB's games. If you regularly choose to play in those games, in lieu of coming to CDB, it's possible that CDB will close. If you do not want to see that happen, we suggest that, at a minimum, you consider splitting your play between those clubs and CDB. Some of you may prefer playing online. But there's nothing to substitute for the feeling of community and fun that comes from seeing your bridge friends!

Please help to keep our doors open!

Big Congratulations to Carl!

Carl Nelson achieved Diamond Master level this past month—5000 Masterpoints. We asked him to tell us a bit about his bridge history.

I'm glad that I hit the Diamond target -- Monday, September 24, 2023 -- at Chicago Duplicate Club, which so warmly welcomed Abigail and me when we moved to Chicago in 2019.

I first played duplicate in 1959, sat out most of the 1970s, played with Eric Branfman in DC for 40 years, won several regionals in mid-Atlantic region, won a few sectionals with Abigail in various parts of the US from LA to Vermont, played (not ACBL) in several countries from New Zealand to Sweden. Most fun club: Singapore, where young players and kibitzers were simultaneously playing on-line. Favorite tournament event, only outside US, is Swiss pairs. Watched tournaments grow every year in the 1960s to the declines we see now in the 2020s.



Carl celebrates with Matthew, Abigail, and Patt!

Upcoming Annual Meeting and Board Election

The annual meeting of Chicago Duplicate Bridge is coming up. The date will be announced soon, but it's not too soon to think about running to join the Board. There are 5 seats to be decided. Board members Matthew Dyer, Barry Little, Francie Margolin, and Dave Schroeder will be running for re-election. That means that there will be at least one new member elected. Please consider joining the Board to help support the club. If you wish to know more about what Board membership entails, feel free to ask any of the current Board members. Members who have one more year in their current term include Sue Gauen, Janet Nachman, Cory Perkers, and Marjie Zolla. If you would like to run for the Board, please let Barry Little or another current Board member know.

October Mentor/Mentee Game on the 3rd

Our next popular mentor/mentee game is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 3**, at 6:30 pm, F2F. The games usually have only 18 boards, to allow time for feedback as the hands are played if possible. These games use a manual signup process; email dave8459@yahoo.com. Please **let Dave know as soon as possible if you plan to attend** so that he can ensure that we have enough mentors for all the mentees.

Mentor night is intended to be nurturing, and we hope to see many of you there. And there's a bonus: Director Dave Schroeder bakes a treat for each Tuesday night—cookies, brownies—whatever strikes his fancy. I/N players are welcome, regardless of whether you have a partner. But it is important to email Dave in advance and we will find you a partner. If you have a partner to play with, great; again, please let Dave know in advance. Mentors: If you are available, email us and we will match you up.

Take Your Tricks Before They Go Away!

<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">25</div>	N North ♠ J1062 ♥ A98 ♦ J1087 ♣ 63	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>1NT</td><td>P</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>2♣</td><td>P</td><td>2♦</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>4NT</td><td>P</td><td>6NT</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>P</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	1NT	P	P	2♣	P	2♦	P	4NT	P	6NT	P	P	P		
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P	1NT	P	P																			
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P	P																					
W msdyer ♠ AK73 ♥ 62 ♦ KQ53 ♣ QJ10		E FutureStar ♠ Q94 ♥ QJ3 ♦ A6 ♣ AK874																				
	S South ♠ 85 ♥ K10754 ♦ 942 ♣ 952																					
		6NT E NS: 0 EW: 0																				

Playing in a club game with a rising star, we both get pushy and end up in 6N from the East. S finds a heart lead – a dangerous lead against 6N. Usually you find a safe lead against 6N. Today it was right; they took the first 2 tricks and partner claims. Everyone playing this board took 11 tricks.

The lead of a spade, a club, or a diamond would make the hand far more interesting. But you still only have 11 top tricks: 5 clubs, 3 spades, and 3 diamonds, so you need one more. I've assumed a club lead here, but after a diamond or spade lead, simply win the DK or SA at trick 1 and then run the clubs.

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		Select cards to play for all 4 players																				
		6NT E NS: 0 EW: 4																				

This is the position as East leads the 5th and final club. What is North to discard now? A spade discard means that the spade suit runs for 4 tricks. A diamond discard creates a 4th diamond for trick 12. What if N discards the HA? E can now exit the HQ to the HK, and sets up the HJ for trick 12. North gets to pick her poison, but cannot escape.

Usually to set up a squeeze you must concede your loser early. If you try that here, they will cash 2 hearts – so you will find this in the strip-squeeze chapter.

Whenever you are one trick short of your contract, good advice is to “Run your long suit and hope that good things happen.” This frequently creates an extra trick. Caution: You still need to watch the discards carefully to know which suit is cashing.

It is important to identify the threat cards in your hand, that is, those which could generate the additional trick. Here they are the HJ, S3, and the D3. This means you must keep all 4 spades and diamonds in the West hand, so you need to part with your two small hearts.

Advance to the Next Level with Pigmented MasterPoints!

Coming up this fall, there are lots of local or nearby opportunities coming up to earn more of those necessary pigmented points for your next ACBL level. See the list of upcoming tournaments below.

All Regional tournaments offer two-session Gold Rush events, where I/N players can earn gold and/or red points, as well as Open events. The Sectional tournaments offer silver points. If enough players express interest, we might be able to facilitate organizing car pools to the tournament in St. Louis. This is your chance to continue your successful climb up the ACBL ladder and see your name listed as one of our Rank Advancers. Once you become a Club Master, you will need some silver points for the next level; and once you are a Sectional Master, you'll need some red, gold, or platinum points. But more importantly, it's always a fun challenge to show off your club skills and compete on a bigger stage.

Rank Advancers

Congratulations to all those who advanced in ACBL rank, as reflected in the latest data release from ACBL. These players have been playing in club games and in tournaments, and they've been successful in getting those black and pigmented Masterpoints and moving up the ladder. **Don Santoski**, Junior Master; **Avery Wang**, Sectional Master; **Max Krawczyk** and **Mary Murtaugh**, Regional Masters; **Mary Reed**, NABC Master.

Upcoming Beginning Bridge Lessons

We're still planning on starting a new set of lessons in Beginning Bridge. If you know anyone who is interested, send their contact information to Barry Little at barrylit@gmail.com. Details forthcoming.

New or Intermediate Players: I/N Fridays and More!!

Come join us at Supervised Play on Fridays at CDB. We've got a group of regular attendees, but we often have new players who come with little to literally no bridge experience. Don't be afraid that you are "too experienced" or "too new" to benefit from joining the group. If you

are looking for more chances to play in a limited-MP game, consider joining our Friday afternoon 299er game.

CDB offers Supervised Play at 10:30 for \$5, followed by a short break for lunch and a shortened (usually 18- or 21-board) 299er game at 12:15. But **you do NOT have to attend the Supervised Play to join the game**. If you come to both, there is no charge for the Supervised Play. This is a great way to practice and see the rules you have learned in actual use. The atmosphere is relaxed and supportive. It's also a great way to meet potential partners, so don't be afraid to come without a partner arranged in advance. Please let us know whether you will be attending Supervised Play and/or the game by contacting Barry in advance at barrylit@gmail.com.

- ❖ Supervised Play
 - Friday F2F
 - 10:30 am
- ❖ 299er games
 - Monday, Wednesday, Friday F2F if demand allows
 - 12:15 pm
- ❖ Mentor game
 - Monthly, first Tuesday evening of the month unless otherwise noted
 - 6:30 pm
- ❖ Brief lesson
 - Thursday prior to 12:15 game

Plethora of Tournaments Continues

The tournament list below is current for Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and eastern Missouri, but if you have an itch for tournament play, check the listings at <http://tournaments.acbl.org/>. For the next year, ACBL has announced a **20% bonus on MPs** earned at F2F Regional and Sectional tournaments, so now's your chance to earn those silver, red, and gold points.

- ❖ Milwaukee Fallfest Sectional
 - October 4-7
 - Glendale, WI
- ❖ Metropolitan East Sectional
 - October 5-7
 - Edwardsville, IL
- ❖ NLM Fall Gold Rush Regional; Bloomington/Normal Fall Sectional
 - October 6-7
 - Bloomington, IL

- ❖ NW Indiana Fall Sectional
 - October 6-8
 - Michigan City, IN
- ❖ Indianapolis Intermediate/Novice Regional
 - October 6-8
 - Indianapolis, IN
- ❖ St. Louis Fall I/N Regional St. Louis Fall Sectional
 - October 20-22
 - Olivette, MO
- ❖ District 13 NAP Final
 - October 28
 - Glendale, WI
- ❖ La Crosse Sectional
 - November 9-11
 - La Crosse, WI
- ❖ Indianapolis Fall Sectional
 - November 17-19
 - Indianapolis, IN
- ❖ Fall NABC
 - November 23-December 3
 - Atlanta, GA
- ❖ Turkey Bowl Silver Sectional
 - November 24-25
 - Aurora, IL
- ❖ Mad City Winter Sectional
 - November 30-December 2
 - Madison, WI

Parking

There are many parking options in the area in addition to the lot behind the club. Last month's newsletter had extensive information about Spothero and other parking options. Consider downloading the Spothero app; there are often cheaper parking alternatives in the afternoon, and free options for evenings (after 6pm) and weekends. Unlike at the Orleans location, the club doesn't care where you park, and we don't gain any money from using the building's lot. To encourage attendance at the club, we offer a discount for those who bring new or immobile players to the games or those for whom parking is a hardship. If you drive to the club, you may request \$5 off your entry fee. If you bring 3 others in your car, you may request a free entry.

Player Achievements

Congratulations to these players for success in face-to-face games at the club! All games Open unless otherwise noted. E denotes Evening game. I denotes Individual game movement.

65.00% – 69.99% Games		
9/15	Loretta Pearson, Conrad May	72.22
9/18	Patt Quinn, William Berkman	65.48
9/21	Marjorie Zolla, John Miller	65.00
9/25	Kay Whitman, Rosede Olson	65.00
70.00% or Over Games		
9/22 299er	Zinnia Meyer, Graham Meyer	85.63
929	Kay Collins, Pat Knowles	70.37

Congratulations to these players for success at September tournaments. It's great to see some familiar names of players who have moved out of the Chicago metro area but continue to join us for tournament fun!

Unit 123 Sectional September 5-7, 2023 Northbrook, IL		
Tuesday Open Pairs	2A, 2B 7A, 6B	Valy Lev William Berkman, Pat Ballman
Wednesday Open Pairs	4A 7A 9A, 3B	L James Phillips Carolyn Rowley Paul Prez, John Miller
Thursday Open Swiss Teams	1A 5A 1B 2B 4B 2C	L James Phillips Mark Ginsburg, Tom Fogarty Carolyn Rowley Paul Prez, Joseph Tomlinson, Carole Greene, Sandi Schlueter James Abbott, Nic Hristea, Mark Pinkowski Beverly Yusim, Judith Adler

Unit 239 I/N Regional September 10-12, 2023 Rockford, IL		
Monday Gold Rush	5B	Mary Reed, William Reed

Unit 239 Classic
September 10-12, 2023
Rockford, IL

Pair Segment	1A, 1B, 1C	Henry Shi, Ping Hu
Team Segment	1A, 1B, 1C	Henry Shi, Ping Hu
Sunday Pair/Team (Pair)	5A, 5B	Henry Shi, Ping Hu
Tuesday AM Pair Team (Pair)	3A	Tom Fogarty
Tuesday AM Pair/Team (Team)	3A, 3B, 2C 3A, 3B	Mary Reed Tom Fogarty
Tuesday PM Pair/Team (Pair)	4A, 2B, 1C	Mary Reed
Tuesday PM Pair/Team (Team)	3A, 2B, 2C	Mary Reed