



**2015 – 2016 Cup Races thru January 1, 2016**

**December 2015**

We are at the halfway point now and the cup races are still up for grabs.

In the **Sol Lourie** open category, there is no change in the top ten line up; however, Bob Webb has consolidated his status as front runner leading second place Pat Webb by nearly eight masterpoints. Jay Shahani has narrowed the gap between second and third, now trailing by less than one masterpoint. Al Kirkland, Hap Neuffer, and Alice Moore take the 4th, 5th, and 6th spots, all within striking distance of first place. Rounding out the top ten are Ken Fasching, Jack Self, Harold Moore, and Mary Townhill.

In the **Henry Mills Under 2000** category, Jay Shahani continues his lead with 131.22 masterpoints but Al Kirkland is still trailing by just a few points with 126.08. The rest of the field are following by several points. Jack Self is third with 89.02 followed closely by Mary Townhill and Jack Wilkinson. Tom Gabriel, Bill Charlwood, and Scott Dunn claim the 6th, 7th, and 8th spots. New to this month's top ten in the Henry Mills category are 9th place Dot Jones and 10th place Jim Chianelli

For the **Coleman-Farrell** trophy for non-life masters, there is a new leader. Dot Jones has jumped ahead of the field to lead with 53.28 masterpoints. Helen Young is in second place with Sue Hopke, Karen Faulkenberry and Sally McCardle following in spots three through five. Jerry Love claims the 6th spot while Kathy Kimmerling, Janet Sheridan, Greg Garrison, and Burton Case round out the top ten

In the **Centurion** race for those under 100 masterpoints, Janet Sheridan is holding on first place with 27.66 masterpoints. Kenyon Stevenson has jumped up to second place following Janet by less than four masterpoints. Brenda Isbell is in 3rd place followed by Craig Lemrow, Mary Frame, and Sally McCardle. Beth Donelan is in 7th place with Judy Small, Doug Rice, and Olivia Smith rounding out the top ten.

*Jack Self*

DECEMBER 2015	Henry Mills Under 2000	Coleman-Farrell Non-Life Master	Centurion Under 100
<b>Sol Lourie Open</b>	1. Jay Shahani 131.22	1. Dot Jones 53.28	1. Janet Sheridan 27.66
1. Bob Webb 140.57	2. Al Kirkland 126.06	2. Helen Young 50.17	2. Kenyon Stevenson 23.99
2. Pat Webb 132.71	3. Jack Self 89.02	3. Sue Hopke 49.51	3. Brenda Isbell 23.68
3. Jay Shahani 131.22	4. Mary Townhill 81.94	4. Karen Faulkenberry 33.83	4. Craig Lemrow 22.27
4. Al Kirkland 126.06	5. Jack Wilkinson 72.20	5. Sally McCardle 32.29	5. Mary Frame 18.87
5. Hap Neuffer 122.39	6. Tom Gabriel 66.52	6. Jerry Love 30.73	6. Robert McCardle 18.82
6. Alice Moore 109.12	7. Bill Charlwood 62.86	7. Kathy Kimmerling 29.94	7. Beth Donelan 16.00
7. Ken Fasching 98.51	8. Scott Dunn 56.39	8. Janet Sheridan 27.66	8. Judy Small 15.83
8. Jack Self 89.02	9. Dot Jones 53.28	9. Greg Garrison 24.73	9. Doug Rice 13.65
9. Harold Moore 82.51	10. Jim Chianelli 52.70	10. Burton Case 23.87	10. Olivia Smith 13.23
10. Mary Townhill 81.94			

**January 2016**

The beginning of the New Year finds a lot of jockeying for position among the contenders for the cup race awards.

In the **Sol Lourie** open category, Bob Webb continues his dominance of the field, but Jay Shahani has crept up to take second place trailing by right at five masterpoints. Pat Webb is the third slot followed by "A" players Hap Neuffer, Al Kirkland, Alice Moore, and Ken Fasching. "B" players Jack Self, Mary Townhill, and Harold Moore round out the top ten.

In the **Henry Mills Under 2000** category, Jay Shahani has widened his lead over second place Al Kirkland by a 16½ margin but Al has a commanding lead over the rest of the field with third place Jack Self trailing Al by nearly 35 points. Close behind Jack are Mary Townhill and Jack Wilkinson with Tom Gabriel, Bill Charlwood, Dot Jones, and Scott Dunn checking into the next five shots. Joining the top ten for the first time this month is Francis Robinson in tenth place.

For the **Coleman-Farrell** trophy for non-life masters, Dot Jones leads the pack for the second straight month followed by Sue Hopke and Helen Young. Sally McCardle, Kathy Kimmerling, Jerry Love, and Karen Faulkenberry continue to make their presence known. Also joining the top ten in the Coleman-Farrell race are Janet Sheridan, Brenda Isbell, and Kenyon Stevenson.

In the **Centurion** race for those starting the fiscal year with fewer than 100 masterpoints there is no change in the make-up of the top ten but there is plenty of movement within the ranks. Janet Sheridan continues her lead but is now followed by second place Brenda Isbell and third place Kenyon Stevenson. Craig Lemrow, Mary Frame, Bob McCardle, Beth Donelan and Judy Small maintain their positions but Olivia Smith has moved up one notch to claim ninth place followed by Doug Rice in the tenth position.

January is Junior Fund Month with lots of extra masterpoints, so everyone still has a chance to jump ahead into the top ten lists and contend for first place. So grab your partner and come on to the club and perhaps next month your name will appear among the leaders.

*Jack Self*

JANUARY 2015	Henry Mills Under 2000	Coleman-Farrell Non-Life Master	Centurion Under 100
<b>Sol Lourie Open</b>	1. Jay Shahani 132.51	1. Dot Jones 60.88	1. Janet Sheridan 31.20
1. Bob Webb 153.70	2. Al Kirkland 132.51	2. Sue Hopke 53.28	2. Brenda Isbell 28.53
2. Jay Shahani 140.04	3. Jack Self 95.85	3. Helen Young 50.83	3. Kenyon Stevenson 27.07
3. Pat Webb 144.73	4. Mary Townhill 90.35	4. Sally McCardle 37.13	4. Craig Lemrow 24.55
4. Hap Neuffer 133.76	5. Jack Wilkinson 84.29	5. Kathy Kimmerling 34.78	5. Mary Frame 19.72
5. Al Kirkland 132.51	6. Tom Gabriel 69.22	6. Jerry Love 34.63	6. Robert McCardle 18.90
6. Alice Moore 120.73	7. Bill Charlwood 64.42	7. Karen Faulkenberry 34.49	7. Beth Donelan 18.59
7. Ken Fasching 102.80	8. Dot Jones 60.88	8. Janet Sheridan 31.21	8. Judy Small 17.96
8. Jack Self 95.85	9. Scott Dunn 59.42	9. Brenda Isbell 29.53	9. Olivia Smith 17.55
9. Mary Townhill 90.35	10. Francis Robinson 59.09	10. Kenyon Stevenson 27.07	10. Doug Rice 16.20
10. Harold Moore 87.39			

**CBC Cares: December Charity**

**December: HIV Awareness and Prevention**

The Columbia Bridge Club was able to donate **\$568.00** to the South Carolina HIV/AIDS Council as its local charity for the month of December.



**Grand National Teams**

**Dode DeFiori**

**Get Your Team Together!**

The Grand National Team qualifier games will be on Saturday, January 30, 2016 and Saturday, March 5, 2016. The games will begin at 10:00 AM and both are a double session ending by 5:30 PM. Teams may have 4, 5 or 6 players and winners will receive Red and Black masterpoints.

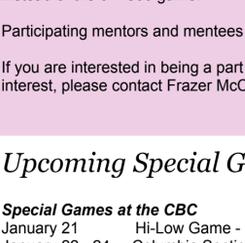
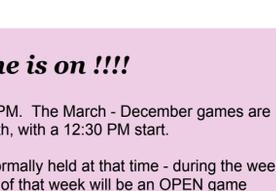
**Bring a Sandwich!** Beverages, snacks and desserts will be provided by the Club.

Last year, we had a record breaking number of teams participating. If you want to be part of a team or still looking for team members talk to Dodie at the club. She has the resources to help you!

**For more details CLICK for GNT FLYER**

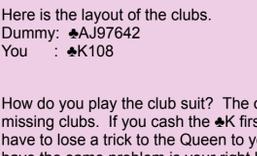
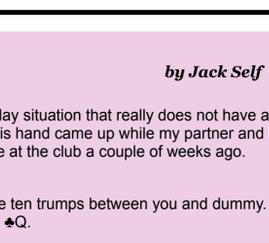
**CBC Winter Party - December 12, 2015**

The club's annual winter party was a great success. Almost 100 people attended the Saturday luncheon and 92 stayed to play bridge. Elly Winter and Olivia Smith were the winners in the 299'er game and Hap Neuffer and Alice Moore came out on top in the Open game.



Highlights of the party included the Board honoring Belle Fields with a lifetime membership with the Columbia Bridge Club! Friends then presented Belle with an assortment of free plays.

Another highlight was having three generations of the De Fiori family playing in the Holiday Game. Michael, one of the CBC's youngest members, and his father Steve even managed to scratch in the 299'er game! How exciting for Dodie and for our Club.



The luncheon consisted of various delicious sandwiches from Honey Baked Ham, broccoli, potato and 5 bean salads and wonderful cookies and desserts provided by club members. Perhaps the 'best' part of the day was the mimosas served before lunch! Thanks to all those helped make it a great success.

*Craig Lemrow*

**Columbia Sectional - January 2016**

**The Columbia Sectional is January 22nd-24th!**

**Get your partners lined up!**

Please bring two - two liter name brand drinks to the tournament the first time you come to play! Also, if anyone can arrive early on Friday morning to assist with setup - around 8:00 AM - we will need help with tables and chairs. Thanks in advance for your cooperation - This is a Huge help to us!

We will be selling lunch tickets for Groucho's box lunch (1/2 sandwich, salad, pickle, chips and cookie) for \$5.00 Friday morning and Saturday morning. Sunday lunch is included in your entry and will be provided by Zoe's! We will have a light breakfast snack Friday and Saturday mornings along with light snacks during the day.

The Dinner Bell Swiss Teams game should be loads of fun! Plan your Team!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

**For more details - please CLICK for tournament flyer**

*Beronica Whisnant*

**Masterpoint Milestones!**

**Bronze Life Master (500+ MP)**

Anita Momand

**NABC (200+ MP)**

Dan Casey

**Sectional (50+ MP)**

Craig Lemrow

Olivia Smith

**Club (20+ MP)**

Emma Williams

**Junior (5+ MP)**

Wileeta Pope

Wally Sheridan



**2016 Mentor - Mentee Game is on !!!!**

The first game is Thursday, February 4 at 12:30 PM. The March - December games are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month, with a 1:30 PM start.

Because these games replace an Open game normally held at that time - during the week of a Mentor- Mentee game, the TUESDAY game of that week will be an OPEN game instead of the 0 -1500 game.

Participating mentors and mentees will receive more details by email.

If you are interested in being a part of this program and have not yet communicated your interest, please contact Frazer McCrorey or Mary Townhill.

*Frazer McCrorey*

**Upcoming Special Games and Area Tournaments**

**Special Games at the CBC**

January 21	Hi-Low Game - Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
January 22 - 24	Columbia Sectional at TriCity - NO games at the CBC
January 28	Individual Game - No partner needed! Play the ACBL Yellow Card
January 30	Grand National Team Qualifier - Two Sessions 10:00 AM and TBA
February 1 - 7	STaC week (no STaC game on Thursday Feb 4)
February 4	Mentor - Mentee Game (NO Open 12:30 PM game)
February 13	February Birthday Party - February babies play free!
February 14	Eight is Enough Team Game (NO Open 1:30 PM game)
February 18	Hi-Low Game - Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
February 25	Individual Game - No partner needed! Play the ACBL Yellow Card

**District 7 Tournaments**

Jan 22 - 24 [Columbia Winter Sectional Tournament](#)

Feb 8 - 14 [Hilton Head Regional Tournament](#)

Feb 25 - 28 [Charleston Swamp Fox Sectional Tournament](#)

*Click on Tournament to download Flyer*

**Play Along with Jack**

**by Jack Self**

This time I am going to present you with a card play situation that really does not have a "right" answer, but it does have a "good" one. This hand came up while my partner and I were playing in the 8 Is Enough Team Game here at the club a couple of weeks ago.

You are playing in a 6 Club contract and you have ten trumps between you and dummy. You are only missing three but one of them is the ♠Q.

Here is the layout of the clubs.

Dummy: ♠AJ97642

You : ♠K108

How do you play the club suit? The only problem is if one of the opponents has all three missing clubs. If you cash the ♠K first and your left hand opponent shows out, you will have to lose a trick to the Queen to your right hand opponent. If you cash the ♠A first, you have the same problem is your right hand opponent shows out. (If the trumps split 2 - 1 you have no problem).

So which do you cash first - the ♠A or ♠K? The opponents did not bid, so you have nothing to go on. It's just a guess. However, whichever you decide to cash first, there is something you can do to give yourself an extra chance in case you guess wrong.

Suppose you decide to cash the ♠K first. In that case, go to dummy in a side suit and first lead the ♠J. Give RHO an opportunity to automatically cover an honor with an honor if she has three to the Queen. Or maybe she will be caught off guard and give the show away by stopping and having to decide whether to cover or not. If she does not cover the Jack or hesitate, then go ahead and play the ♠K anyway and hope the trumps are 2 - 1 or you have guessed right if one of the opponents holds all three missing clubs.

If you decide to play the ♠A first, then lead the ♠10 and give your LHO the same chance to automatically cover.

It is true that a good player would never cover the ♠J or ♠10 when you lead it (there is nothing to gain by doing that) but players do not always make the best decisions at the table.

By the way, as a side note, it is absolutely 100% unethical to stop and hesitate and pretend to think about covering the ♠J or ♠10 if you don't have the Queen. Whether you have it or not, you should just smoothly play a low club and try to look like you never heard of the ♠Q.

**Score Corrections**

Incorrect scores and wrong sided scores continue to be a problem at our games. Sometimes a pair will leave the game thinking they have placed overall only to find out later that there was a score correction and they did not actually finish among the top scores.

A correct score is the responsibility of both North-South and East-West. North is supposed to enter the score correctly and either East or West is supposed to okay the score if it is correct. Before you press the accept button for the score, check BOTH direction and score. While the Bridgmate may correctly say that the contract was 3 NT making 5 showing a score of 460, it may be credited to the wrong side.

So be extra vigilant. When a score is reported as incorrect, it requires both pairs to agree that the score was wrong and agree on what the score is supposed to be. This often requires a delay as one of the pairs may have already left.



**Stratification**

What is meant by the term stratification? CBL allows its sanctioned games to be divided into two or three strata (i.e., groups), based on number of master points held. Most commonly directors choose to divide games into 3 groups.

For example, the strata in an open game might be:

A - players with 2000 MPs or more

B - players with 750 to 2000 MPs

C - players with less than 750 MPs

Or, the strata in a limited game might be:

A - players with 500 to 1000 MPs

B - players with 300 to 500 MPs

C - players with less than 300 MPs

In a non-stratified game, all players are "equal," and points are awarded based purely on rank. In a stratified game, *Master Points are awarded for each stratification group*, regardless of the actual score achieved. For example, if you are a C player and have a score higher than any other C player in a game you will be awarded points, even if you were outscored by all the A and B players. Same for a B player, relative to other B players.

It is true that winning C merits fewer points than winning A or B; also, winning B merits fewer points than winning A. However, if your score in a given game is better than scores achieved by players of higher strata, you will win the same number of points as would have been awarded to a higher-rated player.

Stratification can never work against you.

Newer players often ask, "Am I better off playing in a stratified open game or a stratified limited game?" Well, that depends.

Clearly a win in an open game rates more points than a win in a limited game. However, many newer players prefer the less stressful atmosphere provided by the limited game and use that to gain confidence as they gain experience. On the other hand, you can learn from your interaction with the more experienced players, most of whom are willing to share their expertise.

Your choice.

*Frazer McCrorey*

**Easybridge!**



Easybridge! is a fun introduction to the great game of bridge.

On Tuesday nights at 7pm we run a 0-50 masterpoint game which is preceded by a mini lesson at 6:30 PM.

Lessons stress the basic concepts of bidding, play of the hand and defense. The lessons are short and simple, therefore, we encourage you to come to supervised play on Wednesdays and to take any and all classes the club has to offer in order to further your knowledge and enjoyment of the game.

And with Easybridge! the best thing is that no partner is needed & the game is only \$5.00; the best deal in town! Not to mention.... we have FUN!

Join us on Tuesdays and bring a friend!

**HoneyBaked Ham Gift Card Fundraiser a Success!**

We would like to thank everyone who supported this fundraiser!

The club earned \$389.00 from the sale of more than \$1900.00 in gift cards.

**STaC Week at the CBC - February 1 - 7, 2016**



The CBC will participate in District 7 STaC games the week of February 1 - 7, 2016. Games will deviate slightly from the regular schedule:

Feb 1 - Monday	7:00 PM	Open and 299'er Game
Feb 2 - Tuesday	12:30 PM	Open Game (no 0-1500 Game)
Feb 3 - Wednesday	12:30 PM	Open and 299'er Game
Feb 4 - Thursday	12:30 PM	NO STaC Game (Mentor- Mentee Game)
Feb 5 - Friday	12:30 PM	Open Game (NO 0-1000 Game)
Feb 6 - Saturday	12:30 PM	Open Game
Feb 7 - Sunday	1:30 PM	Open Game

Have a comment or an article you would like to submit? Reply to this email or send to [cbc.news.sc@gmail.com](mailto:cbc.news.sc@gmail.com). This is your Club newsletter and all suggestions or submissions for future articles are welcome! Please submit articles by the 10th of the month. All articles are subject to editorial approval and edit.

The CBC Newsletter is published monthly by the Columbia Bridge Club - Columbia, SC

