



**2016 - 2017 Cup Races**

Reporting will begin in September .....

**Columbia Sectional This Weekend!**

**Palmetto State Summer Sectional**  
**August 12-14, 2016**

Tri-City Leisure Center  
 485 Brooks Avenue  
 West Columbia, SC 29169  
 (803) 939-9309

Tournament chair— Chris Webb  
 (803) 691-1502, cwebb1@sc.rr.com

Partnerships — Berntha Henry  
 (803) 783-2564, bcn735@aol.com

**Famous Columbia Hospitality!**

**Friday, August 12**  
 Open & 299er Pairs ..... 9:30 am  
 Open & 299er Pairs ..... 2:30 pm

**Saturday, August 13**  
 \*Open & 299er Pairs ..... 9:30 am  
 \*Open & 299er Pairs ..... 2:30 pm

**Sunday, August 14**  
 Stratified Open Swiss Teams ..... 10:00 am & TBA  
 Stratified 299er Swiss Teams ..... 10:00 am & TBA

• Open strats: 0-750, 750-2000, 2000+  
 • 299er strats: 0-50, 50-100, 100-200, 200-300

*\* Denotes regional-rated games to benefit the ACBL Educational Foundation*

**Host Hotels**  
 Clarion Inn — 500 Chris Drive  
 (803) 794-9440  
 Hampton Inn — 1094 Chris Drive  
 (803) 791-8940

**ACBL GRAND LIFE MASTER**

**HAPPOLDT NEUFFER**

*Please join us ....*

... at the reception to honor this achievement. Nap is the only player who has earned this title while living and playing in South Carolina.

**Saturday, August 13, 2016**  
**5:00 pm - at the Columbia Sectional**

Tri-City Leisure Center  
 485 Brooks Avenue  
 West Columbia, SC 29169

**The Columbia Sectional Welcomes Novice Players!**

There are no game fees for ACBL members with 0 - 5 masterpoints!

The Palmetto Summer Sectional is this Friday thru Sunday, August 12 – 14 - at the Tri-City Leisure Center in West Columbia.

Volunteers are needed for setup at 8:00 am on Friday morning. (We will also need help with teardown on Sunday afternoon.)

Breakfast and lunch all three days is being provided at no charge to attendees.

To provide meals, we need monetary donations from the club members to help offset the costs. The food will be handled by the tournament committee and members do not need to bring anything!

Please give your donations to any director ....then come to the tournament and have fun!

*Chris Webb, Sectional Tournament Chair*

**Youth Bridge Game at the CBC**



The Board is excited to announce the addition of a Youth Bridge Game!

There will be one game each month, at 9:30 AM on the morning of the Birthday Party Game. The game is limited to players 18 years old and under or still in high school. More details will follow.

There is no charge for the participants for this game. The Board will be requesting a grant from the South Carolina Bridge Foundation to cover the table fees. If you would like to support Youth Bridge, please consider a tax deductible donation to the SC Bridge Foundation and indicate that you would like it to underwrite this game or other Youth Bridge activities.

The tentative schedule is:  
 September 10      October 8      November 12      December 10

*Roberta Case and Kathy Kimmerling - Co Chairs*

**Fall Classes to Begin in September**

The final details are being completed for the Fall Schedule:

- The Importance of Sacrifice Bids** (George Nichols) Monday Mornings
- Doubles** (Mary Townhill) Tuesday Mornings
- Polishing Your Basics** (Mary Townhill) Friday Mornings
- Play of the Hand** (Mary Townhill) Saturday Mornings *This course follows the Beginner course taught last spring.*

Starting dates and times to be announced at a later date but will probably begin in mid to late September. Please refer to the webpage for updates.

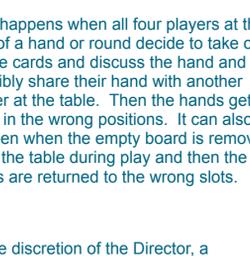
**Sunday Individual Game Continues to Set Attendance Records**

Looking for something to do on a Sunday afternoon?

If there is an Individual game scheduled at the Club - then this is where you want to be!

This game is a new addition to the Sunday schedule and is very popular!

The game on July 10th had set a new attendance record with 28 players, only to be surpassed the at the next Sunday game on July 24 with 32 players! This past Sunday, August 7th, had 24 players and paid out masterpoints to 11 of these participants!



Due to the popularity of this game, the CBC is now offering it three times a month: twice on Sunday afternoons and once on a Thursday evening. Please refer to the monthly calendar for dates.

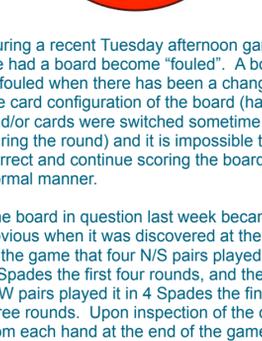
Come join us - you do not need a partner. The game is very relaxed and it is a great way to meet other players and improve your game.

All players use the Yellow Card for conventions. Not sure how to play the Yellow Card - check it out on the webpage.

**Fouled Board**

*Mary Townhill*

How does this happen?



This happens when all four players at the end of a hand or round decide to take out all the cards and discuss the hand and possibly share their hand with another player at the table. Then the hands get put back in the wrong positions. It can also happen when the empty board is removed from the table during play and then the cards are returned to the wrong slots.

During a recent Tuesday afternoon game, we had a board become "fouled". A board is fouled when there has been a change in the card configuration of the board (hands and/or cards were switched sometime during the round) and it is impossible to correct and continue scoring the board in a normal manner.

At the discretion of the Director, a procedural penalty may be given to all four players at the table when a fouled board occurs. It is normally pretty obvious where the change happens.

The board in question last week became obvious when it was discovered at the end of the game that four N/S pairs played it in 4 Spades the first four rounds, and then 3 E/W pairs played it in 4 Spades the final three rounds. Upon inspection of the cards from each hand at the end of the game, all 4 hands were rotated in the board 90 degrees.

The Directors are asking all of the players to be aware of what can happen and the consequences that may follow when we aren't careful with the hands we are playing. As a final note, this hand was eliminated for consideration from our game in The Common Game results due to the fouling of the board. Thank you.

**Opening 1NT with a singleton: It's officially legal**

Here is the new definition, effective August 1, 2016:

"A notrump opening or overcall is natural if, by agreement, it contains no void, at most one singleton which must be the A, K or Q and no more than two doubletons. If the hand contains a singleton, it may have no doubleton."

This includes hand patterns such as 5-4-3-1, 6-3-3-1 and 4-4-4-1, in addition to those that were previously allowed, such as 4-3-3-3, 5-3-3-2 and 5-4-2-2.

Before, opening notrump with a singleton was considered a psych. It was legal to do, but players could not have an agreement to open such hands 1NT or 2NT. The lack of clarity was a thorny issue for directors.

The new definition prohibits of more shapely hands, such as 5-5-2-1, 6-4-2-1 or 7-2-2-2. "All of this has to do with your agreements," Weinstein noted. "That doesn't prohibit an out-and-out psych, but you can't keep doing that or it becomes an agreement, and an illegal one at that." (*Sol Weinstein is the ACBL Field Manager who supervises tournament directors.*)

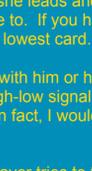
The change does not impact the one allowable exception of a partnership agreement where 1NT is treated as a 100% forcing opening bid (and not considered "natural" with an distribution). The use of such an unbalanced, non-natural 1NT opening must be alerted.

*(announcement edited)*

**Masterpoint Milestones!**

**Regional Master (100+ MP)**

Brenda Isbell  
 Craig Lemrow



**Club Master (20+ MP)**

Gwynne Dilday

**Congratulations!**

**Strictly for Beginners**

*Jack Self*

This is the first of a series of columns that will be devoted to those of you who are very beginners. It is intended to acquaint you with some of the basic principles of good bidding, declarer play, and defense. You may already know some of the things I will talk about, but maybe your regular partner does not.

At the end of this article I am going to give you a suggestion and a bit of advice. Be sure to read both of them and give them some serious consideration.

Whenever you partner makes a lead (opening lead or otherwise) and you like what she leads and want her to lead the suit again, you need to let her know by playing a higher card than you're lowest. This is called a "come-one" signal or a "high-low" signal.

For example, suppose you are defending a 4 Spades contract and your partner leads the ♠A. Dummy comes down with the ♠Q64 and you sit behind dummy holding ♠93. You know your partner almost surely has the ♠K also (leading an Ace of a suit that your partner has not bid without the King is generally a very bad idea). Anyway, you want your partner to lead the ♠K and a third diamond so you can trump it. So you signal her by playing your highest diamond, the nine. When partner now plays the ♠K, you complete the high-low by playing the ♠3. Partner does what you want and leads a third diamond and you trump it for your side's third trick.

What if you had the ♦932 instead of a doubleton? You really have a question in partner continuing the diamond suit because that just helps declarer set up his ♠Q. So you signal your lack of interest in partner's continuing by playing ♠2, your lowest. This does not absolutely require partner to lead something else. It just tells partner that, from what you can see, continuing diamonds will not gain any extra tricks for your side.

Here's another example. You are defending against a 6 Heart contract and your partner leads the ♠3. Dummy has ♠A72 and you have ♠K84. Declarer goes up with the ♠A. You know your partner's lead and want her to lead the suit again if she gets the lead. You signal encouragement by playing the ♠8. Now declarer takes heart finesse and your partner wins the trick. She now leads a diamond to your ♠K. Down one and +100 for your side instead of 1430 for the other side.

So, in summary, if your partner leads a suit and you like what she leads and wants her to lead the suit again, play a higher card in the suit than you have to. If you have no particular interest in your partner continuing the suit, play your lowest card.

And now, a suggestion: Whoever your favorite partner is, get with him or her and discuss the contents of this article. Insist that your partner play this high-low signal. It does no good to learn something if you never get a chance to play it. In fact, I would insist that EVERY partner I play with play the high-low signal.

Now some advice. If a well meaning, but misguided, bridge player tries to tell you about such things as upside down signals, Lavinthal signals, Odd-Even signals, politely tell him or her that you are concentrating on the basics and do not wish to be confused by hearing about something you are not ready for. Tell them I said so, if you want. If you are a beginner, you have a lot to learn, so learn it one step at a time.

Good luck, and if you give your partner a high-low signal and set me in a contract when I am playing against you, tell me you did it because you read this article.

**Upcoming Special Games and Area Tournaments**

**Special Games at the CBC**

- Aug 11 Eight is Enough Team Game (7:00 PM)
- Aug 12 - 14 **NO GAMES AT THE CBC - Join us at Tri City for the Columbia Sectional**
- Aug 16 Open NAP Game (12:30 PM) NO 0-1500 game
- Aug 18 Individual Game (7:00 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed
- Aug 19 Open NAP Game (12:30 PM) NO 0-1000 game Aug 22 - 28 STaC Week
- Aug 23 0-3000 STaC Game (12:30 PM) NO 0-1500 game
- Aug 25 Hi-Low STaC Game (12:30 PM) Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
- Aug 26 Open STaC Game (12:30 PM) NO 0-1000 game
- Aug 30 Open Game (12:30 PM) NO 0-1500 game

- Sept 1 Mentor - Mentee Game (NO Open 12:30 PM game)
- Sept 10 Youth Bridge Game (9:30 AM)
- Sept 10 September Birthday Party (12:30 PM) September babies play free!
- Sept 11 Individual Game (1:30 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed
- Sept 18 Individual Game (7:00 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed
- Sept 15 Eight is Enough Team Game (NO Open 1:30 PM game)
- Sept 22 Hi-Low Game - Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
- Sept 25 Individual Game (1:30 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed

**Area Sectional and Regional Tournaments**

- August 12 - 14 [Columbia Sectional Tournament](#)
- August 22 - 28 [District 7 STaC Tournament](#)
- Aug 30 - Sept 5 [Atlanta Regional Tournament](#)
- September 16 - 18 [Bluffton Sectional Tournament](#)
- Sept 30 - Oct 2 [Morganton Sectional Tournament](#)
- October 14 - 16 [Aiken Sectional Tournament](#)

*Click on Tournament to download flyer*

**Rules, Rules, Rules**

*Jack Self*

*Hello everyone. Since we have a lot of Club members who have joined in the last few years, I thought it might be worthwhile to reprint some articles I wrote for the website a few years ago. Here is one of my favorites. Jack*

When we first start playing bridge, we learn a lot of rules to help us make decisions.....Eight never, nine ever....cover and honor with an honor...second hand low....lead third best....etc. These rules are all helpful to a beginner bridge player as he or she becomes familiar with common situations.

I have my own set of rules which I have used over the years to help me become a better bridge player and partner. And, of course, I have a hand that shows why they are important.

**Jack's Rule #1:** Never show any negative reaction to your partner's mistakes. Don't make faces. Don't slap your cards on the table. Don't shake your head in disgust. And, for goodness sake, don't start a tirade at the table. Your partner knows he made a mistake, or he will soon figure it out. He didn't make the mistake on purpose and your fussing at him won't make his concentration any better on the next hand. Just enter the score in your convention card, shrug it off, and go on to the next hand. When it dawns on your partner what he did, just nod and go on. Back years ago, I played with a guy who was the king of the card slappers whenever I made a mistake. I remember vividly the time we were defending and needed only one more trick to set the contract. He led a suit he knew I was void in and, when I didn't trump in, declarer gladly won the trick and claimed the rest. Partner literally stood up and leaned over at me and shouted, in language inappropriate for this column, "Why didn't you trump it?" I responded simply by spreading my hand to show him that I did not hold any trump. Coincidentally, it was the last time I ever played with him.

**Jack's Rule #2:** Always trust your partner. Always! If she says lead a spade into dummy's A Q 10, then put a spade on the table. If she signals a doubleton heart, then lead one for her to ruff even though that means declarer opened 1 NT with six of them! I learned this lesson the hard way once with a partner who was signaling for me to lead into dummy's A Q x x of a suit late in the hand. Instead I switched to a suit that dummy was void in and earned declarer's gratitude when she cashed her two winners in the suit, having no entry on her own to get to them. Partner was not amused. The corollary to this rule is "Always strive to be the kind of partner that your partner can trust."

**Jack's Rule #3:** If you break it, you cannot fix it. Once you bid your hand wrong, further attempts to recover will always lead to disaster. If you accidentally have a club mixed in with your spades (thinking you have five spades and four clubs) and open 1 Spade, you will never be able to convince your partner you really started with four spades and five clubs. If miscount your points and open 1 NT with 20 HCP, bidding on further after your partner bids 3 NT will probably lead to down two.

A few weeks ago, I played a hand with a partner whose identity I will not reveal, although I am pretty sure he will recognize himself right away when he reads this. I held ♠95 ♥J752 ♦Q5 ♣AK752. Partner opened the bidding 1 Club and my right hand opponent paused to think. While she was thinking, I noted to myself that if she bids 1 Spade, I can make a negative double to show my four hearts and, if partner, bids diamonds, I'll go back to clubs. My right hand opponent reached for the bidding box and laid down the 1 Heart card and I, without missing a beat, followed up with Double. Ooops!!!! Left hand opponent passed and my partner's eyes widened slightly and he bid 4 Spades.

Now what, I thought. I misled my partner into believing I had four spades. Maybe I can fix this, I thought. I'll bid 5 Clubs and hope he can figure out what I've done. Well, partner eyed my 5 Club call and now bid 5 Hearts, thinking I was cue bidding toward a slam. Now I just made it worse. Maybe I can salvage this after all. I thought. I'll try to get out by bidding 5 NT. When I laid down my bid, partner nodded to himself and, thinking I was bidding the Grand Slam Force, pulled the 7 Spade card from the bidding box. I then decided that playing the grand slam in our 4 - 2 fit probably was not going to work, so I bid 7 NT. When it went all pass after that and no one doubled, I had a fleeting thought that maybe, just maybe I'll make this contract and partner will think I'm a bidding genius.

Alas, the opening leader dashed that hope when she led her Ace of Spades followed by the Ace and King of Diamonds. Down three vulnerable (Why she did not double is still a mystery to me. Perhaps it was out of pity for me).

So what did I learn from all this? Well for one, I had the kind of partner I want to have. He followed Rule 2 to the letter. He trusted me to have what I said I had and he bid his hand accordingly. He also followed Rule 1. He never said anything negative to me about my fiasco. Instead he just laughed. Although now whenever I make a negative double of 1 Heart, the smallest glimmer of a smile appears on his face, wondering if I'm showing spades or hearts this time.

And, for another, I should not ever violate my own Rule #3. Once if made the Double, I should just pass 4 Spades and live with the result. Ironically, 4 Spades would have been down two and maybe only one, earning us a couple of matchpoints instead of the zero we received.

Maybe next time, I will remember the rules! *Jack*



Last Chance for RED POINTS in the CLUB this Summer!

AUGUST NAP games offer both RED and BLACK points to winners!

Refer to the calendar for game dates and times.

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 5th 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

