

BRIGHT LEAF ALERT – February 2023



President's Corner:

Dear Unit Members,

January has come and gone! We still have a bit of winter to come but our spring events are not far off! *Make plans now to play March 2-5 in our unit's Spring Sectional at the Triangle Bridge Academy.* If you need a partner, Maggie Lindquist will be happy to assist you! Her contact information is in the accompanying flier.

As we did for the Fall Sectional in November, we are asking volunteers to help with:

- 1. Hospitality**
- 2. Check-in desk**
- 3. Food donations**
- 4. Cash donations**

Sign-up sheets for Spring Sectional volunteers will be available in mid-February at the Triangle Bridge Academy, or you can contact Deanna, the tournament chairman, or me.

For our Non-Life Masters (or Future Life Masters!) there will be a tournament at the Triangle Bridge Academy March 30 – April 2. Chris Moll will be the director and can help you find a partner if needed. We encourage those of you who are eligible to play. It is an opportunity to win silver points and gain tournament experience.

It was great to see a significant number of players from our unit come out to play in the Raleigh Winter Sectional. Unit 191 was well represented each day of the tournament. The Swiss team game on Sunday was played at the Triangle Bridge Academy with a total of 28 tables! There were 40 participating Unit 191 members in the Swiss team game, and 13 of our unit members were listed on the Swiss team leaderboard for Sunday afternoon. It's great for our units to come together and play when given the opportunity. Kudos to all who played in the sectional!

Most people play bridge by asking themselves what they should do. Instead, they should be asking themselves what is going on
Bob Hammon

Soon you will receive a survey from the unit board asking for your feedback. The board is focused on bringing in and supporting new and intermediate players, as well as bringing back experienced players to F2F games. If you have not been playing in F2F games, we encourage you to tell the board what would bring you back to the table. We are listening!

Remember to check out our unit website for up-to-date information regarding upcoming events, game schedules, the mentoring program, and member accomplishments. Dear Unit

Members, <https://www.bridgewebs.com/unit191brightleaf/>

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/unit191brightleaf/>

Play every card well.

Ann Fisher,
President, Unit 191



February Game Schedule

Triangle Bridge Academy

Open face to face games:

Monday – Friday @ 12:30pm

Saturday @ 9:45am

Open online BBO games:

Monday, Wednesday @ 7:00pm

Play and review face to face Barometer game (under 300mps)

Friday @ 10:00am (No game 2/3) [Click here to RSVP](#)

Online learn and play

Monday @ 9:00am [Click here to register and pay](#)

Special games this month:

February is ACBL Education Foundation month

Unit 191 Mentor/Mentee game:

Face to face: Tuesday, February 7, 12:30pm

(lesson at 11:45)
Online BBO: Wednesday, February 15, 7:00pm

Upcoming District 7 Bridge Events (click for flyer):

February 6-12, [Hilton Head Regional](#)
February 16-19, [Greensboro NLM Regional](#)
February 16-19, [Greensboro Sectional](#)
March 2-5, [Durham Sectional](#)
March 3-5, [Hilton Head I/N Sectional](#)
March 30-April 2, [Charlotte Sectional](#)
March 30-April 2, Durham NLM Sectional



Brightleaf Unit 191 Spring Sectional
March 2 - 5, 2023

Triangle Bridge Academy
2634 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd.,
Durham, NC 919-808-8068

Thursday, March 2
7PM Open Swiss Teams

Friday, March 3
10 AM & *2:30 pm Open & 749'er Pairs

Saturday, March 4
10 AM & *2:30 pm A/X, B/C/D & 749'er Pairs

(*both 2:30 games are regionally rated for silver points)

Sunday, March 5
10 AM Open & 749'er Swiss Teams
Play through with lunch available for purchase
Stratification based on team MP average

Open Stratification:
0-1000, 1000-3000, 3000+
A/X 0-5000, 5000+
B/C/D 0-1250, 1250-2000,
2000-3000

749 Stratification:
0-300, 300-500, 500-750

Nearby Lodging:
La Quinta Inn & Suites
4414 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd.
Durham, NC
Rate: \$118/night

Tournament Chair
Deanna Larus
deanna@elarus.com
919-656-9666

Partnership Chair
Maggie Lindquist
maggie.lindquist23@gmail.com
919-933-0008

Entries: \$12 per person per session
Swiss Team Entries: \$96 per team
All ACBL protocols will be followed.



TRIANGLE BRIDGE ACADEMY



Spring Future Life Master Sectional
March 30 - April 2, 2023

Triangle Bridge Academy (919) 908-8068
2634 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd Durham, NC 27707

Fri
04/08

10:00 am & 2:30pm ** **** (Regionally-rated)**
Stratified Pairs
0-50 (0-10, 10-20, 20-50)
0-NLM (0-100, 100-300, 300-NLM < 750)

Sat
04/09

10:00 am & 2:30pm ** **** (Regionally-rated)**
Stratified Pairs
0-50 (0-10, 10-20, 20-50)
0-NLM (0-100, 100-300, 300-NLM < 750)

Sun
04/10

10:00 am & TBD
Stratified Swiss
0-NLM (0-100, 100-300, 300-NLM < 750)
Please plan to pre-order or bring your own
lunch

Tournament & Partnership Chair: Henry Meguid 919-724-6239
Lodging: LaQuinta Inns 4414 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd 919-401-9680

All ACBL covid protocols will be followed

Member Spotlight – John Pinkerton



Although Bobbi and I always enjoyed various card games, we never played bridge until much later in life. At first, we occasionally played party bridge with friends, trying to learn the basics.

After taking early retirement from teaching, Bobbi got more interested in the game and began to take lessons and read bridge books. She started playing duplicate with various partners in Harrison Brooke's "play and learn" game at the Seymour Center in Chapel Hill. I was still working full-time and wasn't able to play very often until my retirement in 2014. Bobbi encouraged me to

become more serious about upgrading my very limited skills by taking lessons and playing regularly with her in the Triangle Bridge Club limited game on Tuesdays.

We realized it would take a long time and considerable effort to improve. We took advantage of the Unit 191 mentoring program (thanks to Dorothea Wilson, Paul Kobrin and Nancy Crow for their patience!) and lessons offered at the Bridge Academy. Henry Meguid's 6-week defense course made us recognize how important it is for a partnership to communicate when defending. Henry observed that husbands and wives often don't make the best partners, but we now seem to communicate fairly well most of the time. However, sometimes playing with other partners is a good idea...

We started going to regional tournaments and found that we really enjoyed playing team games. Winning a knock-out and 11 gold points (lowest stratum of course) with Linda Owen and Priscilla Bernstein at the 2017 Charlotte Regional gave us hope we could eventually get the 50 gold points needed for Life Master. After several more regionals, the pandemic pause, and thanks to good teammates (including Reece and Liz Schuler and many others), we both got our 50+ gold points at the 2022 Charlotte Regional. Over the years, we've made some good friends and met many interesting people through bridge. It's a mentally stimulating card game that we look forward to playing for several more years.

Mentoring Program News

♠ **Come Play with UJs in February 2023!** ♣

♥ **as a Mentee or Mentor** ♦



The **in-person mentee-mentor afternoon game** on **Tuesday, January 3rd** was a Junior Fund game with seven tables. The game was preceded by a lesson on "**Common Director Calls**" by Chris Moll. See his handout [HERE](#).

The **online evening game** on **Wednesday, January 18th** had eight tables. We gave back to the local community **\$3** of each player's online game fee; **\$96** is to be donated to a local charity.

We previously asked *"Notice an interesting board, or two, during the game that warrants discussion? Let us know after the game or at <brightleaf.mentee@gmail.com>. We'll circulate it among mentors and local experts for their thoughts, which we will include in a follow-up post."* Several hands were submitted. Michael Lavine has kindly compiled and edited the responses from the January 3rd game. You will find in a **Mentor Panel** article. Check out what you might have done differently.

Hearty congratulations to those on the **January leaderboards**: see below.

Please join us in February 2023 for an **in-person mentee-mentor afternoon game** at **12:30 p.m.** on **Tuesday, February 7th**, at **Triangle Bridge Academy**, 2634 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd., Suite 102, Durham, NC. The game will be preceded by a **30-minute lesson** at **11:45 a.m.** — **note earlier start time** — given by Marc Goldberg on "**No-Trump Bidding Ladder**" — a must for everyone.

*Let us know at <brightleaf.mentee@gmail.com>
if you plan to play or if you need a mentor.
We hope to see you there!*

Come play with us on **Wednesday, February 15th** at 7:00 p.m. for an **online mentee-mentor evening game** hosted by Triangle Bridge on BBO (VACB252858).

Hearty congratulations to the **Tuesday afternoon, January**

3rd, leaderboard:

Barbara Hulka & Beverly Craig, 1st overall & 1st NS with 56.75%
Shelley Hedtke & Eric Hamilton, 2nd overall & 1st EW with 56.35%
Bill Marzluff & Barbara Bute, 3rd overall & 2nd NS with 55.56%
Vanessa Brown & Maggie Lindquist, 4th overall & 3rd NS with 51.98%
Maggie Smith & Ann Fisher, 5th overall & 2nd EW with 50.40%
Dwight Smith & Donna Walther, 6th overall & 3rd EW with 48.41%

Hearty congratulations to the **Wednesday evening, January 18th,
leaderboard:**

Dwight Smith & Donna Walther, 1st overall & 1st EW with 64.97%
Anna Stachon & Ian Cloudsdale, 2nd overall & 1st NS with 61.56%
Baker Ward & Bert Ward, 3rd overall & 2nd NS with 56.80%
Shelley Hedtke & Eric Hamilton, 4th overall & 3rd NS with 54.08%
Vanessa Brown & Maggie Lindquist, 5th overall & 2nd EW with 53.74%
Maggie Smith & Sonja Smith, 6th overall & 3rd EW with 50.68%

Play every card well,

Ed Fuller, Beverly Craig, Maggie Lindquist, and Barbara Bute (Board
Liaison)

Unit 191 Mentoring Program Committee

Mentor Panel
for Mentee- Mentor Game, January 3, 2023
compiled by Michael Lavine

Comments from some of the mentors from the Unit 191 January 3
mentor/mentee game. We will start with board 6 because The Common
Game has comments on boards 1-5.

Board 6. East deals. EW are VUL. NS are silent.

West

♠ AQT42

♥ AKT42

♦ 2

♣ 42

East

♠ K63

♥ Q65

♦ A965

♣ AQT

Questions: How should EW bid? Should they reach slam?

I expect every East to open 1 notrump. Then there are two questions for West. First, is West worth just a game, a slam try, or should West force to slam? Second, how should West handle a hand that's 5-5 in the majors?

From West's point of view, East is highly likely to have 3 or more cards in at least one major suit. So, West should expect to have an 8-card fit and should evaluate the hand as 13 HCP plus 3 points for shortness in the minors. In addition, West's high cards are well placed in his major suits. West doesn't have questionable values like queens and jacks in short suits. So, West should at least invite slam, and possibly drive to slam without inviting.

Playing Jacoby transfers, responder shows an invitational or better hand with 5-5 in the majors by transferring to one major, then bidding the other. (More details on Jacoby transfers are [here](#).) Responder can show 5-5 hands of various strength:

1. Invite game. Transfer to hearts, then bid 2 spades.
2. Force game. Transfer to spades, then bid 4 hearts.
3. Invite slam. Transfer to spades, then bid 3 hearts.

So, in my opinion, West should transfer to spades, then bid 3 hearts. East will then choose a major. West will then either bid 4 of the major, having already shown slam interest, or make a control bid in diamonds.

This is a very good slam. If both major suits break 3-2 then there are 12 sure tricks. If one of the major suits breaks 4-1 then there are 11 sure tricks and the 12th relies on the club finesse.

But the slam is even better than that because when EW play the major suits, they should win the first honor in West and the second in East. That way, if North shows out, there is a proven finesse against South, as happened in spades.

This hand also posed a defensive question for NS. The NS hands were

North: ♠ 8 ♥ 83 ♦ QJ873 ♣ KJ873

South: ♠ J975 ♥ J97 ♦ KT4 ♣ 965

At one table South led one of the major suits and EW took the first 10 tricks in the major suits. North had to come down to three cards. South can help North know which cards to keep by discarding a low club early, indicating no high honors in clubs. Then North knows that if South has any help in the minors, it's in diamonds, and North can discard diamonds.

ACBL Unit 191 Membership Report

A C B L U N I T 1 9 1 R E P O R T

Includes all transactions processed **11/30/22 through 1/01/23**

Total Members - **539**

NEW MEMBERS

Paul G Cornwell
Thomas Janke

NEW REGIONAL MASTER

Jo Anne Rosenfeld

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER

John A Schachte

TRANSFERED INTO UNIT

James C Head

TRANSFERED OUT OF UNIT

Leonard Beeghley
Dixie Hapgood
Valerie B Winebrenner

NEW SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

Karen G Bate

Unit 191 members please check the Directory on our unit website (unit191bridge.org) and report to me (pwoody@unc.edu, (919) 612-7711) any changes or corrections that need to be made. Please remember Contact information in this directory is provided as a courtesy to Unit 191 members.

Unauthorized use of this information is forbidden.

Phylliss Woody,
Membership Chair