

BRIGHT LEAF ALERT – March 2023



President's Corner:

Dear Unit Members,

Please welcome new board member, Ira Mueller, filling the opening created when Lori Scanga resigned due to schedule conflicts.

I hope you are looking forward to playing in the Spring Sectional this weekend! A big thanks to those of you who are volunteering and/or donating to help the unit have a successful tournament! See the tournament flyer below.

Your support is vital for the unit to have flexibility in planning future events and bringing F2F bridge to a wider audience. We want local clubs to survive and thrive.

Last Saturday, we had 32 players show up for a limited game (0 – 750) at the Triangle Bridge Academy. Hooray!! This game was proposed after the board completed a survey of the membership – asking members what they wanted. We clearly heard our membership say they want *more limited games, and guaranteed partners!* There are plans to add an additional limited game on a weekday as well. Stay tuned!

We hope those who joined us for F2F bridge last Saturday, whether in the Open or Limited game, will come play in the tournament this weekend. *Our tournament stratification seeks to maximize everyone's opportunity to earn masterpoints.*

For our NLM players, plan to play in the Spring Future Life Masters Tournament, March 31 – April 2 at the Triangle Bridge Academy. Contact Henry Meguid if you need help finding a partner.

Check out the game and class schedules coming up in March.

A big thank you to Ian Cloudsdale, Barbara Bute, Janet Strope, and Ed Fuller who did an outstanding job of putting the membership survey

It is not enough to win the tricks that belong to you. Try also for some that belong to the opponents.

Alfred Sheinwold

together, sending it out, and analyzing the responses. You will find a summary of the responses below.

Hoping to see you at the table,

Ann
President, Unit 191

Summary of Membership Survey

A Unit 191 Membership Survey was conducted to inform the board about how best to encourage face-to-face play at Triangle Bridge Academy. 140 players responded to the survey: 130 Unit 191 members, and 10 non-members.

The board met to discuss the survey results on Monday, February 13, and had several observations, recommendations, and suggestions.

The first observation of note is that the majority of Unit 191 members, and the majority of respondents to the survey, have less than 500 points. The vast majority of them are not playing in person at all, or are playing infrequently (i.e. in the mentor/mentee game). We also noted that there are currently no face-to-face games available for limited point players who work during the day.

While there is much useful data in the tabulated results, we focused primarily on the following questions.

Question 3: When asked what factors affected the frequency of play, the two most frequent responses were:

- 1) No limited games (n=25)
- 2) No partner (n=29)

Question 4: When asked what would make players more likely to attend in-person games, the three biggest factors were:

- 1) Limited games (n=43)
- 2) Guaranteed partner (n=27)
- 3) Educational component (n=32)

In conclusion, the Board sees a need for limited game (possibly 0-750 points), with a guaranteed partner, and a play-and-review format. We did not see a clear preference for a particular day or time for such a game. The

Board is committed to providing more limited games with guaranteed partners.

Game Schedule

Triangle Bridge Academy

March schedule of events:

Open face to face games:

Monday – Friday @ 12:30pm

Saturday @ 9:45am

Open online BBO games:

Monday, Wednesday @ 7:00pm

New 750 Limited face to face game

✨ ✨ Saturday @ 9:45am / guaranteed partner ✨ ✨

To help with planning, please remember to rsvp for by email. Unit191brightleaf@gmail.com

Play and review face to face

Barometer game, ✨ ✨ **now under 500 mps** ✨ ✨

Friday @ 10:00am [Click here to RSVP](#)

Online learn and play

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

Update your bidding toolbox with this 2-day class

✨ ✨ 1 NT Game Force and 2/1 basics:

March 23 and 30, 10-11:30am

Special games this month:

March 6-11, Charity Week

March 13-18, Club Championship Week

March 20-25 Upgraded Club Championship Week

March 26, GNT Swiss

March 27- April 1, Club Championship Week

Unit 191 Mentor/Mentee game:

Face to face: March 7, 12:30pm (lesson at 11:45)

Online BBO: March 22, 7:00pm

Upcoming District 7 Bridge Events (click for flyer):

✨ ✨ **March 2-5, [Durham Sectional](#)**

March 3-5, [Hilton Head I/N Sectional](#)

March 30-April 2, [Charlotte Sectional](#)

✨ ✨ **March 31-April 2, [Durham NLM Sectional](#)**

April 17-23, [Gatlinburg Regional](#)

April 28-30, [West Columbia SC Sectional and GNT/NAP](#)

Calling all Unit 191 members and friends!!!!

We hope that you will come play in our Unit 191 Sectional tournament this coming weekend. We offer open and limited games Friday, Saturday and Sunday and an open Swiss game on Thursday night. All proceeds from this tournament will help us run special events in Unit 191 throughout the year.

JOIN US AND PLAY!

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.

Pairs games - find your partner! Team games on Thursday night and Sunday! If you need help finding a partner contact Deanna Larus or Maggie Lindquist (contact information is on the flyer) and we will do our best to help you. We have **guaranteed partners** for all pairs (Open and Limited) events and will work to find a team if you need one.

Volunteers needed!

We need pre-game volunteers and hospitality donations to make this the best tournament ever! Send an email to deanna@elarus.com if you can help us!

- A barista – Help keep the coffee flowing during a session or two.
- We need clean up volunteers after each session.
- Bring hospitality goodies to share with all attendees! Need a variety every day! Everyone loves

special treats! If you do not want to cook, you can leave a cash donation at TBA or with a board member and we will shop/cook for you.



And Don't Forget the Future Life Master sectional!!!!



TRIANGLE BRIDGE ACADEMY

Spring Future Life Master Sectional
March 31 - April 2, 2023

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

Fri
03/31

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
04/01

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
04/02

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

2022 Goodwill Ambassador Nominee – Ray McEntee



The Unit 191 Board of Directors is thrilled to honor Ray McEntee as the 2022 Unit 191 Goodwill Ambassador. This honor is given to a player who demonstrates great respect for other players and the game and its ethics. Winners promote bridge by example and help make each game pleasant with gracious behavior in victory and defeat. Competitive players like Ray make the game fun to play.

Since retiring, Ray plays bridge a couple of days a week. These days, he mostly plays with Eric Larson and Maggie Lindquist. In 2016, he noticed a need for more game directors in our Unit and worked hard to become a director, first at Triangle Bridge Club and more recently at Triangle Bridge Academy. Ray has greatly contributed to our community as a player and game director. He has served on the Unit Board of Directors and served as partnership chair for multiple sectional tournaments helping find partners for people who need them. We all appreciate his efforts to help our bridge community in these leadership roles but his behavior and attitude at the bridge table is the most commendable. He is a quiet competitor with great respect for all around him. He truly deserves our recognition as an ambassador of Goodwill for our community. Congratulations Ray!

Mentoring Program News

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

♥ as a Mentee or Mentor ♦

Please join us in March for the **in-person mentee-mentor afternoon game** at **12:30 p.m.** on **Tuesday, March 7th**, at Triangle Bridge Academy, 2634 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd., Suite 102, Durham, NC. The game will be preceded by a **30-minute lesson promptly at 11:45 a.m.** – **note earlier start time** – given by Marc Goldberg on **"Cue Bids"** – a useful asset for your bidding toolbox.

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, March 22nd** – **note the one-week later game day to avoid conflicting with ACBL's Spring NABC: March 9-19,**

2023. The **online evening mentee-mentor game** is at 7:00 p.m. hosted by Triangle Bridge on BBO (VACB252858).

Play every card well,

Ed Fuller, Beverly Craig, Maggie Lindquist, and Barbara Bute (Board Liaison)
Unit 191 Mentoring Program Committee

♠ ♥ February Mentee-Mentor Game Summary ♦ ♣

The **in-person mentee-mentor afternoon game** on **Tuesday February 7th** was a Club International Fund game with six tables. The game was preceded by an excellent lesson on the "No Trump Bidding Ladder" by Marc Goldberg. See his handout [HERE](#).

The **online evening game** on **Wednesday, February 15th** was an Educational Foundation Game with nine tables. We gave back to the local community **\$3** of each player's online game fee; **\$102** is to be donated to a local charity.

Our **hearty congratulations** to the **leaderboard** from the **February 7th game**:

Maggie Smith & Sonja Smith, 1st overall & 1st NS with 60.63%
Judy Woody & Deanna Larus, 2nd overall & 1st EW with 58.96%
Shelley Hedtke & Eric Hamilton, 3rd overall & 2nd EW with 56.88%
Anna Stachon & Ian Cloudsdale, 4th overall & 2nd NS with 55.00%
Barbara Bute & Ed Fuller, 5th overall & 3rd EW with 53.54%
Beth Trimm & Marguerite, 6th overall & 3rd NS with 50.21%

Our **hearty congratulations** to the **leaderboard** from the **February 15th game**:

Gerri Stanczyk & Randy Poindexter, 1st overall & 1st NS with 62.50%
Becky Fuchs & Brian Fuchs, 2nd/3rd overall & 1st EW with 59.82%
Baker Ward & Bert Ward, 2nd/3rd overall & 2nd NS with 59.82%
De Cutshaw & Michael Lavine, 4th overall & 2nd EW with 59.52%
Barbara Bute & Ed Fuller, 5th overall & 3rd NS with 57.74%
Vanessa Brown & Maggie Lindquist, 6th overall & 4th NS with 54.17%
Barbara Hulka & Beverly Craig, 7th overall & 5th NS with 51.49%
Stephan Karlsson & Reece Schuler, 8th overall & 3rd EW with 50.89%
Dwight Smith & Donna Walther, 9th/10th overall & 4th/5th EW with 50.30%
Maggie Smith & Sonja Smith, 9th/10th overall & 4th/5th EW with 50.30%

Play every card well,

Ed Fuller, Beverly Craig, Maggie Lindquist, and Barbara Bute (Board Liaison)
Unit 191 Mentoring Program Committee

ACBL Unit 191 Membership Report

Transactions processed 1/03/23 through 2/01/23 Total Members 541

NEW MEMBERS

S Bowes
Mark Weedon

TRANSFERED INTO UNIT

Martin L Levin

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Ray Boylan
Cynthia Fraed
Sherri K Stuewer

Unit 191 members please check the Directory on our unit website (unit191bridge.org) and report to me (pwwoody@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