



President's Corner

Dear Unit Members,

We look forward to the Holiday Party and Royal STaC game on Friday, December 15. It will be a festive occasion featuring a jazz quartet provided by Triangle Bridge Academy, a catered lunch by Robin Marin and potluck desserts from unit members. The unit will also hold a brief annual meeting update. All members and friends of the unit are invited. Entry fees will be \$6/person. Contributions from the unit will underwrite the lunch and discounted entry fees as a gift from the unit to its members and friends. The lunch event will begin at 11 AM followed by Open and 149'er games beginning around 12:30. Click [here](#) for party and game details.

Because of the holiday schedule this year, we will not be having a second F2F Mentor Mentee game on the 4th Saturday of December, but we do look forward to the Eight is Enough game on December 16!

Hope everyone has a safe and wonderful holiday.

Cheers,

Ann

Unit 191 and the Triangle Bridge Academy invite you to a
Holiday Party
 followed by a **Royal STaC game**

Friday, December 15

11:00 AM Lunch and Annual Meeting
12:30 Royal STaC Game - Stratified Open and 499'er Games
 ¼ Gold, ¼ Silver, ¼ Red and ¼ Black masterpoints

Please RSVP so we can plan for food.
 Email unit191holidayparty@gmail.com to let us know!

Lunch entree catered by
 Robin Marin.
 Desserts are PotLuck!

\$6 entry fee/player

Miller Jazz Quartet



Music by the Miller Jazz Quartet (compliments of TBA)

\$6 entry fee/player - a gift to you from Unit 191!



Triangle Bridge Academy
2634 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd
Durham, NC 27707



Game Schedule

Triangle Bridge Academy

Monday

9:00 am -11:00 am - Play and Learn online.

[\(Click to register and pay\)](#)

12:30 pm - Stratified Open pairs

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm – Wine and Cheese Social Bridge

[\(Click to register\)](#)

Closed Christmas Day

Tuesday

December 14

9:15 - Lesson

10:00 am - Unit Mentor/Mentee game

Wednesday

10:00 am - Stratified Open pairs

No game on the 27th

Friday

12:30 pm - Stratified Open pairs

1:30-3:30 pm – 299er Duplicate game with postmortem analysis

Guaranteed partner

December 15th

11:00 am – Holiday Gala and Unit Annual Meeting

RSVP: unit191holidayparty@gmail.com

Royal STAC game: ¼ gold, ¼ red, ¼ silver, ¼ black

Saturday

December 2nd, 9th, and 30th

9:30 am – Mini Lesson

10:00 am - 499er pairs

Guaranteed partner

*If you need a partner email unit191brightleaf@gmail.com

(Two and a half tables are needed to hold a 499'r game)

10:00 am - Stratified Open pairs / club game

December 16th

10:00 am - 8 is Enough Swiss

December 23rd

No M/M game

Triangle Bridge Club

Online BBO open games: Monday and Wednesdays 7:00 pm.

Upcoming District 7 Bridge Events (click for flyer):

December 11-16 STAC

December 27-January 2: [Myrtle Beach Regional](#)

January 12-14: [Pinehurst Sectional](#)

January 25-28: [Raleigh Sectional](#)

Membership Report

(TOTAL MEMBERS-520)

Welcome new members:

Sandra Gnirke
Sheri Lublin
Susan Scholer

Congratulations:

Ray Boylan Club Master
Joan Roberts Club Master
John Fahlberg Junior Master
Geoffrey G Scott Gold Life Master

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

Mentor/Mentee News

Dear Bridge Players,

Unit 191 held a Mentor/Mentee game on Tuesday, November 14. Preceding the game was a lesson by Marc Goldberg on *Defensive Signals*. To see his notes: [CLICK HERE](#).

We had 7.5 tables. Congratulations to **Mark Kelleher** and **Catherine Garland** who placed first North-South and to **Maggie Lindquist** and **Joan Roberts** who placed first East-West. And many thanks to all who brought snacks to share. Let's continue that tradition.

Following the game, some players stayed to discuss boards. First, the mentors and mentees paired off for their own individual discussions. Then we all got together for a **group discussion**, led by **Michael Lavine**, of several interesting hands — a feature we'd like to make another tradition. Michael wrote comments on several interesting hands, which you can see below and find on the Unit's web site under the Mentoring Program tab: [CLICK HERE](#).

We did not have a Saturday mentor/mentee game in November because the date conflicted with the Thanksgiving weekend. Likewise, we will not have a Saturday mentor/mentee game in December.

The next **mentor/mentee** game will be on **Tuesday, December 12**, at The Bridge Academy at **10:00 a.m.** **Please come.** The fee is **\$11 per person**, except that the Unit will subsidize \$5 of the fee for each mentor who is playing with a Unit mentee. That makes the fee **\$17 per pair**, for pairs where the mentee is from the Unit. We encourage mentees to pay their mentors' fees. Preceding the game, we'll have a lesson by **Marc Goldberg** on **Preemptive Bids**. Following the game, we invite mentors and mentees to stay for conversation and discussion of interesting boards.

The M/M program has two new features this year.

1. **Pairs who are not in the M/M program are invited to join the M/M game** provided at least one member of the pair meets the qualifications to be a mentee: being a non-Life Master with fewer than 500 masterpoints.
2. After the Tuesday games, mentors and mentees are invited to **stay after the game to discuss a few interesting hands** as a group. Mentors will take questions from mentees or, in the absence of questions, will share a few learning points from the boards that were played. **Please bring food to share.** After the Saturday games mentors and mentees are invited to reconvene at **Foster's Market** for lunch and discussion.

The mentor/mentee committee,

Michael Lavine (chair)
Barbara Bute (board liaison)
Beverly Craig
Ed Fuller
Margaret Lindquist

Mentor Hand Discussion

Comments from Michael Lavine on the Unit 191 November 14
mentor/mentee game.

Board 8. West deals. No one vulnerable.

North

♠ 7

♥ Q95432

♦ 8654

♣ 32

West

♠ AKQT8

♥ 8

♦ A32

♣ AJ76

East

♠ 642

♥ AKJT

♦ KQ9

♣ Q85

South

♠ J953

♥ 76

♦ JT7

♣ KT94

Six spades is a very good contract for EW, and so is six notrump, but no one bid it, so let's discuss how to get there. I expect every West will open 1S and NS will remain silent. East has a game-forcing hand with three card spade support. Different partnerships may show that in different ways. In 2/1, the main way for responder to show a game force with three card support is to start by bidding two of a lower ranking suit, then support opener's suit. Many pairs will do that, though Easts may differ on whether they start with 2C, 2D, or 2H. Some partnerships use a jump to 3NT over a major to show a balanced 13-15 HCP with three card support, so some Easts may bid 3NT. But after East shows a game force with three spades, West will have to decide whether and how to continue. In my opinion, West, with 18 HCP, a singleton, and control of all four suits, is clearly worth bidding a slam. Since West has four of the five key cards and control of every suit, West could simply bid 6S. An ambitious West could bid 4NT Blackwood first. Then when East shows one key card, West could bid 5NT to announce possession of all key cards plus the spade queen. That way, if East had extra strength or a source of extra tricks such as a running side suit, East could bid 7 spades. In my opinion, this slam should not be missed.

Board 9. North deals. EW vulnerable.

North

♠85432

♥74

♦JT3

♣632

West

♠AKQ

♥AKJT62

♦Q7

♣J8

East

♠96

♥—

♦AK98542

♣T754

South

♠JT7

♥Q9853

♦6

♣AKQ9

After North passes, should East open 3D? Years ago bridge authorities recommended the rule of 2, 3, and 4 for deciding whether to open preemptively. That rule says to estimate how many tricks you can take in your own hand, then bid two more than that if vulnerable vs. non-vulnerable, three more than that at equal vulnerability, and four more than that at favorable vulnerability. Here, East can expect to win about six diamond tricks. So, at unfavorable vulnerability, East would pass. However, experience has shown that it pays to open preemptively more freely than the rule says. I would expect most modern Easts to open 3D. Pairs who still follow the rule of 2, 3, and 4 might open 2D, even with a seven card suit. On this deal, South would find East's opening very annoying. South has a hand that would open the bidding if East hadn't gotten in the way and South would now like to compete. But, in my opinion, South's hand is not strong enough to bid over 3D, so South should pass. Now what about West? West expects East to have six cards outside of diamonds and East can cover at least five of them. Even if NS can take the first two club tricks, West can cover all of East's outside losers after that. West also has the diamond queen, a good filler in East's suit. East is probably not preempting at unfavorable vulnerability with a lousy suit, so West should expect 5D to have a good chance by taking 7 diamond tricks and 4 or 5 side-suit tricks. However, 4H might be a better contract. A new suit below game by responder is forcing after an opening preempt, so West can bid 3H to see whether East has heart support. When East can do nothing more than return to 4D, West can bid 5D. Pairs who follow the rule of 2, 3, and 4 can also expect 6 tricks from East and 5 from West so should

also end up pin 5D. On these cards, EW can take 12 tricks unless NS start by taking two club tricks, in which case EW get only 11 tricks. In the mentor/mentee game only two EW pairs bid 5D. One pair bid 4D. One EW went down in 3N and the other two pairs let NS play in 3H or 4S.

Board 12. West deals. NS vulnerable.

North	
♠4	
♥AQ97	
♦AQT3	
♣A974	
West	East
♠J97	♠KQ8
♥KT3	♥J85
♦J75	♦K964
♣QJ85	♣KT6
South	
♠AT6532	
♥642	
♦82	
♣32	

I expect West to pass and North to open 1D. Should East double? East's hand has 12 HCP and support for spades, hearts, and clubs but I would pass. The HCP are minimal for a takeout double and so is the support for the other suits. Also, a DBL suggests shortness in diamonds. In my opinion, a DBL misdescribes East's hand. However, regardless of whether East doubles, I think South should bid 2 spades. Most pairs play weak jump shifts, and this hand qualifies. A weak jump shift to the two level shows about 2-5 HCP and a six card suit. I think the 2S bid should end the auction and that South will take approximately 8 tricks: 4 spades, 2 hearts, 1 diamond, and 1 club. Note: North should not rescue South from 2S. At our club no one played in spades. One North played 2H; one West played 2C; three Norths played in notrump; and one East played in notrump. Had South bid 2S and North passed they would have done better than all the other NS except the lucky North who made 2H.

Board 18. E deals. NS vulnerable.

North

♠ AKT94

♥ KJ4

♦ 753

♣ 93

West

♠ 652

♥ 7532

♦ JT6

♣ 654

East

♠ Q73

♥ T98

♦ AQ

♣ KQJT8

South

♠ J8

♥ AQ6

♦ K9842

♣ A72

Despite holding only 14 HCP, I think East should open 1NT because the club suit is likely to take extra tricks. This hand has more trick-taking potential than, say ♠ K73 ♥ Q98 ♦ AQ3 ♣ KJ74, which most players would open 1NT.