

BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UNIT 191

MARCH, 2026

Awards Ceremony and Luncheon on Friday March 27

Unit 191 is fortunate to be stacked with excellent players, all trying to up their games! Recently we have enjoyed great turnout at TBA's scheduled Monday, Wednesday and Friday games. Lots of MPs were awarded on Friday 2/20! The joy of club games comes in part from the chance to see and compete with the talent that is all around us. Regardless of which club you play at, consider prioritizing Face to Face play for the pleasure of it, and for the community you help to build.

Every year the ACBL alerts each Unit leadership team about the achievements of their members during the previous year. One way of recognizing members is through the Ace of Clubs Races—for members who earn the most Masterpoints during club sanctioned events (excluding NAP/GNT qualifiers and STaCs) during a calendar year. Only black points are counted. Now, there are also Ace of Clubs Awards for on line play as well : the Virtual Ace of Clubs. Another ACBL award for Masterpoints is the Mini-McKenney Award recognizing total Masterpoint gains during the previous year. Both awards are stratified based on each player's previous year MP level, so we have lots of chances to win an award! The Unit also awards its own distinctive Awards---More on that in another Alert!

We recently sent out personal emails to award recipients congratulating them on their achievements. Here's the link to the Announcement from ACBL. Congratulate your friends, partners and competition!
<https://www.bridgewebs.com/unit191>

And, every year, Unit 191 holds an Awards Ceremony to celebrate everyone's achievements. **This year, we will have our Awards Ceremony accompanied by a Pot Luck Luncheon ahead of a Unit Championship Game on Friday March 27, starting at 11:30. Mark your calendar! Fill out the RSVP form!** The Awards Ceremony and Lunch will be held at Triangle Bridge Academy in Durham, **and space is limited to 14 tables.** Thank you to Henry Meguid for hosting this popular event once again! It's not too early to start imagining your crowd-pleasing contribution to the Pot Luck.

The Awards Ceremony and Game is only one way the Unit 191 Board works to support our members. We look forward to more opportunities to promote playing the game we love, and to provide fun social get togethers. In coming newsletters we'll be asking about ways the Board can better serve you, and for how you yourself can contribute to the vitality of our community by volunteering your time and talent! We know there's lots of talent among us!

Looking forward to seeing you soon at the Bridge Table!

Your Co-Presidents,

**Morris Weinberger and
Ray Boylan**



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The membership report shows all member activity from January 31, 2026 through February 28, 2026.

Unit 191 currently has 459 members.

We welcome to Unit 191:

Surya Naresh

Panella Washington

Congratulations to the following members who have achieved a new level:

JUNIOR MASTER

Jean Barber

Dave Michelman

Bob Tyson

NABC MASTER

Joan Roberts

“May the luck of the Irish be with your finesse”

“Wishing you a pot of gold in your bidding box”

St. Patrick’s Day Bridge: “Where the only thing green is your opponent’s envy of your hand”

“May your points be more and your bad breaks be less”

“Irish kisses and slam-check wishes”

WHAT IS THE RULE OF.....

The rule of 17 in bridge is a guideline for responders deciding whether to bid game after their partner makes “weak two bid”. To use it, add your high card points to the number of cards you hold in your partner’s suit. If the total is 17 or more, you should strongly consider bidding game.

The rule of 11 is a bridge technique used to determine the number of cards higher than an opponent’s opening lead in the other three hands, applied when the lead is confirmed or assumed to be the fourth best card. Subtract the spot card value from 11; the result is the total number of cards higher than it in the dummy, declarer’s hand, and your hand.

The rule of 15 —add your high card points and the number of spades in your hand. If the total comes to 15 or more, make your normal opening bid. If the total comes to less than 15, pass out the hand. Do not preempt in fourth seat.

The rule of 20 is a bridge bidding guideline used in the first or second seat to determine if a hand with fewer than 12-13 high card





Unit 191 and Unit 119 Summer Sectional

July 16- 19, 2026

Governor's Village,

40115 Moring

Chapel Hill, NC 27517

(additional space in adjacent room has been added
to accommodate more tables)

THURSDAY, July 16
7 PM STRATIFIED SWISS TEAMS

FRIDAY, July 17
10 AM & 2:30 PM * STRATIFIED OPEN & 749'ER
10 AM 499'er PAIRS

SATURDAY, July 18
10 AM & 2:30 PM* STRATIFIED OPEN & 749'ER PAIRS
10 AM 499'er PAIRS

SUNDAY, July 19
10 AM & TBD STRATIFIED OPEN AND 749'ER SWISS TEAMS
PLAY THROUGH WITH LUNCH AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
10 AM 499'er SINGLE SESSION SWISS TEAM GAME

*FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
2:30 PM GAMES ARE
REGIONALLY RATED FOR
MORE SILVER POINTS!

**Stratification & bracketing for all
games by average pair/team
masterpoints.**

Open Stratification:
0-1500, 1500 - 3500, 3500+

499'er Stratification
0-199, 200 - 299, 300- 499

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

ENTRY FEE: \$14/PLAYER/GAME
0-10 MP play for free!

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NEARBY LODGING
COURTYARD MARRIOTT CHAPEL HILL
100 MARRIOTT WAY, Chapel Hill, NC 27517
919-883-0700
There is no group rate.

Unit 191 Award Winners for 2025

The Ace of Clubs points are those won at the club level.

The Ace of Virtual Clubs points are those won on BBO.

The Mini-McKenney points are those won in all ACBL-sanctioned events.

MASTER POINTS	ACE OF CLUBS		ACE OF VIRTUAL CLUBS		MINI - MCKENNEY	
	0 - 5	Bill Chappell Frank Gohs Gerry Quinnan	30.57 14.89 14.39	Eileen Schmitz Bill Chappell Harry Schuler	9.46 2.84 0.50	Bill Chappell Plato Deliyannis Gerry Quinnan
5 - 20	Neil Evans Darrienne Gant Sue Atlas	18.62 8.73 7.59	Sandi Fitts Joachim Pleil Chellie Joines	1.09 0.60 0.34	Neil Evans Chellie Joines Darrienne Gant	26.44 8.89 8.73
20 - 50	Margaret Burchinal Peter Hendee Douglas Bordewieck	33.81 24.92 18.99	Catherine Leonardi James Starling Janet Broughton	19.74 2.51 1.42	Alison Bowes Margaret Burchinal Peter Hendee	59.97 57.54 28.08
50 - 100	Ray Boylan Anne Hershey Jeff Olson	43.02 42.96 32.56	Diane Cutshaw Anne Anderson Alan Churchill	16.08 7.48 2.36	Anne Hershey Paul Norton Ray Boylan	104.38 63.00 51.20
100 - 200	Michele Smith Bayard Atwood Stanley Wilson	112.33 60.28 58.51	Bedda D'Angelo Suzanne Fast Paul Cornwell	15.10 6.13 6.08	Michele Smith Stanley Wilson Bayard Atwood	122.53 76.62 67.76
200 - 300	Susan Korn William Isenstein Susan Bergida	16.26 11.69 9.25	Alana Ellis Lee Nackman Ava Nackman	57.28 27.04 18.02	Alana Ennis Lee Nackman Ava Nackman	73.73 51.09 42.07
300 - 500	Morris Weinberger Joanna Karwowska Ray McEntee	84.33 46.28 43.36	Regina Bann Kenneth Bann Richard Schneider	64.02 57.49 40.77	Regina Bann Kenneth Bann Anna Stachon	126.76 119.52 98.83
500 - 1,000	Michael Lavine Cathy Simon Russell Schoudt	116.63 91.93 56.62	Mason Thomas Alice Hughley Dixie Hapgood	63.13 55.17 44.83	Cathy Simon Michael Lavine Karen Popovich	179.69 165.76 124.30
1,000 - 1,500	Gale Rohrs Mary Newman Katie Wilson	48.97 42.39 36.73	Dean Shangler Larry Kupper John Woog	55.02 46.86 22.68	Leslie Blair Larry Kupper Dean Shangler	72.63 60.00 57.04
1,500 - 2,500	Mark Kelleher Joyce Jenzano Ian Cloudsdale	98.76 86.72 81.35	Barry Buehler Linda Owen Mariee Walton	96.35 93.93 69.52	Ian Cloudsdale Rosalind Lin Mariee Walton	263.34 156.76 156.25
2,500 - 3,500	Marc Goldberg Victor Riva Melanie Riva	188.14 128.92 120.11	Peter Adler Hugon Karwowski Martin Causley	92.02 33.42 3.10	Martin Causley Marc Goldberg Deanna Larus	517.90 285.98 177.11
3,500 - 5,000	Jim Cunningham Barbara Martin Willam Young	126.71 91.51 67.04	Susan Scholer Karen Bate William Young	21.29 2.60 2.53	Barbara Martin Jim Cunningham Mike Rice	171.83 147.37 86.90
5,000 - 7,500	Suzie Goldberg Sonja Smith Neil Stern	226.22 112.94 51.08	Neil Stern Suzie Goldberg	34.35 26.25	Suzie Goldberg Sonja Smith Neil Stern	338.55 200.90 109.85
7,500 - 10,000	Hsun-Kang Su Wayne Stuart	83.47 16.42	Elaine Landow Wayne Sturart	9.94 0.53	Hsun-Kang Su Wayne Sturart Elaine Landow	121.11 92.31 9.94
10,000+	Kay Joyce Randy Joyce Chris Moll	55.90 34.44 22.14	Chris Moll Kay Joyce Randy Joyce	138.97 76.20 69.68	Kay Joyce Chris Moll Randy Joyce	539.68 535.37 511.70

SPOTLIGHT ON STANLEY



Unit 191 is fortunate that Stanley Wilson moved to the area . 3-4 years ago, Stanley and partner, Ray, moved to Durham from Massachusetts. They had previously played bridge, mostly social bridge, but came to the club for open games, not having had too much experience at duplicate. You should see them now! Stanley became a director and regularly is in charge of Wednesday games and does a terrific job at directing and helping Henry. Thank you, Stanley, for what you do for the unit and the chorus.

The Triangle Men's Chorus recently had a cabaret/fundraiser and in addition to being the choral director, Stanley performed an excellent rendition of "It's Been a Hard Day's Night" and also was part of an a capella group.

Stanley is an opera singer and conducts workshops each summer and performs with the company.

The chorus is having their next concert on June 5 in Raleigh and June 6 in Durham. Mark your calendars—it's great music and will be an enjoyable evening.



Dear Bridge Players,

Unit 191's bridge mentoring program continued in February. The program sponsors games in person, at Triangle Bridge Academy, and online, on BBO. The in-person games have two tiers. Tier I is for mentees with fewer than 250 masterpoints playing with mentors who have fewer than 500 masterpoints. Tier II is for mentees with fewer than 500 masterpoints; mentors are unlimited.



Refreshments are provided by a crew of volunteers — **Ray Boylan, Ann Fisher, Martha Schulwitz, and Maggie Smith** — to whom we offer our appreciation. They are always looking for more volunteers. Please email one of them if you can help.

Tier I plays on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 10 AM, preceded by an optional lesson from **Henry Meguid** at 9:15. The February 24 game was preceded by a fun exercise. Henry provided several auctions and participants had to construct hands consistent with those auctions. The game had 8 tables. Three pairs had very high scores: **Mary Harley Kruter and Bev Craig, Carrie Dailey and Larry Stanczyk, and Joach Pleil and Ray Boylan**. Congratulation to all six players.

Tier II plays on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10 AM, preceded by an optional lesson at 9:15 given by a rotating set of

advanced players. The game on February 10 was preceded by a lesson from **Deanna Larus** on Help Suit Game Tries. There were five full tables. The game was very close, with all pairs scoring between 40% and 60%.

The online game is new this year and is for mentees with fewer than 500 masterpoints. The mentees play together in pairs at 7 PM on the third Wednesday of each month. After the game, a panel of advanced players write comments on all the boards, which are then circulated to the mentees. Many thanks to the panel members for volunteering their time and expertise: **Glen Anderson, John Cobb, Mary Jo Dunnebacke, Eric Hamilton, and Michael Lavine**. The February game was on the 18th and had three tables. Congratulations to **Cynthia Hinshaw** and **Anne Roush** who won with a score of 61%.

Some of the games also have post-game analyses by a panel of experienced players. You can find them under the Mentoring Program tab on the Unit 191 webfind the hands by going to the ACBL website and following the links ACBL —> Results —> Live for Clubs and then searching for either Triangle Bridge Academy (Tuesday F2F games) or Triangle Bridge Club (Wednesday BBO games).



If you would like to join any of these groups, please email **Michael Lavine**.

MARCH 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<p>9-11 Play and Learn Online</p> <p>12:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 Social Bridge</p>	<p>1-4 PM Barometer Game</p>	<p>12:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p>	<p>12 PM Private ABA Game</p>	<p>9 – 11:30 AM Intro to Bridge</p> <p>12:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p>	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	<p>9-11 Play and Learn Online</p> <p>12:30 PM Unit Championship Game (\$12)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30</p>	<p>9:15 AM MM Tier II Lesson</p> <p>10 AM MM Tier II Game</p> <p>1-4 PM Barometer Game</p>	<p>12:30 PM Open Game (12\$)</p>	<p>12 PM Private ABA Game</p>	<p>9 – 11:30 AM Intro to Bridge</p> <p>12:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p>	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	<p>9-11 Play and Learn Online</p> <p>12:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 Social Bridge</p>	<p>1-4 PM Barometer Game</p>	<p>9:30 AM Nuplicate Barometer</p> <p>2:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p> <p>7 PM Online BBO MM Game</p>	<p>9 AM Limited Game (<750mps)</p> <p>12 PM Private ABA Game</p>	<p>9 – 11:30 AM Intro to Bridge</p> <p>12:30 PM Unit Championship Game (\$12)</p>	<p>10 AM Eight is Enough Swiss Team Game</p>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	<p>9-11 Play and Learn Online</p> <p>12:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 Social Bridge</p>	<p>9:15 AM MM Tier I Lesson</p> <p>10 AM MM Tier I Game</p> <p>1-4 PM Barometer Game</p>	<p>9:30 AM Nuplicate Barometer</p> <p>12:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p>	<p>12 PM Private ABA Game</p>	<p>9 – 11:30 AM Intro to Bridge</p> <p>11:45 Potluck Lunch and Awards</p> <p>12:30 PM Unit Championship Game (\$12) Must RSVP</p>	
29	30	31				
	<p>9-11 Play and Learn Online</p> <p>12:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 Social Bridge</p>	<p>1-4 PM Barometer Game</p>	<p>12:30 PM Open Game (\$12)</p>			